

CHILDREN FIRST

PO Box 862, Payson, AZ 85547

Equal opportunity provider.

1-877-468-8931

Cell:1-928-978-2151 Fax: 1-928-468-8351

childrenfirstcacfp.org

Looking for new quality child care providers please refer Children First!

January 2011

Mail menus the first mailing day of the month.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

*Wishing each and everyone a safe,
blessed and prosperous 2011!*

- Children First fax is located on most forms, including the meal count menu sheets. 1-928-468-8351
- **Start the new year off positive! Think positive thoughts, BE HAPPY!**
- Be responsible to understand the CACFP guidelines provided, keep your head up!
- Please return recipe idea's for the Children First cookbook, include pictures. This cookbook will be great.
- **Claims are not valid if current guidelines are not met. Providers are responsible for overpayments.**
- Be prepared for unannounced visits, each provider will receive at least 2 a FY.
- (Keep and use) The current Children First Child Care Manual has several children and a provider in a photograph at a kitchen table on the front cover. The old manual can be used to store forms. Great idea, Angela-Flagstaff.
- Children First provider Kim S of Casa Grande was recognized by First-Things-First, she has been an outstanding child care professional for years, we are so proud of you Kim!



No following CACFP guidelines?

Do not count on Children First to send multiple reminders and phone calls regarding missing forms or renewals, it is the providers responsible to ensure all guidelines are met.

It is not fair to the child care providers who are following the guidelines, that special reminders are given to those who do not.



What free and fun CACFP materials?

Go online to:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/care/Homes.htm>

Thanks Anelizabeth-Prescott.

CACFP MENU AND MEAL COUNT

Reminders and Updates

1. Please put a ★ on menu next to residential children .

Total	Official Use
22	B
22	A
22	L
	P
	D
	N
Total	Official Use
22	B
22	A
22	L
	P
	D
	N

provider total here

2. **New meal count/menus are now in circulation, providers will add the menus next to the official use total column on the meal count sheet. Then eventually the final draft will circulate that also includes a meal count total that should be completed at the bottom of the menu, next to the provider signature. This is an edit check system that Children First will use to ensure each provider gets paid the proper amount.**

Provider Monthly Totals: B AM L PM D N
The monthly total should be all the meals total for the month.

The total amount by meal count x's made on the meal count sheet.

Example all the breakfast, AM, lunch total 44 for the month:

Provider Monthly Totals: B 44 AM 44 L 44 PM D N

Do not use the official use column, use the provider column total.

What got disallowed in November?

- Menus claimed that do not match Child Care Home Provider Application.
- Over ratio, remember Children First cannot mark out children claimed over the allotted amount.
- Child care hours not listed.
- Taco shells are consider a high fat, and count as a high fat. Remember no more than 2 high fats a week.
- Sign in/out sheets not up to date during home visit.
- **Photo copying the same menu every month? Copied menus must be of an approved 5 week meal cycle plan!!!!**

Welcome in the New Year, Make Welcoming Bells!



Greet your visitors with the sound of bells by slipping this two-tone felt star over the knob on your front door. Older kids can handle the cutting and gluing. Young ones will prefer the less fastidious job of gluing on buttons and sequins.

Materials

- Thin cardboard
- Pencil and scissors
- Two felt squares
- Small jingle bells
- 1 yard ribbon
- White glue
- Buttons, sequins and glitter

Instructions

1. Help your child draw a five-point star (about 8 inches across) on the cardboard and cut it out. Lay the star on a felt square, trace around it with a pencil, then cut it out. Using a drinking glass as a guide, trace, then cut a circle large enough to fit over your doorknob, in the center of both stars.
2. Once you are certain of the fit, glue the felt and cardboard stars together. From a different color of felt, cut out a star about 1/2 inch smaller. This time, make the hole in the star's center about half the size of the one in the first star.
3. Carefully cut small slits around the hole so that it will pass over the doorknob, then glue the smaller felt star to the larger one. Tie jingle bells to three 12-inch strands of ribbon, and glue or sew the ends of the ribbons to the bottom of the star. Now, the decorating: Glue buttons, sequins or glitter onto the star. To hide the glued ends of the ribbons, cover them with a button or other decoration.



Pancakes

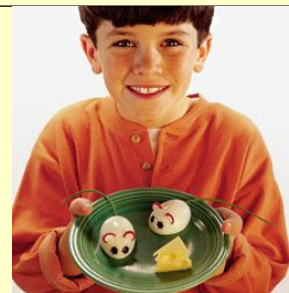
Snowman pancakes are a fun twist on a classic. How about 2011 pancakes to start the New Year?

Wish list

It's a brand new year! To help you get goin', we've come up with a special 2008 wish list. Fill it out and put it up in your room. Cross off the items that you complete throughout the year!

Places to go _____ _____ _____	Weird foods to try _____ _____ _____
Books to read _____ _____ _____	Strange talents to pick up _____ _____ _____
Movies to watch _____ _____ _____	Silly songs to make up _____ _____ _____

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Hardboiled egg mice a playful way to introduce boiled eggs to children.

More New Year Idea's can be found at FamilyFun.go.com:



Lucky Penny



New Year Hat



Wish Jar



On New Year's Eve, invite your kids to write a letter to their future selves. They can list their favorite things (books, songs, ice-cream flavors, TV shows, foods, colors, animals, games) and make predictions (how tall will they be in a year?). Pack away the letters with the holiday decorations so that they'll be out of sight but easy to find next year. On December 31, 2011, have your kids open their letters and see how much their tastes have changed -- or haven't!