

January- February- March 2011 Activities

Registration Lottery Deadline: Wednesday, December 22nd

Saturday Playgroups

<p>Saturdays Jan 8, Feb 5 & March 5 10:30-12:00p</p>	<p>In collaboration with Morse Institute Library... Working Parents Playgroup (children birth-PreK with an adult; older siblings welcome!)</p>	<p>Held at the Morse Institute Library in the Lebowitz Meeting Hall Lower Level. Moms and/or Dads bring your children for a morning of play and activities while you get a chance to check in with other working parents of young children. A snack craft and musical circle time are included in the program. New and returning participants are always welcome to register! Facilitated by Judy Dixon educator and veteran NECN Coordinator.</p>
<p>Saturdays Jan 29, Feb 12 & March 19 10:30-12:00p</p>	<p>In collaboration with Morse Institute Library... Me & My Dad Playgroup (children birth- PreK with father/ male caregiver)</p>	<p>Held at the Morse Institute Library in the Lebowitz Meeting Hall Lower Level. Fathers and children are invited to enjoy this special time set aside just for them. Come to enjoy free play, crafts, stories, musical circle time and morning snack with other Natick dads and kids. New and returning participants are always welcome to register! Facilitated by Judy Dixon educator and veteran NECN Coordinator.</p>

Parent Programs

<p>Mondays Jan 24- March 7 7:00-8:30p NO CLASS Feb 21</p>	<p>Love with Discipline & Guidance: A Positive Parenting Series (Sorry, no childcare available)</p>	<p>Held at the Natick Church of Christ : 324 N. Main Street. Do you ever feel like you just can't get through to your child? All parents do and it can be frustrating! This 6-session workshop will help you with positive child rearing skills and strategies that lessen the amount yelling and punishments used with your child. Your kids and your sanity will thank you for coming! <i>Facilitated by Jill Vestein, LICSW, CIMI.</i></p>
<p>Tuesday January 25 7:00-8:30p</p>	<p>Choosing a Guardian (Complimentary Childcare Available Upon Request)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center Classroom. What factors should be considered? Has it been a few years since you made your selection? What happens if you do NOT nominate guardians? How many guardians should be chosen? Attend a presentation and Q&A session to learn more about this important topic to help you make the best informed choice of guardians for your children. <i>Facilitated by new mom Beth L. Aarons, Esq., JD/MSW.</i></p>
<p>Wednesday March 23 7:00-8:30p</p>	<p>Relaxation and Stress-Management (Complimentary Childcare Available Upon Request)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center Classroom. Relaxation and Stress management for you, and to bring home to your children! In this experiential workshop, learn how to bring relaxation and stress management into you and your family's every day lives. Join <i>Maggie Sky, M.A.</i>, to learn techniques that are easy, quick, and even fun!</p>

Family Events

<p>Sunday March 20 2:00- 4:00p</p>	<p>Walk Into The Book (children birth-8 with their families, older siblings welcome)</p>	<p>Held at Morse Institute Library in the Lebowitz Meeting Hall, Lower Level. Did you ever share a story so wonderful that you wished that you and your child could climb right inside to experience it more fully? Your dreams have come true. Join us promptly at 2 p.m. for a shared story in the vestibule on the lower level of Morse Institute Library. Then watch as we open the "cover" and Walk Into The Book to engage in a wide variety of activities related to the text. There will be: music; crafts; counting activities; games; sensory experiences; a healthy snack and more.</p>
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Parent/Child Groups *(one per family, please. New participants for each program preferred)*

<p>Mondays Jan 3 -March 28 9:30-11:30a NO CLASS Jan 17 & Feb 21</p>	<p>In collaboration with Criterion-Middlesex Early Intervention... Monday Integrated Playgroup (children 12-36 months with parent; sorry, no siblings)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center NECN Playroom. These sessions offer a play experience for 4 early intervention clients and 4 community children with their parents. Each session includes free play, snack, circle time and other directed activities to promote fine and gross motor skills, language, and socialization. Children learn social skills like sharing and turn-taking, and enhance their ability to handle transitions. <i>Facilitated by Chelsea Sweetapple, Developmental Specialist.</i></p>
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Parent/Child Groups *continued...*

<p>Mondays Jan 10 - March 28 12:00-1:30p NO CLASS Jan 17 & Feb 21</p>	<p>Japanese Playgroup (a multi-age, parent/child group)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center Classroom. NECN is pleased to host this ongoing chat and play group for Japanese-speaking parents/caregivers with their children up to age 8. To register, please contact Facilitator, Maiko Obara at 508-310-3991.</p>
<p>Tuesdays Jan 25 - Mar 8 9:30-11:00a</p>	<p>Grandparents are Great! (a multi-age group for grandparents caring for grandchildren)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center NECN Playroom Formerly a monthly group, now a weekly “chat and play” group just for grandparents who are supporting young families by sharing in the care of young children. Bring your little one to the playroom and enjoy a facilitated playgroup just for you and others like you. Talk about the joys and challenges of “hands-on grandparenting.” Playgroup will include adult discussion, free play, crafts, snack and circle time with stories and songs. Adult participants must either live in Natick OR care for a child who lives in Natick. <i>Facilitated by NECN Program Coordinator, Lindsey Tarrant.</i></p>
<p>Wednesdays Jan 5 - March 16 9:30-11:00a NO CLASS Feb 23</p>	<p>Nuttin’ But Nannies (a multi-age group for nannies and the children they care for)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center NECN Playroom. Nannies play an important role in a child’s developmental life, so here is a group just for you! Join us for free play, crafts, and a circle time with stories and songs. Natick nannies will have the opportunity to connect and share the joys and challenges involved when playing a rearing role in someone else’s child’s life. <i>Facilitated by NECN Nanny, Bethany Farnsworth.</i></p>
<p>Wednesdays Jan 5 - Feb 9 3:00-4:30p</p>	<p>French Connection (a multi-age, parent/child group)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center NECN Playroom. Bonjour! Do you speak French and hope to raise your children to be bilingual? Join us at this 6-session group for interaction and discussion with other parents who are doing the same! The group will include free play, crafts, circle time with stories and songs, and gross motor play. Please bring a snack from home (no nut or peanut products, please), for your child to enjoy during playgroup. <i>Facilitated by NECN Parent, Cecile Collinet.</i></p>
<p>Thursdays Jan 6 - March 31 9:30-11:30a NO CLASS Feb 24</p>	<p>In collaboration with Criterion-Middlesex Early Intervention... Thursday Integrated Playgroup (children 18-30 months with parent; sorry, no siblings)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center NECN Playroom. These sessions offer a play experience for 4 early intervention clients and 4 community children with their parents. Each session includes free play, snack, circle time and other directed activities to promote fine and gross motor skills, language, and socialization. Children learn social skills like sharing and turn-taking, and enhance their ability to handle transitions. <i>Facilitated by Courtney Hogan, Developmental Specialist.</i></p>
<p>Thursdays Jan 6 - March 17 11:30-1:00p NO CLASS Feb 24</p>	<p>Lunch Bunch Playgroup (a multi-age parent/child group)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center Classroom. Enjoy getting to know other families at this 10-session playgroup opportunity for families with children birth-PreK. Sibling groups are welcome to attend! Adults and children have the opportunity to share a semi-structured experience with free play, crafts, circle time with stories and songs and gross motor play. Bring lunch or a snack to enjoy from home—no peanut/nut products, please! <i>Facilitated by NECN Parents Kristy Showstead & Sara Lovett.</i></p>
<p>Fridays Feb 4-March 18 4:15-5:00p NO CLASS Feb 25</p>	<p>Funsmartsong (children 4-6 yrs with a caregiver)</p>	<p>Held at the Cole Center NECN Playroom. NECN is bringing back a blast from the past! Funsmartsong, once for 2 and 3 year olds is now for our more mature NECN kiddos! In this 6-session group, children will learn through the lessons of music about focus and discipline. Facilitator, <i>Jeff Thomas</i>, will take you and your kids on a journey of musical dynamics and theory!</p>
<p>Fridays Feb 11-March 25 9:30-11:00a NO CLASS Feb 25</p>	<p>Wonderful Ones (children 12-24 months with a caregiver)</p>	<p>Held in the Cole Center NECN Playroom. Enjoy this 6-session playgroup opportunity just for younger “ones” with a grown-up! Playgroup elements will include: free play, circle time with songs and fingerplays, multi-sensory activities and time to enjoy a snack brought from home (no peanut/nut products, please). <i>Facilitated by NECN Program Coordinator, Lindsey Tarrant.</i></p>