



Meghan Kollmar

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Biography

Right after college I accepted a position at the West Point Child Learning Center. My classroom has a mixed group of three to five year olds. In our preschool room we have a total of twenty children. I work with my co-teacher to carefully design a curriculum that meets the developmental needs and goals of each child. Younger children seek guidance through the older children and sometimes try to copy what they are doing or making. The older children like to help the younger children and begin developing leadership skills. At the center I am on the "Green Committee". We have developed many activities and projects that have turned our center into more of a "green" environment. In November of 2008 I was able to go to Dallas, Texas for the NAEYC Convention. I was able to go to workshops to gain information about preschool aged children. Outside the center I have walked for two years for the Lance Armstrong Live Strong to support cancer. I have also participated in collecting money for one of my friends who had cancer to give to the Susan G. Komen to find a cure for breast cancer.

Project-"Going Greener"

I will use my award to enhance the outdoor experience with an Envirocycle Rolling Composter, Compost Tea Maker and Rain Saver Rain Barrel. They can be used when the children are outdoors. It is easy to operate with its kid friendly rolling wheel. It has a rolling action which mixes and aerates the ingredients. It also makes compost tea which is rich organic liquid plant food for flowers and vegetables. There is a lock door to put the scraps of food and waste in the composter. The Rain Saver Barrel will collect the water when it rains. We can also tally after every rain fall and collect data on our playground. We will be using gardening tools for the children to be able to dig when exploring and using the composter and rain barrel. While using the rain barrel outside the children can start to reuse this water instead of using our hose. This will save the amount of water that we need to use out on the playground. This will help the children understand that we should not waste water and we should try to reuse it the best possible way. We can use food scraps that we do not use during lunch time to put in our compost. This will give the children an understanding that we can reuse the food scraps and not be wasteful. When we would bring the food scraps outside they will be able to put them in the compost and turn the compost with the help and supervision of the teacher. When we turn them into compost it will make the tea which will be rich for our plants and flowers on our playground. We will be able to use the tools to plant our flowers and plants on our playground and use while we are using our composter and rain barrel.

