

First Parent Resource Fair Keeps Parents & Kids Busy Learning, Having Fun

The Technical Studies Division provided a specially designed learning opportunity for Bainbridge College students who have children. The first Parent Resource Fair, which included hands-on activities for children, was organized by Special Populations Coordinator Beverly Thompson.



Early Childhood Care and Education (ECHE) Director Valley Rogers organized activities with some of her students. Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Instructor Trenise Grimsley organized LPN students who provided additional



event in the Charles H. Kirbo Regional Center on the Bainbridge campus.

Part of BC's Technical College System of Georgia Non-



Traditional Participation Perkins Improvement

Plan efforts, the fair aimed to model non-traditional careers for single parents. Therefore, it included involvement by a female Sheriff's Deputy and male ECHE and LPN students. Community agencies that would have valuable information or services for parents were invited to attend and set up displays in the lobby for

the Spring Semester 2010 event.

With activities to engage their children, parents were able to look over information provided for them and listen to the guest speaker. Keynoter Ami Mejia, Decatur County's Family Connections coordinator and Love and Logic Parenting trainer, spoke on "Raising Children that Employers Will Want to Hire."

As their parents interacted with agency representatives and listened to the speaker, the children were learning through a variety of captivating, fun activities. ECHE students assisted with arts and crafts activities, and LPN students had displays and activities to teach about health issues such as proper tooth



brushing, exercise, nutrition, and safety.

Children's Librarian Taryn Brown of Decatur County's Gilbert H. Gragg Library read to them; Sparky the Fire Dog came and brought pictures to color and gave away fire hats; the Sheriff's Department drug dogs delighted the children as the deputies demonstrated the dogs' abilities, and the Sheriff's

deputies did free finger printing of the children.

