

REGIONAL NEWS

Catoosa County continued...



The Catoosa County Foster Parent Association, along with the Adoptive and Foster Parent Association of Georgia, with greatest sympathy, send condolences to the Barton family on the passing of Amber Barton on August 22, 1999. The Bartons have been members of AFPAG for 16 years and have attended almost all of the state conferences. Amber was placed with the Bartons as an infant in Foster Care, just a few weeks old, was adopted by the Bartons four years ago and lived to the age of 12 years. Even though Amber was a medically fragile child, she was filled with laughter and cheerfulness. She influenced many people with her sweet personality. She will always be remembered as the little girl with a smile, and with arms reaching out wanting to be held. As Barney and Barbara say, her arms reached out to Jesus and now He holds her tightly!

Dade County North West 1



The Dade County Foster Parent Association received 75 tickets last month for the August 23rd baseball game - Braves vs. Cincinnati Reds. Eight of the Braves players paid for the tickets. Every age child - toddler to teen - went to the game and stated that they had "the time of their lives." Robbie Herston, President of the Dade County Foster Parent Association, contacted the public relations office of Turner Field/Atlanta Braves team, and received the tickets for



Medicine For Children

Only about 20% of all prescription drugs marketed in the U.S. are labeled for use by children.

For this reason, "off label" use is common in pediatric care. This means that doctors prescribe many medicines for children - and make "educated guesses" about doses - without having solid information about safety or effectiveness.

Some reasons why there's not much information about children and medications:

- Children represent a small share of the pharmaceutical market.
- It's expensive to tailor clinical trials to specific children's age groups.

- Parents are reluctant to allow their children to participate in drug studies.
- Drug manufacturers fear legal liability.

Another problem: Drugs that aren't approved for use by children aren't made in dosage forms that can easily be given to kids.

Source: American Medical News, Vol. 40, No. 21

Nine out of ten teen girls and seven out of ten teen boys do not get the required 1,300 mg of calcium a day. This is the equivalent to four cups of milk (any type).

Kids who drink milk (white or chocolate) at lunch are more likely to get enough calcium than kids who drink soft drinks, juice, or juice-sugar drinks.

*Source: The Journal of Child Nutrition & Management, Vol. 22, pgs. 95-100**

the children in the Northwest corner of Georgia. Dade County school system donated the bus and the gas to transport Dade's Foster and Adoptive families for the trip to Atlanta. The Dade County Association provided snacks and treats for the kids on the way down to the game. The Foster/Adoptive Families and all of the children associated with the Dade County Association wish to send their sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to the Atlanta Braves for this exciting, and for many, a "once in a lifetime opportunity." 🙏



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She suggested children be encouraged to play outside, read books or work with puzzles or games. And while tots under 2 shouldn't be watching TV, she added, "If it's a 3-year-old and 'Sesame Street' is on and parents want that half-hour of peace, there's nothing wrong with that."

A spokesman for PBS, which recently announced a \$40 million investment to create six animated programs for preschoolers, said he didn't believe broadcasters and pediatricians were at odds over the issue. PBS encourages youngsters to watch TV with their parents, to be selective in their viewing and to seek out other activities - like reading books - that reinforce what they see on television, said spokesman Harry Forbes.

However, the U.S. marketer of "Teletubbies," which is specifically geared to youngsters under 2, took offense. The report is "a bunch of malarkey" because it doesn't take into account how parents raise their children, said marketer Kenn Viselman.

More than 1,000 studies have concluded that exposure to media violence can increase the risk of aggressive behavior in some children and adolescents, the academy said. They also pointed to the high sexual content of television shows, the glamorization of tobacco and alcohol use, and the tendency of people who watch a lot of television to be overweight.

The academy noted that the average American child spends 21 hours a week watching television. It said that demonstrates the need for media education programs in schools that could teach children to look at the messages they get from the media with more critical eyes. ✓

Recommended READING



YOU ARE SPECIAL by Max Lucado

This is a book about being different, imperfect, about oddities and how the one who made us doesn't care about anything except that he loves us and wants to spend time with us and by doing that we will realize just how unique we are, all explained by a little wooden man who doesn't like himself. One good thing about this book is that it

makes the big deal about being different and shows that it is more special than being the same as everyone else.

A MOTHER FOR CHOCO by Keiko Kasza

Another really neat story for the kids we care for. Its about a little bird who is looking for his mother. He slowly goes through the animal kingdom but no one looks quite like him. Finally, at the end he meets a bear who offers to be his mother. Choco is concerned because they don't look anything alike but the mama bear points out she would look silly with feathers and yellow. She takes him home and introduces him to her other children Hippy (the hippopotamus), Ally (the alligator) and Piggy. Really neat story to help those long-term foster and those adoptive kids understand that looks and race aren't what make a mommy. 📖