



January Newsletter 2016



<http://www.pinterest.com/crfdha/>



<https://www.facebook.com/CalgaryFamilyDayhomes>

Dates to Remember:

Invoice due date: Thursday, January 21st, 2016

In-Service Date: Q&A Session with Agency Staff and Director. Monday, January 25th, 2016. This will be your opportunity to come to the office with any of your questions that you may have! Make sure to bring your questions (Accreditation, Agency Policy, Advertising, Paperwork)

Parents and Providers are welcome at all of our in-services!



Make your own Play Snow

Do you need a fun, easy and simple to clean up sensory activity for thee days that it is too cold to go outside? Try making your own snow!

How to make:

Mix 3 cups of baking soda with 1/2 cup conditioner (White conditioner is recommended so your snow stays white)



It molds easily, feels cool to the touch. Seal your play snow in an airtight container, it will stay good and the fun can continue the next day!

<http://www.huckleberrylove.com/2013/12/huckleberry-life-play-snow-sensory.html?m=1>

From the desk of Susan: Director

Happy New Year! 2015 was a busy year for the Agency and I wanted to share some of the highlights:

- The Agency joined a pilot project with Mount Royal University to take a closer look at the Alberta Early Childhood Curriculum Framework (<http://childcareframework.com>)
- The Agency started Casual Fridays for a Cause (Consultants and Office Staff that wear jeans/leggings on Friday and donate \$2 - the money has been used to get teddy bears and books for the Children’s Hospital, help pack a couple Operation Christmas Child Boxes and buy food for our Holiday Food Bank collection)
- The Agency joined Social Media. ‘Like’ us on Facebook and check us out on Pinterest!
- The Agency has welcomed some new staff. A quick introduction to the team: Gail Blixt (Executive Director), Susan Bencini (Director), Hayley Miller (Registrations), Laura Martin (Provider Support & Invoicing), Louise Farrell (Accounts Manager), Danielle Stehr (Consultant, SW & Okotoks), Sasha Skog (Consultant, SE), Kayla McLeod (Consultant, NE), Karla Buick (Consultant, NE & Rural), Vivian Wong (Consultant, NW) Christine Boucher (Consultant, NW), Jessica MacKay (Contracts, Consultant NE/SE), Susie McWilliam (Consultant, SW & Rural), Sarah Brophy (Advertising & Projects)



From the desk of Louise: Parent Accounts Manager

Happy New Year! Hard to believe it is 2016 already!

Reminder to providers: do you have your closed days with pay done for the calendar year?

We need to receive all individually signed letters for parent’s files.

Remember parents need a minimum of 30 days for any holidays.

Soon it will be tax time. Do you have all your 2015 invoices?

Parents will receive their 2015 tax letters by the end of February.

All the very best in 2016!



From the desk of Laura: Invoicing

Welcome to 2016!

I hope everyone enjoyed some well-deserved family time over the holidays and that the New Year brings health and good fortune.

As you prepare for tax time, please let either myself or your consultant know if you are missing any of your 2015 invoices and we can get a copy emailed out to you.

Fun Science Experiments

Edible Water Beads



Materials Needed:

- Quick cook tapioca pearls
- A Pot
- Water
- Optional addition: food coloring for added color
- A sensory bin or container for play



1. Making edible water beads is so easy. You can find tapioca pearls at Asian food markets or online:

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00189Z02U?ie=UTF8&camp=1789&creativeASIN=B00189Z02U&linkCode=xm2&tag=groajewros0c-20>. Make sure you get the quick cook tapioca pearls; they only take 5 minutes to cook. All you have to do is boil water, add the tapioca pearls, stir, cover the pot, and cook on medium heat for 5 minutes.

2. Once cooked drain the pearls and run them under cold water for several minutes. Kids can play with the pearls once they are cool, or you can add extra coloring by using food coloring; divide the pearls into cups, added a few drops of food coloring and mix.

3. Let the colors absorb into the pearls for 5 minutes, then dump the pearls back into a strainer and rinse them under cold water for several minutes.

4. The tapioca pearls feel a lot like water beads, but they are slightly sticky. If your child does not like the stickiness just add water to their play.

A Few Tips: Once done playing store the tapioca pearls in a storage container full of water in the fridge. We kept our tapioca pearls for four days before deciding to toss them, and the girls had lots of fun playing with them each day. While tapioca pearls are edible you would not want your child to sit and eat a ton of these. Rosie and Jewel tasted one and did not have any desire for more, so this really shouldn't be of concern. Please supervise very small children during play.

<http://www.growingajeweledrose.com/2014/02/edible-water-beads.html>

Accreditation Reminder of the Month

Find the Accreditation Standards here:

<http://humanservices.alberta.ca/documents/accreditation-standards.pdf>

Standard 3.2: Child care programs implement clear, simple practices that promote regular exchange of information with families

Indicators:

- Provider opportunities for families to share and exchange information with the child care program
- Provide families with a clear intake and orientation process before their children begin care
- Promote regular communication between the family and program
- Provide opportunities for the families to be involve in the programming for their children
- Consult with families about proposed policy/practice and program changes that may affect them
- Implement a social media policy that defines monitoring and intention, and meets the program's outcomes
- Protect the confidentiality of children, families, and colleagues

Physical Literacy

A link to the eBook; A Hop, Skip and a Jump: Enhancing Physical Literacy Tool Kit can be found here:

<http://www.freebookez.com/ebook.php?>

[u=aHR0cDovL2NwY2Njc3RhZmYud2VIYmx5LmNvbS91cGxvYWRzLzEvMy82LzUvMTM2NTM0MzQvaG9wX3NraXBfX2p1bXBfcmVzb3VyY2UucGRmCkEgSG9wLzCBTa2lwIGFuZCBhIEp1bXA6IEVuaGFuY2luZyBQaHlzaWNhbCBMaXRlcmFjeSBUB29sIEtpdA==](http://www.freebookez.com/ebook.php?u=aHR0cDovL2NwY2Njc3RhZmYud2VIYmx5LmNvbS91cGxvYWRzLzEvMy82LzUvMTM2NTM0MzQvaG9wX3NraXBfX2p1bXBfcmVzb3VyY2UucGRmCkEgSG9wLzCBTa2lwIGFuZCBhIEp1bXA6IEVuaGFuY2luZyBQaHlzaWNhbCBMaXRlcmFjeSBUB29sIEtpdA==)

Training Sessions / Workshops in the Community

For information on workshops and training sessions help by Alberta Health Services please visit their website at:

http://fcr.albertahealthservices.ca/course_registration/public_course_list.php

Heart of South Calgary Family Resource Centre

They offer lots of free classes that are drop in or registration - call (403)219-3477 ext 213 or email aksio@aspenfamily.org

Training Sessions / Workshops in Chestermere

www.chestermere.ca > Town Services > Community Services > Programs For 0 - 5 Years Old

YWCA Parent Link Corridor

Visit the YWCA Calgary Website for more information on their upcoming workshops and newsletters.

For more information on upcoming programs call: (403) 262-0497

All workshop and trainings held at the YWCA Parent Link Corridor. 320-5th Avenue SE

Professional Parenting

Professional Parenting puts on FREE Webinars each month. Visit

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=76d6a00c-38a1-4565-8ef3-89260d365d6d&c=e55cfd40-bf12-11e3-9cb2-d4ae5292c4bc&ch=e63f46f0-bf12-11e3-9d09-d4ae5292c4bc> for more information

What Parents are Saying

About: Heather B.

I am so pleased with the arrangement and the girl's just love going to Heathers. She is caring and I feel the girl's are being looked after to the highest standard. Heather is always helpful and professional with the children and myself. I would recommend her to anyone needing childcare.

What Parents are Saying

About: Fe P.

Fe does go above and beyond with the kids. A is my first and Fe has graciously volunteered to help me with toilet training process. This I think is going above and beyond... I wanted to highlight her efforts!

What Parents are Saying

About: Tanya L.

I cannot express enough how amazing Tanya is. She has been taking care of two of my daughters for two years now. Tanya is always adaptable, accommodating and above all nurturing to my daughter's needs. She remembers any important details that I may need to know from their day and even provides journals on daily bases. Tanya has a variety of activities planned during the day, including crafts, trips to the park whenever the weather permits... She is always accommodating to the needs of me and my daughters. I feel that my daughters are very well taken care of.



Happy Birthday to our providers celebrating a birthday this month!

Samira

Anna

Kirby

Tanzima

Bindu

Mehrun

Tania

Shabana

Misbah

Seema

Tasneem

What Parents are Saying

About: Claudia H.

Claudia goes above and beyond for my child's needs, I couldn't have asked for a better caregiver



Do you have any Suggestions for the agency?

Please send any suggestions to Susan at susan@calgaryfamilydayhomes.com

Cooperative Play
 Create your own Fire Hall or Police Station

PROVIDERS:
 Do you have any suggestions / interests that you are needing help planning for? Send your ideas to Danielle at danielle@calgaryfamilydayhomes.com for them to be added to an upcoming newsletter!

Fundamental Movement Skills
 Obstacle Course using ladders

Dramatic Play
 Fire Hall / Police Station
 Cardboard Fire Truck

Visit our Pinterest Page for more details on many of the activities on this planner!

Activities Involving Provider Participation
 Tour of a fire hall / police station—or ask your local fire hall to bring the truck to your dayhome!

Current Interests & Goals
Emergency Personnel
 Go ahead and use this sample as part of your Activity Planner—just make sure to adjust it to meet your day home’s needs

Language Activities
 The Fire Truck Song
 5 Little Firefighters

Books
 Sparkles the Fire Fighter Dog
 Fire Truck!

Problem Solving/Math Skills
 What would you do in case of a fire? Where would you go? How do you get out of the house?

Gross Motor Activities

<u>Indoor</u> Obstacle Course using ladders	<u>Outdoor</u> Running drills (ie: fire drills)
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Nature Exploration

Creative Arts
 Make a Cardboard Fire Truck
 Police Badges

Fine Motor Activities

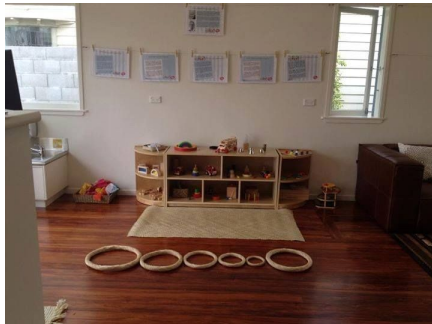
<u>Indoor</u> Firefighter / Police Felt board	<u>Outdoor</u> Obstacle Course using ladders
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Sensory Play
 Firefighter Sensory Play

What is Reggio Emilia?

The approach was born in a small village in Italy, called Reggio Emilia, after World War II. A teacher named Loris Malaguzzi, along with some parents of the area, thought that following the time of war, young children needed a new and less rigid way of learning that would be based on the children's interest and natural curiosity to explore rather than a predefined curriculum. It is a movement towards progressive and cooperative early childhood education that values the child as strong, capable and resilient.

Reggio Emilia is unique to Italy and it cannot be replicated exactly anywhere else in the world. There are no international training colleges to train to be a Reggio Emilia teacher. Outside of the town of Reggio Emilia, all schools and preschools (and home schools) are **Reggio-inspired**, using an adaptation of the approach specific to the needs of their community.



For more information about Reggio Emilia in our area you get got to the following website:
<http://www.calgaryreggionetwork.org/about-us.html>

References:

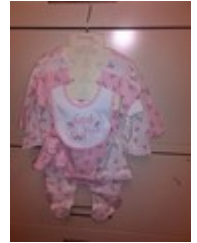
(n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.aneverydaystory.com/beginners-guide-to-reggio-emilia/main-principles/>

(n.d.). Retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reggio_Emilia_approach

Health Canada Recalls: Walmart Canada Corp. Recalls the George Baby 8 Piece Set

Product Description

This recall involves the George Baby 8 Piece Set which includes a bib, hat, T-shirt, sleepsuit, bodysuit, scratch mitts, booties and leggings with feet. The set comes in a pink/white colour combination with pink flowers and blue/white colour combination with blue stars and stripes.



Hazard identified

Walmart Canada's internal verification program has determined that some of the items in the set do not meet the flammability requirements under Canadian law. Neither Health Canada nor Wal-Mart Canada Corp. has received any reports of consumer incidents or injuries related to the use of these products.



Time period sold

The recalled products were sold from October 2015 to November 2015.

Websites to Visit

<http://www.calgaryfamilydayhomes.com/providers.php> Visit our website and fill out our provider survey

www.foothillsnetwork.ca Early Childhood services available to parents and communities within the Foothills Region

www.aelcs.ca Accreditation for Early Learning and Child Care Services

www.child.alberta.ca This site accesses programs and services in Alberta's government monitored child care industry. Find the Family Day Home Standards Booklet on the website.

www.parentsmatter.ca This site provides information relating to parent-child development through the Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs.

www.zerotothree.org A great site to get developmental, researched information on children age zero to 3 years of age.

www.mentoringboys.com This Canadian site focuses on boys and their unique needs. Check out their monthly newsletter for some great information.

www.positivediscipline.com This website looks at what is positive discipline.

www.familyfuncalgary.com This Calgary website links you to current family events offered in the city.

<http://www.2000days.ca> This website is a network of resources to connect people working in Early Years

Calgary & Region Family Day Homes Agency Inc.

Address: 3224 - 28 Street S.W. Calgary, Alberta T3E 2J6

Phone: 403.217.5394 / Fax: 403.240.2668

24hr Emergency Line: 403.852.3894

dayhomes@calgaryfamilydayhomes.com

www.calgaryfamilydayhomes.com