



Shirley Reynolds **Mobile, Alabama**

Biography

I have been a Licensed Early Childcare Provider through the State of Alabama Department of Human Resources for 10 years. I was previously a LPN who worked in Pediatrics for 18 years. I saw a need to help children prepare for school with the enjoyment of learning. Shirley's Fun Time Learning Home was established to provide quality education and childcare in a safe, loving Christian environment. The environment serves as an extension of home, seeking to educate the whole child; spiritually, cognitively, emotionally, socially & physically. I am a National Accredited Family Childcare Professional who received accreditation through the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC). This is an accomplishment that I thank God for. There is no way I could have done this without the help of my family. I am thankful for the tremendous support that I received from Family Child Care Partnerships (FCCP) & their staff. I received an Associate Degree from Bishop State Community College in ECE in 2006. This is an accomplishment I wouldn't have been able to obtain without assistance from T.E.A.C.H. and Postsecondary Education Leadership in Childcare Scholarships. Last year I was honored to attend my first NAFCC conference and am looking forward to attending my second NAFCC conference this year. My long range professional goal is to continue to advance my education and training. I look forward to attending additional childcare conferences and expanding Shirley's Fun Time Learning Home business.



Project-"Outside Play"

My children love to play outside & are outside twice a day everyday if weather permits. The Adventure Play set has two swings, a 2-person glider, monkey bars, covered play deck, clubhouse with windows, a slide, and snack bench. My children love to have picnics. We will be able to have picnics on our own child size snack bench. With the clubhouse, the children can use their imagination and pretend to be in a spaceship, time capsule, police station, or fire station, etc. I will assist the younger children on the slide. The children will have fun climbing up to the covered play deck playing follow the leader, hide and seek or catch me if you can. Research has shown for children, lack of physical activity can lead to obesity. I am doing all I can to train my children to eat healthy and exercise every day. Children who do not spend enough time playing outside are deprived of social interactions and natural stimulation. It helps children to be healthier. Children who play outside in good weather for 90 minutes or more each day have a lesser risk of heart trouble later in life. Outside play helps to benefit a child's growth and development. Physical play helps children discover the things their bodies can do. Outside play helps to boost self-esteem in children. Playing outside gives children a chance to play with others, this helps develop healthy social skills. When a child takes turns and share doing outside play, leadership and cooperation qualities emerge. I feel that outside play is an important factor in a child's development. I have noticed that children learn to play together cooperatively as they develop other skills outside. In today's technological age, it is most important that I encourage children to play outside for their social, emotional, and physical development and their health.