



SENDCAA NEWS

CACFP Edition | June 2026

Summer



**DO YOU HAVE VACATION PLANS?
PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR SENDCAA
FOOD PROGRAM MONITOR IF YOUR
CHILDCARE WILL BE CLOSED OR ADD
IT TO YOUR KIDKARE CALENDAR.**



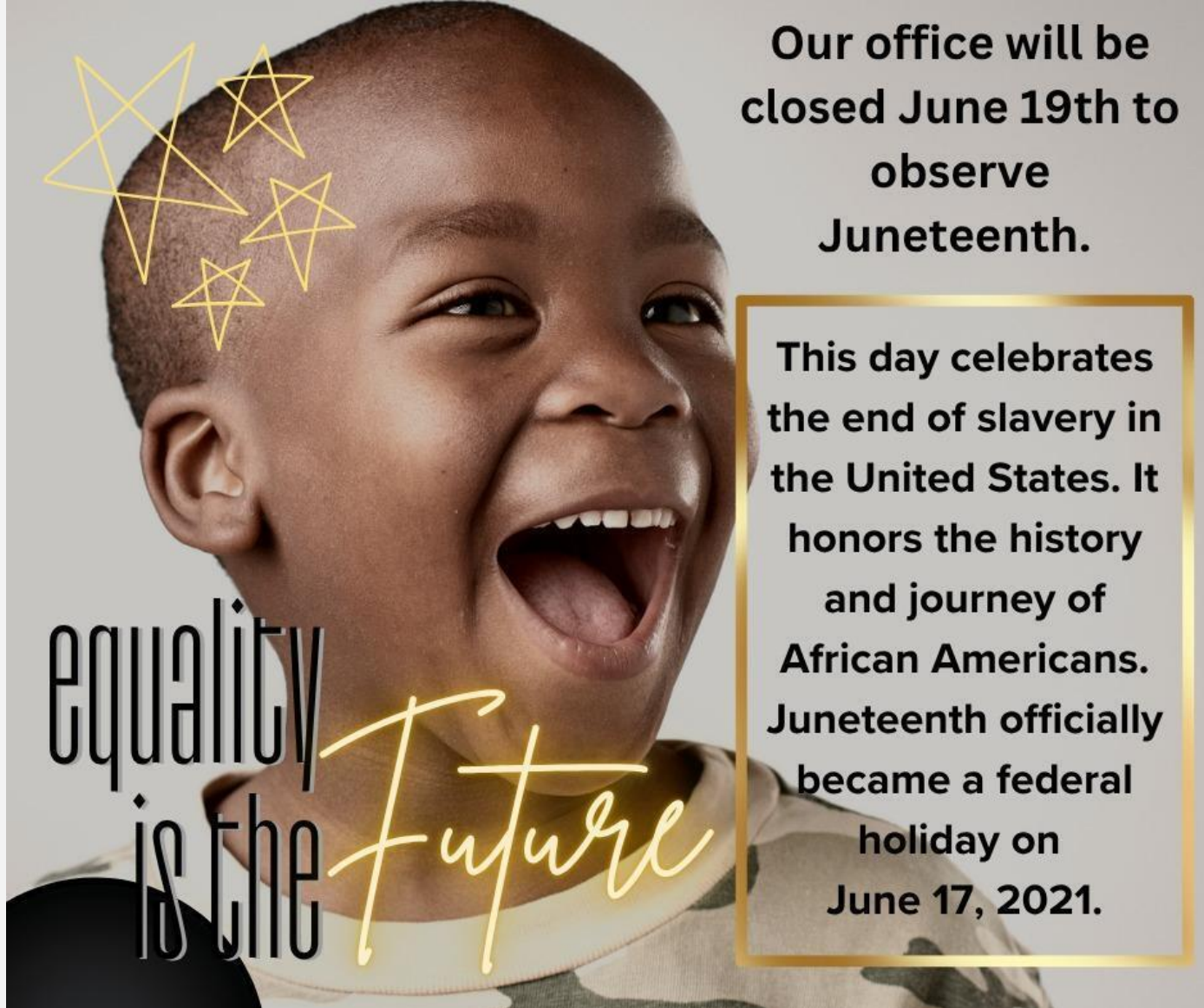
Using the KidKare Calendar

Calendar Tip

Days closed and meals not served

1. From the menu on the left, click Calendar.
 2. Ensure the Provider tab at the top of the calendar is highlighted.
 3. Look for the "Draggable Events" section on the right-hand side of the page.
 4. Click and drag the "Closed for Business" event icon and drop it onto the specific date.
 5. An Event Editor pop-up box will appear once you .
 6. By default, all meals for that day will be marked as closed (highlighted in blue or checked).
 7. To only chose specific meals (e.g., lunch but not breakfast), uncheck the boxes next to the meals you will still be serving. Only the meals that are not being served should remain checked/blue.
 8. Optionally, use the Details box to enter any relevant notes about the closure for your sponsor.
- Click OK or Save to apply the changes to the calendar.

The screenshot displays the calendar application interface. On the left, a sidebar menu contains various options, with 'Calendar' highlighted and circled in black, with a red arrow pointing to it. The main calendar area shows a grid for November 2025, with the 'Provider' tab selected at the top. A red arrow points to the 'Provider' tab. An 'Event editor' pop-up is open, showing the title 'Closed for Business' and a list of meal options: Breakfast, AM Snack, Lunch, PM Snack, Dinner, and Eve. Snack. A red arrow points to the 'Lunch' option. On the right side of the calendar, a 'Draggable Events' section is circled in black, with a red arrow pointing to it. This section includes icons for 'Closed for Business', 'Open on Holiday', and 'Off-Site Meal'. Below these icons, a note states: 'NOTE: In order to add or delete meals for an event, you must click on the existing event on the calendar to open the Event Editor.' At the bottom of the 'Draggable Events' section, there is a button labeled 'Add Extended Business Closure' and a dropdown menu showing 'Business Closure (0)'. A red arrow points from the 'Closed for Business' icon in the 'Draggable Events' section to the 'Closed for Business' event on the calendar grid.



Updated Milk Rule

Beginning June 8, 2026:

All CACFP Providers are allowed to serve children ages 2 and up:

- Whole
- Reduced-fat (2%)
- Low-fat (1%)
- Fat-free (skim) milk

Children ages 1 to 2 will continue to be offered whole milk.

A Week's Worth of Menu Ideas

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	WG Waffles Applesauce Milk	Biscuit Scrambled Eggs Mixed Berries Milk	WG Oatmeal Grapes Milk	Banana Bread Pears Milk	WG Cheerios Blueberries Milk
Lunch	Shredded Chicken Brussel Sprouts Potato Wedges WG Pita Bread Milk	Canadian Bacon & Mozzarella Cheese Pizza Lettuce Salad Mandarin Oranges WG Pizza Crust Milk	Baked Ham Green Beans Pineapple Cornbread Milk	Egg Bake Cauliflower Grapes WG Toast Milk	Grilled Cheese & Yogurt Tomato Soup Kiwi WG Bread Milk
Snack	WG Tortilla Chips Bean Dip	Cherry Tomatoes WG Triscuits	Banana Graham Cracker	String Cheese WG Triscuits	Soft Pretzel Milk

*Whole milk is required for children 1 year of age/1% or skim milk is required for children 2 and older



Teddy Bear Smoothie

Breakfast/Snack Crediting for Ages 3-5



Total Time

5 minutes



Serving Size

3/4 cup



Servings

10



Components

Meat/Meat Alternate,
Fruit

Ingredients

- 2 (16 oz) bags frozen whole strawberries, slightly thawed
- 4 large bananas
- 2 1/2 cups Greek yogurt

Directions

1. Add strawberries, 2 bananas and yogurt to a blender. Blend until smooth.
2. On a clear cup, draw with a food safe marker a teddy bear face (eyes, nose, mouth). Slice the two remaining bananas into 20 round pieces. Add two slices of banana to the rim of the cup to be "teddy bear ears."
3. Pour cold smoothie into the cup and serve.

3/4 cup provides 1/2 oz eq meat alternate and 1/2 cup fruit



Gerber Organic Teethers
are **NOT** creditable.

A serving of grains must
be whole grain-rich,
enriched meal, enriched
flour, bran, or germ.

INGREDIENTS: ORGANIC RICE
FLOUR, ORGANIC TAPIOCA STARCH,
ORGANIC SUGAR, ORGANIC
BLUEBERRY POWDER, ORGANIC
APPLE POWDER (ORGANIC APPLE
POWDER, ORGANIC SUNFLOWER
LECITHIN), ORGANIC BEET POWDER,
MIXED TOCOPHEROLS
(TO MAINTAIN FRESHNESS).



June Resources

The National CACFP Association has developed extra monthly resources to go along with your calendar. The Parent Connections monthly newsletters are ready for you to add your own info at the bottom of the page; and the activity pages contain recipes, craft activities, movement activities and more.

Parent Provider Connection - June 2026



Sunshine Delights

Summer squashes have the sun! Choose varieties that feel firm and heavy for their size. They are a good source of vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin B6, folate, and potassium. Incorporate squashes like acorn, spaghetti, and zucchini in soups, quick breads and rice dishes.

Squish Squash Salad

2 cups summer squash (acorn, yellow squash)
 1 cup cherry tomatoes, quartered
 1 tbsp balsamic dressing
 1 cup cucumber, sliced
 1 cup apple cider vinegar

Chop squash into half-moon shapes. Remove seeds and yellow squashes for new squash and place in cold water. Drain and set squashes and tomatoes in a large bowl. Add oil, vinegar, and dressing and toss well until all produce is coated.

Squash Basics

Using old jeans or bedsheet sacks and a hot water bottle, allow the children to use to be the ball in the air and try to keep it from. Spread them out and have each other in a safe area to practice their hand-eye coordination.

You Rock!

Have each child create their own garden rock. Paper plates to decorate a rock with craft paint and supplies. Let their imaginations go wild and have the children gift it to a special someone in their lives.

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Name _____

Go with the Flow

Trace the lines to provide water to the flowers.

June



Learn It Flower Power

In a learning circle, discuss two types of flowers that can be found in a garden: beneficial flowers and edible flowers. Beneficial flowers deter bugs and invite bees and butterflies to help pollinate the plants in the garden. Print out pictures of beneficial flowers, found at cacfp.org, such as butter daisies, lavender, dill, coneflowers, marigolds, sunflowers and zinnias. Edible flowers that are considered vegetables are broccoli and cauliflower. Ask children if they have tried one of these vegetables before. Also, have children planted some of these already? Go to the garden to explore or plant beneficial or edible flowers in the garden.



Eat It Oodles of Zoodles

Zucchini, ends cut off
 Pasta sauce, warmed
 Shredded mozzarella cheese
 Vegetable oil

Using a vegetable peeler, peel thin slices of zucchini along its length or use a spiralizer to make zucchini noodles. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Add zoodles and cook for 3-5 minutes until tender. Remove from heat, drain liquid from skillet and scoop 1/2 cup noodles into each bowl. Add 1 cup pasta sauce and 2 tbsp shredded cheese on top.



Grow It

Removing the head of dead flowers encourages the plant to redirect its energy into budding more flowers, which can help extend the blooming period.



Fun Fact

Because zucchini comes from a flower and has seeds, it is botanically classified as fruit. However, for culinary purposes it is considered a vegetable.

Create It Sunflower Suncatcher

Assist as needed for the children to cut out sunflower petals from thin yellow paper or tissue paper. If preferred, use the template from cacfp.org to trace petals. Place one sheet of clear contact paper sticky side up. The children can arrange their flower petals. Then, they can place black paper dots in the center. Cover the sticky side and flower with another sheet of clear contact paper to match the sticky sides together. Create a cardboard frame for each suncatcher and hang in window to catch the sunlight.



Play It Flowers of the Rainbow

Using the template at cacfp.org, allow the children to color in the color spot. Then go for a nature walk. The goal is to find a flower or plant for all the colors in the rainbow. Simply put a check in the spot when you find it and leave nature for others to enjoy.

Read It

Flower Garden by Eve Bunting
The Little Gardener by Jan Gerardi
El pequeño jardinero by Emily Hughes (Author), Susana Rodriguez Alvarez (Translator)



Laugh About It

What did the big flower say to the little one?
 "What's up, bud?"



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Extra Calendar Activities

Follow the links to download all the extra activities that go along with the 2026 Calendar.

- [All Monthly Activity Pages](#)

- [All Monthly Parent Connection Newsletter](#)
 - [Supplemental Calendar Work sheets](#)
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Training Opportunities

Looking for free training hours? Check out our website for all of the available at-home training modules. SENDCAA training hours are ND Early Childhood Workforce approved and free to SENDCAA providers and their staff.

- [Nutrition Facts Label](#)
 - [Nutrition & Wellness Tips for Young Children](#)
 - [Infant Feeding Guide](#)
 - [Identifying Whole Grain-Rich](#)
 - [2026 Calendar](#)
 - [2026 Mandatory Training-NEW](#)
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