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Pre-Service Training Online Now

A growing collection of pre-service training is available on FosterParentCollege.com. The first three classes are online now and two more are expected to become available by summer. All told, there will be 9 pre-service online classes which can be used alone or in conjunction with 4 in-person meetings.

The classes are online versions of the Institute for Human Services’ standardized pre-service training curriculum in use throughout the United States.

Classes already available are:

- Child Abuse & Neglect
- The Child Welfare Team
- Parent-Child Attachment

While the classes were developed for parents training to become foster/kinship/adoptive parents, they are also suitable for parents wishing to refresh their knowledge on a particular subject. If your agency pays for or reimburses you for your training on FPC, please talk to your trainer before enrolling in pre-service training if you wish to receive training credit.

Previews of each can be viewed on www.fosterparentcollege.com. The project is funded through a Phase II SBIR grant (R44 HD054032) awarded by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.
Scholarships Help Foster/Adopt Youth Attend College

Paying for college is a strain for many of us, but scholarships can help. Here are a few scholarships that have come to our attention, including two that give special consideration to foster/adoptive youth.

*The NFPA Youth Scholarship Fund* provides scholarship assistance to the children of NFPA members. Scholarships are awarded annually to qualified students (foster, birth and/or adoptive) attending college, vocational training or correspondence school. The deadline for the NFPA Youth Scholarship application is April 2, 2012, visit [http://www.nfpainc.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1116723](http://www.nfpainc.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1116723).

*The Horatio Alger Association* Scholarship application deadline has been extended to April 15 and is open to students from the following locations: Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Tennessee. Information regarding the scholarship can be found on the Horatio Alger Association website at [https://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships/apply.cfm](https://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships/apply.cfm).

*Louisiana Foster & Adoptive Parent Association* offers eight $1,000 scholarships for foster and adoptive youth in Louisiana. Applications are available on LFAPA’s website at [http://lfapainc.org/](http://lfapainc.org/).

Opportunities


Learn how taking FPC classes benefits the National Foster Parent Association. Visit [www.fosterparentcollege.com](http://www.fosterparentcollege.com) and click on the NFPA logo.

Yes, you CAN reprint articles from this newsletter. Please notify us of your plans, and on the article state the story is “Reprinted with permission from FosterParentCollege.com® Connections.” Email Lisa at [press@northwestmedia.com](mailto:press@northwestmedia.com).

Submit your nominations for Champions for Children. This regular column spotlights foster parents, advocates, social workers, foster care alumni, etc. Please email a sentence or two about your nominees, along with their contact information, to Lisa at [press@northwestmedia.com](mailto:press@northwestmedia.com). Thank you.
Carefree Cooking – Tasty Chicken Wraps

These flavorful, nutritious wrap sandwiches can be made with a wide variety of vegetables or seasonings.

This basic recipe calls for kale, a leafy green favored by children for its mild flavor and vivid green color. Kale can be added to soups, salads, and pasta sauces with nary a peep from fussy eaters.

Ingredients:
- 1/2 cup lemon juice
- 1/3 cup low-salt soy sauce
- 1 Tablespoon sugar
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 3 cups shredded cooked chicken (12 ounces)
- 2 cups shredded romaine lettuce
- 2 cups finely chopped raw kale
- 1 large ripe tomato, cut into thin slices
- 2 medium carrots, grated
- 4 minced green onions, optional
- 8 6-inch flour tortillas

Directions:
1. Combine lemon juice, soy sauce, sugar, garlic and red pepper. Set aside.
2. Combine chicken, lettuce, kale, carrots and tomato (and green onion, if using).
3. Loosely toss dressing with chicken and vegetables.
4. Sandwich tortillas between moist paper towels and put on a microwave safe plate. Microwave for 30 seconds to soften so they won’t break when rolled.
5. Using a slotted spoon, scoop some filling onto one edge of a tortilla. Roll up.
6. Remaining dressing can discarded or combined with a little olive oil to make salad dressing.
7. Suggested substitutions: chopped or shredded jicama, diced mild radishes, chopped celery, chopped red or gold bell peppers, chopped spinach. Also experiment with different types of whole grain tortillas.
8. To retain crispy texture, serve within the hour.

Original recipe from FPC staffer.

Registration Underway for Camp To Belong

Registration is open for volunteers and campers for the Camp To Belong (CTB) Summer Camp Programs.

The camps reunite brothers and sisters placed in separate foster, adoptive or kinship homes. CTB provides a neutral, week-long camp environment so that siblings can create positive childhood memories together. Each camp provides programming designed to strengthen sibling connections including art activities, traditional summer camp activities, workshops and seminars, and the Birthday Party Event.

Summer 2012 camps will be held in California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Massachusetts, Maine, New York, Georgia, and Australia and enrollment is open to children from outside those areas.

Visit the main website for information about registering children for camps, for volunteer opportunities, to donate, and for links to the camp program of interest to you, at www.camptobelong.org CTB is an international non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.
March Word Find Fun – Hang this page on your fridge for your children's enjoyment.

"The March Hare will be much the most interesting, and perhaps as this is May it won't be raving mad – at least not so mad as it was in March." – Alice, from “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.”

The March Hare was more than a bit goofy, but I bet a lot of us get goofy in March because we’re so excited spring is on the way.

So for all you goofy March hares, here’s a word find about rabbits and how they live, with a hint of March silliness tossed in for fun.

Word Key:
- Hare
- Jackrabbit
- Pikas
- Jackalope
- Leporids
- Rabbit
- Mammal
- Tapeti
- Cottontail
- Kits
- Grass
- Burrow
- BugsBunny

Kids Krafts – March Hare Ears

What You Will Need:
- White poster board
- Pink construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Tacky glue or school glue
- Tape or stapler
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils; optional

How you make it:

1. Cut a strip of poster board about 2" wide by about 24" long.
2. Using a pencil, draw two 8 ½ inch long by 3 ½ inch long bunny shaped ears on the white poster board. Cut out the 2 ears.
3. Draw and then cut out 2 smaller ears out of pink construction paper.
4. Glue the pink ears inside the white ears.
5. Glue the ears inside the band, positioning to fit behind your head. It might help to have an adult or a friend help with this.
6. Decorate the head band with markers, crayons, or colored pencils if you wish.
7. Tape or staple the band to fit your head. Cut off any excess. Now you can have fun being a silly bunny.

From Kaboose.com

Find additional resources for foster care and adoption at www.FosterParentCollege.com