

Building Lifelong Healthy Habits in Child Care

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Provider Yvonne Fairbanks of Casper, WY featured by the National CACFP Sponsors Association

AUSTIN, TX, USA, March 26, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- When Yvonne decided to go into childcare, she was actually uncertain it was the right decision. Now after sixteen years of owning Lil Mikizoo child care, and earning both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Early Childhood Education, she is completely confident this was the best decision for her. Through her degree work and experience she has changed and evolved in her process of caring for kids.



Yvonne invites community helpers to talk to the children in her care.

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every child individually and working alongside their family to educate the whole child at their level."

Using her own curriculum, Yvonne works with the children to meet their needs. During writing



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Yvonne Fairbanks, Child Care Provider time for example, leveled activities based on readiness from holding the pencil to writing a name are prepared for the children. Sensory activities are encouraged and observed to see what each child responds to and what learning styles work best. Yvonne has developed preschool homework packets for families to work on together opening a dialog between herself and parents.

Nutrition is taught though a process of both experimenting and education. In units throughout the year, children are encouraged to try new recipes, help in the kitchen, ask questions, and take part in conversation about food and healthy habits. With children involved in the process of

discovering and helping prepare food in childcare, they often then want to incorporate their newly learned ideas at home. Both the recipe and nutrition information are shared with parents so they can reinforce healthy habits at home.

In 2019, Yvonne won second place for the Casper Star Tribune Favorite Child Care Award. She considers it a huge honor as this is not just a job for her. She welcomes everyone into her care as a new family member and cherishes watching the children evolve into their own individual personalities. All it takes is one little grin and continued effort from a child to know that she is making a difference.

CACFP is an indicator of quality child care. When children are cared for by providers who are part of the CACFP they are receiving the best nutrition available. Learn more about other CACFP providers featured in the Member Showcase at CACFP's website, www.cacfp.org.

Since 1986, the <u>National CACFP Sponsors Association</u> (NCA) is the leading national organization for sponsors who administer the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). It provides education and support to thousands of members in the CACFP community and in particular to sponsors of all sizes from across the country. CACFP strives to improve communication between families, caregivers, sponsors and their supervising government agencies.

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