



Kansas City KS Public Schools
 Parents As Teachers
 2010 N 59th St
 Kansas City KS 66104



Kck Parents As Teachers

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 Rita Kancel

Secretary
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Parent Educators:

- Leonae De La Torre
- Loree Clark
- Barbara Dayal
- Sandra Fields
- Cynde Fry
- Lauren Hays Ware
- Alyssa Hillman
- Carmen Almanza
- Lacey Law
- Carla Gonzalez
- Diana Ochoa
- Blanca Menendez
- Sandy Teachout
- Josephine Nave
- Shelly Crawford
- Courtney Winslow
- Kate Manivong



Phone KanCare or contact your Parent Educator for more information and to request an application.

KanCare: 1-800-866-305-5147
www.kancare.ks.gov

Interpreters are available and applications are available in 10 languages.

What is KanCare? On January 1, 2013 Kansas Medicaid and HealthWave became KanCare.

KanCare is the State of Kansas' plan to improve services and manage Medicaid costs. There are three major programs for individuals and families who qualify:

- **KanCare under the Medicaid plan** - The largest program, this covers people with limited income, which may include pregnant women, children, persons with disabilities and senior citizens.
- **KanCare under the CHIP plan** - This is the Children's Health Insurance Program. It covers children up to age 19 who don't qualify for Medicaid.
- **MediKan** - The only program that is funded en-

tirely by State funds. It covers people who are trying to get Social Security disability benefits.

All medical assistance programs provide prescription drugs, mental health services and medical (doctor) coverage. Inpatient hospital, hearing, dental, and eye-wear coverage is also included for most persons.

You may qualify for these programs if you are a Kansas resident and fall into one of these groups:

- Children up to age 19; including those in foster care or who get adoption support payments
- Pregnant women
- Persons who are blind or disabled by Social Se-

curity rules

- Persons 65 or older
- Low income families with children
- Persons screened or diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer through the Early Detection Works program.

Additional factors in considering eligibility include citizenship and immigrant status, income, other health insurance (if any), and the number of people in your household. Medical assistance is reviewed every year and you may be required to re-apply when it is time for your review.

Parents As Teachers



Parents As Teachers
 KCK Public Schools
 2010 N 59th St
 Kansas City KS 66104
 913-627-4375

Pitter Patter



TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

5:30 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

Rm 132 & 133
KCKPS Central Office
2010 N 59th Street

Call 913-627-4361 to reserve a space for your family!

A light meal will be served.

Weekly "family nights" spent playing together in a variety of fun ways guarantees a multitude of benefits not just for family cohesion, but for individual family members as well! Join Parents As Teachers at our version of Family Fun Night and learn how regular family time can benefit your family:

- **STRONGER BONDS BETWEEN FAMILY MEMBERS**
 A family night can be a vital parenting tool! Kids are always seeking time with their parents. It may not always seem like it, but your kids will truly appreciate every moment of your time.
- **COMMUNICATION SKILLS**
 Virtually every activity you can play will, in one way or another, help a person with their communication skills.
- **PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS**
 From the simplest puzzles and earliest games, your family will be learning how to overcome problems to win the game or finish the puzzle. There are strategies to learn and as you learn them you will find that you can also bring those same skills into other areas of your life.
- **SOCIAL SKILLS & STRUCTURE**
 In today's world people are now more connected with each other than in recorded history. That means having a solid social skill is a valuable tool for your children. Skills such as organization, teamwork, respect, and taking turns will help carry forward into school and help your child better interact with others.
- **TRADITION**
 As time goes by a regular family fun night at home will move from a scheduled event to a family tradition. Kids will grow up and start their own families and many will carry the tradition into their families. You will never know when a legacy moment will happen or how it will, but when it does it will burn itself into your memory for a lifetime.

Themed Playgroup

Thursday PAT playgroups are themed playgroups. Each month focuses on a different topic and activities and handouts are planned around that topic. Children are asked to participate in a more structured environment by having set times for greeting & goodbye songs, free play, activities and snacks. Themed playgroup is a great way to introduce your toddler to some of the expectations of preschool.

SEPTEMBER'S THEME IS:	OCTOBER'S THEME IS:	NOVEMBER'S THEME IS:
LITERACY & BOOKS	BLOCKS	THE SEASONS

10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Free Play
10:35 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.	We say "Hello" and have Circle Time
10:55 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.	A craft or activity is shared.
11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	We read a special story
11:35 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.	We wash our hands & have a snack
11:50 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.	We sing the Clean Up Song & put our things away
11:55 a.m. to 12:00 noon	We say our Goodbyes

The PAT playroom is located on the 2nd Floor of KCKPS Central Office & Training Center, 2010 North 59th Street, Kansas City KS

What Are You Reading?

Favorite stories get shared many times over. Here's some advice about how to find a good children's book:

Look for award-winning books. Each year the American Library Association selects children's books for the Caldecott Medal for illustrations and the Newbery Medal for writing.

Check the book review section of newspapers and magazines for the recommended new children's books.

Remember: There are many ways to gather books and share the love of reading with your child. Borrowing books from your local library and swapping favorites with friends & neighbors are two good ways to learn about new books.



Just For Dads Use a PEER When You Read Aloud

Most parents of preschoolers realize the value of reading aloud every day to their young child. Story time is a great way to connect with your child, to share exciting stories and pictures, and to increase your child's understanding of the world.

The best story times are very interactive: you are talking about and reading the story; your child is talking and there is a conversation taking place between the two of you. Because of all the talking, this type of shared reading is often called dialogic reading.

Parents can use the PEER method to help them remember a few important ways to read this interactive way:



P: Prompt your child with a question about the story. Prompting your child focuses attention, engages the child in a story, and helps the child understand the book.

*Point to something in the picture, for example, a balloon.
"What is that?"*

E: Evaluate your child's response.

E: Expand on what your child said.

"That's a big, red balloon! We saw one of those in the grocery store yesterday."

R: Repeat or revisit the prompt you started with, encouraging your child to use the new information you've provided.

"Can you say big, red balloon?" Each time the book is reread, the expanded words are verbalized again.

Dialogic reading works. Children whose parents read in a dialogic way have better oral language skills, and are more likely to be exposed to new words.

Don't feel obligated to use the PEER procedure on every page, with every book. Keep it fun! Use PEER when it fits and when your child is engaged in the story.

-From www.readingrockets.org

JOIN US FOR OUR FALL FESTIVAL PLAYGROUP



At playgroup on Thursday, October 30th we will celebrate our annual FALL FESTIVAL.

Your child may come in costume

--NO PLAY WEAPONS OR DANGEROUS PROPS, PLEASE!--

and we will have a special day of fun and activities!

Technology and Tots

It's a new world and technology is king! It is not unusual to see toddlers with a mobile electronic device in their hands, working the device like pros. However, this new emergence of technology in the form of e-readers and smartphones causes our children to have full access to technology at all times. Technology has reshaped and redefined how we communicate, entertain and even play.

What do the experts recommend?

Research continues on the effects of screen time on young children. It is agreed upon that children under the age of 2 should not have any screen time. This may be unrealistic in everyday life, so parents need to consider what works for their families, especially if they have older children.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends no more than 1-2 hours of screen time per day for children age 2 and above. However, the average screen time for children in America between the ages of 8 to 18 is 7.5 hours, excessively exceeding the recommendation of 5.5 hours. Children should have 2-3 hours of active physical play.

Also, it is recommended that human interaction is better than screen time. Movement, touch, human connection, and exposure to nature are important to healthy child development. Technology could never replace human interaction. The more provision parents make for technology, the deeper the connection between parent and child becomes.

Overuse of technology

Spending too much time with screens increases children's risk of:

- > Child obesity
- > Aggression
- > Lack of imagination
- > Lack of self-control
- > Sleep deprivation
- > Mental illness
- > Delayed development

What parents can do

Worried about the amount of screen time your child is getting? Consider these strategies:

- > Get the TV out of the children's bedrooms
- > Talk about it
- > Evaluate appropriate technology by age
- > Institute "tech breaks"
- > Set aside "sacred time"
- > Encourage "healthy" technology



PAT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

PLAYGROUP ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

9/23/14 - PAT FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT 5:30 P.M.

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

PLAYGROUP ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

10/15/14 - BLOCKFEST AT 5:30 P.M.

10/30/14 - AUTUMN FESTIVAL PLAYGROUP AT 10:00 A.M.

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

PLAYGROUP ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

NO PLAYGROUP ON 11/27/14 (THANKSGIVING)



HEARING CONCERNS?

PAT WILL BE CONDUCTING OAE HEARING SCREENINGS FOR CHILDREN AT THE WEST WYANDOTTE LIBRARY

1737 NORTH 82ND ST. ON THESE DATES:
 9/16/14 - 10:30 a.m.
 10/15/14 - 10:30 a.m.
 11/20/14 - 10:30 a.m.
 12/16/14 - 10:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Offices Closed	2 Playgroup	3	4 Playgroup	5	6
7	8	9 Playgroup	10	11 Playgroup	12	13
14	15	16 Playgroup	17	18 Playgroup	19	20
21	22	23 Playgroup Family Fun Night	24	25 Playgroup	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Playgroup	1	2 Playgroup	3	4
5	6	7 Playgroup	8	9 Playgroup	10	11
12	13	14 Playgroup	15 Blockfest	16 Playgroup	17	18
19	20	21 Playgroup	22	23 Playgroup	24	25
26	27	28 Playgroup	29	30 Playgroup	31	

NOVEMBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Playgroup	5	6 Playgroup	7	8
9	10	11 Playgroup	12	13 Playgroup	14	15
16	17	18 Playgroup	19	20 Playgroup	21	22
23	24	25 Playgroup	26 Offices Closed	27 Offices Closed	28 Offices Closed	29
30						

Block Fest!

On October 15th, with hands-on block play, we'll show you and your child how these versatile toys can help develop math skills such as grouping, sorting, adding, subtracting, using fractions and even understanding geometry.

We'll help you to use blocks to teach your child science concepts like gravity or balance. They'll develop social skills by sharing and cooperating. Blocks will help build strength in fingers and hands as well as develop eye/hand coordination.

NO SOCKS, NO BLOCKS: All participants must wear socks--no exceptions. Be sure you and your child wear or bring a pair of socks!

Space is limited for this very special playgroup, so call our office at 913-627-4361 and reserve your space right away!

A light meal will be served.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2014
5:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
KCKPS CENTRAL OFFICE
ROOMS 132 & 133
2010 N. 59TH ST



GRANDPARENT CAREGIVER PROGRAM

The challenges of grandparent caregivers are many and may include daycare needs, limited monthly incomes and transportation needs--just to name a few. Through the assistance of local funding, the Area Agency on Aging seeks to diminish a few of those many challenges by assisting grandparents here in our community.

The Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging is pleased to have been able to link with the USD 500 office in identifying

grandparent caregivers. The local AAA will be providing 20 grandparent caregivers of 45 school children, from pre-school through the 12th grade, with school uniforms, socks and backpacks filled with grade appropriate school supplies, all in an effort to support the unique and fundamental needs of this growing population of older Americans.

If you know of a struggling grandparent caregiver of family caregiver of individuals aged 60 and older, please call your local AAA office at 913-573-8531 to identify services and programs that may be of assistance.

KANSAS CITY KS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ON TRACK FAMILY LITERACY



WHAT ON TRACK OFFERS:

- GED Instruction
- English As Second Language (ESL)
- Preschool for 3 Year Olds (child must be 3 years of age by August 31st of enrollment year)
- Parent & Child Together Time (PACT)
- Bus Transportation for Parent & Child
- Available Free of Charge to USD500 Residents



Please note: Any child participating in On Track preschool must have a parent or legal guardian participating in the adult ESL or GED program at the same time.

CLASSES AT KCKPS NORTH CENTRAL OFFICE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
8:15 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.
OR
12:15 TO 3:30 P.M.

CLASSES AT KCKPS M.E. PEARSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.



SPACE STILL AVAILABLE IN ALL CLASSES! PHONE: 913-627-4361 (ENGLISH) OR 913-627-2637 (SPANISH) FOR MORE INFORMATION

