



Ferguson-Florissant School District

Early Education Program

1005 Waterford Drive · Florissant, MO 63033-3694

(314) 506-9066 · Fax (314) 506-9080 · Website: www.ferglfor.k12.mo.us

News release: August 11, 2009

Contact: Debra Smith McCutchen, 314-506-9073

Festival for the Young Child Free Event for Families

Festival for the Young Child will be held Saturday, **September 12**, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., at the James J. Eagan Center, # 1 James J. Eagan Drive in Florissant. The festival is a **free event** highlighting the importance of early education sponsored by the Ferguson-Florissant School District's Early Education Department and the City of Florissant.

Among many other hands-on-activities available for children at the festival, children will enjoy making birthday cards, party hats and decorating a large birthday cake for the **Parents as Teachers 25th birthday**.

Parents will learn about activities they can do with their child at home while finding out about health, community and social services that are available for families with young children. Parents will be able to sign up for services at the festival. Adults will be able to access information on resume building, interview coaching, job placement and career education.

Free vision screenings will be provided by the University of Missouri – St. Louis Mobile Eye Center. Lazy Eye screenings will be provided by the Ferguson and Florissant Valley Lions Clubs. Health screenings will include blood pressure, spinal and children's height/weight ratio.

Parents will be able to "**Ask the Experts**" on a wide range of topics including: parenting issues, sleep information, importance of Early Education, developmental delays, child support enforcement, legal issues, childcare, health insurance, asthma and allergies. A pediatrician, oral health professional and vision specialist will be available.

The Festival for the Young Child will focus on safety. Free car seat checks, bike helmet fittings, information on home healthy environments, abuse and neglect prevention information and **MOCHIP** a free comprehensive child identification program will be on hand.

Children will enjoy a visit by **Fredbird** and many costumed characters as well as activities provided by area children's museums. **Land of Smiles Show** with Tooth Wizard and Plaqueman and **McCluer North Silver Strings** will perform. There will be free pony rides, Time 4 Fun Inflatable, Lowes building event, sports activities and much more.

For more information please call 314-506-9069.