

March 2009

# Connecting Home & School

By Stacy

Partners in Parenting

Touching Families Today  
For Tomorrow

## Parenting News



WEST DAKOTA PARENT & FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

# Parent & Family Newsletter



The Parent & Family newsletter funded by United Way of Dickinson, strives to meet the needs of parents and families. Make **your newsletter** better by taking a few minutes to fill out the enclosed questionnaire.

Get the information you **want!**

Get the parenting tools you **need!**

**When completed please return to your child's school on or before March 20th.**

Thank you!



**TREAT YOUR FAMILY TO A NIGHT OUT**

**WIN** a movie package for four.

Please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and attach your **WINNING** information below.

Return to your child's school on or before

**March 20th!**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

*Due March 20th.*



Newsletter  
Funded By:



## KITCHEN, BATHROOM & LIVING ROOM

Every room in the home is a learning place. Some activities designed to help children develop the values, attitudes, and behaviors that determine achievement in school are listed below.

▫ **KITCHEN**— The kitchen can be a miracle place for learning.

### \* **Hidden Letters:**

From the cupboard to the refrigerator, from the stove to the sink there are letters: A's, B's, F's, P's, etc. On the cereal box, on the soup cans, on the cat food, even on the soap— there are letters. Make a game of finding these letters; ask your kids to find five B's, 3 G's or any number of letters. Start easy and build to harder and harder letter combination to find.

### \* **Cooking up**

**Directions:** In order to cook a “dish” you have to read directions to know what comes



first, second and so on. Select a simple recipe with your child, perhaps Jell-O or canned soup. Follow the directions step by step—reading them aloud as you go along.

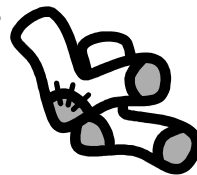
▫ **BATHROOM**— As they take their bath and brush their teeth spend time with your children read-

ing labels from medicine and cleansers bottles. These can be a matter of life and death.

\* **Float vs. Sink:** Try different soaps, a dry sock, a full plastic bottle of shampoo, a wet sponge, a dry sponge, an empty bottle. When plopped into the water which will float, which will sink? The important part of this game is to have children think (guess) beforehand which objects will float or sink and then test out the hypothesis—true scientific method.

### \* **Matching and piling:**

Laundry contains mathematics. Match the socks, count them. Count the sheets and fold them into fractional



parts, down to half down to one-quarter.

▫ **LIVING/ FAMILY-ROOM**—

### \* **Catalog Shopping Spree:**

Let's say you have \$25 (hypothetical) to spend. Look through a new or old mail order catalog and select your purchases: add them up; what have you left? Have you over spent? How do other members of the family decide to spend their money? Compare and contrast purchases.

### \* **TV and the World:**

Tie current events and map use with TV watching. Post a world map next to the TV set, so children can immediately look up references to world news spots. Keep reference books close by, too. These offer tidbits of knowledge, when children's curiosity is high.



For many other cool ideas refer to “The ABC's of Parent Involvement in Education”, by Parenting Coalition International.

# DICKINSON SESSIONS



## Parent's Night Out

(Circle of Parents)  
Sharing Ideas, Sharing Support

**Where:** United Methodist Church is the place to be!  
75 3rd St. W. (unless otherwise noted)

**Time:** 7:00—8:15 p.m.

**Free** childcare is provided. Parents must call 456-0007 by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the session to arrange for childcare.

### **“Infant Massage”— 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

March 2, 2009

Bring your newborn through two year old and practice the healing touch of infant massage with a KIDS Program specialist. The class is free and the benefits are priceless and everlasting.

### **“Crafty Kids & Can-Do Kids ”**

March 9, 2009

Wanna get messy and have lots of fun with your kids? We'll bring out the paints and brushes and create a masterpiece along with strengthening your relationship! Tips and strategies will also be offered to grow a child with a “CAN DO” spirit!

### **“Setting Limits & Challenging Behavior ”**

March 23, 2009

Feeling more like a push over than a parent lately? Kids are always testing our limits and checking out the “rules”. If you could use some new ideas for setting a limit and sticking to it, this may be just what you need.

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**For All  
2010 Kindergartners**

### **As a parent are you wondering...**

- ♦ Is my child ready for kindergarten?
- ♦ Why is it so important that I read to my child?
- ♦ How can I make a difference in my child's education?
- ♦ What kinds of activities can I do with my child to prepare for kindergarten?

### **Is your child wondering...**

- ♦ What it feels like being in a classroom???
  - ♦ What does the teacher expect of me?
  - ♦ What do I do in the classroom?
  - ♦ Are there rules?
- FREE childcare**  
**FREE Supper**

This is a curriculum that prepares parents and preschoolers for entry into elementary school.

It includes:

- \* Classroom environment with parent, teacher and preschooler
- \* Preschoolers work on social skills (sharing, taking turns and not interrupting), vocabulary, etc. ....
- \* Parents learn about brain development, importance of reading, developmental stages, and age appropriate activities
- \* Understanding why your role is important for your child's success in school

Call West Dakota Parent & Family Resource Center to register @ **456-0007.**



# Stop In & See What Our Library Has For You!!

WEST DAKOTA PARENT & FAMILY  
RESOURCE CENTER

For information contact:

Stacy—Dickinson Public Schools,

Partners in Parenting Coordinator

or

Deb—Extension Agent/SW Coordinator

Phone: 701-456-0007

Toll Free: 1-877-264-1142

E-mail:

[parent.resource@sendit.nodak.edu](mailto:parent.resource@sendit.nodak.edu)

Web Page:

[www.dickinson.k12.nd.us/](http://www.dickinson.k12.nd.us/)

[westdakota](http://westdakota)

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## Book Preview

### “Don’t Give Me That Attitude!” #1104

- Does your child never take no for an answer and demand things go his way?
- Does her drama leave you drained?
- Are you resorting to threats and bribes to get your kid to do chores?
- Do you feel you're running a hotel instead of a home?

If you have a child who is arrogant, bad-mannered, bad-tempered, demanding, domineering, greedy, impatient, insensitive, irresponsible, noncompliant, this is the book for you.



## Video Preview

### “Dealing with Disappointment”- #DVD 924

When her baseball team falls into last place, Missie must learn how to keep perspective and handle disappointment in a positive way. This DVD will list some things that children can do to keep disappointment from getting them down.

**WDPFRC**

**Touching Families Today  
For Tomorrow**

**Family Educator Enhancement Team (F.E.E.T.)/ Dickinson Public Schools**

Dickinson Public Schools and the Family Educator Enhancement Team provides education and support to families of children with special needs. F.E.E.T. provides funding for the West Dakota Parent & Family Resource Center and the Parent/Educator Library.

**Use time in the car with your child**, or other pockets of time, to squeeze in a little more learning. Of course, your child can't read library books in the tub—but he can count his toes. He can't write an essay in the car—but he can talk about what he's going to write or, perhaps, review spelling words.



# Don't forget!!

- Do you want to treat your family to a movie fun night?
- Did you remember to fill out the questionnaire?
- Did you remind your child to give it to his/her teacher?