



## Pottstown Early Action for Kindergarten Readiness

Mission: Every child in Pottstown will enter Kindergarten ready to learn and achieve

# PARENTS PEAK

*Parent's PEAK: Providing families with resources, support and opportunities to encourage interactive learning at home and in our community.*



## PEAK NEWS

### Health and Wellness

**FREE** vision, hearing, and speech screenings will be offered at your child's early learning site beginning on March 26, 2008. PEAK has partnered with the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) in order to provide this service, and we strongly encourage your family to take advantage of this opportunity. The results will be given to you, the same day the screenings are performed, by your child's teacher.

Look for screening consent forms, being sent home or at your early learning site, soon!

1 in 20 preschoolers has a vision problem, 10% do not pass a hearing test, and speech & language delays affect 5-8%.

### Spring 2008

#### Special points of interest:

- ☺ PEAK News
- ☺ Empowered Parents
- ☺ Family Corner
- ☺ Community Resources

**Attention Parents: Your child cannot be screened unless you sign the parent/guardian consent form.**

### Pre-K Counts Registration

Sites are now enrolling children in the Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts program. This 6.5 hour, 5 day a week program is **FREE** to children who are residents of Pottstown School District and are 3 or 4 years old by the district requirement date. To enroll, interested families should contact one of the PA Pre-K Counts sites directly.

#### REMINDER

If your child is currently enrolled in a Pre-K Counts classroom and **WILL NOT** be moving on to kindergarten, parents should notify their site director. This will ensure that your child will have a spot in the classroom next year.

**KinderCare Learning Center:** 610-326-0554  
**Montgomery Early Learning Centers:** 610-326-3809  
**Pottstown Family YMCA:** 610-323-7300  
**YWCA Tri-County Area:** 610-323-8888  
**Warwick Child Care Center:** 610-323-0600



#### Contact Information:

**Mary Rieck**  
PEAK Coordinator  
610-970-6655

**Lori Davidson**  
PEAK Family  
Engagement Specialist  
610-326-1610

**Emily Baddeley**  
PEAK Pre-K Coach  
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**Sandra Leh**  
Early Childhood Health  
Specialist  
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### Coming Soon...The Breakfast Club



Are you in a hurry in the morning? Do you barely have time to grab a bite to eat? Would you like to socialize with more parents? If you answered yes to any of these questions then stop by the **PEAK Parents Breakfast Club**. The club will be located at **YOUR** early learning site on the following days:

**KinderCare** - 3/30, 4/07, 5/30

**MELC** - 3/27, 4/25, 5/23

**Warwick** - 3/26, 4/08, 5/29

**YMCA** - 4/4, 5/2

**YWCA** - 3/20, 4/01, 5/9

# EMPOWERED PARENTS

## "Keeping Your Cool When Your Child Is Hot!"

The Family Engagement Committee would like to thank the families who participated in the workshop on Tuesday, February 26th. Despite the rain, parents still made it out for the event. We



enjoyed pizza and snacks while discussing various topics in behavior management. Families also were given the chance to win door prizes and each family received a copy of Laurie Keller's *Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners*.



Thank you to the Fuhrmeister Family, Nealy Family, Thomas Family, Yankowski Family, Heffner Family, Bennett Family, Swanson Family, and the Rivera Family for making the evening a success.

### Family Engagement Committee

If you are interested in participating on the on committee please contact Lori. The committee will meet during the school year to plan fun, educational experiences for families.



# FAMILY CORNER

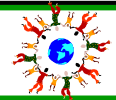
## Dealing with Dishonesty

Knowing *why* a child lies helps you to encourage honesty, and so does your unconditional support. Your best bet is to create a nurturing environment so your child knows they can talk to you about anything, anytime. Preschoolers do not yet understand the difference between telling the truth and telling a lie, so responding in anger or accusing them will get you know where. **Parents try to keep these tips in mind:** instead of asking, "Did you spill the milk?" focus on the issue, "The milk spilled, let's get towels and clean it up." Telling tales and exaggerating are signs that your child has a great imagination, not that they are being deceitful. "I have 1,000 dolls!" acknowledge their dreams, "That's what you wish for, right?" and clarify the difference between reality and fantasy.

The above is adapted from *Reform a Little Liar*, by M. Rosen. Please contact PEAK if you have questions or concerns about this topic or if you would like information about a specific topic published in this newsletter. You can also e-mail Lori at [ldavidson@fsmontco.org](mailto:ldavidson@fsmontco.org).



# COMMUNITY RESOURCES



## Employment Opportunity

Adult childcare workers needed 6pm - 8pm for the following dates: **May 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, June 5th, 12th.** Position pays \$20.00 per evening. If interested please contact Lori Davidson.

### Becoming a Love & Logic Parent

If you are interested in becoming more confident as a parent, having more fun parenting, and in feeling more relaxed at the end of the day then this seminar is for you!

**Who:** Parents/caregivers of children ages 0-6

**When:** 10am - 11:30am, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**Where:** Ricketts Community Center

**Cost:** Free! Includes childcare!

Parents must register by March 26th, call 610-326-1610 for details. \*Evening dates coming soon...

### Dads Make a Difference

**Cost:** FREE

**When:** Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8pm, beginning March 25th

**Where:** Pottstown Family Center, 1976 E. High Street

**Who:** DADS!

*Food will be provided!!!*

Contact Mark Raymond, Fatherhood Case Manager, at 610-326-1610 for more information.

**Helping our children, one Dad at a time!**