

‘Children Learn to Love When They Are Loved’

Pat Gentz 952.985.KIDS patspeople@aol.com

Learning Objectives

1. Identify three points (from A-Z) that are most meaningful to you and support the importance of providing the very best in loving, respectful and quality care for children and families.
2. List three or more ‘tricks of the trade’ or ‘secrets to success’ that resonated with you and that you intend to implement in your program.
3. Define (or redefine) your ‘philosophy of care’ in working with children and families.

A – Z Words of Wisdom Philosophy of Care

- A. Adaptability
- B. Books/Reading
- C. Communication
- D. Discovery
- E. Environment
- F. Faith
- G. Gratitude
- H. Humor
- I. Individual Needs
- J. JOY
- K. Kindness
- L. LOVE
- M. Magical Moments
- N. Nature
- O. Opportunities
- P. Passion and Purpose
- Q. Quality
- R. Respectful Relationships
- S. Safety and Security
- T. Teachable Moments
- U. Unique
- V. Voice (Sharing Your Voice...Tone of Voice)
- W. Welcome
- X. X-ercise
- Y. YES!
- Z. Zachary

'Tricks of the Trade'...Business

- Spending time with potential future clients
- Interview/Enrollment/Forms
- Finances
 - Greg Burrell (Financial Solutions Wealth Management 952.431.5104)
 - Tim Ruhland (Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. 952.808.5450)
- Increasing your income
- Calendar Keeper (www.RedleafPress.org)
- Saving client notes/letters
- Marketing/Website
- Licensing/Substitute Manual

'Tricks of the Trade'...YOU!

- Family First
- Professional Development
- 'Let your hair down'
- Journal
- What brings you JOY?

Tricks of the Trade'...Children

- Arrival
- Little ones/one-piece sleepers
- New shoes
- Diaper Changing
- No more potty accidents
- Music
- Books/Reading/DEAR
- Gathering the Children
- Mini-meetings
- "Smell the flowers...Blow out the candles"
- Birthdays
- Monkey
- Twistables vs Crayons
- Dolls/Clothing
- 'Breaking the Rules'
- End of the day routine
- Summer
- Meals & Snacks

Favorite Meals

- Shepherd's Pie and Tator Tot Hotdish
- Pasta Hot dish, Spaghetti, Lasagna, Italian Dunkers
- Grilled Cheese Sandwich and Tomato Soup
- Pancakes/Waffles
- Shredded Chicken: Chicken Noodle Soup, Tacos, Nachos,
- Chicken legs, Baked Chicken, Chicken Strips/Tenders
- Cowboy Caviar...a variety of beans and corn with tortilla chips
- Meatballs
- POO POO Platter...sliced deli meats, raw veggies, fresh fruit, crackers
- 'Fairy Bread'

Favorite Toys/Materials/Equipment

- Riding Toys
- Large Waffle Blocks
- 'Loose Parts'
- Magnatiles/Light Table
- Creation Station and Writing Table
- Sensory Bins...one of mine is always filled with rice
- Kinetic Sand
- Water Play - Hydro Launch from Discovery Toys
- Large yellow/orange cones for outdoor play
- Evacuation Crib

Favorite Home-made or Re-Purposed Toys/Materials

- Alphabet Box
- Calendar Books
- Geo Board (Peg Board, Screws, Rubber bands)
- Marker Lids
- Slime
- Building forts with blankets and furniture
- Loft
- Black Cylinders
- Trees, Stumps, Logs
- Homemade swing set
- Prize Box (thrift shop/garage sale items)

Pat's Precious People



19471 Jade Lane Lakeville, MN 55044 952.985.KIDS (5437)
www.patspreciouspeople.com e-mail: patspeople@aol.com
Licensed Family Child Care Since 1983

'PAT'S TOP TEN LIST'

10) We go outside every single day - even when it's chilly outside. I believe that when children are dressed in proper fitting outdoor clothing (including a fleece face/neck warmer during the winter months), they can still have plenty of fun. Even the 'little ones' go outside every day - they love playing, discovering and exploring outdoors year-round as much as the older kids. Of course, extreme weather (wind chill/winter and heat index/summer) is taken into consideration.

9) One of my favorite things about Family Childcare is being able to extend our learning beyond our home. We love going on walks and visiting special destinations in our community. We explore the hiking trails, ball park, and 'bike track' at Kenwood Trail Middle School which is near our home. We may also visit the library, Antlers Park/Lake Marion, go bowling, or visit the Farmer's Market and enjoy ice-cream at 'Dairy Delight' in downtown Lakeville. It's important that you feel comfortable with our walking adventures out in the community.

8) I operate my group family childcare home under a C-2 or C-3 license which means I can have up to 14 children in care when another caregiver (who has completed the necessary training requirements) is with me. You must feel comfortable and confident in me providing QUALITY care for a large group of children.

7) If your child is enrolled in my care, it is imperative that I can reach you at any time in the event of an emergency. Be sure to keep me updated with your current contact information and check your phone for messages/texts. I will do the same for you.

6) I am not able to care for ill children. Please be considerate of the other children, their parents, and me, by keeping your ill child and any siblings at home. (We can discuss special circumstances about siblings if needed.) Please refer to my Parent Policy Handbook for additional health reminders as well as my 'Health Exclusion Guidelines.'

5) I'm so fortunate that my families are all so respectful of the individual policies outlined in my 'Parent Policy Handbook.' They have each been implemented for a reason and keep me happy doing this important work.

4) Although my closing time is 4:30 p.m., it is not my intent that your child/ren will be in my care until 4:30p.m. each day. It is important that you adhere to the pick-up time that we agreed upon at the time of your child's enrollment.

3) I am naturally a nurturing type of person. It's just the way I am. ☺ You need to know that hugging, holding, and snuggling is part of me and the way I care for children. I believe a loving and nurturing caregiver is extremely important in the overall emotional development and well-being of young children.

2) Of course, I want the children to feel safe and secure, enjoy nutritious meals, and have plenty of opportunities to explore, discover, PLAY and HAVE FUN! In addition, I also want the children to be respectful, practice good manners, learn empathy and compassion for others, and how to be a good friend. Most importantly, I want the children to learn by my example, to have a kind and loving heart. These important characteristics will not only help your child be well prepared to succeed and BE HAPPY in school...but will also help your child succeed and BE HAPPY in LIFE! Thank you for being my partner in this effort...this is very important to me.

1) Communication, understanding, honesty and TRUST are vital in any relationship and are especially critical with my relationship with you. It is my desire to build and remain committed to a true partnership with you. I look forward to caring for and LOVING your little one(s).

HEALTH EXCLUSION GUIDELINES

Cold	If mild, your child may still attend. If discharge from the nose is green and profuse, please keep your child home.
Fever	A fever over 100 degrees signifies something isn't right. Please keep your child home or see the doctor and follow all instructions.
Coughing	If minor, your child may attend. If there is uncontrollable coughing, hacking or wheezing, please see a doctor before attending.
Sore throat	If mild, your child may attend. If accompanied with fever, pain, swelling, white spots, please see the doctor and follow instructions.
Strep throat	Your child may return to care after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment.
Rash	If it is not contagious your child may attend. If we are unable to determine the cause - please see doctor.
Diarrhea	May not attend if there have been more than 2 loose BM's.
Eye infection	May not attend if there is discharge, redness or swelling - please see doctor.
Ear infection	Your child may attend but will need to see the doctor for diagnosis and treatment/pain relief.
Impetigo	May not return to care until 24 hours after treatment has begun. You will notice a rash like blister that may get a honey-colored crust; these lesions usually occur around the mouth, nose, or on the chin.
Head lice	May not attend until all the nits are removed. This is usually one week. Please notify me immediately if infested. (See additional lice info. below).
Runny nose	If mild, your child may attend. If the discharge is green and profuse, please keep your child home or see the doctor.
Allergies	If mild, your child may attend. Please send Benadryl etc. If the allergies are accompanied with swelling/hives, your child may not attend until he/she has been seen by a doctor and the allergy has been determined.
Flu	Your child may not attend. Please keep your child home for at least 24 hours.
Vomiting	If more than twice, please keep your child home for at least 24 hours.
Chicken Pox	Your child may not return to care until six days after the eruption of the first blister or after all of the blister eruptions have dried up/crusted over.
Communicable Diseases	Mumps, measles, Hand/foot/mouth disease - may not attend.
If your child is lethargic, unusually sleepy, has obvious discomfort, difficulty breathing or patterns of crying that are not normal...something isn't right...please keep your child home.	