



Satellite Family Child Care System

August 2024
Newsletter

Safety Saturday

FREE First Aid
and CPR class



This special health and safety conference is available to early childhood educators and their staff participating in Satellite's Accreditation System.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2024

2096 Red Arrow Trail
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Register here!



Financial assistance provided by City of Madison, Office of Child Care and Family Resources, and 4-C

**A big welcome to our new Satellite Affiliate members,
all with shared goal of achieving accreditation!**

Sheila Thornton – A Little Learners Family Daycare

Brittany Reindl – Nala's Nook

**Congratulations on moving to Associate level
with Satellite!**

Elizabeth Tittle – Liz's In Home Daycare



Congrats on your Reaccreditation!

Maria Laura Osorio Jasso –
My Little World Family

Valentina Aitken –
Little Big Things

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

SPOTLIGHT ON *Light Of The World*

Program Owner: Michelle Gehl, Affiliate Satellite Provider

"Hello! I am Michelle and I opened Light of the World childcare in 2019. Before that I worked on a cruise ship in the nursery, was an au pair for a family in Australia, worked in a few daycare centers with infants and toddlers, and nannied and babysat for numerous families." – Michelle Gehl



"Now the children and I enjoy being outside the most with my program. We garden, feed our animals which are cows, rabbits, chickens, and dogs, go on nature walks on the path we have around the field, and play on our playground!" –



"I added an addition to my house for the daycare, so it is all separate. I love that I do not have a commute to work but it still feels like work is away from home! I spent many years going to children's houses to care for them and now they come to me where I can share the country lifestyle with the families. The children enjoy coming to "school" each day to learn and play with their friends and I am blessed to have the opportunity to work in a career that I love so much." – Michelle Gehl

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

SPOTLIGHT ON

Kathy's Kids Home Child Care

Program Owner: Kathleen Wolfe

Accredited Satellite Provider

"I started doing home childcare in 2001 after 9/11 because my husband was deployed while serving in the U.S. Air force. I have always wanted to work with children and decided to become a home child care provider due to not being able to find care for the hours I needed. I have done care in North Carolina, North Dakota, and Wisconsin." – Kathleen Wolfe



"I have been selected as Pope Air Force Base Provider of the Year in 2002, CDA certificate in 2011, NAFCC Accreditation in 2013, earned my Master's degree in Education in 2013, Terri Lynne Lokoff National Teacher Award in 2014, 5 star YoungStar rating in 2022, Terri Lynne Lokoff National Teacher Award in 2023, Helene Marks Teacher of the Year in 2023, Satellite Family Child Care Accreditation in 2023, and am currently working on my Inclusion Credential. I will never stop learning and love expanding my knowledge about child development and best practices." – Kathleen Wolfe

"I believe children learn best when they are involved. I listen to what excites them then expand on their interests. My program is play based and encourages development through curiosity, exploration, problem solving, and of course, FUN. We are outdoors daily and love to explore what the earth has to offer us. We climb trees, play in the creek, run up and down hills, build forts, and explore all the little critters. Our days consist of risky play, loose parts, and process art. By doing this, the children are able to express themselves, learn how to access risks, and try new, exciting things." – Kathleen Wolfe

DIVING INTO THE STANDARDS

Open-Ended Questions

Relevant Satellite Accreditation Standards

III. The Daily Program for Children

C. The provider uses a variety of techniques to address, extend, and support children's development and self-guided play.

5. The provider observes and describes to children what they are doing and asks them open-ended questions about their activities.



The Basics

What are open-ended questions?

What would happen if...? Why do you think...? Tell me about... How did you...?

Statements like these are open-ended, meaning there are many possible responses, spark thinking, and encourage discussion. Open-ended questions prompt children to process and expand on their experiences, solve problems, and practice verbal communication.

Do you like...? What color...? Where does...? Are you...?

In contrast, closed-ended questions are answered in one to two words and typically have a right or wrong answer. They seek specific information or confirm understanding. Closed-ended questions are beneficial to use when prompting children to make decisions.

Why use open-ended questions? Open-ended questions support:

Pre-literacy skills:

- Meaningful conversations with adults help children develop verbal language, made up of vocabulary (comprehending word meaning) and grammar (understanding how to arrange words in phrases and sentences).
- Verbal communication skills precede learning to read. Children with a larger vocabulary sound out and comprehend words more easily.

Open-Ended Questions (Cont.)

Critical thinking skills:

- Open-ended questions stimulate creative, imaginative, and flexible thinking.
- Adults help children discover solutions by breaking down problems, including social problems, into manageable steps.
- Why are they sad...? What happens when...? These statements prompt children to expand on their experiences and process how they relate to others.

[How do I use open-ended questions?](#) The amount of time children spend expressing their ideas and hearing feedback has positive impact on development. **Ask an open-ended question and then wait for a response.** Children need significantly more time than adults to construct and deliver responses to questions. Typically, the younger the child, the more time needed to respond. Adults inhibit children's responses by not waiting long enough before ending the conversation, asking another question, or providing a statement. If a child does not respond, model a potential answer. If a child uses gestures or sounds, interpret the communication in words. Open-ended questions can be incorporated into every type of play or routine!

I want to learn more!

- [Questions to Help Children Think](#)
- [Realizing the Promise of Open-Ended Questions](#)
- [Guiding Children by Using Questions](#)
- [Asking Questions, Birth to Five](#)
- [Message in a Backpack Spark Creative Thinking with Open-Ended Questions](#)
- [Tips on Nurturing Your Child's Curiosity](#)

This resource is available to you through Satellite Family Child Care System, a YoungStar Connect Partner.

Did you know?

BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE, SATELLITE CONSULTANTS
COMPLETED **179** VISITS WITH SATELLITE PROGRAMS.

Upcoming Professional Development



Building Children's Independence: Montessori in Family Child Care

This course will introduce the Montessori method as an approach to guiding curriculum practices in family child care. This course will outline Montessori's guiding principles, touching on the role of the educator, environment, and materials in supporting children's development. Participants will learn the approach's five key areas of study: practical life, sensorial, mathematics, language, and cultural studies. The course will focus on how this curriculum approach can be implemented in a family child care program.

August 14; 6 – 8 PM Zoom English and Spanish

2 hours of Registry credit

[Register here](#) (by 8/12)



Exploring Quality in Family Child Care: Child-Directed Play

This course will explore the importance of child-directed play in early childhood settings. Participants will learn what child-directed play looks like, why it is important for children's development, and how it can be implemented in family child care programs.

September 3; 1 – 2 PM Zoom

English and Spanish

1 hour of Registry credit


[Register here](#) (by 8/30)

Satellite Calendar


Evening Professional Learning Opportunities

Dates	Time	Event	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
Curriculum Philosophy Series						
August 14	6-8 pm	Building Children's Independence: Montessori in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 8/12/24	2	E, Sp
September 11	6-8 pm	Children as Naturalists: Forest School in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 9/9/24	2	E, Sp
Single Training Sessions						
October 30	6-8 pm	Making it Work: Incorporating Rich Art Experiences into a Mixed-Age Setting	Zoom	Register here! by 10/14/24	2	E, Sp
November 13	6-8 pm	Nature-Based Winters: Indoors and Out in Family Child Care	Zoom	Register here! by 11/11/24	2	E, Sp
January 15	6-8 pm	Transitions Throughout the Day in Family Child Care: Strategies, Skills, and Wisdom from Satellite Programs	Zoom	Register here! by 1/13/25	2	E, Sp


Saturday Events

Dates	Time	Event	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
September 28	8-6 pm	Safety Saturday *Only for programs participating in Satellite's accreditation system	Satellite Office	Register here! By 9/14/24	7 – 9	E, Sp

Exploring Quality in Family Child Care

Dates	Time	Topic	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
August 6	1-2 pm	Back-and-Forth Interactions	Zoom	Register here! by 8/3/24	1	E, Sp
September 3	1-2 pm	Child-Directed Play	Zoom	Register here! by 8/30/24	1	E, Sp
October 8	1-2 pm	Should We Tell Children to Apologize?	Zoom	Register here! by 10/4/24	1	E, Sp
November 19	1-2 pm	Dr. Peter Gray Discusses Mixed-Age Play	Zoom	Register here! by 11/15/24	1	E, Sp
December 10	1-2 pm	Process Art	Zoom	Register here! by 12/6/24	1	E, Sp

Guided Book Studies (*English only*)

Dates	Time	Book	Location	Registration	Registry hours*	
October 3 – November 21	1-2 pm	Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder	Zoom	Register here! by 9/5/24	16	E

Enjoyable time with other Satellite family child care providers

Dates	Time	Event	Location	Registration	🌐
September 25	6-8 pm	Gathering in Appleton – dinner and mindful art activity	Appleton	Register here!	E
October 2	6-8 pm	Provider Appreciation Dinner	Milwaukee	Register here!	E, Sp
October 23	6-8 pm	Gathering in Madison -- dinner and mindful art activity	Madison	Register here!	E, Sp

Key

🌐	Language	E	English	Sp	Spanish
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Obtaining Registry Credit* for Satellite's Virtual (Zoom) Professional Development Sessions

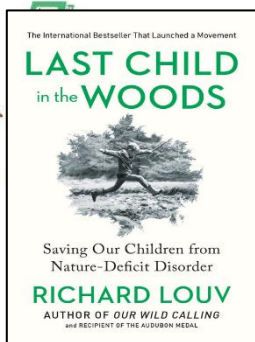
To receive Registry credit at the conclusion of virtual (Zoom) professional development, follow these steps:

1. Each participant must register individually even if viewing the training with other participants on the same screen.
2. You must be present for the entire session. Late arrivals may not be admitted.
3. At the conclusion of the session, you complete an evaluation and then enter your information to receive Registry credit. This must be completed at the end of the session or your professional development hours will not be entered into the Registry by Satellite Family Child Care System. **

You can view and print your proof of attendance through your [Wisconsin Registry](#) account. It may take several weeks before your attendance is entered into the Registry. Certificates of completion will not be mailed or emailed to participants.

**If you do not complete the steps above and wish to receive professional development credit for a Satellite event that you attended, you will need to complete the DCF form "Continuing Education Record—Independent Reading/Video Viewing" found here:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensing/ccformspubs>



Join us as we read [Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder](#) (2005) over eight naptime sessions. This course is discussion-based, meaning you will connect with other family child care professionals throughout the state of Wisconsin as we discuss this bestseller. Learn not only from the book but also from other's experiences, perspectives, and knowledge! [Register here!](#)

16 hours of Registry credit

English only

LEARNING AND CONNECTING TOGETHER

New & Updated Curriculum Units

[Link to Unit and Equipment List](#)



Color Unit

Castle Unit



Build a Village
Unit
Preschool

HEALTH & SAFETY

Click the on the text below for more information!



Summer
Safety Tips



Healthy Air
in Your Child
Care Facility

Safe Sleep



YOUR BUSINESS YOUR FINANCES

Professional Resources

Satellite Services

- [Mentorship Program](#)
- [Satellite Application](#)
- [Equipment and Unit Loan Program](#)
- [Lending Library](#)
- [Report your family child care program's child openings here](#)



Wisconsin

- [T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Program](#)
- [REWARD Stipend Program](#)
- [Wisconsin Early Childhood Shared Services Network \(WEESSN\)](#)
- [The Wisconsin Registry](#)
- [Child Care Forms and Publications \(Licensing\)](#)
- [YoungStar Connect](#)
- [Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation](#)



Professional Organizations focused only on Family Child Care

- [Wisconsin Family Child Care Association](#)
- [Home Grown](#)
- [National Association for Family Child Care](#)



For Satellite
participating
programs only



The August Financial Wellness session is:

Everything Credit! Understanding, repairing, and boosting your credit can open doors to better financial opportunities. There are several ways to learn this month with our pre-recorded webinars and a live Q & A session. Learn everything you need to know about credit this month. Choose one or choose all recorded webinars: (1) [Credit Reports and Scores](#) (2) [Steps to Boosting Credit](#) (3) [Repairing Credit](#)

Live Q&A Session: August 14 11:30-12:00pm [Register here](#) (Use "Reach Dane" as the organization with whom you're affiliated)



See a few home business resources below! Click on the boxes for more information.

10 Questions to Ask
When You Disagree
with a Family's Practice

Starting Your Own FCC
Budget

Interviews and Tours



OUR COMMUNITY

Satellite believes in the power of community. Consider attending a family child care provider-led group affiliated with Satellite. Participation in all support groups is a benefit of Satellite and completely voluntary.

Arcoíris

The purpose of the Arcoíris support group is to provide meetings with child care providers. The goal of the Arcoíris support group is to share resources with each provider who attends the meetings. There is no cost to the Arcoíris support group for providers who want to attend. Meetings are the third Friday of every month from 6:30-8:30 pm. Meetings are usually at a Madison-area provider's home, but can also be at a restaurant, park, library, etc. For the meeting, each provider is invited to bring a dish, dessert, or drink to share. During the meeting, the food that has been provided is shared. Ideas, resources, situations are also shared and new providers who are attending the meeting are introduced. The Arcoíris support group maintains confidentiality inside and outside the meetings of all topics discussed. This group is conducted in Spanish.

For more information, please contact:



Margarita Ugalde

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Sojourn

Sojourn is a community of accredited family child care professionals who empower one another to reach their own unique potential through person connections, reflective process, and shared leadership. We strive for a balance between personal and professional issues in our discussions. We use a shared leadership model for Sojourn meetings which allows each member to grow and participate in various roles. Join Sojourn to build relationships with other professional child care providers, experience professional growth through group process responsibilities, and participate in discussion about family child care issues. This group is conducted in English and meets in the Madison area.

For more information, please contact:



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Mailing and drop-off address:

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*Label mailed and hand delivered items with "attention:
Satellite" & and the Satellite staff person's name*

Satellite Supports



Thank you to our partners for helping us provide these services at no cost to participants:

