

Parents as Teachers Newsletter



Parents as Teachers®

Affiliate

December

2018



You are your child's first and most
important teacher!

USD 308– Hutchinson

USD 309– Nickerson/ South Hutchinson

USD 313– Buhler

111 S. Madison, Hutchinson, Ks 67501

Phone: 620.615.5771

Facebook: Hutchinson Parents as Teachers

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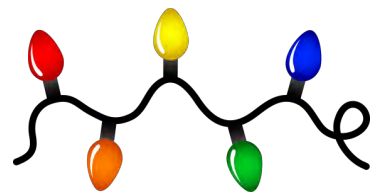
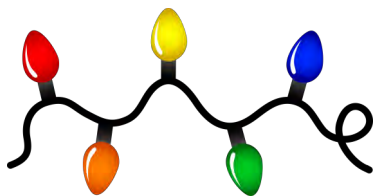
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P.A.T. Winter Party



Tuesday, Dec. 11th

5:30-7:00pm

Ave A. School

111 S. Madison

Come join us for an evening of family fun at the Parents as Teachers Winter Party. Enjoy holiday activities for the children, along with refreshments. Also, Santa will give out a book to each child.

The Winter Party is a come-and-go event and your entire family is invited to attend.

At this year's party, a local photographer has volunteered her services to take pictures with Santa. They will be distributed by your Parent Educator at a later time.



Weekly Playgroups



There will be **NO** Wednesday morning playgroups the month of December. Be sure to attend our annual Winter Party on Tuesday, December 11th from 5:30-7:00pm.



The PAT office will be closed for the holidays from Monday, December 24th through Tuesday, January 1st.
We will reopen on Wednesday, January 2nd, 2019 at 8:00am.

Thank-you!



Salvation Army Christmas Assistance

Applications will be taken at the Salvation Army Office
700 N. Walnut, Hutchinson

Monday, October 29 - Wednesday, December 5, 2018

Application Hours:

Mondays: 9:00 am - Noon/1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Tuesdays: 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Thursdays: 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Fridays: 9:00 am - Noon



Applicant Must Provide:

1. Proof of address (must be lease, proof of ownership, tax or mortgage papers or **TWO** current bills (last 30 days) or DCF paperwork.
2. Proof of **ALL** household income
3. Photo IDs for adults (copies and/or expired IDs are acceptable)
4. IDs for all children (SS card, Medicaid or insurance card with the child's name listed, school ID, immunization records)

If there are two families living at the same address, we ask that you do ONE application with the Head of Household being the person whose name is on the proof of address. If we come across multiple applications with the same address We WILL call to speak with you bto combine them.

NOTE: No copies will be made from existing files.



**Soup Kitchen Christmas Party and
FREE Meal**

301 East 3rd Street, Hutchinson

Friday, December 21, 2018

Meal served at 5:00 p.m.



**Soup Kitchen Fiesta de Navidad y
Comida GRATIS**

301 East 3rd Street, Hutchinson

Viernes, 21 de Diciembre 2018

comida que se sirve a las 5:00 pm



Put Safety First

Sharing the holidays with a young child brings up a whole new set of concerns about safety! Experts suggest the following strategies:



Keep candles well out of the way and far from curtains or other flammable items.

Put your Christmas tree in a sturdy holder, away from heating vents and the fireplace. If necessary, anchor the tree to the wall or ceiling with a thin wire. Never leave a young child alone in the room with a tree.



Hang ornaments and lights high enough so they won't be within your baby's reach. Make certain that no wire ornament hanger gets drooped and left on the floor.

Watch out for holiday plants as well. Poinsettias, holly and mistletoe are all poisonous. Keep them away from your child.



After wrapping gifts, put sharp scissors away. Later when the presents have been opened, don't throw the wrapping paper into the fireplace. Coated paper can flame dangerously out of control, giving off sparks and intense heat.

Sensory Overload During the Holidays

The holidays can be a difficult time for infants and toddlers. Their normal routines are often changed or nonexistent, and they are exposed to a variety of new people, smells, sights, and sounds. Often, these changes can overload and be too much for an otherwise happy, outgoing child. Overload can happen when too much activity is going on around a baby or when a baby has low tolerance to activity.

All children have limits on the amount of stimulus they can tolerate. These limits vary based on how the child is feeling and the level of interest in the situation. Your child may show the following signs the he/she is overwhelmed:



Becoming irritable
Withdrawing by turning away
Ignoring a person or activity
Attempting to hide
Crying

How can you help? The following suggestions can help avoid infant overload:

- Be aware of your baby's limits and introduce new kinds of stimulation gradually.
- Schedule time for you and your child to share special one-on-one time.
- Be sensitive to your child's reactions and be willing to remove him/her from a stressful situation.
- Let family members know what your child enjoys and what he/she doesn't.
- Try to keep your child's routine as close to normal as possible. A well-rested, well-fed child is able to handle more stimulation than one who's tired and hungry.



Choosing Age Appropriate Toys

Your child is starting to play with toys in a different way.

As a baby, he explores the world with his senses.

As a toddler, he uses toys to build, create, represent the real world, and practice new skills.



Matching toys to your child

Before adding a new toy to your home, ask yourself these five questions.

1. Is this age-appropriate?

Consider your child's development, skill level, and age, as well as the safety and size of the toy. For a child up to 3 years of age, it should be large enough to pass a choke tube test (the toy and its parts do not fit down a toilet paper roll).

2. What skills will my child learn from this?

For pretend play, for example, the best toys are open-ended and allow your child to use them as he chooses. Make-believe toys are also good for helping your child imagine real-life experiences like going to the doctor or cooking at a restaurant.

3. Will my child like this?

Think about his interests and his temperament. Also give him toys that can be used in different ways. (For example, during pretend play stacking bowls could become cooking pots or mountains for toy cars.)

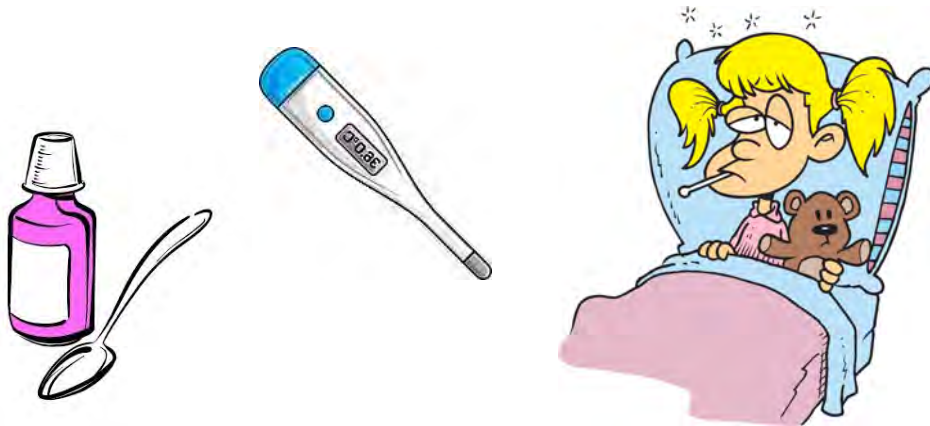
4. Does this fit in at our home?

If it is a large item (like a playhouse), do our have room to leave it up all the time? Is the toy for cooperative play (with siblings or friends), or for one child at a time? If the toy is noisy, will it become annoying? If it has many pieces, will they get lost?

5. Will this toy last?

The toy should be good quality, sturdy, and able to stand up to frequent use.

WELLNESS POLICY



If you, your child(ren), or anyone in the household have had a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea in the last 24 hours before a scheduled visit.....

Please call the PAT office at 615-5771 to reschedule your home visit for another date!!

Also, we ask that you not attend any PAT activities if you or your child(ren) have the above symptoms, as we do not want to pass an illness on to other families!

Thank you for helping us keep everyone healthy!













Weather Alert!!

- If USD 308 cancels school, **ALL** home visits and playgroups will be canceled as well.
- If USD 309 or 313 cancels school, home visits held **within those districts** will be canceled.
- If roads are snow-covered or icy, please allow your parent educator a few extra minutes to arrive for your home visit, due to the increased travel time.
- Please keep your porch/walk-way as clear as possible by removing snow or sprinkling rock salt.
- If your home visits are held after dark, please remember to turn on your porch light for your parent educator.



DECEMBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
25	26	27 	28	29	30 	01
02	03 	04 No Playgroup	05 No Playgroup	06 	07	08
09	10	11 PAT Winter Party 5:30-7pm	12 No Playgroup	13	14 	15
16 	17	18	19 No Playgroup	20 	21	22 
23	24 Winter Break	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 No Playgroup	27	28	29 ↑
30 ↓	31 New Years Eve	01 ↑	02	03	04	05

