



A newsletter from the Parent-Educator Connection

for families and educators of students receiving special education services

Volume 19 Issue 2

Spring 2006

## Summer Activities

### Summer Learning

Summer often provides parents with the opportunity to have a break from the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives. It also can be a wonderful chance for those of us with young children to either continue or begin working on skills they will need for the rest of their lives. One excellent website that parents could use this summer to do just that is:

<http://www.uncledansreportcard.org/ForParent/Index.asp?x=020|000&~>

There is a great deal of information on that page that you could use this summer as well as helps that teachers could use, “dos and don’ts” for teaching principles to children, and all of this is also available in Spanish. Please check out this website and have a productive and fun summer with your young children. Thank you to unclesdanreportcard.org. for a great website.

### Summer Reading Club

The Iowa Library for the Blind will host a Summer Reading Club from June 12 – July 21, 2006. Any registered library borrower ages 3-18 is welcome to join them as they launch a summer event filled with contests, activities, book discussions and nifty prizes. The theme for this year’s program is “Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales” and has a broad-based animal/pet focus. The Iowa Library for the Blind serve persons who are blind, visually impaired, physically handicapped or reading disabled. If you would like to learn more about their library services or are interested in joining, call 281-1333 or 1-800-363-2587 and ask for Deena Cross or Carol Eckey.



### Stepping Stones

(Adaptive Swim)

This is designated time for use of the main pool (shallow area only) and zero depth area at Splash Landing in Middle Park, Bettendorf, for persons with any physical or mental disability. Sundays: June 11, 18, 25, July 9, 16 & 23, and July 30 from 10 – 11 A.M. The fee is \$3 per person. A lifeguard will be provided, but the parent/guardian is responsible for entering and assisting in the water. Volunteers are welcomed to join in and assist!



### Summer Swim Bash

This event is for all persons with any mental/physical disability and their families. This year's Swim Bash will be Saturday, July 15th, at Davenport Annie Wittenmyer Family Aquatic Center from 6:30 – 8:30 P.M. and the cost is \$3 per person. Refreshments will be provided. This will be an evening of meeting new friends and making lasting memories. Persons who need one-on-one assistance must bring a companion into the water. Anyone required to wear any type of diaper or undergarment must have the appropriate swimming diaper to enter the water.



# New Materials in the Parent-Educator Libraries

You'll want to check out some of the new items in the Parent-Educator Libraries. Materials may be checked out for one month. The main library is located in the Early Childhood Center in the Bettendorf office with smaller ones in the Clinton and Muscatine offices. You may stop in and browse or call to have the item you would like to check out sent on our van to your local school for you to pick up. Envelopes are provided so you can return them to your neighborhood school to be sent back to us on the AEA delivery van.

## A variety of materials have been added on ADHD

***Bird's-Eye View of Life with ADD and ADHD: Advice from Young Survivors*** by Chris A. Zeigler Dendy & Alex Zeigler, This is a book for teenagers and children with ADD and ADHD and their parents. It offers information and strategies from first-hand experiences by 12 teens and one young adult.



Two fiction books for children ages 10 and up are ***Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*** about Joey who can't sit still, pay attention, or follow the rules, and he can't help it. He has problems just like his dad and grandma. In ***Joey Pigza Loses Control***, Joey is taking medication for ADHD and goes to spend the summer with the dad he has never known who throws away Joey's medicine.

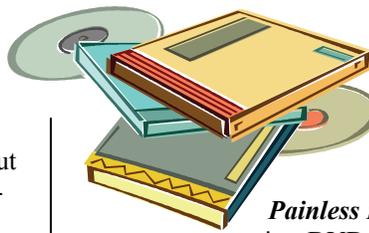
***Teaching Teens with ADD and ADHD*** by Chris A. Zeigler Dendy contains 75 concise summaries of key issues related to ADD and school success. It offers strategies, interventions & tips.

***Calming the Chaos*** by Jim Fay and Charles Fay is an audio CD full of behavior improvement strategies for the child with ADHD. There are classroom and parenting examples for using a team approach of educators and parents working closely together to defuse and change destructive behaviors.

We have both a VHS tape and a DVD of ***What the Silenced Say, an evening with Jonathan Mooney***. Jonathan, a 4.0 graduate of Brown U., speaks about his experience as a dyslexic & hyperactive student. It includes a lecture, Q&A, and an in-depth interview with Jonathan.

## Books and videos on autism, behavior disorders, conflict resolution, inclusion, and learning disabilities have also been added to the libraries.

The Iowa Department of Education has provided a kit, ***Traumatic Brain Injury***, which includes materials and sources for more information on a wide range of issues affecting people of all ages with brain injury and their family, friends, educators and employers.



## For Parents:

Many items are from the Love and Logic Institute which focuses on helping parents and educators create responsible kids.

***Painless Parenting for the Preschool Years*** is a DVD which has Love and Logic magical techniques that will make parenting enjoyable and rewarding.

***The Life Saver Kit*** contains 6 audio CDs with hands-on parenting techniques--listen, laugh & learn--key tools that can be put to use immediately with homework, bedtime, chores, sibling fighting, etc.

***Tickets to Success*** contains techniques to lead children to responsible decision-making

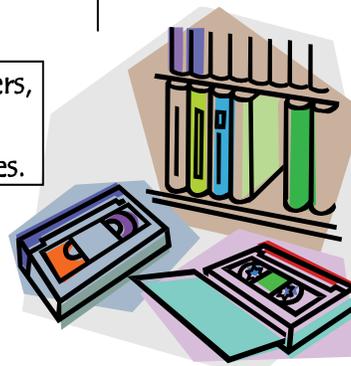
***Helicopters, Drill Sergeants and Consultants, Parenting Styles and the Messages They Send*** helps parents identify their parenting style and shares practical stress-free techniques for becoming a consultant parent.

We now have an audio CD of ***Love and Logic Magic for Early Childhood*** Listen and discover easy to use, fun, practical techniques to put to use parenting children ages birth through six yrs. We also have added another copy of the book which gives advice for how to make parenting preschoolers fun and how to teach children how to learn from their mistakes

***Toddlers and Pre-Schoolers, Love and Logic Parenting for Early Childhood: 6 Months to 5 Years*** gives advice for parents on how to use the Love & Logic approach with their demanding toddler or pre-schooler.

***I've Got What It Takes*** presents the 4th principle of Love & Logic parenting: Maintain the Child's Self-concept—improved self-concept leads to improved behavior and improved achievement.

***Parenting with Love and Logic, Teaching Children Responsibility*** by Foster W.Cline & Jim Fay helps parents and children establish a rewarding relationship built on love and trust. This is an approach which teaches children, to think, decide and take responsibility and to solve their own problems. It's also available in Spanish, ***Ser Padres con Amor y Lógica*** (Parenting with Love and Logic).



To check out any of these or other materials in the Parent-Educator Connection Library, come in or contact one of the Parent-Educator Facilitators:

Carol Aden, Bettendorf, 563-344-6287  
Kathy Anson, Clinton, 563-242-6454  
Cindy Laughead, Muscatine, 563-263-8476 or call 1-800-947-2329 to reach any of them.



## Early Hearing Detection and Intervention in Iowa



How early is early detection?

For children born with hearing loss, the identification process can start hours after birth. All birthing hospitals within Iowa are part of the early hearing detection and intervention program. Each hospital conducts a hearing screening before a newborn leaves the hospital. The hearing screening relies on the ear's ability to give back responses to clicks or tones. Parents are informed of the results of their baby's hearing screening and if the baby does not pass the screening, parents are encouraged to schedule another hearing screening within a month. There are many reasons a baby may not pass the initial hospital hearing screening but it is very important for families to schedule the follow-up screening so follow-up diagnostic and intervention procedures can begin if the baby is born with a hearing loss.

The goal of early hearing detection and intervention is to have a baby's hearing screened by one month of age, a hearing loss identified by three months of age and enrollment into an early intervention program by six months of age. The effectiveness of early intervention for children with hearing loss is astounding. Children who meet these timelines and have strong family involvement in the intervention program have the potential to develop normal spoken or signed language.

Early Access services provided by Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency are an important part of the identification and follow-up process. Audiology, specialized early childhood education for children with hearing loss, speech-language pathology and other support services are provided for families of infants and toddlers at no charge through an individualized family service plan (IFSP). Early Access services are provided in the home and audiology diagnostic services can be provided in the Clinton, Maquoketa, Bettendorf, and Muscatine AEA offices. AEA service providers work in partnership with other agencies such as the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Through early identification, intervention, and strong partnerships with other service providers, an infant or toddler with a hearing loss has a bright future.



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Packets

The Parent-Educator Connection Program and Transition Services at Mississippi Bend AEA have developed a transition packet for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and families. This is an effort to address the concern families had stated that they wished they had had transition information earlier, that high school was almost too late. The goal of the packet is to help students get the most out of high school and look to the future. The packet contains information for parents and students to use that will help guide them through their high school years as well as resources they may need that will help them reach their goals when they are out of school. If your 8<sup>th</sup> grader has not received a packet, please ask his or her teacher for one. This packet can provide the information that you need to help students on the journey through their high school years.



## The Explosive Child Conference



There will once again be an Explosive Child Conference offered this summer on June 12, 2006. Ross Greene, PhD. will draw from his most recent book, *Treating Explosive Kids:*

*The Collaborative Problem Solving Approach*, in helping parents and professionals work with highly oppositional kids. Dr. Greene will provide a detailed framework for effective interventions and help teach caregivers to solve problems collaboratively. CEU's available.

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Hotel of West Des Moines where rooms are available for a special conference rate. To register please go to [www.iffcmh.org](http://www.iffcmh.org) and click on Calendar of Events or email [help@iffcmh.org](mailto:help@iffcmh.org) or contact Lori Reynolds at the Iowa Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health at 106 South Booth, Anamosa, IA 52205, or phone 319-462-2187. Families only can call toll free 1-888-400-6302.



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The **Parent-Educator Connection** provides support and resources for families and teachers. For more information, please contact the Parent-Educator Facilitator in your service center:

**Carol Aden**, Bettendorf **563-344-6287** **Email: caden@aea9.k12.ia.us**  
*Serving school districts:* Bettendorf, Davenport, North Scott and Pleasant Valley

**Kathy Anson**, Clinton **563-242-6454** **Email: kanson@aea9.k12.ia.us**  
*Serving school districts:* Andrew, Bellevue, Calamus-Wheatland, Camanche, Central Clinton, Clinton, Delwood, East Central, Northeast, Maquoketa and Preston

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*Serving school districts:* Bennett, Columbus Jct., Durant, Louisa-Muscatine, Muscatine, West Liberty and Wilton

Any one of them can also be reached by calling **1-800-947-2329**.



## Websites of Interest

- [www.pbs.org/parents](http://www.pbs.org/parents) . Public Broadcasting System
- [www.iptv.org](http://www.iptv.org) ..... Iowa Public Television
- [www.aea9.k12.ia.us](http://www.aea9.k12.ia.us)..... Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency—This publication, **PARTNERS**, is available on this site. Click on Programs & Services. Next under Special Education click on Parent-Educator Connection; then in the left column click on Partners Newsletter.

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The Mission of the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency is to improve teaching and learning for all students through active partnerships and assertive leadership in a climate of mutual respect.