

FACE

Family and Child Education



ncfi

National Center for Families Learning

## CENTER-BASED NEWS

### Site Spotlight

On November 19, 2021, the Cherokee FACE Pre-Kindergarten class visited their tribal fish hatchery located on the Qualla Boundary in Cherokee, North Carolina. The class had been studying traditional Cherokee foods, including plants and animals, as part of Native American Heritage month.

At the hatchery, biologist David Rowland showed the class how they raise brook, brown, and rainbow trout. About 600,000 trout—each one receiving a shot to keep it healthy—had recently hatched and been moved from the aquarium to the small live-well tank. The class was able to observe all stages of the trout life cycle. They saw sac-fry, fingerling, regulation-size, and trophy-size trout. The class was able to visit the larger trout runs outside the hatchery where they were able to watch the trout swim and eat.

Following the visit to the hatchery, Tribal Natural Resource Officer Kyle Efird joined the class and talked to them about how to care for our natural resources by following the tribal fishing rules, what those rules are, and to make sure they always had an adult with them when they went fishing. Officer Efird then invited the class to join him—children were able to hold a trout and examine all parts of the fish.

The final experience was cleaning the trout and collecting the meat.



## MARCH

## 2022

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**February Monthly Report  
DUE**

*March 5, 2022*

**FACE Webinar:  
Center-based Support for  
Transitioning Families**

*March 18; 2 p.m. Eastern*

**FACE to FACE**

*Week of April 18th*

### HOLD THE DATE:

**Regionals: Region 1**

*April 19, 2022*

**Regionals: Region 2**

*April 20, 2022*

**Regionals: Region 3**

*April 21, 2022*

*More information to  
come.*



The preschool students in Nichole Efird's classroom at Cherokee Central Elementary School turned into robots thanks to their Creative Curriculum boxes!

## Professional Development Opportunities

- FACE Webinar: Center-based Support for Transitioning Families
  - Friday, March 18th; 2:00–3:00 p.m. Eastern
    - This webinar will focus on FACE program transitions. We will review the different types of transitions families make in FACE, resources available for your use in this process, strategies to support families, and more!
- FACE to FACE
  - Week of April 18th
    - Preschool: Each site is invited to join their NCFL Preschool TA along with other FACE sites to further discuss and receive support around TS Gold.
    - Adult Education: Each site is invited to join their NCFL Adult Education TA along with other FACE sites in a discussion around "Technology Tools for Math."



Feel free to cut off the bottom portion of this page and share with parents via bulletin boards, etc.

## Parent Engagement Ideas

### **Crossing the Midline**

- The ability to cross the midline, or cross over the imaginary line that goes down the middle of your body, is important for the development of some very common skills. Being able to use both sides of the body together—in coordinated movement or deciding left- or right-hand dominance—requires the ability to cross the midline. Crossing the midline is an important skill—especially when it comes to tasks like writing, drawing, reading, or putting on shoes and socks. Here are some fun ways to include crossing the midline practice in your child's day:
  - **Play Simon Says:** You can encourage crossing the midline with how you give directions for each of the movements or actions you have your child complete. A few examples are, Simon says: touch your right knee with your left hand, touch your right shoulder with your left hand, cross one foot over the other foot, or close your eyes and tap a fingertip to your nose.
  - **Figure Eight:** Have your child draw (or trace) figure 8s on a piece of paper, in sand, in shaving cream, or in other fun textures. Take turns drawing or tracing using each hand.
  - **Dance with Scarves or Ribbons:** Dancing, in general, is an excellent crossing the midline activity, but adding scarves or ribbons just makes it more fun! You can do this with music that gives specific motions or just dance as you want. If you want some music with motions, search the Internet for "preschool songs with scarves" and discover one that works for you and your child.

## Site Spotlight

### **Enemy Swim Day School FACE Program Earns National NAEYC Accreditation**

Enemy Swim Day School (ESDS) FACE Preschool Program located in northeastern South Dakota on the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Reservation Program has been recognized among the top in the nation by earning accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)—the world’s largest organization working on behalf of young children.

NAEYC Accreditation is a rigorous and transformative system that uses a set of [10 research-based standards](#) to collaborate with early education programs to recognize and drive quality improvement in high-quality early learning environments. “Our FACE staff, Nita Rae Jones, and Enemy Swim Day School has worked extremely hard, and we’re proud that their hard work has earned them the mark of quality from NAEYC, and to be recognized for their commitment to reaching the highest professional standards for their students and parents,” said Jeannine Metzger, ESDS principal.

To earn NAEYC Accreditation, ESDS FACE program went through an extensive self-study and quality-improvement process, followed by an on-site visit by a NAEYC Assessor to verify and ensure that the program met each of the ten program standards. More than 6,000 programs are currently accredited by NAEYC—less than 10 percent of all childcare centers, preschools, and kindergartens nationally achieve this recognition.

Nita Rae, the FACE preschool teacher, reflects, “I have a strong belief in FACE and the FACE model—all areas of focus are needed in order to have child/parent success. I feel parents who are comfortable engaging with their child at a young age, stay engaged as their children continue through adulthood. I think our NAEYC Assessor was pretty amazed and culture shocked when she arrived. She was from Washington DC and had never been on a reservation. My words to her as she got off the plane, ‘Make sure your tank is full of gas and you have plenty of snacks!’ You see, Enemy Swim Day School is in the middle of... hmm, well, we have a buffalo farm across the road and lakes on the other side of our school. There are no towns or stores within seven to ten miles of our school. We are a family within ourselves, and I believe that is what makes us strive and soar beyond. ‘High-quality’ are always nice words to hear about a program and I would like to hear that about all of our FACE programs because we are ‘quality’ and so is the FACE program.”

If your FACE program is interested in Enemy Swim Day Schools’ experience, contact Nita Rae Jones, [njones@esds.us](mailto:njones@esds.us), or call (605) 947-4605. For more information about NAEYC Accreditation, visit [the NAEYC website](#).

**It’s not too late to share your wishes for a happy retirement for Sharon Darling, former president of the National Center for Families Learning! Click [here](#) to leave her a message!**

**Thank you for reading our March 2022 center-based FACE newsletter! Newsletters will be sent out via email at the beginning of every month. A complete archive of previous newsletters will be added to the FACE website soon!**

**If you have any news to share from your site, please send to your technical assistant or directly to [face@familieslearning.org](mailto:face@familieslearning.org)!**