

# PROVIDER NEWS

October 2021



## PROVIDER RESOURCES

Contact our office for assistance with any of the following resources:

- Virtual Training Opportunities
- Professional Development Funds
- Credential Assistance
- Quality Improvement Funds
- ExceleRate Illinois Consulting
- Technical Assistance
- Referral Database

Office hours are 8:00am – 4:30pm  
815-484-9442

## INCLUSION/SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Many, if not most, children with disabilities can be successfully integrated in high-quality early childhood programs, according to research and experience. Collaboration among all professionals and families is required, as is examination of one's own values, knowledge of where and how to obtain resources, and strong administrative support.

For each child, inclusion takes on a different form, depending on what they require to succeed. Some routines and activities during the school day are challenging for many kiddos, but not all of them. You could adjust or modify a challenging routine or activity for a child, or you could set new expectations for that child for that activity alone; most likely, this would not be necessary for every section of the school day.

Three core considerations for establishing developmentally appropriate activities in early childhood classrooms are highlighted in the NAEYC policy statement on developmentally appropriate practice. These considerations, which are listed



below, apply to all children. They do not matter any less when children with delays or disabilities are included in the classroom.

- Knowing about child development and early learning.
- Knowing what is individually appropriate.
- Knowing what is culturally important.

Developmentally appropriate practice (DAP) requires both meeting children where they are – which means that teachers must get to know them well- and enabling them to reach goals that are both challenging and achievable.

- Is appropriate to children's age and developmental status, attuned to them as unique individuals, and responsive to the social and cultural contexts in which they live.
- Does not mean making things easier for children but ensuring that goals and experiences are suited to their learning and development and challenging enough to promote their progress and interest.
- Is based on knowledge – not on assumptions – from research on how children learn and develop.

NAEYC. (2017). The essentials: Supporting young children with disabilities in the classroom.

**YWCA NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ~4990 EAST STATE ST. ~ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61108**

# YWCA IS ON A MISSION

## PROVIDER SERVICES

Child care providers often seek assistance and resources to improve the quality of care for their program or home environment. Quality Specialists act as a resource to connect providers or programs to information and opportunities related to ExceleRate Illinois or Continuous Quality Improvement as well as provide knowledge of best practices and policies. They offer trainings, observations, and assessments.

Infant Toddler Specialist – Andrea Capriotti Ext. 228

Quality Specialist – Stephanie Siemens Ext. 234

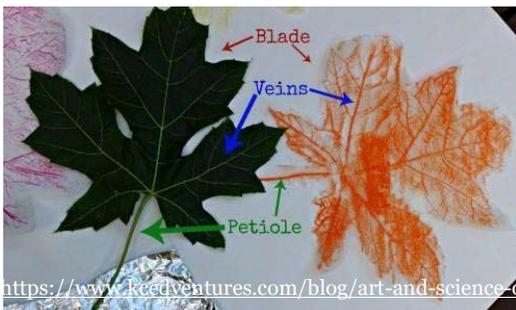
### WHAT CAN YOU LEARN FROM A LEAF?

This is a great opportunity to scaffold and build children's schema for future extensions to what you teach them through this activity.

You can use this craft activity in many ways to help in the development of all the children you care for. Their fine motor development as they use their crayons, colored pencils to rub the outline of the leaf. Their language development will also expand as you explain what they are doing and additionally you can use this as an opportunity to bring in the science of a growing plant, as well as the seasons and why the leaves change colors and fall from the trees. And literacy through books like Autumn Leaves, Awesome Autumn, or Why Do Leaves Change Color?

**Items Needed:** paper (tracing, parchment, or wax paper), crayons, colored pencils, or oil pastels, and Leaves! – a variety of sizes and shapes

Place the leaf under your paper and use one of the rubbing tools. Mix and match your papers and drawing tools in any way you'd like. You may even chose to experiment and see how each drawing tool is different on each type of paper you use. You could also create a layered leaf collage by using more than one color on your paper.



From <https://www.kcedventures.com/blog/art-and-science-of-leaf-rubbings-nature-activity>

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

How will you be notified of a natural, environmental, or public safety emergency?

In **Section 406.8 General Requirements for Day Care Homes** and **Section 407.70 (Day Care Centers) Organization and Administration k)8)** outlines the necessary written emergency preparedness and risk management plans for potential risks or hazards including the event of a fire, tornado, or other emergency. The terms for centers specifies, “means of receiving information to alert the center of severe weather conditions or other emergency situations that may affect the safety of the children.”

A NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) broadcasts weather forecasts and official watches or warnings from the nearest National Weather Service office. These radios broadcast 24 hours a day, seven days a week and broadcasts are free. This is an “All Hazards” radio network. NWR also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards, including natural (such as earthquakes or avalanches), environmental (such as chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety hazards, in collaboration with Federal, State, and Local Emergency Managers and other public officials (such as AMBER alerts or 911 Telephone outages). (<https://www.weather.gov/nwr/>)

There are many different brands and types of weather radios, as well as, online streams and apps for your mobile devices. However, it is not recommended to depend on online or app versions since your connection can be lost during an emergency or you may lose power to your devices. Because of these issues it would be best to have a weather radio that has different back up power sources. These different power sources could be a hand crank, solar panel, batteries, or a USB to a rechargeable battery.



We would like to help you be informed of emergencies in your area. The first three providers to respond “**Weather Radio**” to

[YWCAchilcaresolutions@ywcanwil.org](mailto:YWCAchilcaresolutions@ywcanwil.org) will receive a NOAA Weather Alert Portable Radio.