

North Edmonton Family Day Home Agency Parent E-News December 2017



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The Office will be closed
Wednesday Dec 20 - Staff development
Monday December 25
Tuesday December 26 &
Monday January 1, 2018

2017 Statutory Holidays

Monday December 25, 2017 Christmas Day – Day Homes and Office Closed
Monday January 1, 2018 New Years Day – Day Homes and Office Closed

Providers are entitled to statutory holidays off with pay. If you will be taking additional days off before or after these holidays, as a courtesy, please inform your provider well in advance of your planned holidays.

The Staff at North Edmonton Family Day Home Agency wishes you and your family all the Joys of the Season and a New Year filled with Peace, Love and Prosperity.



Conversations using open-ended questions.

An open-ended question is a question that cannot be answered to with one word like yes or no.

These types of questions enables a child to provide a more detailed answer and encourages a child to stimulate their thinking and develop their language skills. Open ended questions supports a child to focus and make meaning of their experiences and enables them to see various possibilities.

There is no right or wrong answer to an open-ended question so all children can be successful in answering them.

While engaging in conversation and you ask a child open ended questions, it shows that you are interested in what the child is doing.

Open Ended Questions

Tell me about what you are doing?

Why do you think ?

How do you know . . . ? ?

What will happen next?

What can you do about it?

What do you think would work?

Can you do it another way?

How are these the same or different?

A Special Treat To Make With Your Child/ren
~ No Bake Muddy Buddy Cookies ~



Ingredients

2 cups semi sweet chocolate chips
½ cup creamy peanut butter
5 cups rice krispie cereal
½ cup powdered sugar

Step 1 – In a glass bowl, melt the chocolate and peanut butter in the microwave, stirring every 30 seconds until melted and smooth. Gently stir in the cereal until evenly coated.

Step 2 – Drop by a heaping spoonful onto a parchment lined cookie sheet. Chill until completely set. Place cookies in a large zip top bag and add powdered sugar. Carefully shake cookies until coated in the sugar.

Step 3 – Store in a refrigerator or in a cool place.

Enjoy!

Providers shared their experience on being a field placement site for Norquest College.

Devlet - We really enjoyed having the student in our home. It was a busy time with great opportunities for sharing. We even celebrated with a parent and the student before she left. We sang and ate together, it was so much fun.

Susan – I thoroughly enjoyed mentoring. The student provided wonderful cultural experiences the children would not of otherwise had. The part I enjoyed the most was watching the children interact with another adult on a daily basis and her beautiful stories from her home country.

Mahnaz - I found being a mentor to be a positive experience. I enjoyed sharing my knowledge on program planning, nutrition, keeping the day home clean and organized.

Angela – Great experience! I loved sharing my profession with the student who was so keen to learn.

Charu – The student brought a few activities to share with the children that they enjoyed. It was good to see the children interact with someone else. At first they were shy but by the end of the week they were very comfortable with her. They have asked when she will be coming again.

Roshini – Being a mentor was new to me, but I shared everything I could about running a day home. I shared how to always supervise children even when answering the door. I shared activities and why they were important.

Hitaf – The student had good ideas and was so helpful. She had good questions about opening a day home.

I Am Special

Providers will be asking for your assistance to help create a visual representation of your child's culture in their day home. When a child's culture is celebrated, and visible, a child feels valued which leads to a sense of belonging. It is also a great way for children from a different culture learn about a new culture. Some children do not know a lot about their own culture so it assists their learning and leads to celebrating their own culture.

The "I Am Special" information sheet will be sent home with you to fill out and return, if you have not already completed one for your provider. This is a great way for information about your culture to be passed on to your provider. **Please send along pictures of family, relatives, the countries flag, writing samples, pets, traditional clothing, recipes, traditions, celebrations as well as any other aspect of your culture, when you return the "I Am Special" information sheet.** The pictures allow children who do not read to have a visual on each child's culture as well as the family's in your day home. Your child is truly Special!

Provider's will discuss with you their creative plans or a provider may ask you to create a poster or book for your child to bring to the day home. It is a wonderful keepsake for your child and will be returned when a child leaves care.

If you have other visuals to share that would help to learn about your culture please feel free to do so. Here are a few ideas . . . recipes, toys, games, puzzles, books, or music, traditional stories, a picture, a poster, a calendar, an ornament, cultural dishes, traditional clothing for display or to add to the dress up area, recipes.

When your child's culture is visible and used in daily programming it meet Several Accreditation Standards including:

- 1.1(b) Help children develop a sense of self by recognizing their unique qualities and backgrounds.
- 1.3(b) Design stimulating and interactive environments, ensuring the materials for play and learning contain a full range of diversity (e.g. ability, culture, ethnicity, family composition, gender).
- 2.1(a) Incorporate experiences and cultural backgrounds of children in daily program planning.
- 3.1 (c) Respect the diversity of children and families which the program serves. Learn about and have representation of the culture of children in your home. Learn about celebrations and festivals that are celebrated by families.
- 3.1(d) Demonstrate respect for children's home language(s). Have samples of print representing all languages spoken in the day home.
- 3.2 Child care programs implement clear, simple practices that promote communication and regular exchange of information with families.

Accreditation standards were developed by Human Services in consultation with the child care field and key stakeholders. The standards are above and beyond the licensing requirements (for day care and out-of-school care programs) and the provincial family day home standards (for family day home agencies), and focus on outcomes for children, families, staff and community to support children's optimal early learning and development.

The Accreditation booklet can be found at:
humanservices.alberta.ca/documents/accreditation-standards.pdf

'Tis the Season for Flu's and Colds

Flu season is just starting and from the news it sounds like Alberta Health Services is currently seeing a rise in confirmed cases. Predictions for the 2017/2018 season is that we are in for a miserable time!

Following the Alberta Government and North Edmonton Family Day Home Agency's Illness Policy can help limit the spread of illness.

- If your child has a fever, he/she may not be in care.
- If your child has been vomiting during the night or day he/she may not come into care.
- If your child has had diarrhea more than once during the night or day he/she may not be in care.
- If caring for your sick child means that other children do not get adequate care during childcare hours, your child may not be in care.
- If your child has Chicken Pox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Mumps or other communicable diseases, he/she may not be in care.
- If your child is too ill to go outside during care hours, he/she may not be in care; the other children need to have outside play every day if the weather is above -20 degrees.
- There may be times your provider asks you to take your child to see a doctor because of concerns for the health of your child or other children in care. You must have a note from your doctor saying he/she is able to return to a multi-child care facility before they can be accepted back into care.
- If a doctor prescribes medication for your child, they must take it for **24 hours** before returning to care.
- The provider may choose not to administer medications to your child depending on circumstances.
- All medications to be given to your child, over the counter and prescription, must be in the original container and signed in on the Agency medication forms every day.
- If your child becomes ill during child care hours, your provider will call you to have your child picked up from the day home. If you cannot pick up your child within a reasonable amount of time, you **MUST** have another adult pick up the child for you. This is an Alberta Government Policy.

Keeping your child out of care is the best way to decrease the spread of illness.

We recognize that keeping your child at home or having to pick up your sick child immediately after being notified that your child is ill, can pose challenges for parents/caregivers but following the illness policy is needed to stop the spread of illness in day homes.

When are they too sick for childcare?



MCDH Ministry of Health
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www.mcdh.ca

Wash . . .

Scrub . . .

Dry !

Washing your hands is one of the best ways to prevent illness.

The Influenza Immunization Program is ongoing. Influenza immunizations are available, free of charge, to all Albertans six months of age and older, through [AHS clinics](#), pharmacies and physicians. Children less than nine years of age must be immunized at an AHS Clinic. Pharmacists cannot immunize children less than nine years of age.

Locations of clinics
albertahealthservices.ca/influenza/influenza.aspx

“Including Children”
November 16

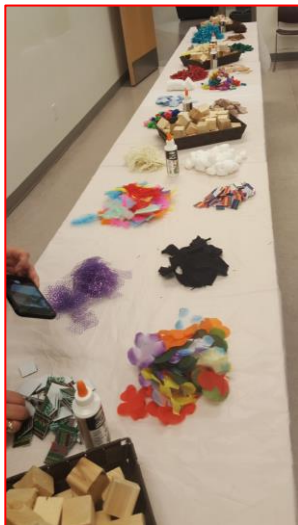
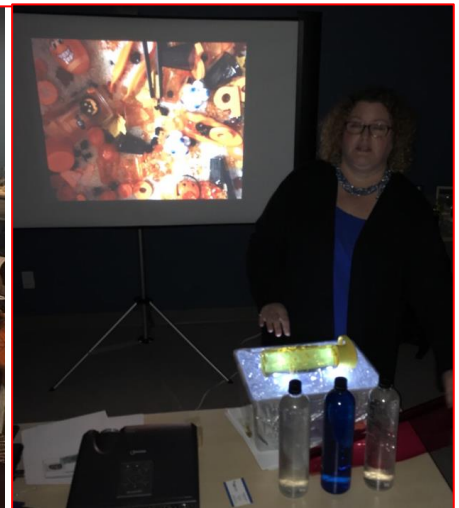
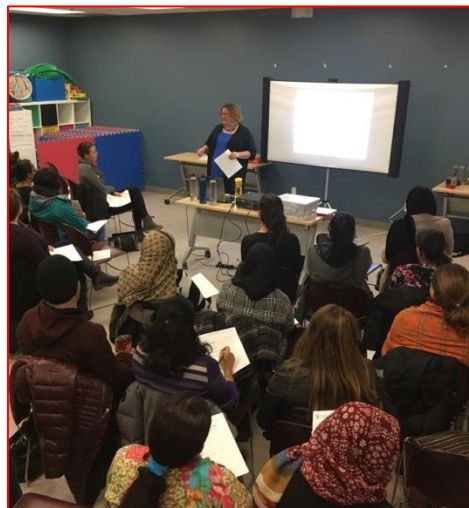
Consultants attended a professional development workshop, hosted by Child Friendly Edmonton. Presentations were on universal design and inclusive programming. There was an opportunity to network with individuals and organizations on inclusive programs and programming. Consultants had the opportunity to try their hand at ice carving and share outside winter



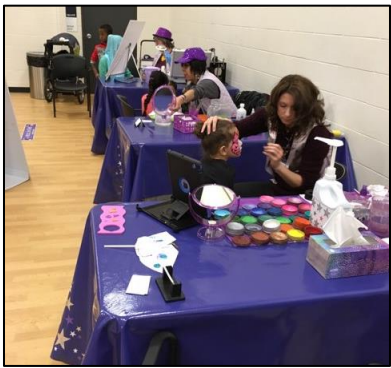
Sensory Workshop

November 18

Michelle Radley, from the Oliver Head Start Program was the presenter at the Sensory Workshop. Sensory play includes any activity that stimulates your child’s senses: Touch, taste, smell, movement, balance, sight and hearing. Sensory activities support all areas of a child’s development.



Nefdha celebrated National Child Day by collaborating with the North East Coalition to host a resource fair for providers and families. The event was held at the Clareview Recreation Center, November 18th, 2017





Community Events



Celebrate the Season at the Alberta Legislature

December 7-23, *Alberta Legislature Grounds*, www.assembly.ab.ca Thousands of bright lights provide the backdrop for a holiday stroll or skate in the beautiful Legislature Grounds. Daily musical performances.

Green Shack Program

Many people are familiar with the City of Edmonton's Green Shack Program located at local parks that run during the summer, but did you know that they also run at various locations throughout the city in the winter!

Ages: 6-12 years

(children under 6 must be supervised by a parent or guardian)

Cost: **Free**

Join in games, sports, crafts, music, drama and special events. You'll find a list of upcoming activities and special events posted on the side of the Green Shack each week. If there's a game or activity that you'd like to play, just ask the Program Leader.

For more information check out locations and times at https://www.edmonton.ca/activities_parks_recreation/green-shacks.aspx

Zoominescence: A Festival of Light

Dec 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, & 26-31 / 5-9pm

Edmonton Valley Zoo, www.buildingourzoo.com

Stroll the zoo at night to see a winter wonderland of lights! Light displays, animal talks, entertainment and more! #yegzoo

(Note: This is a fundraiser for the Valley Zoo Development Society in support of the Edmonton Valley Zoo. Passes are not valid for this event. Tickets are \$7.50/adult and \$5/child.)



December 8 – January 1: Candy Cane Lane (148 Street between 92 and 100 Avenues) Take a **FREE** drive or walk and see colourful lights

Visitors are asked to bring a donation for Edmonton's Food Bank candycanelane.ca