



CHILDCARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL

Spring 2026 Newsletter

"BUILDING EXCELLENCE IN CHILDCARE"

Call or email your Child Care Specialist to sign-up for one or more of these awesome opportunities!
607-746-1620

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Grow and Win Raffle

Win up to \$150 in high quality Early Childhood materials delivered directly to your door!

Schedule a training or technical assistance session with one of our CCR&R staff or **participate in an eligible training** and we'll enter you into our next drawing.

Contact one of our Child Care Specialists today. The more you participate, the more chances you will have to win!



Join us for a **FREE training series-**

Behavior Guidance Essentials: Positive Strategies for Early Childhood Programs

Discover effective strategies to use when the pressure is on to enhance your daily routines and help children build skills for a lifetime

April 16:

First Me... Then You: A Closer Look

May 21:

First Me... Then You: Next Steps

June 18:

Behavior is Communication: Naming the Why

July 16:

Behavior is Communication: Tuning In

August 20:

Co-Regulation: Building Skills for a Lifetime

September 17:

Designing the Environment: Setting Up for Success

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

First Session online!

Save the Date!

Join us on Saturday, May 30th for our annual **Provider Appreciation Celebration!** This year we even give you options. Join us for a light breakfast and fun-filled morning that will include at least *3 hours of hands-on OCFS approved training*, followed by a delicious lunch.

As a bonus, we'll have our binding machine, laminators, and even a button maker available for your project needs!

Can't join us for the whole morning?
We hope you will consider joining us for our celebratory lunch!

Watch for email updates in the coming weeks.

Coming Soon!

Book Nook Adventures

Choose from a selection of **6 book kits** filled with:

1 FREE book

Activities with all the materials needed to use it over and over.

Call an Infant/ Toddler Specialist today to set up your visit!



Contact Us!

Delaware Opportunities Inc.

Child Care Resource & Referral

Monday - Thursday

8:00AM - 4:00PM

Friday

8:00AM - 3:00PM

(607) 746-1620

daycare@delop.org

delawareopportunities.org

We offer providers free training and technical assistance tailored towards a specific topic of the providers choosing.

CCAP Renewals

Families who use the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) are required to renew their case every year. When a family does not renew on time, the case may be in danger of automatic closure and *the family will be responsible for 100% of all child care payments beginning on the date of closure.*

Look below for some helpful reminders.

- Renewal Packets are mailed to the family 45 days before their case expires.
- To renew their case, the family must submit the following information to the office by the due date listed on the renewal packet.
 - Completed Renewal Packet
 - Proof of Income
 - Proof of Residency
- Providers will not receive retroactive payments for the time that a case is closed. Payments will resume upon completion of the application process.

Insect Song

(Tune: "The Wheels on the Bus")

The firefly at night goes blink blink blink

Blink blink blink blink blink blink

The firefly at night goes blink blink blink

All around the town

The bees in the flowers go buzz buzz buzz....

The ants in the grass go march march march....

The crickets in the leaves go chirp chirp chirp...

The caterpillar in the field goes creep creep creep....

Celebrate CACFP Week: March 16-22, 2026

Do you participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)? Did you know that this program allows to you receive:

- Money every month
- Free training
- Meal planning assistance
- Nutrition education

Delaware Opportunities Inc. is the sponsoring agency for **Child and Adult Care Food Program** for registered family day care programs, licensed family day care programs and eligible legally exempt child care programs in Delaware County.

Interested in these benefits?

Contact a Day Care Specialist today!

Did You Know?

HEALTHY EATING

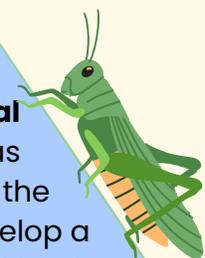
Research shows that **good nutrition** in young children not only contributes to their **physical growth**, but to their **intellectual and emotional development** as well. Children who participate in the CACFP have the opportunity to develop a positive relationship with food that will lead to a lifetime of **good eating habits** and **good health**. The CACFP is also an indicator of quality child care. -from the National CACFP Association

Don't forget to call...

Don't forget to call your Registrar or Licensor whenever you have a change in contact information.

This includes:

- New Cell Phone Number
- New Email Address



5 Reasons to Read to Babies and Toddlers Everyday

90% of a child's brain develops by age 5...

- Reading builds connections in a young child's brain, setting the foundation for a healthy future.

Book time is bonding time...

- Reading boosts healthy interactions between caregivers and young children, often leading to a life-long love of reading.

Books provide the building blocks of language- and it's never too early!

- Young children acquire important speech and language skills in the the first 3 years of life. Reading just one book each day can expose children to about 78,000 words per year.

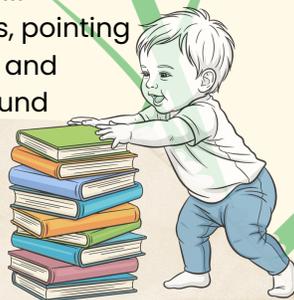
Reading helps with behavioral and social-emotional development...

- Seeing characters in books experiencing the same emotions and feelings they are experiencing themselves, helps children learn how to work through with those feelings.

Books provide a valuable sensory experience...

- Babies who explore books are tuning pages, pointing to pictures, learning about colors, opening and closing books... creating healthy habits around reading and learning for the future.

-adapted from *Save the Children*



Say Cheese!

Taking pictures is a great way to preserve memories. Making those memories into a scrap book or portfolio to share with families is an easy way to give parents a peek into how much their kids have grown over the year. Just make sure you have a **photo release** on file for the children in your care. Do you need a handy photo release form? Give us a call and we'll send them your way!

Safe Sleep ABCs

Sleeping arrangements for infants through 12 months of age require that the infant be placed **Alone**, flat on their **Back** to sleep in a **Crib** or bassinet appropriate to the infant's age. Exceptions may be made when the child's health care provider indicates that arrangement is medically inappropriate for the child.

Children may not sleep or nap in car seats, baby swings, strollers, infant seats or bouncy seats unless otherwise prescribed by a health care provider.

Cribs, bassinets and other sleeping areas for infants through 12 months of age must include an appropriately sized fitted sheet, and must not have bumper pads, toys, stuff animals, blankets, pillows, wedges or infant positioners. Wedges or infant positioners will be permitted with medical documentation.

For details regarding sleeping requirements in child care programs, refer to the regulations for your modality.



**Five little Ladybugs climbing up a door
One Flew away then there were four**

**Four Little ladybugs sitting on a tree
One flew away then there were three**

**Three little ladybugs landed on a shoe
One flew away and then there were two**

**Two little ladybugs looking for some fun
One flew away and then there was one**

**One little ladybug sitting in the sun
She flew away and then there were none**

Spring Garden Song

(Tune: "Farmer in the Dell")

The farmer plants the seeds
The farmer plants the seeds
Hi, Ho, the derry O
The farmer plants the seeds

Additional Verses:

The rain begins to fall
The sun begins to shine
The plants begin to grow
The buds all open up
The flowers smile at me



Our Mission

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Child Care Resource & Referral program is committed to promoting quality, affordable child care that results in education and healthy development of children and supports strong families and communities.

To read our public policy agenda and learn more about child care issues, find facts about child care in Delaware County and New York State, or to join advocacy campaigns to strengthen the quality of child care, or contact a day care specialist or visit:

<https://delawareopportunities.org/public-policy>

Monday–Thursday, 8:00am – 4:00pm | Friday 8:00am – 3:00 pm
by phone: (607)746-1620 or toll free at 1-877-746-2279;
or by email at daycare@delop.org

Popsicle Puppets Project

Make your own Popsicle Puppets for stories and songs with just a few popsicle sticks and some stickers or pictures. This is also a great project for the children in your program. Use your imagination... Try using characters from your favorite book! You'll soon find the children are able to re-tell their favorite stories using the puppets!



Spotlight on...

Please join us in welcoming our newest providers:

Laura Gioffe (FDC)

M&E Little Hearts Daycare, LLC (GFDC)

Heather Smith (GFDC)

Congratulations to these Milestone Providers:

35 Years

Melinda Butts (FDC)

30 years

Crystal Hallick (GFDC)

5 years

Jennifer Dones (FDC)

Story Puppet Glove

Make it Yourself!



Materials:

- winter glove
- sticky velcro dots
- 5 ladybug stickers
- paper or cardstock

Prepare Puppet Glove:

1. stick soft side of velcro dot to each finger of the glove

Prepare Ladybugs:

1. place a lady bug stickers on cardstock
2. cut around sticker
3. stick rough side of velcro dot on back of each ladybug

Goodbye Winter

(Tune: "Good Night Ladies")

Goodbye winter, goodbye winter,
goodbye winter, please just go
away!

Sing goodbye to winter items:
snowsuits, scarves, snow, ice,
shovels etc.

Hello spring, hello spring, hello
spring, We hope you're here to stay!
Sing hello to spring things: green
grass, flowers, robins, rainbows, etc.

