

# Hot Springs Center Helps Kids

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Special training sessions have also been held for the teacher's aides. These workshops have covered such topics as child abuse and neglect as well as many other topics which deal with the development of children.

Attending these sessions were the teacher's aides from Hot Springs, Talitha Price and Ruth Stamey. A food service training session was also held in which Mary Holt from Hot Springs participated. Glennis Cutshall participated in an art workshop at the Marshall Center.

At the Hot Springs Day Care

center, the most important part of the staff's job is to help each child develop a healthy self-concept. Attending the day care center enables the pre-schooler to be among children of his or her own age grouping. From this form of social interaction, the child learns not only more about himself but also much more about his relationship with other children. This is important because it gives the child a chance to learn how to work with others. At the center, there is also a great deal of personal contact between the children and the staff in the form of hugging and lap-sitting.

During a typical day at the day care center the children have time set aside for free play, music, and story time as well as for learning. Various themes are chosen for the children to study. By way of various games, songs, and stories, the children discover and explore different aspects of the theme. In the past, these themes have covered such areas as body parts as well as two weeks which were spent studying Fall.

As part of this theme, the children were taken to a local farm to pick flowers and to notice the changing of the leaves. The most recent theme has been Halloween and if you go past the day care center, you can notice the Halloween decorations in the window which the children assembled. The children are also learning their numbers and colors.

One program at the day

care center is worth special notice. It is the use of a kit which is called DUSO - Developing Understanding of Self and Others. Contained in this kit are pictures, records, stories, songs, and a puppet, whose name is Duso. Duso is a dolphin. Communication from the children is directed aimed at the puppet, not at the person using the puppet.

In this program, the staff at the day care center is assisted by an intern from Mars Hill College. Another important aspect of the day care center is their health program. Once a month, a nurse visits the day care center and a nurse is always on call if an emergency arises. There is also a weekly flouride

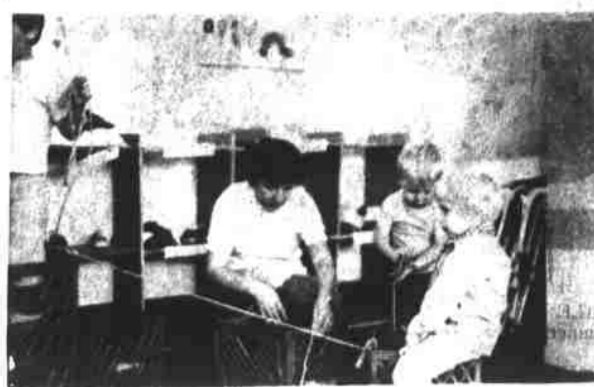
lessons at the Hot Springs swimming pool for seven days under the instruction of David Whitten.

In October, 1974, the day care center was able to obtain a school bus. The bus, driven by Kenneth Waldroup, is used to transport the children to and from the day care center as well as for field trips. Each day the bus travels a distance of approximately forty miles.

The Hot Springs Day Care Center has received good response from the residents of Hot Springs, including local merchants as well as parents of children who attend the center. Many donations of personal time, toys, food, magazines, clothing, and playground equipment have



ONE OF THE BEST times of the day is lunch time at the day care center when children get a well-balanced meal. Around the table from the front, clockwise, are Tammy Whitson, Daryll Gentry, Peggy Whitson, Tonya Gunter, David Wallin, Lisa Self, Chris Johnson and Ruth Ann Potete.



GLENNIS CUTSHALL, teacher aide at the center, works with Paul Ebbs, right, and David Wallin, center.



HAVING FUN together at the center are Chris Johnson, front, and back, left - right Maziar Khodayar, Timmy Roberts and Paul Ebbs.



JUANITA PHILLIPS teacher at the center, helps children develop motor skills. On the left are Chris Johnson and Daryll Gentry and Benda Willett, right.



ASSISTANTS at the center Talitha Price, left, and Ruth Stamey, right, play with children Tracy Cook, Tammy Whitson and Randy Barnes.

treatment for those children who have parental consent. The center also benefits the child nutritionally. Each day the children receive a hot lunch as well as two snacks.

There is also time set aside for field trips. A daily trip to the playground is planned. In the past, other trips have been made to the City Park in Greenville, the zoo, the Newport Police Station, Frontierland, and the duck pond at Biltmore Forest. The children were also taken on a train ride to Old Fort as well as for a ride on the Hot Springs fire truck.

Every Thursday morning, at 10:30, the children are taken to the Hot Springs Library for a story hour with Virginia White. Virginia is the Children's Services Librarian with the Madison County Public Library. This past summer the children were also able to take swimming



PLENTY of workers in Hot Springs insure individual attention at the center. Left - right are Juanita Phillips, teacher, who is assisted by Talitha Price, Glennis Cutshall and Ruth Stamey.



TIME OUT for lunch at the center while students munched on food. They are Randy Barnes, Maziar Khodayar, Timmy Roberts, Paul Ebbs, Brenda Willett and Tracy Cook.



DISCUSSING the day's plans are Glennis Cutshall, left, teacher aide and Mary Holt, cook at the Hot Springs Day Care Center.

been received.

The staff at the center also deserve credit for money management. They were able to obtain two large bags of toys for one dollar at a rummage sale held by the Hot Springs Boy's Home. Last year, some money was earned by selling cakes, hot dogs, and drinks on Election Day.

The Hot Springs Day Care Center serves a vital purpose to the residents of the Hot Springs community and for those in the surrounding areas. The fifteen children who are presently attending

the center are Randy Barnes, Jonathan Bullman, Shane Cook, Tracy Cook, Paul Ebbs, Daryll Gentry, Ruth Ann Green, Tanya Gunter, Chris Johnson, Maziar Khodayar, Ruth Ann Potete, Timothy Roberts, Lisa Self, David Wallin, Peggy Whitson, Tammy Whitson, Brenda Willett and Tammy Goforth.

The day care center was originally established to provide child care for those families in which both parents are working. When jobs do become available, it would be possible for working mothers

to drop their child off at the day care center, which is located at the bottom of the road leading up to the former Burlington plant, and to pick

them up at the end of work, knowing that while at the center, the child is receiving professional, competent, and loving care and attention.

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