Susan Holbrook always wanted to be a teacher and truly has found the best of two worlds. As a home childcare provider, she was able to not only teach, but also stay home with her own children. Twenty-seven years later, she continues to educate preschoolers and care for kids afterschool.

"Some days can be difficult of course, but the next day the children come in with their sweet little faces and we start a new day of fun together."

The goal at Susan's home is to produce happy, healthy, and kind children. Nutrition, of course, is a focus for healthy children. Incorporating the literature from her CACFP sponsor, Susan teaches the children about healthy eating choices and then sends home different information to build those habits. In the warmer months, the children tend to a home garden. Additionally, they take care of the chickens and eggs that are produced. During mealtimes, everyone works together to wash produce, clean up messes and even help plan upcoming menus.

Field trips to the library during the summer to participate in the library reading program is definitely a component for happy children. They spend many hours per week outdoors in the play yard and Susan has even incorporated a sunken boat into the ground. The children love to fish and be pirates! There is always fun to be had whether exercising, learning or playing.

Not only is Susan dedicated to her children's continuous improvement, but she strives to improve as well. Enrolling in Michigan's Great Start to Quality Program, Susan has completed extra continuing education hours, written a cultural plan and her own continuous improvement plan. She has even been awarded a grant in which she supplied her home childcare with a dramatic play kitchen set and other manipulatives for the kids to enjoy.

From Croswell, MI, Susan has been a CACFP participant through Mid-Michigan Child Care since 1990.

**Susan Holbrook**

Home Child Care Provider

www.cacfp.org

CACFP is an indicator of quality child care.