

AUTISM NEWSLETTER

Little Red Hen

Fall 2017



501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation

Autism Resource of the North State Community



Flock Level I loved the reptiles brought in by Ron's Reptiles and LRH Staff T.J. at MONCA

Feeling Like One Common Kid

Little Red Hen's F.L.O.C.K. (Feeling Like One Common Kid) summer socialization program was full of fun and socialization this year! F.L.O.C.K. offered a structured and supportive environment catering to two age groups; Level One catered to 6-10 year olds and Level Two catered to 11-15 year olds. This year's

F.L.O.C.K. experience was unique because we were able to use the facilities at the new Museum of Northern California Art (MONCA), located at 900 Esplanade, right in downtown Chico. We also had two new leaders, Jessica McClain and Tanner Bolin. Both have worked Little Red Hen's children's programs and are in the

process of becoming special education teachers.

Level One was more classroom based and the participants were supported in completing art projects, plantings and socialization worksheets as well as social games that promoted the kids to discuss their strengths and common interests.

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Little Red Hen Meet & Greet

Network and exchange information while having FUN!



Presenting Guest Speaker Meghean S.

Meghean is a Senior Staff Assistant at Little Red Hen's Gift Shop. Diagnosed with autism as a child, she will be speaking on her experience growing up. If she could give a message to all children with disabilities, it would be "You will succeed in the world!"

MONDAY
October
23rd
6-8 P.M.

Lifespan Center
2418 Cohasset Rd. Suite #150
(Behind Cathy's Sew & Vac)

R.S.V.P. by October 19th
897-0900 | Loren@AutismLifespan.org

Little Red Hen
Christmas Preview Weekend
Friday - Sunday
Dec. 1st - 3rd

15% OFF Entire Purchase (some exclusions)

**All 3 Days!
All 5 Stores!**

Refreshments & Kids Activities

go to all 5 Stores then enter the
GRAND PRIZE DRAWING!



LittleRedHen.org

Little Red Hen
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
DEC. 9TH

PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Gathering at
EAGLES HALL
corner of
20th St.
& Mulberry
Chico, CA.

doors open **9AM**
served 'til **1PM**

★ PANCAKE BREAKFAST ★
TAKE A PICTURE WITH SANTA
KIDS ACTIVITIES ★
★ SILENT AUCTION

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!!



Tickets Available at LittleRedHen.org and at
ALL 5 Little Red Hen Stores (or at the Door)
Adults \$8.00 • Children under 12 \$4.00 • Under 3 FREE

LittleRedHen.org Proceeds benefit our quality programs for children with autism.

Feeling Like One Common Kid 2017 cont.



Art assignment at Flock Level II



Flock Level II at MONCA

Level One was able to visit the Gateway science museum, visit local playgrounds and participants were also able to go on several community lunch outings.

Level Two also completed social worksheets and participated in group games, but was more community based and participants were able to engage in daily activities within the community. Participants were supported in getting their wants and needs met while out in the community and were also supported in community safety and integration with local peers.

Level Two was able

to participate in activities such as bowling, visiting the GateWay Science Museum, skating at Cal Skate, and visiting the Kirshner Wild Life foundation. Participants were also able to eat at local restaurants such as Madison Bear Garden and the Chico State BMU cafeteria.

For both levels, there was incredible growth displayed in group and individual social skills.

**THANK
YOU!**



Flock Fieldtrip to Bidwell Park

Several participants even exchanged phone numbers and personal information so that they could set up future play dates and hang outs. Little Red Hen would like to send out a HUGE thank you to MONCA for letting the FLOCK participants use their facilities; we encourage you to check out the museum for yourself and see what all the hype is about!



Participants in the Wizard of Oz production had fun making friends



Children singing in the final production

Not Your Garden Variety Theater 2017

We at the Little Red Hen are extraordinarily pleased to announce that our fourth year running of The Wizard of Oz was a tremendous success. Not Your Garden Variety (NYGV) Theater program provided services to 17 children with autism, who all worked incredibly hard to produce the final production of The Wizard of Oz. The children partook in theater games and the rehearsal process, which provided opportunities to work on valuable skills in socialization, pretend play, and communication.

This year we were excited to reveal our concept of the Wicked Witch being “Misunderstood.” The characters, through

their journey, came to realize that the Witch was not in fact evil, but was simply misunderstood and just needed a friend. We hope that the message of this production speaks to everyone who feels left out, lonely, or misunderstood, as well as to others that it’s so important to take the time to get to know people before judging them.

Costumes needed sewing, sets needed constructing, and countless lines needed memorizing. Everyone from the Little Red Hen staff to the amazing kiddos in the program worked countless hours to produce something truly amazing on stage. The night of the performance the kids were absolutely



“No one can get in to see the wizard!”

elated to show off their hard work to a full audience. From a cackle, to a giggle, to a BOOMing voice, to a mischevious monkey song, the kids wowed everyone and we couldn’t have been more proud!

Edible Slime Recipe

I am always on the hunt for a new and improved slime recipe. One of the hardest things about slime recipes' is that most of them use borax or other chemicals, which is a no-go if your child likes to explore things with their mouth!

Recently I had a great find at autismspeaks.org, a recipe for edible slime which is pretty cool and takes the worry away.

Have some fun with your kiddo and follow the instructions below!



Edible slime with green food coloring

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup of basil seeds
- 16 oz box of cornstarch
- 2 ½ cups of water
- Food coloring (optional)



Instructions:

- Measure basil seeds into a bowl and add full box of cornstarch. Mix well.
- If desired add food coloring to water.
- Add the water to your cornstarch and seed mixture and stir well.
- Knead the slime-like dough for 5 mins.
- The seeds will begin to absorb the water and it will begin to thicken.
- Once the slime is the desired consistency, you're ready to play!



Meet and Greet goes to Focus Films!

Life, Animated: A Story of Sidekicks, Heroes, and Autism

On the evening of July 14th we had the pleasure of hosting some amazing parents of people with disabilities at one of our Meet & Greet events.

Meet & Greet is a monthly meet-up open to any parent or caregiver that has a loved one affected by a developmental disability. It's an opportunity to network ideas and resources, share personal experiences, and provide additional support. We meet once a month for fun activities like bowling, pizza parties, films, or just to play games.

After meeting for light refreshments and conversation at Little Red Hen Gift Shop, our group headed over to The Big

Room at Sierra Nevada Brewery for a screening of the Academy Award nominated documentary, Life, Animated. This screening was part of the Focus Film Festival hosted by Far Northern Regional Center, showcasing films that celebrate diversity.

Life, Animated details the journey of Owen Suskind, a young man with autism. At the age of 3, Owen stopped talking and withdrew from social interactions. He was then diagnosed with autism.

Owen's parents soon realized that Owen was fascinated by animated Disney movies, which led to Owen's father coming up with a novel way of

communicating with his son.

This film catches up with Owen in his early adulthood and is a wonderful testament to the value of a loving and supportive family.

Life, Animated is a touching story about overcoming challenges and the resilience of an amazing family and support system. This is highly recommended viewing for anyone. It is a well-made and entertaining document of the Suskind family's perseverance.

The overwhelming themes in this movie are love and hope. It's about what can be done to overcome obstacles.

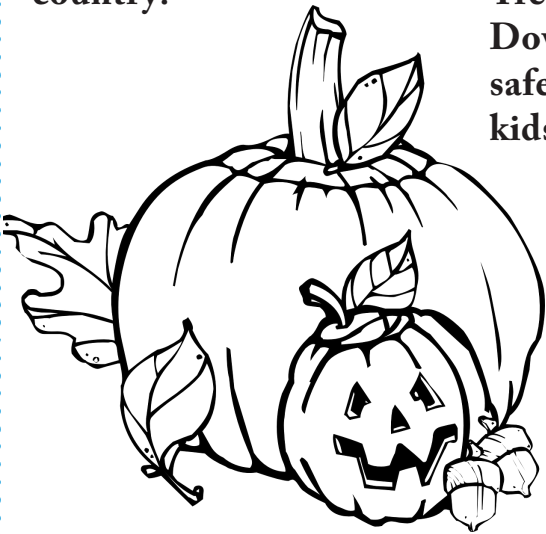
Calendar of Events

Oct. 23rd 6-8pm

Little Red Hen
Meet & Greet:
Guest Speaker Meghan
RSVP Loren @ 897-0900

Oct. 28th 2017

Chico Make a
Difference Day
Largest single-day of
volunteering in the
country!



Oct. 31st 4:30-6:30

Chico Eagles 218
“Trunk or Treat”
Parking lot on the Corner
of 20th and Mulberry
A fun and safe trick or
treat experience. Will be
held indoors if it is raining!

October 31st 2:00pm

Treat street
Downtown Chico,
safe trick or treating for
kids 12 and under.

December 1-3

Little Red Hen
Christmas Preview
15% all 5 stores,
Children’s activities and
refreshments while you
shop.

December 9th 9am-1pm

Little Red Hen
Breakfast with Santa
Chico Eagle’s Hall
Full pancake breakfast,
kids activities, silent
auction, and pictures with
Santa

A Special Thank You to FAR NORTHERN REGIONAL CENTER

We at Little Red Hen LifeSpan would like to extend our heartfelt thank you to the Museum of Northern California Art (MONCA) for donating their facilities for F.L.O.C.K. 2017

Little Red Hen’s Autism LifeSpan Lending Library Hours:

Mon 10-1, Tue 10-3, Wed 10-6, Thur 11-2, Fri 1-6

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