

# Center for Early Childhood Education

## Newsletter

Our Mission: To help all children in Howard County to be successful when they enter school.

Issue 54, November 1, 2008

### Learning About the World

Learning about the world through their five senses: Within a few weeks after birth, your child will start exploring his/her world through the sense of sight, touch, smell, sounds, taste.



A baby sees blurry at first, and can only see eight to 12 inches away. At 3 to 6 months, they begin to recognize bright colors and can focus on objects. By 6 months, they can visually fixate on an object, track an object and gaze between objects.

Warm soft fabrics and soft stroking are enjoyed by babies. By 3 months, they love to explore different textures, and they feel with their mouths – so you will see them putting everything in their mouths. By 6 months, they begin to pincer grasp to pick up things and will try to manipulate items with their hands. Babies recognize the smell of the parents, or whomever takes care of them the most, and the family dog! By 3 months, they can tell a lot about items and people by their smell. By 6 months, the baby will know if you are close by from your smell, and may be worried if she/he doesn't pick up your scent. However, they are also learning that the parent comes and goes. A baby can usually tell his/her mother's voice from day one and feels good when hearing those soft cooing sounds moms usually make. By 3 months, babies begin to babble and imitate sounds and begin to associate the sound of "no" with not doing something. By 7 months, babies should recognize their names and by 9 months may be saying words. Babies' taste in the first few months are limited to milk or formula. By 3 months, they may like salty things, and by 6 months, your baby may like solids like bananas, sweet potatoes and peas.

### Activity Day is November 13

You may come other days on your own, if you'd like, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. You will need to help your child with the materials and help your child clean up messes. The reading room and the motor skills room are always available.

### The Center will be closed during the Thanksgiving Break, November 27 and 28.

### Make your own turkey picture using your hand

Once your child has the basic shape for the turkey, it can be colored, painted, pieces of paper, feathers, seeds, cereal, and other small items pasted on the body and the tail and wings. Let your child be creative.



### Is your child ready for college?

Well maybe not all the classes, but Little Learners Child Care on the IU Kokomo campus is open to toddlers (ages 1-2) and pre-school (ages 3-6) children. The center is open to the public. Call (765) 455-9306, or e-mail [childcare@iuk.edu](mailto:childcare@iuk.edu) for more information.



# Parents – It's Time To Quit!

Why ? According to the American Cancer Society:



- Secondhand smoke causes premature death and disease in children and in adults who do not smoke.
- Children exposed to secondhand smoke are at an increased risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections, ear problems, and more severe asthma. Smoking by parents causes breathing (respiratory) symptoms and slows lung growth in their children.
- Making your home smoke-free may be one of the most important things you can do for the health of your family.
- Any family member can develop health problems

related to secondhand smoke, but children are especially sensitive.

- It takes up to seven tries to quit smoking and stay with it.

It's hard to quit! For help, contact:

- St. Joseph Hospital Quit Smart class at 456-5941 (the class is free and open to the public)
- Howard Regional Health System Quit Smart class at 453-8571 (the class is free and open to the public)
- American Cancer Society at [http://www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/content/PED\\_10\\_2X\\_Secondhand\\_Smoke-Clean\\_Indoor\\_Air.asp](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/content/PED_10_2X_Secondhand_Smoke-Clean_Indoor_Air.asp)

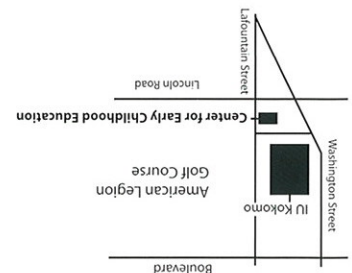
Did you know? November 20 is the American Cancer Society's Great American Smoke-Out.



## Center for Early Childhood Education

on the Indiana University  
Kokomo campus

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