

# Families Matter

- FALL 2018 -

## - Family Celebrations -

Holidays, anniversary, and birthday parties can be joyous family occasions. Often it's the only time we see some family members. And when families get together, they talk. The stories may focus on today or reminiscences of the past. Here are some ideas to help celebrate family, to encourage and save the precious flow of memories from yours.

Use technology - phones and cameras are useful and fun for recording events. Practice using them. Let your children capture images and videos. They have a unique view of the world. Those wonderful "nose" shots and silly faces can help recall the humor that brought the family such joy during these growing up years.

Be informal. Set up a camera on a tripod in a corner or behind the dinner table, ready to catch the conversations. You can't be everywhere at once, so purchase some disposable cameras that people can use and leave for you to develop. Again, use this as a teaching opportunity and let the children take some pictures too.

Make a family slide show. Ask family members to dig through old pictures of family gatherings. Arrange the pictures in chronological order (or best guess) for greater continuity. It's fun to watch babies turn into toddlers turn into teenagers. Choose a time when everyone can gather to watch the show. Set your camera on a tripod angled to video as many people as possible watching the show. They will likely enjoy themselves, make comments and you'll have great video material for future gatherings.

Start an album of extended family pictures. Ask family members to share copies of some of their most favorite pictures from past holiday or reunion events. Have the kids draw pictures of something that is important to them, like their houses, pets, friends. Include these in the album. The drawings might not seem like much right now, but in a few years everyone will enjoy looking back at them. You can add your genealogical photos of tombstones, of houses, of people.

Display family treasures; quilts, doilies, clothes, dishes, jewelry, tools, and toys. They're great conversation starters because they are about people and places. A snapshot of grandpa at the fishing hole (once everyone is done arguing about which fishing hole it was) can lead to memories and tales of childhood visits and carefree times. Display a hand-craft item related to the family, such as cross-stitch, needlepoint, or embroidered family trees.

Create a Family Tree. These provide perspective for those who can't remember if it was Aunt Alice or Uncle John who was on great-grandma's side. Many computer programs have wall-size charts that are great conversation starters. One way to get that family history data on all your cousins is to place butcher block paper along the walls and have the families fill in their information on large family group sheets as they find their spot on the chart.

Stay in touch. Send a letter, text, or email to family members after the event. Include bits of interesting stories, family news, and some of the pictures, both old and new. The letter will be a wonderful addition to the album for future seasons. This is a great way to include family members who cannot make it to the family celebration.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!!



Starpoint Children's Services  
Fremont County Family Center  
1339 Elm Avenue, Canon City, CO 81212 719.275.0550



Starpoint Children's Services at SPIN

Families Matter - Fall 2018

Save the Date:  
2nd Annual Children's Services

# STEAM

# FAIR

Saturday, June 15, 2019

@ 1339 Elm Avenue  
Cañon City

Call Kathy - 719.275.0550

## WHAT'S HAPPENING - - - -

Want to take in some local art? First Friday Art walk every month in Canon City. Second Saturday Art Walk every month in Florence.

Family Center Playgroups meet every Thursday morning from 10:00 -11:00.

Car seat checks are available by appointment. Call 719.275.0500 to find out more.

The Arkansas Riverwalk is open daily from sunrise to dusk and offers 7 miles of beautiful trails along the river. A great place to share with your child. Check the website for more on the trail: [www.ccrec.org](http://www.ccrec.org)

The BUS—Second Friday's at the Penrose Park from 2-3...resources and more.

Other things to see and do: Fremont Center for the Arts, Colorado Museum of Prisons, Cañon City Library story times

This Newsletter,  
Family Center  
Services  
& Programs  
brought  
to you by:



Family Resource  
Center Association



Do you Vroom?

**vroom**  
Brain building moments

You already have  
what it takes.

[joinvroom.org](http://joinvroom.org)

Early Head Start and First Steps  
Parents as Teachers home  
visitation programs currently  
have openings. For more  
information or to enroll please  
call Sherrie Walker at  
719.275.0550 x218



*Pictures with*

# Santa

*Saturday,*

*Dec. 1, 2018*

*9-11 a.m*

*@ SPIN Elm*

*1339 Elm Avenue*

*719.275.0550*