

Natick Early Childhood Network

... putting Children First



October – November – December 2010 Activities

Registration lottery deadline: Friday, September 24th, 2010

- *Registration is required for all listed programs and will be conducted by lottery.*
- *Requests may be submitted in person, by phone (508) 655-2557, or via U.S. mail (179 Boden Lane, Natick) at any time prior to the lottery deadline.*
- *Program requests after the lottery will be honored on a space-available basis.*

Parent Workshops/Programs

Date/Time	Title	Description
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday October 5th 7:00 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Choosing a Preschool for Your Child: What to Look For & What to Ask</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Complimentary childcare available on request at time of registration)</p>	<p><i>Held at the Cole Center.</i> <u>NOW</u> is the time to begin the process of placing your child in preschool for Fall 2011. This workshop is designed to get you started. Enjoy an informal overview of the various types of preschools in our community, and discuss what to look for and what questions to ask when you meet with prospective schools for your child. Presented by Amy Hinrichs, MAT, Preschool Lead Teacher and Natick Early Childhood Network parent of three. Registration is required!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday October 27 6:30 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8th Annual Early Education & Care OPEN HOUSE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Complimentary childcare available with pre-registration)</p>	<p><i>Held in the Cole Center Gym.</i> Whether you are seeking infant/toddler care while you're working or need a preschool placement for next fall, this is the place to look! Initiate the process of identifying the right setting for your child at this open forum event just for parents. Meet representatives from local preschools, daycare centers and family childcare providers. This is a great way to gather information and decide which sites you want to visit! NECN will provide a list of all participants with contact information. Registration requested (<u>required</u> for child care); walk-ins welcome.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday November 10 7:00 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Nutrition in the Early Years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Complimentary childcare available on request at time of registration)</p>	<p><i>Held at the Cole Center.</i> Ever wonder what you should be feeding your child? This parent workshop will present the basics of quality nutrition and give you tips on how to provide an adequate diet for your child. Topics will include: what to feed your child and what your child needs, choosing the best foods, how to encourage healthy habits, vitamins and minerals, and food allergies. Nutrition plays a critical role in the development of a child and we all strive to give our kids the best. Facilitated by Meredith Hendricks RD, LPN, CPT- President of Nufitness, Corp and Clinical Nutritionist at Metrowest Medical Center. Registration is required!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">To be scheduled ... Please call to request!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Playgroup Facilitators' Training</p>	<p><i>Held at the Cole Center.</i> Interested in becoming more involved with NECN by facilitating an age- or interest-specific playgroup? Come to this training to get a sense of the general format and expectations. Receive a basic playgroup guide. Get activity ideas! Learn new songs and fingerplays for circle time! Trouble-shoot potentially difficult situations. Mandatory development for all volunteer facilitators. A great resource for community playgroup leaders outside NECN! Facilitated by Program Coordinator Lindsey Tarrant.</p>

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Parent & Baby Programs

Date/Time	Title	Description
<p>Tuesdays Oct. 19 – Dec. 21 12:30 – 2 pm (NO CLASS Nov. 23)</p>	<p>New Moms' Chat (moms with newborns – pre-crawlers)</p>	<p><i>Held at the Cole Center.</i> Bring your baby and explore the world of infants with other new moms at this 9-session program facilitated by Maryann Cardani, LICSW, of Jewish Family Service of Metrowest. Engage in discussions about the rewarding, but demanding, transition to motherhood. Share what's working for you and gain new strategies from other new moms who really understand! NOTE: Final 3 sessions (12/7 – 12/21) are unfacilitated conversation groups.</p>

Saturday Playgroups

Date/Time	Title	Description
<p>Saturdays: October 2 November 6 December 4 10:30 am - 12 noon</p>	<p>In collaboration with Morse Institute Library... Working Parents Playgroup (children birth through PreK with an adult; older siblings welcome!)</p>	<p><i>Held at the Morse Institute Library in the Lebowitz Meeting Hall, Lower Level.</i> 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: October 9 November 20 December 18 10:30 am – 12 noon</p>	<p>In collaboration with Morse Institute Library... Me & My Dad: A Playgroup for Kids & Dads (children birth thru PreK with father/male caregiver; older siblings welcome!)</p>	<p><i>Held at the Morse Institute Library in the Lebowitz Meeting Hall, Lower Level.</i> 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/Child Groups: One per family, please. New participants for each program preferred.

Date/Time	Title	Description
<p>Tuesdays Oct. 5 – Dec. 14 (NO CLASS Nov. 23) 9:30 – 11:00 am</p>	<p>Jeepers, Creepers! Playgroup (children 6 – 12 months with adult)</p>	<p><i>Held at the Cole Center.</i> A playgroup opportunity just for pre-walkers with a parent! Come explore the playroom in this 10-session group as your baby is growing more and more independent and interactive. Enjoy parent chats, quiet observation and stimulating activities for your little one. Bring a snack from home—no peanut/nut products, please. Facilitated by NECN parent Hayley Sonneborn.</p>
<p>Thursdays Oct. 7 – Dec. 9 (NO CLASS Nov. 11 & 25) 12:00 – 1:30 pm</p>	<p>Terrific Tots Playgroup (children 24 - 42 months with adult)</p>	<p><i>Held at the Cole Center.</i> This 8-session playgroup just for twos and young threes with a parent is a great opportunity to connect with others and to discuss the joys and concerns of chasing a toddler with those who really understand. Children will enjoy: free play; multisensory activities and crafts; circle time including stories, songs and fingerplay; physical play; and a snack brought from home—no peanut/nut products please! Facilitated by NECN parent Bharti Sharma.</p>

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Volunteer Opportunities

Time Frame	Role	Description
Wednesday October 20 between 6pm and 9pm	EEC Open House Volunteer	Help out with registration, child care, set-up, or clean-up during our annual EEC Open House for parents to meet childcare and preschool providers.
Tuesday, October 12 th 7 – 8 pm	Volunteer Team Meeting	<i>Held at Cole Center.</i> Come join Program Coordinator, Lindsey in a brainstorm of ideas for fundraising, marketing, and other activities that could benefit NECN this year.
October – December day and time TBD	1 st and 2 nd Grade Tutors	<i>Held at Cole Center.</i> NECN is looking to host an after school drop-in homework and board game time for 1st and 2 nd graders, so we are looking for volunteers to supervise and offer help with homework in a classroom across the hall from our center. If you are interested please contact Lindsey at 508-655-2557. NOTE: Parents would not be required to stay during the drop in time.

If you received this newsletter in the US mail, but you have reliable internet access at home, please let us know! In an effort to save on printing and mailing costs, we encourage everyone to read our *Connections* newsletter and activity calendars online if you are able.

You can subscribe to receive emails each time we post a newsletter or announcement. Simply go to our website at www.natickearlychildhood.org and click on the “Register” link or button.

Feel free to call the office at 508-655-2557 if you need help subscribing to the website, and please let us know by email or phone once you have done so and we'll remove your name from the US mail list.



Thank you!

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Registration Form

Phone: (508) 655-2557

Mail/Walk-In: Natick Early Childhood Network,
179 Boden Lane, Natick, MA 01760

Registration lottery deadline: Friday, September 24th, 2010

Please provide all requested information.

Parent name (s): _____

Phone number: _____

Child/children registering for these programs:

Name(s): _____

Date(s) of birth: _____

PARENT WORKSHOPS/PROGRAMS

- Choosing a Preschool for Your Child (with childcare for ___ children)
- Nutrition in the Early Years (with childcare for ___ children)
- Playgroup Facilitators' Training (NO childcare available; ___ # of adults seeking enrollment)

INFORMATIONAL EVENT—Registration appreciated; walk-ins welcome!

- Early Education & Care Open House (with childcare for ___ children
at ___ 6:30pm ___ 7pm ___ 7:30pm ___ 8pm)

PARENT & BABY PROGRAMS

- New Moms Chat

SATURDAY PLAYGROUPS

- Working Parents Playgroup Oct. 2 **and/or** Nov. 6 **and/or** Dec. 4 (Choose one or all!)
- Me & My Dad Playgroup Oct. 9 **and/or** Nov. 20 **and/or** Dec. 18 (Choose one or all!)

PARENT/CHILD GROUPS

- ***DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ONLY ONE PARENT/CHILD GROUP PER SESSION.***
- ***NEW PARTICIPANTS IN EACH PROGRAM TYPE WILL BE PLACED FIRST.***

Jeepers Creepers Playgroup (6 – 12 months)

Terrific Tots Playgroup (24 – 42 months)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

EEC Open House 10/20

Volunteer Team Meeting 10/12

1st & 2nd Grade Tutors

We will make every effort to call you back within 3 working days of our lottery to confirm your registration.