

Debs Child Care News

October 2006



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Quality Child Care

As parents return to work, finding quality, safe and affordable childcare is uppermost in their minds. Parents know they want a safe, happy, loving childcare where their child's needs are met and where their child can have fun and learn.

Having quality childcare can make a significant difference in your child's development. The first step in finding quality childcare is assessing your needs and knowing what your options are for childcare before beginning your search. This will ensure your task of searching for quality childcare is easier. The types of care in Idaho are:

Family Child Care-provides care for a small group of children usually six children or less. These homes may or may not be licensed depending on the location.

Group Child Care Homes-provides care for six to twelve children. These programs must be licensed.

Child Care Centers-provides care to larger groups of children and grouped by ages. Children are usually grouped by ages.

In-Home Care-A caregiver comes to or lives in your home.

Head Start-provides services to families who have low income or who have a child with special needs.

Public Schools-some provide programs for pre-kindergarten children and before and after school care.

There are advantages and disadvantages for any program and requires a thorough search and should begin several months before you need childcare. Some good resources to find childcare in Idaho are:

Idaho Stars <http://www.idahostars.org/> you may receive online referrals or by calling 211.

City of Boise http://www.cityofboise.org/city_clerk/childcarelicensing/ This site provide a map base service of all childcare facilities in the city of Boise.

Friends and Co-workers-asking friends and co-workers for recommendations of childcare.

Once you have decided on what type of childcare facility you would like to see your child be a part of, begin your search by making phone calls. Developing a good checklist will ensure you know what your needs are and it will help in narrowing your search down. A good resource for developing a checklist is by doing a search on the Internet or you may

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- October 9th Columbus Day
- November 10th Veterans Day
- November 23 Thanksgiving
- November 24 (personal day)
- December 25th to January 1st
- January 15th MLK Day

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Schedule of Events

Dental Hygiene Month

Fire Prevention Month

SIDS Awareness Month

Learning Disabilities Awareness Month

- Oct. 2 - Yom Kippur
- Oct. 9 - Columbus Day
- Oct. 29 - Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Oct. 31 - Halloween

Birthdays



- October 1 - Emilie

Happy 6th Birthday!!!

- October 9 - Savannah

Happy 9th Birthday!!!

October 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Quality Child Care Cont.

download a copy of a check list from Idaho Stars under family resources. Once you have narrowed your search down, set up a visit at a convenient time for both your family and the facility or family child care provider. Take your check-list with you and ask questions. Any facility or child care provider should be willing to answer your questions. You are your child's best advocate and if you are not comfortable or don't feel that the situation is right for your child, keep looking. Although it is challenging to find good quality childcare that will meet your needs, it is possible.

Once you have found a facility or childcare home you like, ask for references of current and past families and check these references. Ask to see a copy of the facilities or providers license and copies of CPR and First Aid trainings and ask what ongoing trainings the provider participates in. Do they have a copy of their daily routine, what activities do the children participate in, and a menu you can see. Help to prepare your child for their first few days. Talk in a positive manner about the childcare. Ask if you may visit to familiarize your child with their new environment and if they are welcome to bring something that would help ease the transition such as a stuff animal, picture of the parents or blanket.

Finding a good quality program is only a portion of what parents need to do. It is also very important to monitor your childcare situation to ensure it stays a safe, happy, fun and learning environment for your child.

October Concepts & Themes

Letters **f e l**

Number **2**

Color **Orange**

Shape **Square**

Holidays-Halloween



Themes

Autumn Changes

Fire Prevention

Spiders, Pumpkins, Scarecrows,

Bats, Owls Jack-o-Lanterns

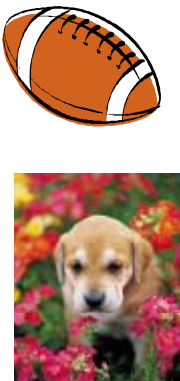
Kids Trivia Fun

Kids, answer the question under your age appropriate trivia, and have your mom or dad e-mail the correct answer to me. The first person to answer the trivia question will win a prize. The first child who sends me their answer will receive a \$5.00 gift card to Border Books & Music, a toy and stickers. Four other children will receive a toy and stickers.

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS FIVE DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS

Toddler ages 1 to 2

Name the pictures



Preschool ages 3 to 4

Which animal can lose a feather



Kindergarten ages 5 to 6

Name the pictures. Which items rhymes with "dragon"?



1st to 3rd Grade - ages 6 to 8

What color do you get when you mix the following colors?

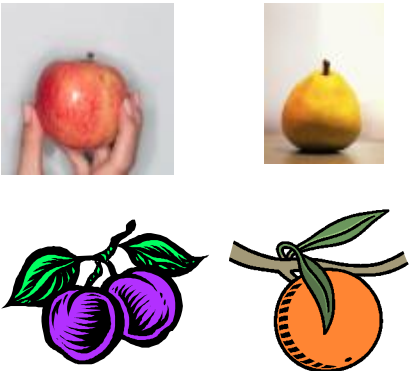
Red and Yellow

Blue and Red

Yellow and Blue

4th to 6th Grade - ages 9-12

Washington: Is Washington the leading U.S. producer of apples, oranges, pears or plums?




October Recipe

Crunchy Ranch Chicken Nuggets

- 1 lb boneless chicken breast cut into cubes
- 1 bottle buttermilk ranch dressing
- 2 cups Pepperidge Farm Goldfish crackers crushed

Dip chicken into dressing and coat with crushed goldfish crackers. Place on a baking sheet and bake at 400 degrees for 15 minutes or until chicken is done. Serve with either ketchup or ranch dressing.

Debs Child Care



School Calendar

October

October 5 & 6 - No School
October 12 & 13 - P/T Conferences - No School
October 27 - No School

November

November 6th to 28th Track Break

December

December 20th to January 2nd - Winter Break

January

January 15 - MLK Day No School
January 19 - No School

February

February 16 - No School
February 19 - President's Day No School

Harvest Party for the kids

October 27
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Walkn' the Pumpkin Walk
Giant Outdoor Spider Web
Halloween Goodies Hunt



Parent Trivia

In Scotland, what vegetable was traditionally carved into a jack-o-lantern?

Idaho Fun in October

14th Annual Harvest Festival Emmett <http://www.emmettidaho.com> 365-3485

Music Theatre of Idaho presents Peter Pan 468-2385

<http://www.mtionline.org>

Idaho Botanical Garden Oktoberfest <http://www.idahobotanicalgarden.org>
343-8649

Harrison Classic Kids Race 344-5501

<http://www.ymcatvidaho.org/index.cfm?ID=98%2C4%2C6>

Swing 'N' Dixie Jazz Jamboree Sun Valley 877-478-5277

<http://www.sunvalleyjazz.com/page/page/1507207.htm>

Boo at the Zoo 334-4125

http://cityofboise.org/parks/zoo/zoo_events_description.htm#Boo%20at%20the%20Zoo

Spooktacular 334-0044

<http://www.cityofboise.org/parks/iceworld/SpooktacularGallery.htm>

The Maize Meridian

<http://www.cornfieldmaze.com/sites.php?ID=username=idmeridian>

Linder Farms Pumpkin Patch <http://www.linderfarms.com>

The Berry Ranch Nampa <http://theberryranch.com>

November Themes

Letters a t n
Number 3
Color Brown

Holidays
Thanksgiving



Themes
Animals & Harvest
Feather Friends
Native Americans



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