



2024
January to May
Newsletter




Curiosity is Important for Later School Success **Encourage Curiosity**




By Jenifer Rettler | Parent Connection

Curiosity is the key that unlocks a world of learning and growth for young children. It is a powerful force that propels them into exploration, discovery and understanding. When they are curious it sparks them to ask questions, seek out answers and engage with their world. When their curiosity has been satisfied they often find continued joy in discovering.



Did you know that play is a great way to encourage your child's curiosity? In this play let your child take the lead and watch what they are curious about, then support and praise it. Let them express their creativity and help create an environment where they can be curious, explore and be safe.

The benefits of curiosity are even more pronounced if a child lives in poverty. So especially when money is lacking, encouraging curiosity in children is a great help to their later school success.



"I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious."
Albert Einstein



PARENT CONNECTION PROGRAMS

Visit www.familyservicesnew.org/parent-connection to learn more about our programs

Call to speak with a Parent Connection team member:

Fox Cities (920) 739-4226, Oshkosh (920) 233-6630, Shawano (715) 853-0923



Parents as Teachers®

Parents as Teachers Home Visitation

This **free early learning program** is designed for parents-to-be, parents, and their babies to learn, grow and reach development goals together.

Family Support Specialists trained in early childhood & brain development can conduct home visits from before the child's birth to the age of three.

Visits include:

- Parenting information
- Child development information
- Constructive play ideas
- Developmental screenings
- Connection to community resources

Fox Cities serves: Outagamie County & Calumet County with an Appleton or Menasha address; eligible first-time parents & parents-to-be

Oshkosh serves: Winnebago County; all eligible parents & parents-to-be

Shawano serves: Shawano & Menominee areas; eligible first-time parents & parents-to-be

Call for more information

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Oshkosh: (920) 233-6630
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"What I enjoyed most about the workshop was the conversation along with the learning material. Thank you for all the information and support."

Parent Education Workshops

Parent Education is for anyone living or working with children and families.

Parent Connection offers a variety of Parent Education topics through our Family Wellness Program, offering research and evidence-based curriculum that is relevant to the needs of the community.

We offer **scholarships** to families in our service areas (*Outagamie, Winnebago, Shawano, Menominee & parts of Calumet Counties*).

Free childcare is available at most In-Person workshops. Limited spots, **register early**.

We reserve the right to cancel workshops with low enrollment. Fees will be refunded for any cancelled workshops.

Visit our website & Facebook page for the most current Parent Education Workshops & Events:

www.familyservicesnew.org/parent-connection

www.facebook.com/ParentConnectionWI

Or Contact the Workshop Team:

workshops@familyservicesnew.org
(920) 739-4226 ext. 127

Support Group

NAMI Parent & Caregiver Support Group

2nd Monday of Every Month
In-Person | 6:00-7:30 pm
Cost: FREE

[January 8](#) | [February 12](#)
[March 11](#) | [April 8](#) | [May 13](#)

This Support Group is for parents & caregivers of school-aged children with behavioral & mental health challenges. Our support groups provide participants with a relaxed, trusting & safe environment to share with & support others who can empathize with their experiences. Participants share strategies & coping skills, discover community resources & experience the benefits of mutual compassion.

*Registering ahead helps us plan for you.
Walk-ins are welcomed.*

Community Events

35th Annual Parent Resource Fair
Formerly known as the Young Parent Conference

Friday, May 3 & Saturday, May 4

This **FREE** event is for any parent or parents-to-be. Take some time to learn from experts in our communities about your children, parenting, health, safety & more - *Just for You!*

Teen & young adult parents are encouraged to attend.

Listen to our speakers,
Check out our Community Resource Fair,
Stay for any part of this event you choose.

Go to our website and Facebook pages to learn more.

Registration will open early 2024!

"Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation I have for this program [Parents as Teachers]. Thank you for the opportunity to participate. I recommend this program for every momma & papa bear out there."

PARENT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Clicking the [Class Date](#) on our digital newsletter links you to the Online Registration.

Scholarships available, Contact the Workshop Team at workshops@familyservicesnew.org or Call (920) 739-4226 ext. 127
In-Person workshops are in Appleton. Cancellation Line: Call (920) 739-4226 ext. 154 to check on any workshop cancellations

Workshops

Baby Basics for New & Expectant Dads

**In-Person - Mon, Feb 26
& Mon, May 20**

6:00-9:00 pm | Cost: \$10

Sign-up for one session

This program designed **Just for Dads** discusses & demonstrates basic newborn care (*handling, feeding, burping, changing, cleaning & calming*), what to expect in the coming months & how to enhance your baby's development.

NEW! Back to Baby Basics: Dads Discussion Group

**In-Person - Mon, Jan 22
& Mon, April 15**

6:00-7:30 pm | Cost: FREE

This discussion group is **Just for Dads of infants in their first year**. After having your new baby home for a while, you may have new questions or concerns about the day-to-day responsibilities of caring for your infant, being a good co-parent, and balancing it all with the rest of your life. **Back to Baby Basics** is a discussion group for dads to share how everything has been going, questions and concerns, and what's been going well.

Love & Logic: Early Childhood Parenting

In-Person - Tuesdays, Jan 30-Feb 13

6:00-8:00 pm | Cost: \$15

Plan to attend all 3 sessions

This 3-session workshop offers practical techniques for raising responsible kids. Learn discipline with your children without losing their love & respect (or your sanity). Effective communication, choices and consequences are the foundation of this program for positive learning & growth of your children.

Love and Logic: Adults Supporting Youth with Challenging Pasts

In-Person - Tuesdays, April 23-May 7

6:00-8:00 pm | Cost: \$15

Plan to attend all 3 sessions

This workshop is for any adult serving or living with children & teens who have experienced loss, hardship or trauma. Cut through the complexity of working with youth with challenging pasts & provide real solutions that can be applied immediately.

We will discuss the steps to build relationships, deal with defiance, show empathy, minimize power struggles & support opportunities for success.



Anger & Emotion Management for Parents

Choose one option below

**Online - Thurs, Feb 22 | 12:00-2:00 pm
In-Person - Tue, March 19 | 6:00-8:00 pm
Online - Thurs, May 23 | 12:00-2:00 pm**

Cost: \$10

Our children bring us incredible joy. Yet there are times we find ourselves crabby, frustrated or angry with the people we love. Learn how to manage anger to improve your relationships. Learn the five stages of anger & the top ten anger producers. Get to know your own anger, anger style & how to manage it to create a more harmonious home.

Positive Discipline Parenting

Choose one option below

**Online - Thurs, Feb 29 | 12:00-2:00 pm
In-Person - Tue, March 26 | 6:00-8:00 pm
Online - Thurs, May 30 | 12:00-2:00 pm**

Cost: \$10

This course will talk about discipline as structure, routine, communication & being our children's role models. Build up your children's positive behaviors & sense of self-esteem. Let's talk about how we can start Positive Discipline in our homes today.



Active Parenting of Preteens & Teens

In-Person - Mondays, March 18-April 1

6:00-8:00 pm | Cost: \$15

Plan to attend all 3 sessions

This workshop is for parents who want to prepare for or are experiencing the changes of teenage development & want to help prepare their preteens & teens to survive & thrive in society.

Topics will include:

Active Parenting, Winning Cooperation, Responsibility & Discipline, Building Courage & Redirecting Misbehavior, Drugs & Sexuality, Violence & Reducing Risks.



Special Presentation: Parents Rights & Role in the IEP Process

Mon, Jan 29 | 6:00-8:00 pm

Cost: FREE

The IEP process can be scary and intimidating. The better prepared parents are for their child's IEP, whether its an initial evaluation, annual IEP or re-evaluation, the more empowered you will be. This presentation will provide a brief review of the IEP and evaluation timeline. There will be a discussion of the new DPI rules for seclusion and restraint, and the notification process. Parents will also learn about their role in the process and be given strategies and checklists in order to take the frustration and anxiety out of the IEP. Parents will also learn outside district resources they can call on for support.



On Demand

Potty Training

Previously recorded video

Cost: FREE

Potty training can test your patience & expectations, it can be repetitive, messy & frustrating. But caregivers can help children do this when they are ready! This video from a prior class helps you look for & prepare for "readiness" & talks about ways you can help & support a child during this important milestone in their development.



Parent Connection

1810 Appleton Road
Menasha, WI 54952



Parent Connection is a program of Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc.

Fox Cities: 1810 Appleton Road, Menasha, WI 54952 | (920) 739-4226

Oshkosh: 36 Broad Street, Suite 150, Oshkosh, WI 54901 | (920) 233-6630

Shawano: 607 E Elizabeth Street, Shawano, WI 54166 | (715) 853-0923

Visit us at: www.familyservicesnew.org/parent-connection



For the most up-to-date listing of Parent Connection Workshops, Events, Community Resources & more – Sign-up for our monthly e-Newsletter!

It's easy to join our mailing list!

Just send your email address by text message!

Text:
PARENTCONNECTION
to **42828**
and start getting
program updates!



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