

Resource Links

Early Education Nation

This is your place to find educator resources to help you complete your best work and improve learning outcomes for children aged zero to five. All free and available to discuss, borrow and reuse! Consider Early Education Nation your "ECE Library" for new ideas and materials. All we ask is you contribute back to this community by voting for work that you found useful. If you can, consider contributing your work to Early Education Nation!

<https://www.himama.com/early-education-nation/?ref=newsletter>

Social-emotional Development in the Digital Age

Most early childhood educators have had to defend the importance of social and emotional development at some point in their careers. It may have been with a parent who felt pressure to have an academically-prepared child and who was concerned her child's program included too much play. For more info please see link below:

<https://childcareexchange.com/article/social-emotional-development-in-the-digital-age/5023616/>

Nature Explore

These items give children the chance to explore nature in an unstructured manner, providing the key to developing a sense of wonder and skills for life-long learning. These tools will enhance the curiosity of young children giving them the ability to examine and explore nature in new, unique ways. Field Testing has shown that these tools enhance many areas including math, comparison, body awareness, fine motor skills, physical competence, close observation, artistic, and visual-spatial awareness skills.

<http://shop.natureexplore.org/s.nl/sc.1/category.1523/f>

Kelowna Child Care Society

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The Cities Connecting Children to Nature (CCCN)

The CCCN initiative offers local officials guidance for establishing new connections between children and nature, through training on promising practices, access to national experts and peer learning opportunities. Please see link to their Municipal Action Guide:

http://nlc.org/sites/default/files/users/user75/CCCN%20Municipal%20Action%20Guide_interactive.pdf

Active Play STANDARD OF PRACTICE

Whenever possible, it is recommended active play and physical movement should be incorporated in the child care environment throughout daily routines and activities for a total of 120 minutes. The following licensed child care programs must ensure a minimum of 60 minutes per day of outdoor active play (indoor active play is acceptable when weather is poor or outdoor physical space is limited). Active play may be accumulated through 15 minute portions of time throughout the day or continuously.

*Family Child Care *Group Child Care (Under 36 Months) *Multi-Age Child Care *Group Child Care (30 Months to School Age) *In-Home Multi-Age Child Care *Group Child Care (School Age)

It is recommended child care providers incorporate Active Play into their child care setting and have it documented in their policies.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/child-day-care/active_play_june_2016.pdf

Toolkit to Increase Unstructured Play

Unstructured play is a child's right and is integral to healthy development. It is play where children follow their own ideas without a defined purpose or outcome. This toolkit provides evidence-based tools and resources to inform decision-making and reduce concerns in order to increase access to unstructured play in school and municipal settings. The toolkit also responds to common parent/guardian perceptions. Resources are available in French and English.

<https://www.cpha.ca/resources?topic=68>

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Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative - Provider Opt-In Status

Introduced in April 2018, the new child care fee reduction initiative provides enhanced funding to licensed child care providers who care for infants and toddlers and for children ages 3 to Kindergarten. Providers in receipt of enhanced funding are required to inform families with children in their care of their approval to opt into the initiative and to reduce parent fees. Parents do not have to enroll or apply in order to receive fee reductions.

Providers who applied to opt in by April 20, 2018 and were approved to participate will begin to receive enhanced funding in April 2018.

Providers who applied to opt in after April 20 will begin to receive enhanced funding on the first day of the month following their approval, at which point they are required to reduce parent fees.

Fee reduction amounts are prescribed by the Ministry of Children and Family Development and are based on type of care and full-time enrolment status (part-time enrolments will receive a pro-rated amount).

Participating child care providers will reduce their parent fees by up to:

- \$350/month – Group infant/toddler (under 36 months) care
- \$200/month – Family infant/toddler (under 36 months) care
- \$100/month – Group child care for 3 years to Kindergarten
- \$60/month – Family child care for 3 years to Kindergarten
-

Licensed child care providers who have opted in to the initiative: This data lists providers who were accepted to opt in as of April 18, 2018. This list will be updated each week as more providers are approved to participate.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/child-care/child-care-operating-funding/ccfri_approved_facilities.pdf

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The Rental Assistance Program

This program provides eligible low-income, working families with cash assistance to help with their monthly rent payments.

To qualify, families must have a gross household income of \$35,000 or less (maximum income increases to \$40,000 effective September 2018), have at least one dependent child, and have been employed at some point over the last year.

Try the [Rental Assistance Program Calculator](#) to get an estimate.

<https://www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance-financial-aid-for-home-modifications/rental-assistance-program>

CMAS Canada

Refugee and immigrant parents come to Canada with unique settlement needs, but language barriers can make it hard to get them the health, safety and parenting information and support they need.

After research and consultations with frontline service providers and experts in the field of newcomer childcare, CMAS has developed a series of 14 parent resources to help. And, best of all, they're available in the 14 languages most commonly spoken by refugee families in Canada (see link):

<https://cmascanada.ca/2018/05/18/newcomer-parent-resource-series-available-in-14-languages/>

The resources are simple, yet full of important information that's been tailored to meet the needs of immigrant and refugee parents of young children. Topics include:

- Creating Routines for Your Child: <https://cmascanada.ca/2018/05/15/creating-routines-for-your-child/>
- Getting Ready for Kindergarten: <https://cmascanada.ca/2018/05/15/getting-ready-for-kindergarten/>
- Guiding Your Child's Behaviour: <https://cmascanada.ca/2018/05/15/guiding-your-childs-behaviour/>

You'll find them all at cmascanada.ca. Please share them with parents, and let us know if there are other topics that might be helpful by emailing heathersavazzi@cmascanada.ca.

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Human Development Research Review

The first research article in this newsletter from HELP speaks to BC's efforts at promoting mental health well being through schools.

http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/media/help_reads_-_2018_05.pdf

Charity Village — Free Webinar Information

Topic: Putting Your Values to Work

Date: Thursday, June 7 at 1pm Eastern Time / 10am Pacific Time (one hour)

Cost: Free - Register Now

Skill Level: Introductory. This session will be useful to non-profit professionals interested in bringing more purpose to their work.

Do you sometimes get caught up in day-to-day tasks and forget why you are really doing your work? Our **free webinar** will help you better understand your values and how they relate to more purposeful work.

A key to living and working with purpose is articulating your core values. Our values represent who we are and what is unique about us. Once we articulate these values we can harness them to create more energy and success. Living by our values creates energy as we make choices that align with a greater purpose. It can also help motivate us to embrace new challenges and opportunities. This session will allow participants to explore their own core values through guided exercises. You will learn techniques to help you put your values to work for you.

[Click here for more information and to register today](#)

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The 13 Key Benefits of Early Childhood Education: A Teacher's Perspective

Writing in the Huffington Post, Vicki Palmer asserts that "from my professional experience of more than 35 years as a preschool teacher, I have identified 13 essential benefits of early childhood education:

1. Socialization:

Socialization with people other than the child's family in a safe environment is an essential foundational element to the below areas...

2. Concept of Cooperation:

Learning how to share, cooperate, take turns and persevere within a safe learning environment, guided by professionals who have the children's best interests at heart...

3. Encouraging Holistic Development:

The approach taken to build a strong foundation for a child's emotional, social, physical and mental development...

To read more, please go to this link: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/vicki-palmer/the-13-key-benefits-of-early-childhood-education/a_b_7943348.html

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