

September 30, 2009

Dear *Picture the Future* Participant:

Thank you for registering and being involved in our 4th Annual *Picture the Future*.

Every provider that participates spreads the word that the importance of degreed teachers is within our reach and the value of providing children with the basics to succeed is too precious to ignore. We need to make early learning priorities, public policy.

Picture the Future allows you to speak to the children in your program about their future hopes and dreams, and for us to share those hopes and dreams with the leaders of our state. This is a compelling message that you have the good fortune to see daily while others may not.

Thank you for joining us in this collaborative event. Your support will focus public attention on high quality early education across the state of Florida.

In this packet, we have provided:

- Picture the Future: Facts at a Glance
- Picture the Future Participant Pack Steps
- Parental Consent Form
- Picture the Future Events and Due Dates
- Picture the Future Campaign Plan Instructions
- Career Day Lesson Plan

Thank you for your time and for all that you do to support Florida's most valuable resource, our children.

Sincerely,

Summer Rae

Children's Campaign, Inc.

850.425.2600 ext. 11

srae@iamforkids.org

For more information, please visit our website at www.iamforkids.org.

For any additional questions, please contact:

Florida Association for the Education of Young Children ((FLAEYC) formerly ECA of FL)

813-878-9973

info@flaeyc.org

www.flaeyc.org

Picture the Future: Facts at a Glance
An Early Learning Outreach Event

What: *Picture the Future* is an opportunity for four-year olds to participate in an art project expressing their personal vision of the future. Legislators and other policy-makers will be invited by directors, teachers and parents of participating early learning centers, family child care homes and public pre-k classrooms to discuss the importance of completing the mission of ensuring high quality pre-k in Florida, beginning with degreed teachers.

Who: The 4th annual *Picture the Future* will bring together business and community leaders, parents, teachers and elected officials to hear first hand about the benefits of investing in high-quality pre-k starting with degreed teachers in each pre-k classroom.

Why: To emphasize the need to equip schools with degreed teachers for Florida's pre-kindergarten classrooms to make high quality early learning and degreed teachers a public policy priority.

When: The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* will take place from October 2009 through April 2010.

Where: The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* is a statewide event taking place in early learning centers, family child care homes and public pre-k classrooms.

**To learn more, please contact Summer Rae, Children's
Campaign, Inc. at 850.425.2600 ext 11 or email
srae@iamforkids.org**

The 4th Annual *Picture the Future*: Participant Pack Steps

- Step 1:** Review The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* Facts at a Glance.
- Step 2:** Complete Picture Consent Form. This form releases the child's drawing and serves as a consent form to participate in The 4th Annual *Picture the Future*. Please complete this consent form prior to mailing your child's picture to your local legislator. Keep the consent forms on file at your center.
- Step 3:** Read List of Events/ Due Dates. For more information about *Picture the Future* please visit: www.iamforkids.org
- Step 4:** Read *Picture the Future* Campaign Plan & Instructions.
- Step 5:** Choose Advocacy Campaign Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 as described in The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* Advocacy Campaign Plan and follow the directions given for the level that best fits YOUR class.
- Step 6:** Review the Provided Lesson Plan and have fun while making a difference!

Contacts:

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info@flaeyc.org

Summer Rae – Children's Campaign
(850) 425-2600 ext. 11
srae@iamforkids.org

The 4th Annual *Picture the Future*: Consent Form

We are pleased to inform you that your child has the opportunity to participate in the 4th Annual *Picture the Future*. The goal of this event is to bring visibility to high quality early education in Florida. Help honor the promise to every parent and grandparent that Florida will deliver a high quality education to all its children.

The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* is an educational opportunity for your son/daughter to learn and discuss their future career choices and draw their answer to the question: *What do you want to be when you grow up?* Pictures submitted for the event will be sent to Florida's legislators reminding them of the continuing need for high quality education.

Please sign the consent form below in order for your child to participate in this statewide event to help all of Florida's children.

For more information about The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* visit:

<http://www.iamforkids.org>

The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* Parent/Guardian Consent Form

I give my permission to the Children's Campaign, Inc. to use the picture my child

_____ created for The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* event.

(First and Last Name)

Signed _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature)

Date _____

The 4th Annual *Picture the Future*: Events and Due Dates

September 25th: The 4th Annual *Picture the Future* “Kick Off”

- Kick off will be held at the Florida Association for the Education of Young Children’s 2009 Annual Conference – formerly known as:
ECA of FL.
September 25-28, 2009
Rosen Centre Hotel

- Please see the *Picture the Future* booth for registration.

October 1st

- Online registration begins at www.iamforkids.org

October – December

- Teach *Career Day* lesson plan to Pre-K Students.
- Mail letters to Legislators
- Hold *Picture the Future* Legislative Visits
- Continue *Picture the Future* Media and Advocacy Efforts

A CAREER DAY LESSON PLAN FOR The 4th Annual *PICTURE THE FUTURE*

Purpose:

Explore opportunities for future careers. Identify tools, equipment, clothing, and other items related to a variety of professions.

Materials:

Books on jobs or careers, chart paper, *Picture the Future* paper, markers, crayons, prop box with collected items.

Set-up:

Create a large prop box. Prior to the activity, collect a variety of items or pictures of tools, equipment, clothing, and places for a variety of jobs. Put the items you collect in your prop box.

Suggested items for Prop Box:

Construction Worker hammer, nails, wood, hardhat	Nurse or Doctor stethoscope, tongue depressors, medicine bottles, white clothing	Postal Worker envelopes, stamps, pens, pencils, boxes, mail bag	Farmer or Gardener fruits, vegetables, rake, hat	Teacher lesson plans, attendance sheets, books, paper, pens
Cosmetologist combs, curling iron, wigs	Attorney briefcase, legal books, case reports	Artist paint brushes, paper, clay	Actress or Actor sunglasses, boa, script	Chef pan, food, chef hat, cookbook
Coach whistle, megaphone, uniform	Dentist teeth, toothbrush, white uniform	Grocery Store Clerk cash register, food, money	Police Officer badge, uniform	Firefighter hat, hose, boots
Veterinarian stethoscope and animals	Athlete jersey, balls, sneakers	Writer pens, paper, books, dictionary	Mechanic wrenches, small car	Fisherman fishing pole, fish, hat, glasses

Procedure:

1. Chart jobs with children's names. Ask each child what they want to be when they grow up. Write down on chart each child's name and the career they tell you. Post chart.
2. Read a book about a job or many jobs. While reading point out the equipment, materials, or other items that are parts of that specific job.
3. Show items and talk about one job at a time. Allow the children to guess what the job is after you have shown all the items. Tell the children: "I am going to show you items that go with different jobs people do. I want to see if you can guess what each person does. Wait until I show you all the objects for the job. I'll tell you when to guess." Continue until you have gone through all the jobs in your prop box.
4. Go back to the list of jobs the children have chosen. Read each child's name and the job they chose. Ask each child what they will need to do their job. Allow the child to respond. You may need to ask some additional questions. What will you wear? What tools do you need? Where will you do your job? Will you drive for your job? If a child has difficulty responding ask the other children to help.
5. Draw pictures. Give each child a piece of *Picture the Future* paper. Ask the children to draw a picture of them self, doing their job. While they are drawing you may want to again ask them what they will need, will wear, or use for their job. When the children have completed their picture, ask them to tell you about their picture. Write what they tell you on their paper. On the back of each child's *Picture the Future* paper write the child's name and the center's name in the box on the lower right corner of the page.

Extensions:

Social Dramatic Play Area: Create a "Job Office". Add clothing, equipment and other related items to each job. Have pictures, books, magazines of job sites and/or people performing jobs. Create a list of job titles and other words related to jobs (pictures next to the words help). Put the words on a board or on sentence strips. Place the words in the dramatic play center for children to copy. Have paper and pencils for children to use Create an application the children can fill out with information like: name, job title, age, date, hair color, eye color, etc.

Block Area or Table Top Blocks: Add props so children can build and create various job opportunities.

Use a variety of puzzles with vehicles and people in different careers.

Visit a Technical Center in your community. Children can see a variety of job opportunities at one site.

Throughout the year set up social dramatic play experiences that replicate job and community opportunities: Grocery store, farm, vegetable market, doctor's office, restaurant, post office, hair salon, business office, construction zone, library, pet shop, bus, etc.

Children's Book Titles related to careers:	Author:
<i>When I Grow Up I want to Be...</i>	Blaise Douglas
<i>When I Grow Up</i>	Steve Augarde
<i>Jobs</i>	Susan Canizares
<i>A Day in the Life of a Construction Foreman</i>	Gayle Jann
<i>Sam goes Trucking</i>	Henry Horenstein
<i>I Want to Be Series (Kaplan Companies)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teacher</i> • <i>Police Officer</i> • <i>Truck Driver</i> • <i>Veterinarian</i> • <i>Firefighter</i> 	Linda Hayward
<i>Day in the Life of a Builder</i>	Linda Hayward
<i>Hands</i>	Lois Ehlert
<i>I'm going to be a Police Officer</i>	Edith Kunhardt
<i>I'm going to be a Fire Fighter</i>	Edith Kunhardt
<i>I Drive a Bulldozer</i>	Sarah Bridges
<i>I Drive a Semi Truck</i>	Sarah Bridges
<i>I Drive a Garbage Truck</i>	Sarah Bridges

For more information:

**Florida Association for the Education of Young Children
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813-878-9973

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The 4th Annual *Picture the Future*: Campaign Plan

The *Picture the Future* Advocacy Campaign event allows pre-k students the opportunity to share their dreams through drawings. First, the pre-k provider teaches a lesson on careers then students participate in the advocacy process by presenting their artwork. The drawings showcase what they want to be when they grow up.

This Campaign demonstrates the ever growing support for amending the law for the Universal Pre-k program to require a degreed teacher in every pre-k classroom in Florida. Currently, Florida only requires pre-k teachers to complete Child Development Associate Certification. However, research clearly demonstrates that pre-k teachers who hold college degrees in early childhood education are more effective in the classroom. The *Picture the Future* Advocacy Campaign will demonstrate to legislators that the fundamental foundation for Florida's future is right there in the pre-k classroom in which they are sitting.

***Picture the Future* Advocacy Campaign**

The Children's Campaign, Inc., Florida Association for the Education of Young Children (FLAEYC) (formerly ECA of FL) and Florida Family Child Care Home Association have created three different choices for student participation with this event. Choose the level of involvement that works best for YOUR classroom.

Level 1: Invite a Law Maker

Have a *Picture the Future* Career Day in-class experience with your local state legislator(s). This option encourages you to hold a press conference and invite your local state legislator(s), business leader(s), and parents to your center. The press conference will feature your Career Day in-class experience with pre-k students while allowing your local visiting legislator the opportunity to participate in circle time with children. When the lesson is over, completed legislative letters with student drawings are given to the invited legislator(s). (See Level 1 instructions below).

Level 2: Mail a Law Maker

Picture The Future Career Day in-class experience with direct legislative contact whether through a visit to an elected official or mailing the pictures directly to the official. This option allows you to conduct a Career Day in class experience. The legislative letter and student drawing is then mailed **directly** to your local state legislator(s). (See Level 2 instructions below).

Level 3: Mail an Advocate

This option allows you to conduct a Career Day in class experience, and then mail the legislative letter and student drawings to the Florida Association for the Education of Young Children Florida regional representative. ECA of Florida will deliver pictures and a written message to local legislator's district office. (See Level 3 instructions below)

Instructions for all levels:

Level 1: Invite a Law Maker - Download relevant documents [HERE](#)

Plan a Career Day lesson using the Provided Lesson Plan involving a presentation and guests.

Event Planning:

These are suggested deadlines to help ensure you get the most out of your event.

- Invitations to Participate – At least two weeks prior to event
- Talking Points Distributed to Speakers – At least 5 days prior to event
- Media Advisory Distributed with follow up calls to media – At least 3 days prior to event
- Assemble Media Packets – Day prior to event
- Set-up area for event – Day prior to event
- Press Release Distribution – Day of event (include in media packet as well)
- Send Thank you note to participant – Within 1 week of the event

Suggested Format:

The format of the event should be in a class room setting environment with the Legislator. The event should take place in a media friendly area of the facility with adequate seating and lighting. Also take into account space for television reporters for setting up cameras.

- Pre-k provider (as moderator) welcomes everyone to the facility
- The children introduced by the moderator, present their pictures to the group and state what they want to be when they grow up. The picture will be handed to the legislator.
- A select member from the local business community speaks briefly regarding the economic benefits of quality early education and will urge the visiting legislator to sponsor or co-sponsor legislation amending the law to require degreed pre-k teachers.
- A teacher from the school will speak to the importance of his/her degree or why they plan to attain one.
- A teacher provides a tour of the facility; pointing out any special projects the children are learning that are above and beyond the standard curriculum.
- Several minutes should be allotted for questions and answers.
- Pre-k provider (as moderator) thanks everyone for coming and concludes the event.
- Legislator is given a packet to take home including the fact sheets, etc.

Who to Invite:

- Local Legislator(s)
- Pre-k Parents
- Seniors for Kids/Generations United representatives
- Local elected officials (Check with the Children's Campaign for Suggestions)
- Media – TV, Radio and Print
- Local Business and Community Leaders

Event Materials (Can be found on Download Page)

1. Speaker Agenda
2. Suggested Talking Points 2009
3. We Can Change the Future By Changing One Word Message Wheel
4. Media Relations Ground Rules
5. Media Interview Tips
6. Press Advisory
7. Press Release

Handouts (Can be found on Download Page)

1. The Truth About Degreed Teachers
 2. Degreed Pre-K Teachers: Economic Benefits
 3. Debunking the Pre-K Teacher Capacity Myth
- Note: make copies of media packets for all invited guests and the media
 - There may be additional handouts available at the above web address

Level 2: Mail Law Maker – Download drawing template [HERE](#)

Plan a Career Day lesson using the Provided Lesson Plan then have children mail their drawing to elected officials. Find your Representative's information by typing in your zip code at iamforkids.org.

Level 3: Mail an Advocate – Download drawing template [HERE](#)

Plan a Career Day lesson using the Provided Lesson Plan then have children mail their drawing to: Florida Association for the Education of Young Children – formerly known as ECA of FL.

Florida Association for the Education of Young Children
3026 W. Main Street
Tampa, FL 33607

Phone: 813-878-9973

Fax: 813-878-9978

www.ecaoffl.org

For additional assistance:

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Summer Rae, Children's Campaign
850-425-2600, srae@iamforkids.org

Jesse Worbington, Children's Campaign, Inc.
850-425-2600 ext 23, jworbington@iamforkids.org

GOOD LUCK!