

Supporting those who nurture the early years

### Look inside for more on...

It's summer again and you need all the outdoor activities you can find, right? This issue has recipes that are sure to generate laughter and activity, such as: Homemade Sidewalk Chalk, Face Paint and Bubbles.

Also inside: What is CDA?

New Fundraiser Idea

Find-A-Word

Your very own STARS ID card

and much more!

### A Round of Applause:

Congratulations to our CDA class graduates in **Silverdale** and **Tacoma**. Good luck with the review!

**Sandra Luft** earned her CDA Credential - way to go!

Three cheers to the following schools that have earned NAEYC Accreditation: **Chapel Hill Preschool**, **Green River Community College Child Care Center**, and **St. Columba's**

## Fun summer recipes

**Homemade Sidewalk Chalk:** Gather 1/2 cup of water, dry tempura paint and 3 Tbsp. of Plaster of Paris. Mix ingredients in a bowl and pour into paper cups or paper towel rolls cut to desired length. (Remember to cover one end of the roll with tape.) Let them air dry until hard. Peel off paper and enjoy!

**Face Paint:** Using a muffin tin, mix 1 tsp. cornstarch, 1/2 tsp. water, and 1/2 tsp. cold cream in each compartment. Add a few drops of food coloring to each cup to create a rainbow of fun colors.

**Bubbles that Really Blow!** In a bucket or other large container with a lid, combine 2 c. of Joy or Dawn dish soap, 3/4 c. of glycerin (found at your local drugstore) and 6 c. of water. Shake the ingredients together and let the solution settle for 3-4 hours. Experiment with strawberry baskets and large bubble wands.

### Web sites for summer!

There are a lot of places to visit on the Web for fun ideas and activities.

Here are a few of our favorites:

Information on health and safety issues summer young children.

American Academy of Pediatrics: [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

Bubble activities: [www.smm.org/sln/tf/b/bubblegeometry/bubblegeometry.html](http://www.smm.org/sln/tf/b/bubblegeometry/bubblegeometry.html)

Plastic wands in different animal shapes to purchase: [www.bubblerock.com](http://www.bubblerock.com)

Fun summertime activities for young children

[www.123child.com/summer/outside.html](http://www.123child.com/summer/outside.html)

[www.kidsource.com/kidsource/content2/summertime.fun.html](http://www.kidsource.com/kidsource/content2/summertime.fun.html)

## It's summer - have fun with a puzzle!

### Find-A-Word

You're a Professional !

brain	music	science
child	naeyc	sensory
create	nurture	teach
educate	parent	training
explore	play	trust
family	preschool	waeyc
math	professional	

(hidden)

l	j	l	o	o	h	c	s	e	r	p	r	t	i	o
z	s	s	h	t	a	m	a	n	e	t	w	o	r	k
b	r	a	i	n	w	u	b	g	h	n	s	m	i	f
e	r	d	m	e	c	s	i	s	n	u	m	v	o	x
x	y	g	n	i	n	i	a	r	t	r	t	a	y	e
t	d	h	p	d	a	c	n	b	f	t	s	j	p	i
e	l	j	s	y	e	v	a	q	g	u	z	a	r	d
o	i	p	o	v	y	h	d	e	s	r	r	c	o	t
k	h	o	f	s	c	i	e	n	c	e	b	s	f	f
u	c	c	h	i	r	m	j	a	n	t	o	x	e	a
g	p	r	a	f	e	g	z	t	d	e	y	a	s	m
o	h	l	m	e	a	w	i	r	u	r	b	k	s	i
q	u	i	a	c	t	m	p	u	o	g	i	c	i	l
a	w	f	c	y	e	a	w	s	e	t	l	n	o	y
r	i	t	v	b	d	o	n	t	t	n	u	i	n	o
e	x	p	l	o	r	e	d	u	c	a	t	e	a	p
h	l	i	r	k	s	v	y	i	b	o	j	g	l	e

Visit our Web site for the answers.

www.educationaltrainingpartners.org

“  
...schools interested in  
something new and different  
to sell for their annual  
fundraising project.  
”

see "A new fundraiser" inside

## Question from the field

Question:

**I keep hearing all about STARS. What is it and what does it have to do with me?**

Answer:

As of January 1, 1999, the State of Washington requires all family child care providers, center directors, program supervisors, school-age directors, site coordinators and lead teachers take the Basic 20-hour STARS class within the first six months of being licensed or hired. (There is an exemption if you meet the educational requirements or have been waived by your licensor.)

All staff must complete 10 hours of continuing education from an approved STARS trainer or organization every year. If you are in management, a minimum of five hours must be in administration topics.

Scholarships are available to help pay for required STARS training. If you need financial assistance, you are encouraged to submit a scholarship application. These are found on the STARS registry website at: <https://wvs2.wa.gov/dshs/stars/>

Step 1) Complete a STARS profile form. After it's reviewed, a STARS ID # is issued to you. This 9 digit number is used to track your trainings.

Step 2) Take your STARS ID # to every training you attend. The trainer needs it to properly assign your STARS credit. (You can no longer use your Social Security Number.)

Step 3) Audit your account regularly to ensure every training you attend is reported.

If you have a question for ETP, send us an e-mail or write a letter. We may select it for publication!

### CONTACT US

[info@educationaltrainingpartners.org](mailto:info@educationaltrainingpartners.org)

253-853-3499

P.O. Box 1973, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

## Support, networking, and STARS credit training

*STARS scholarships are accepted. Please have STARS ID number available at time of registration.*

### Directors forums

Through small community-based forums we discuss issues relevant to administrators and directors of early learning programs. Topics include: STARS training, working effectively with families, program development, staffing support and licensing issues.

If you're interested in setting one up in your area, call us!

TACOMA

*Fourth Tuesday of every month, 12:30-1:30 p.m. - FREE*

*University Place Latchkey (Tacoma)*

*RSVP: 253-853-3499*

### Teachers forums

The goal of this group is to offer support to teachers working with young children. Join us for networking opportunities, activity ideas, guidance and discipline support and much more.

If you're interested in setting one up in your area, call us!

253-853-3499

## Child Development Associates

It's not too late to sign up for our CDA Training Program! For information on what the CDA is and how to obtain this national credential, call ETP today!

TACOMA

*Where: University Place Latchkey*

*When: Mondays, 6-9:00 PM*

FEDERAL WAY

*Where: Childtime*

*When: Wednesdays, 6-9:00 PM*

OLYMPIA

*Where: Perry Street Preschool*

*When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9:00 PM*

## Tribal Trainings

With the financial support of WAEYC and DCCEL, Educational Training Partners offered three Basic 20-hour guidebook trainings and five 10-hour continuing education trainings to tribal programs across the state, including: Colville, Quinault, Chehalis, Samish, Lower Elwha, and Yakama. ETP would like to say thank you to the participants who took time out of their busy schedules to engage in professional development. The ETP trainers look forward to working with the tribes in the future.

## STARS on the Go!

Thanks to all who ordered STARS on the Go! packets. It's a success for everyone and we're excited to offer you even more choices.

Some of the most popular topics include the 20-hour Basic STARS, Keeping Your Staff Motivated, Family Child Care Environments, Biting 101, Building Literacy with Toddlers and "You Want Me To Do What?" Working with Families Effectively. If you have a training topic you'd like more information on, let us know. We gladly create specialized packets.

### What is STARS on the Go!?

You can now get STARS approved trainings in the comfort of your own home and workplace. ETP offers STARS approved trainings you can complete at your own pace. Choose your interest topics and order the training box from us. We deliver it to your doorstep and you can work on it when you have time. Once the assignments are complete, return it to ETP for review. You'll get your STARS certificate of completion within two weeks. Topics to choose from include: guidance and discipline, transitions, environments, child development, curriculum ideas, working with parents, administration, and lots more. Visit our Web site for a complete list or call us to get started!

*3 easy steps:*

- 1. Select your training topic from our list of trainings*
- 2. Determine the number of hours you want to earn*
- 3. Contact our training coordinator at 253-853-3499 or email your request to: [info@educationaltrainingpartners.org](mailto:info@educationaltrainingpartners.org)*

*Pricing for STARS on the Go!*

*2 hour training packet \$30*

*4 hour training packet \$55*

*6 hour training packet \$75*

*8 hour training packet \$90*

*10 hour training packet \$100*

*Basic 20-hour training packet \$120*

### New online class: Gateways to Literacy

ETP has partnered with Puget Sound Educational Service District (ESD) and local colleges to provide a one-credit online class. This 10-hour course provides you with an easy way to test out on-line classes. Our supportive instructors and easy-to-use website will have you navigating the cyber class in moments. If you've ever wanted to try out an online class or already enjoy this new style of learning, join us for a few weeks of literacy development. Explore <http://earlyliteracy.psesd.org/>, click on classes and workshops for more information and to register.

Tuition: \$100 (STARS scholarships accepted)

Registration: open enrollment

## STARS ID card

Never be without your STARS ID # again! Keep it at your fingertips with this handy card. Transfer your STARS ID # to the card and simply place it in your wallet. The next time you're asked for it, you'll have it!

**NO CARD?**

**Call us for extra copies**

**253-853-3499**

## You make us blush

*Quotes from you regarding our trainings.*

*From providers:*

"The day was a long day, but the trainer made it fun and time flew."

"She re-energized me to work with challenging children."

"I had a blast with all of the make and take ideas."

*From directors:*

"It was nice to have someone come to our site and make training specifically related to the teachers environment."

"I felt like training was catered to meet their needs and being on site in their own classrooms they were able to look at specific things."

"I noticed a 'buzz', if you will, after the training. You seemed to light a fire of new creativity."

## A new fundraiser!

ETP has come across another great find: Seasons of Now. It's a local company that helps educate families on the importance of connecting with children and how to develop "family rituals" that help families connect.

The founders are taking this company to great heights and have offered their product line to schools interested in something new and different to sell for their annual fundraising project.

Products range from **Tuck Me In Cards** for parents to read with their children at bedtime to **Birthday Wish Pillows** and **Hundred Penny Boxes**. You might be inclined to supply your staff with **Transition Cards**.

Check out their Web site for more information!

[www.seasonsofnow.com](http://www.seasonsofnow.com)

## Specialized training for staff training days

Is your staff so wonderful that it's difficult to find new training topics for them?

Are you discovering that no matter what you do, there's one problem area that never seems to get addressed?

Bring in ETP to train your staff on just about any topic at any level! Call us at 253-853-3499 to schedule your next all-staff day training!

## What is CDA?

A Child Development Associate (CDA) is an individual who has successfully completed a CDA assessment and has been awarded the CDA Credential. S/he is able to meet the specific needs of children and works with parents and other adults to nurture children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual growth in a child development framework.

A CDA also demonstrates competence in her/his ability to meet the CDA Competency Goals through work in a center-based, home visitor or family child care program. To date, there are more than 150,000 CDA's across the country -- in all 50 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. territories of Guam and the Virgin Islands

The Credential is awarded in three settings:  
1) Center-based, for which Candidates receive endorsements to work with infants and toddlers or preschoolers  
2) Family Child Care  
3) Home Visitor.

The above was paraphrased from this site:  
<http://www.cdacouncil.org/cda/whatis.htm>

### What are the benefits?

The benefits of earning your CDA include the ability to gain a clear understanding of the key elements in running a quality program as well as increasing your knowledge of child development. It also raises your professional qualities and makes you more desirable in the job market, since it meets the State of Washington's requirement for administration positions in early childhood programs.

### How much is it?

Our flexible tuition payment plans allow many of you to afford our classes and small group sizes mean few or no cancellations! ETP's courses are comparable to college courses in content and quality, but due to low overhead, the savings to students is about \$100. We charge \$255.00 per quarter (three quarters total). This includes your course fee, books, CDA materials and project fees.

### Who should register?

We encourage all teachers just entering the field or those looking for certification to join us. Classes are currently operating in Olympia, Tacoma, Silverdale and Federal Way. You can also start one in your area with a minimum of 10 people registered.

Enrollment is open so call us to sign up now.  
**253-853-3499**