**New Child Care Search Tool**


From here you can search for care by zip code or city. Your results will show program details like location, cost, and age ranges. thread also has many great resources to help you in your search, including a Quality Guide, Interview Worksheet, and Child Care Assistance Calculator.

If you prefer to speak to someone about your child care needs please call the statewide referral line at 800.278.3723, Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm.

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**Blueberry Painting**

Celebrate National Blueberry Month during July! Give your children blueberries to look at, touch, smell, and taste. After the children have observed the blueberries, add a little water to them and cook them in the microwave for one minute. Have the children help you mash them up. Use the blueberry juice to paint a beautiful blue blueberry picture.

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**Peanut Butter Banana Yogurt Popsicles**

**INGREDIENTS**
- 2 bananas
- 1/4 cup smooth peanut butter
- 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt, or vanilla flavored yogurt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract (if you use the plain yogurt)
- 6 teaspoons mini chocolate chips

**INSTRUCTIONS**
1. Peel the bananas and break them up into chunks. Add them to the bowl of a food processor or good blender. Add the peanut butter, yogurt, and vanilla, if using, and puree until smooth. You will want to stop to scrape down the sides of the machine a couple of times to insure a good smooth texture.
2. Put one teaspoon of mini chips into the bottom of your popsicle molds. Fill the rest with the banana peanut butter yogurt puree. Tap the mold sharply on a firm surface to reduce air pockets.
3. Insert sticks and freeze until solid, 3-5 hours.
4. Run the molds under warm water for a few seconds before removing the popsicles.

Makes 4-6 popsicles, depending on your mold.

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**Kids in the Kitchen**

Everything great that ever happened in this world happened first in somebody’s imagination.

–Astrid Lindgren, author of Pippi Longstocking

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Summer 2016 What's Going On?

Compliments of: Rasmussen Foundation

Created by: Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage

To see more book activities like this, visit: www.bestbeginningssalaska.org/imagelibrary/books-book-activities

BEST BEGINNINGS
Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

Imagination Library Early Learning

BOOK TITLE: Blueberries for Sal
AUTHOR: Robert McCloskey

SUMMARY OF BOOK: A little girl goes blueberry picking with her mother while a little bear and his mama go searching for blueberries to eat. As Sal picks and eats her berries, she gets separated from her mother. She hears a noise and thinks it's her mama, so she merrily follows along. Little Bear also gets separated from his mama. Little Bear ends up following Sal's mother while Sal follows Little Bear's mama. Both mothers are surprised to see who's following them.

BEFORE READING
Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book.

1. Looking at the cover, “What do you think this book will be about?”
2. “Have you ever picked berries? What kind?”
3. “Where can we go to pick berries? Can you describe what berries taste like?”

DURING READING
1. “What does Sal’s mother want to do with the berries? What does Sal want to do with them?”
2. “Why are mama and Little Bear eating berries?”
3. “How does Sal feel when she gets separated from her mother? How does mother feel?”
4. “When the mama bear sees Sal, what do you think is going to happen? Can you make the sounds that everyone is hearing?”

AFTER READING
1. Talk about real and imaginary. “How do we make sure we’re safe when we go outside? What is the real way to behave around bears?”
2. “What do you like to do with blueberries?” Talk about the picture of the kitchen; have you ever canned fruit? What’s familiar in the picture, what is not?”
3. Talk about feeling relief. Is that how all the characters feel at the end of the story?

Compliments of: Rasmussen Foundation

Created by: Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage

To see more book activities like this, visit: www.bestbeginningssalaska.org/imagelibrary/books-book-activities

BEST BEGINNINGS
Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

Stroller-Friendly Trails

For more Juneau activities see the Family Pages on www.juneaufamilies.org.

If you have little ones who may need a ride during an outing, check out these stroller-friendly options:

Brotherhood Bridge: This wide and easy path is paved from Brotherhood Bridge (by Safeway) to the end of River Road on the Back Loop.

*win Lakes: One mile of paved lakeside trail right next to project Playgound off of Old Glacier Hwy.

Douglas Glory Hole: Access this beautiful waterfall via the trail behind the Sandy Beach playground. He walk is less than 1/2 mile.

9am-6pm: 3245 Hospital Dr. 1st floor. Free nutrition services for income-eligible women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or just had a baby and for children ages 0-5. Info: 463-4099.

Storytime: Downtown Library 11:00am. Info: 586-5249.


Children’s Creative Play Group: AWARE, 6-7:30pm. Info: 586-6623.

THURSDAYS

Storytime: Downtown Library 11:00am. Info: 364-2378.


FRIDAYS

Storytime: Valley Library 11:00am. Info: 789-0125.

SATURDAYS

6/4, 6/18, 7/2, 7/16, 8/6, 8/20 Spanish Playgroup: JFHBC, First & Third Saturdays of the month, 10:30-11:30am. Ages 0-5yr. Info: 586-1203.

MONDAYS-FRIDAYS

Turf for Tots Program: Dimond Park Fieldhouse. Tuesday-Thursday 10am-1pm. $1/child. Info: 523-4910.

Toddler Time at the Rock Dump: Tuesday-Thursday, 1310 Eauptauk Road. 10am-1pm. Info: 586-4982.

Lunch Bunch: Monday 9-10:30, Tuesday-Friday 10-12. Dimond Park Aquatic Center. For ages 7 years and younger to enjoy dump buckets, red, blue, & yellow fountains, slides & bubble bench!

Preschool Open Gym: J. Jumbo Gym, 909 4th St. 10:30am-12pm. Ages 1-6. $2/child. 586-2523.

ONGOING

Hiking Group for Families: find out more at ‘Hike it Baby’ on Facebook.

 Means this program is FREE!