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EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL

LOGAN - PHILLIPS - SEDGWICK

Every child can learn, play & succeed!

November 2023 Newsletter

Announcements

This month's featured provider is **The Dragon's Wagon Preschool** in Holyoke. They have been in operation since 1981. **Marcia Walter** joined the staff in 1989, and became Director in 1994. They have 6 amazing and dedicated staff members, and Marcia and her Assistant Director, **Brenda Juarez** are both Director qualified. They typically serve 60-70 families of 3-6 year old children each year. Their favorite thing about their program is that they are a long-standing non-profit program that focuses on the needs of preschool children and families in their community. In 1981, Holyoke needed a preschool program and the late Debbie Huwa worked tirelessly to organize The Dragon's Wagon. Debbie was an extraordinary example and mentor of Early Childhood Education. As they are a non-profit, they have a BOD that donates their time and energy to ensure that all runs well. They also work closely with the School District to provide services to children with special needs, and are part of UPK. Their goal is to provide a developmentally appropriate learning environment for the young children in their community. Shining in true Dragon fashion, they are rated a 4 in Colorado Shines!
Outstanding Dragon's Wagon!!!

ECCLPS News

ECCLPS' 4th Annual Flight for Funds Pigeon Race was a great success this year! We met our goal and sold all 50 tickets thanks to the help of our awesome Board members and Staff, and to those of you who "passed the word" and sent buyers our way. We so appreciate the community's involvement in supporting our Early Childhood Champions! First place ticket holder was **Vicki Folkerts** and the winner of \$500! Last place ticket holder was **Mary Butcher** and the winner of \$250. While we wish everyone could win, we congratulate these two lucky individuals.

We had the BEST time at **Trick or Treat Street** this year! We saw so many wonderful costumes, shining and scary faces, and lots of families having a fabulous time. It just warms our hearts to see the look on children's faces while they're looking for that special book to take home. **We love this community!**

Noteworthy Items

*We're gearing up for the ECCLPS/NJC ECE Conference in January and have Vendor spaces available, at NO-COST to you! If you are interested in a space to sell your wares, please email [Aileen](#) and we'll be happy to answer any questions you may have, and send you the form to fill out. We'd love to have you there!

*While we didn't win the Scarecrow competition this year, we had a fabulous time creating our Dolly Parton themed Scarecrow titled "Parton My Imagination". Thanks to all the folks who voted for us!



*NCHD Healthy Child Clinic

The clinic dates are as follows for the remainder of the year. Services from NCHD's specialty clinics are scheduled by appointment only. Clinics are held at NCHD's District Headquarters in Sterling, or their Fort Morgan office. To make an appointment at one of our clinics, please contact Mechelle Beck at 970-474-2619 ext 6021. ***See next column for dates and locations.**

Save the Date

November 4, 11 - **Mother/Father Read Program**

100 Broadway, Suite 14 Sterling
1:00 - 2:30 PM

(By appointment only - contact [Mary](#))

November 4, 5 - **St. Anthony Bazaar**
St. Anthony Church

Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED

NJC Knowles Hall Room 312

November 18 - 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Click [here](#) to register or call 970-521-6773 or email stacey.nelson@njc.edu

November 23 - **Happy Thanksgiving!**
ECCLPS office will be closed 23, 24

November 27 - **ECCLPS Partner Meeting**

100 Broadway, Suite 14 Sterling
11:50 AM - 12:50 PM

November 27 - **ECCLPS Professional Development Training**

Zoom only this month

6:30 - 8:30 PM

[Logan County Events](#)
[Sedgwick County Events](#)
[Phillips County Events](#)

Children's Hospital Specialty Clinic Dates:

[Neurology Clinic](#)

November 9, 2023 - Sterling

December 14, 2023 - Fort Morgan

Family Literacy

We're really supporting literacy this month, and a lot of the special occasions in November surround literacy. Of course, if you know anything about ECCLPS as a whole, we are all about BOOKS! [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#), Mother/Father/Childcare Read programs, Trick or Treat Street, etc. Most of the functions we attend and support reflect our passion for family literacy. Even if one or more of the adults in a household are not fantastic readers, the act of reading to the children in the household helps build literacy skills for all ages. When a parent reads to their child from a very early age, they are improving their reading skills in a comfortable setting, with no judgement from the child. They don't feel rushed to get through it, and even the repetition of reading the same books to kids over and over, is beneficial to both the child and adult. It allows for special bonding time and helps the child to foster a love of reading if they feel loved in the moment. It creates great memories between parent and child - no matter the skill of the reader. Reading books together helps teach empathy, develops the imagination, builds vocabulary and the visual skills to help children begin to recognize letters and then words, and of course, helps prepare them for reading and writing in school. If there's any one thing you do for your child EVERY - SINGLE - DAY, make time to read together! (Remember, these lists are intended to be used as a tool for discovery. To really build a "Reader" let them choose their own books!)

[50 Best Kids' Books of All Time](#)

This list is full of amazing, fun, engaging books that all ages will enjoy, you might find some of these are already among your personal favorites. Re-read them and fall in love all over again.

[100 Best Children's Books of All Time](#)

Time Magazine has compiled a list of their own, and we agree with so many of these.

[100 Best Young-Adult Books](#)

Time Magazine did it again, with the best young-adult books of all time.

[Welcome to Story Hour: 100 Favorite Books for Young Readers](#)

NPR Books Summer Poll: Kids' Books

[The 100 Best-Ever Children's Books](#)

As chosen by Penguin readers

[Classic Children's Books to Read With Your Kids](#)

Classic children's books are a great starting point to develop a deep affection for reading.

[The Best Children's Books](#)

As chosen by teachers, organized by age and genre.

[Top 100 Children's Picturebooks of All-Time](#)

As chosen by the Scottsdale Public Library.

[Readers Digest Top Picks](#)

The very best books for kids compiled by bestseller lists, teachers, librarians, and parents.

[50 Best Free Educational Websites for Kids](#) (2023)

Educational websites for kids can turn regular screen time into something exciting and inspiring for kids, and allow you to actually get some work done!

Family Support and Education

We are close to wrapping up the first round of **Motheread/Fatheread**. It has been a wonderful journey for the parents involved in the class. This program pairs so well with parenting classes, but is also a delightful way to better engage with your little one all by itself. You can learn more about the program [here](#), and you can register for the next round of classes by reaching out to [Mary](#) or calling 970-466-0778.

[Welcome Families & Students](#)

Colorado Department of Education has LOTS of resources for families including: Special Education, Health and Wellness, Student Supports, Early Childhood Education, and so much more!

[Family Resource Center](#)

FRC offers parenting classes, youth programs, supervised visitations, and much more.

[The Arc Colorado - Family Resources](#)

The Arc provides direct advocacy to families at no cost.

[Northeast Colorado BOCES](#)

Early Childhood support and services, Early Intervention services, screenings.

[Is Preschool Worth it? New Research Into the Benefits](#)

Short YouTube video.

[How Can Family Issues Affect a Child's Performance in School?](#)

Family challenges have the potential to negatively affect all family members.

[How to Raise an Independent Child in the Age of Helicopter Parents](#)

So, how do we raise an independent child in a society that seems to expect us to hover like helicopter parents?

[Low-Tech Parenting: Tips from a Digital Minimalist Mom](#)

There is truly so much out there to do and see once you remove the distraction of screens.

[Why I Don't Just Tell Children to "Share!" Anymore](#)

When a teacher or parent understand what they can legitimately expect from a child given their age and school experience, they may be less likely to set inappropriate expectations for children.

[Self Regulation Strategies for Transitions](#)

Help young students learn to manage transitions between activities.

[Parenting Teens Is the Most Exhausted I've Ever Been](#)

If you aren't there yet... here's a peek inside.

Child Health and Well-Being

[How to Foster a Growth Mindset in Children](#)

Ways to help your child develop a “Growth Mindset”. It can actually be life-changing.

[Screen Sense](#)

What the Research Says About the Impact of Media on Children Aged 0-3 Years Old.

[What Does Too Much Screen Time Do to Children’s Brains?](#)

What is all this screen time doing to kids’ brains?

[Figure 8 Breathing Meditation](#)

This practice increases lung efficiency, calms the nervous system, and offers a way to focus a busy or wandering mind.

[Secret Garden Meditation](#)

Kids can imagine themselves in their own private sanctuary. It can teach them about the special place we all hold within us we can access when we need a break from outside stressors.

[Your Child’s Health](#)

A helpful website that helps broaden how to think about your child’s health and development at many different stages, with lots of resources.

[Promoting Children’s Health and Well-Being](#)

Five practices that parents, educators, and caregivers can adopt to improve children’s well-being.

[Good Mental Health for Children: 3-8 Years](#)

Mental health is the way children think and feel about themselves and the world around them. This website has so much information for all ages and abilities. Spend a little time browsing your interests.

[Child Development Basics](#)

The early years of a child’s life are very important for their health and development. From effective parenting practices to developmental milestones, there’s some good information here.

[Free Thanksgiving Coloring Pages](#)

You can print these delightful images to keep the kids busy while you prepare dinner, or better yet, after dinner sit with them and color together. Also remember, Thanksgiving is a wonderful opportunity to engage your children in the kitchen! They can help wash veggies, spread peanut butter on celery, and create the veggie tray themselves. They’ll be far more likely to eat the veggies if they have a part in them.

Learning & Development

Professional Development - Jodi Ann Geis-Crowder will present on "Identifying and Addressing Trauma in Children and Families" - This training will be offered by [Zoom](#) only, no in-person.

Healthy Child Care CO [Training Calendar](#)

First Aid/CPR/AED - Final class available this fall. Please schedule ahead of time, as classes fill up fast.

NJC Knowles Hall Room 312 - cost is \$89.00

November 18 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Click [Here](#) to register.

Complete online registration, or contact Stacey Nelson directly at:

970-521-6773

stacey.nelson@njc.edu

ECCLPS will be offering new training opportunities in the weeks to come. Inquire with [Stephanie](#) if you're interested or to learn more.

[FLIP IT](#) [Building Your Bounce](#) [PAS-3](#)

FLIP IT and Building Your Bounce pair well with Conscious Discipline.

[Conscious Discipline](#) is a very engaging form of teaching children and adults, to be aware. Over the next few months, a link will be included to introduce new chapters. Try it, notice the changes in how you look at yourself and others, once you become more mindful and present.

[Chapter 5](#) - Assertiveness

[Chapter 6](#) - Encouragement

If you have information you would like us to share in our newsletters, please send to [Aileen](#) prior to the month you would like it to be featured.

Please join us on **KPMX 105.7** the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM to stay up to date on what's happening at ECCLPS.

Partner News Links

[Wildwood](#)

[Chop-Chop Family](#)

[Baby Bear Hugs](#) - Scroll to bottom to subscribe

[Child Care Aware of America](#) - Scroll to bottom to subscribe

[DECC Newsletter](#) - Click to subscribe

[Green Child Magazine](#) - Click to subscribe

[Our Voice](#)

[CDE The SPARK Newsletters](#)

[ELV Newsletter](#)

[USDE Newsletter](#)

[Colorado Shines Brighter](#)

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ECCLA [Grants and Scholarships](#)

Early Learning IDEA [Grant](#)

CDE [scholarships](#)

CDHE [resources](#)

COAEYC [funding](#)

PDIS [funding](#)

UC Denver [funding](#)

Daniels Fund [scholarship](#)

NJC [scholarships](#)

ECMHC [scholarships](#)

Colorado Shines Improvement [funding](#)

We're excited for the new **Childcare Read/Mother Read/Father Read** books we've ordered to make the sessions even more fun! Please reach out to [Mary](#) if you would like to be a part of these programs.

ECCLPS graciously accepts and appreciates your donations any time of year. Each donation made to us qualifies for the childcare tax credit. For every dollar, the donor receives the donation to lower their taxable income, and 50% as a tax credit to offset their taxes owed. You can donate anytime by clicking [Here](#) (PayPal) or [Here](#) (COGives).



amee.duncan@state.co.us

720-692-4678

Licensing Tidbits

Chocolate milk (or any flavored milk) cannot be served in centers. This includes school based centers participating in the school lunch program. The USDA recommends that flavored milk not be given to children under the age of six years.

Daily records of attendance verification need to be kept. If you are using a white board, please make sure you are making copies for your records. Please reference rule 702.62.A.2

Use this link to weigh in on rules by Wednesday, November 22, 2023.

Click [HERE](#)

With the ECE Conference coming up in January, we thought we'd take a moment to remind you about School Specialty. They are a preferred Vendor with EC Connect and will be joining us this year. They have a lot of inclusive, and STEAM/STEM learning materials for even the youngest learners.

You can find the discount pricing website [here](#). A username and password is needed to log in to see your EC Connect pricing. If anyone needs help with gaining access to this site, please reach out to

Susan Schorer at 303-263-4250

or email her at

susan.schorer@schoolspecialty.com

EC Connect Colorado members get:

- * 30% off list price on Supplies
- * 15% off list price on Furniture & AV Tech
- * Free Shipping

(Some rules apply)

Some of EC Connect preferred vendors

[School Specialty](#)

[Lakeshore](#)

[Becker's](#)

[The Discovery Source](#)

[Kaplan Early Learning Company](#)

***Providers with a QI Application can use those funds to pay for conferences and professional development trainings.

Holidays and Special Occasions in November

- November 1 – [All Saints' Day](#)
- November 1 - [National Brush Day](#)
- November 1 - [National Family Literacy Day](#)
- November 2 - [All Souls Day](#)
- November 2 - [Day of the Dead](#)
- November 5 - [Daylight Savings Ends](#)
- November 7 - [Election Day](#)
- November 8 - [National Parents as Teachers Day](#)
- November 8 - [STEM/STEAM Day](#)
- November 9 - [Go to an Art Museum Day](#)
- November 10 - [Sesame Street Day](#)
- November 10 - [USMC Day](#)
- November 11 - [Veterans Day](#)
- November 12 - [International Tongue Twister Day](#)
- November 12 - [National Happy Hour Day](#)
- November 12 - [World Kindness Day](#)
- November 12 - [World Orphans Day](#)
- November 15 - [America Recycles Day](#)
- November 15 - [Steve Irwin Day](#)
- November 18 - [Mickey Mouse's Birthday](#)
- November 18 - [Minnie Mouse's Birthday](#)
- November 23 - [Thanksgiving](#)
- November 28 - [National Day of Giving](#)

- November 5 - 11 - [Drowsy Driving Prevention Week](#)
- November 6 - 12 - [National Recycling Week](#)
- November 12 - 20 - [Get Outdoors Week](#)
- November 13 - 17 - [American Education Week](#)
- November 13 - 19 - [Anti-Bullying Week](#)
- November 13 - 17 - [National Education Week](#)
- November 13 - 21 - [National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week](#)
- November 13 - 17 - [National Young Readers Week](#)

November is

- [Family Stories Month](#)
- [Library and Information Services Month](#)
- [Military Family Month](#)
- [National Adopt a Senior Pet Month](#)
- [National Adoption Month](#)
- [National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month](#)
- [National Children's Month](#)
- [National Family Literacy Month](#)
- [National Native American Heritage Month](#)
- [No Shave November](#)



Opossum

- ◆ Despite its appearance, it is not related to the rat
- ◆ It is, in fact, a marsupial and is the only one in North America
- ◆ The gestation period is only 11-13 days
- ◆ They develop inside the pouch until they are too large to fit, then ride on mom's back
- ◆ They can give birth to 7-20 babies, but fewer than half survive
- ◆ Average life span is 1 to 2 years
- ◆ They are typically about 2 1/2 feet long from nose to tail and weigh 8-13 pounds
- ◆ Males are called a Jack, females a Jill and babies are known as Joey's
- ◆ Predators include dogs, cats, foxes, coyotes, birds of prey, large snakes, people
- ◆ They are known to escape death by "playing possum" or faking death
- ◆ They have 50 teeth, a hairless prehensile tail, and opposable thumbs on its hind feet
- ◆ They feed on ALL kinds of insects, snails, rats, mice, worms, snakes, carrion, grass, nuts, fruit, and human garbage
- ◆ They are excellent tree climbers, but do not hang from their tails
- ◆ They are nocturnal and a great benefit to the ecosystem wherever they live
- ◆ They are immune to numerous types of snake venom, bees, and scorpions
- ◆ They have a low body temperature and are VERY low risk of contracting or spreading rabies



Any Time is a Great Time to Give Where You Live

ECCLPS

Accepts and appreciates donations through out the year!

If you would like to donate, please go to:

[ECCLPS Colorado Gives](#)

~ECCLPS TEAM~

<p>Stephanie Swenson Quality Support Coach <u>ecclps.edwards@gmail.com</u></p>	<p>Stacey Zink Coordinator <u>ecclps.zink@gmail.com</u></p>	<p>Michelle Sharp Executive Director <u>ecclps.sharp@gmail.com</u></p>
<p>Aileen Miranda Program Assistant <u>ecclps.miranda@gmail.com</u></p>	<p>Bailee Jones UPK Coordinator <u>ecclps.jones@gmail.com</u></p>	<p>Mary Pennock Child Read Coordinator <u>ecclps.pennock@gmail.com</u></p>

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 - 5:00

ECCLPS Partner Meetings

4th Monday of the Month (September - May)

11:50 AM - 12:50 PM

ECCLPS Professional Development Trainings

4th Monday of the Month (September - May)

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Early Childhood Council Logan, Phillips, Sedgwick

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