

# CHILD CARE PROVIDER CONNECTION

www.thechildcareproviderconnection.com

Coming together is a beginning, Keeping together is a progress; Working together is success. ( Henry Ford )

## CHILD CARE PROVIDER FYI.....

Quiet Times ... Issue 1, 2009

Caregiver Asks: Family Day

Submitted by: Affiliated Services for Children and Youth (ASCY)

Is Family Day a recognized statutory holiday and do I have the right to be paid for Family Day?

There has been considerable confusion regarding the relatively new Family Day Public Holiday. Family Day now falls each year on the third Monday of February.

Employment Standards: Family Day is one of nine official statutory holidays under the Employment Standards Act, 2000. Ontarians who are covered by the Act are entitled to a minimum of nine public holidays. Qualified employees are entitled to take off Family Day with public holiday pay. If an employer already provides ten or more holidays, the employee may not be automatically entitled to Family Day (e.g. provides Easter Monday/ August Civic/ Remembrance Day).

Parent/Provider Policies:

Caregivers, whether independent or contracting with an agency, are self-employed business operators or independent contractors and, therefore, not considered qualified employees under Employment Standards. As an independent caregiver, it is your decision whether you will choose to close or provide care on Family Day. It is, however, strongly recommended that the necessary steps are taken to provide parents with plenty of advance notice and ensure days of closure are clearly stated in parent/provider policies. Your Home Child Care Agreement/Contract should clearly list and outline your rates regarding Public holidays, vacations and other absences. This will ensure your clients fully understand their commitment and will prepare alternate care provisions if required.

Sample contract statement:

Payment is expected for the agreed upon hours/days as outlined in this agreement/contract whether or not the child is in attendance. Payment will not vary due to statutory holidays, child's illness or appointments and parent vacations. The only exceptions to the above-noted statement will be as follows: fee will be negotiated if the home child care practitioner takes in excess of \_\_\_\_\_ days off annually and/or if the child is absent for more than five consecutive days of care and has a doctor's note verifying illness/absence.

Your parent bulletin board, communication books, newsletters, etc. are other opportunities to provide additional reminders of the upcoming holidays on which you are closed.

yours in caring, donna

## An Informal Caregiver Is.....

In the province of Ontario, you may provide care for up to 5 children under 10 years of age in addition to your own children at any given time in your home.

**Example 1.** If you care for 1 infant plus 2 preschool children during the day, you may also

provide after-school care for 2 school-age children in addition to your own.

**Example 2.** If you provide care for 1 infant, 2 toddlers and 2 preschool children during the day, you are at your maximum number of children, hence you

cannot care for any additional school-age children after school

Should you wish to care for more than 5 children plus your own at any given time in your home, you would require to be licensed under the **Ontario Day Nurseries Act** and meet all of it's regulations

Volume 6 Issue 4

SUMMER 2009

### Frequently Used #'s

OEYC - Barrie 792-7878

OEYC -Innisfil 431-7666

OEYC -Bradford (905) 775-3039 x229

Public Library 728-1010

Poison Centre

1-800-461-1716

Simcoe County Health Unit  
721-7330

CHILD CARE PROVIDER  
CONNECTION

Contact: Donna Cherutti  
734-0761

### Inside this issue:

Suggested Themes/  
Outings

Summer Resources

Professional Development  
Opportunities

Nonna Says.....



Keeping the friendship & heart in home daycare

## SUMMER THEME IDEAS

June	July	August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picnics</li> <li>• Zoo</li> <li>• Father's day</li> <li>• Berry Time</li> <li>• Oh Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beach Time</li> <li>• Dinosuar Fun</li> <li>• Summer Sports</li> <li>• Ocean Life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vacations</li> <li>• Circus Time</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Back to School</li> </ul>

## SUMMER OUTING IDEAS

June	July	August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Parks</li> <li>• Local Zoo</li> <li>• Local Berry Farm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Beach</li> <li>• Local Museum</li> <li>• Sporting Goods Store</li> <li>• Pet Store/Fish Farm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Tourism Store</li> <li>• Party Store</li> <li>• Visit a Local Airport/Train Station</li> <li>• Local Bus Company</li> </ul>

### CONTACT NUMBERS FOR LOCAL OUTING IDEAS

City of Barrie: 726-4242

Springwater Provincial Park: 1-705-728-7393

Tourism Barrie: 739-9444

Elmvale Zoo: 1-705-322-1112

Barrie Transit: 739-4209

Barrie Hill Farms: 728-0571

Sojorn Sports Store: 739-9694

Don't forget to check out what's happening at your local Ontario Early Years Centre or on their website at [www.ontarioearlyyears.ca/oeyc/en/Location/Simcoe/Barrie-Simcoe-Bradford/centres.htm](http://www.ontarioearlyyears.ca/oeyc/en/Location/Simcoe/Barrie-Simcoe-Bradford/centres.htm) then click on calendar to see what workshops and programs are currently taking place.

The Barrie Public Library offers a drop-in Preschool Story Time at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. on Friday mornings. Each session is 30 minutes and children must be accompanied by an adult. There is no cost or registration required. **This service is not available during the summer, but does resume in September.**

### IMPORTANT C.C.P.C. DATES TO BOOKMARK

- *Monday, July 13, 2009: **CCPC Summer Social, Barbecue Potluck:** 5:30 pm - dusk, please contact Donna at 734-0753 for details and to register.*
- *September 7, 2008: **Family Child Care Training Level 1 Online begins:** registration deadline September 5, 2008, to register contact Donna at 734-0761*

# SUMMER RESOURCES

## **FRUIT KABOBS**

You need strawberries, orange segments, pineapple chunks, melon chunks, lettuce leaves. For each child thread one or two strawberries, orange segments, pineapple chunks, and melon chunks on a bamboo skewer. Serve in top of lettuce leaves placed on paper plates. Talk with the children about the rainbow colors of the fruits. Then have them remove the fruits from the skewer before eating them.

## **Fence Fancy**

Weave different colored rolls of tissue paper streamers through the chain linked fence for a decorative look. This also helps over/under and in/out understanding

## **Dragon Fly**

Materials: Paper towel roll, Construction paper, Tape, Markers or crayons

Directions: Use a paper towel tube and have children decorate a piece of paper (yellow) that fits around the tube. Then tape it. Trace hands (2) and tape one to either side of the tube near the top. Add eyes - large (oval shaped - flat on bottom), so that they are sticking up above the top of the tube. It's really cute. Looks like it's clapping its hands - it's actually flapping its wings.

## **Zoo Animal Picnic**

Invite the children to bring their favorite stuffed animal. The animal should be one commonly found in a zoo. Have a picnic on the floor or outside with each child's favorite animal. You can either pretend to eat, or have snack or lunch picnic style.

## **Pat on the back for Dad**

Need: Men's T-shirts, Fabric Paint.

Directions: Have the children make hand-prints on the back of the T-shirts, then write, "This Dad Needs A Pat On The Back."

## **Souper Dad**

Need: Can of soup, construction paper, markers, crayons, stickers, and a bow

Directions: Each child brings a can of their dad's favorite soup. Take a piece of construction paper the size of the can label. Let the children decorate the label using markers, crayons, stickers, etc. Make a tag that says, "Souper Soup For A Souper Dad." Put a sticky back bow on top of the can.

## **To My Daddy Poem**

I hugged this little card real tight  
And kissed it, Daddy, too.  
Then I packed it full of love  
And sent it off to you!

## **CANADA DAY**

### **Beavers**

We cut little beavers out of brown fun foam. Cut a hole on his stomach and we glue a Canadian nickel in the hole so the picture of the beaver is showing.

### **Maple Leaf**

We cut out a maple leaf out of orange fun foam. Then cut a larger red maple leaf for the back. Cut a hole in the orange leaf then glue a Canadian penny in the hole with the maple picture showing. Then glue the red maple leaf to the back.

### **Canadian Stamp Map**

Cut out a small shape of Canada on a piece of cardboard. Then glue lots of Canadian stamps on it. Then modge-podge it to seal it.

### **Canadian Flag**

Provide the colors and shapes from construction paper to make the Canadian flag and let the children assemble and glue together. Add a paint stirrer for the flagpole.

## SUMMER RESOURCES

**Fishing:** activity guide, boat (box,) styrofoam packing "worms", tackle box, sinkers/bobbers, fishing hat , magnets "fish" with magnets, binoculars , fishing magazines, camera, thermos, fishing poles (with bobber & magnet for a hook), plastic worms, plastic fish (with magnets), bucket, fishing net, old clothes, sun hat, gumboots/galoshes, sunglasses, lunch box, lake maps, fish pictures, fish bean bags, fish beanie baby, puzzles, Go Fish game

### **ICE CREAM IN A BAG**

1 c. whole milk or whipping cream 1/2 tsp. vanilla

2 Tbsp. sugar 1 pint size zipper freezer bag

1 gallon size zipper freezer bag Enough ice to fill  
gallon bag

1/2 full

6 Tbsp. salt

Directions: Pour milk, sugar and vanilla into pint size bag. Zip closed, squeezing out air. Gently knead to mix sugar into milk. Fill gallon bag 1/2 full with ice. Pour salt over ice. Put small bag into large bag and zip the large bag closed. Shake bag for about 5 minutes. Wipe off the small bag after removing from large bag. Open and eat!

### **Summer Parades**

Have your own "Noisy Parade" by making instruments and hats and walking around neighborhood. It really doesn't matter if you have an audience. Children just enjoy the process. Some of the instruments you can make are:

- Put beans, rice or jingle bells inside of toilet paper rolls with tape wrapped around them. Then decorate with stickers and markers. Shake them while walking.
- Two paper plates stapled or glued together with beans, rice, beads, bells, etc. inside and use like tambourine.
- Oatmeal Containers, can be covered and decorated for drums

### **Rhythmic Chants for Jump Rope**

One, Two Buckle my shoe

Three, Four, Shut the door

Five, Six, Pick up sticks Seven,

Eight, Lay them straight

Nine, Ten, Begin again.

Butterfly, butterfly turn around

Butterfly, butterfly touch the ground

Butterfly, butterfly show your shoe

Butterfly, butterfly, that will do.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, turn around.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch the ground.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, read the news.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, tie your shoes.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, go upstairs.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, say your prayers.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, turn out the light.

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, say "Goodnight!"

### **Ideas for dinosaur plastic figures**

--Have the children sort the animals by size.

--Have the children sort the animals by the kind they like the best to least.

--Buy two or more sets and have the children sort the animals by type.

--Supply the children with a balance and let them experiment.

--Have the children count the animals.

--Supply the children with cards with numbers on them. Large playing cards work well. Have the children place the appropriate number of animals on each card. ie 4 animals on the card that has a 4 (or 4 of diamonds) on it.

--Let the children play with the animals in the sand and water table.

--Put the dinosaurs in the block area, encourage the children to create mountains with the blocks for the animals to live and play on.

--Supply the children with paint and white paper, and give them a figure of a dinosaur. Have them dip the animals feet in the paint then press on the paper to make dinosaur tracks.

## SUMMER RESOURCES

**Send in the Clowns!** face paint (optional), bright clothes (vest, shirt, jacket, bow tie, gloves, pants, socks), oversized clothing, huge shoes, colorful wig, silly hats, juggling balls, scarves, balloons, plastic flowers (a clown always has a trick up his sleeve!), red nose .

### **Going Camping**

I am going camping with my mom and my dad.  
We are going to the forest and that makes me glad.  
I am taking my tent and my sleeping bag  
And my puppy whose tail goes wiggle, wag, wag.

We will make a campfire with some twigs and a log  
For some toasted marshmallows and a yummy hot dog.  
Oh, I love camping in the trees, in the wood.  
The campfire made my dinner taste so good.

I'm headed for bed with my new flashlight.  
So I guess I'm ready to just say, "Good-night!"

### **Classroom Book**

Make a book for Art and Language called "AT PRESCHOOL"  
Page 1--At school we learn about colors.  
(pictures of crayons on this page)  
Page 2--At school we learn about letters.  
(letters scattered about on the page)  
Page 3--At school we learn about numbers.  
(numbers scattered about on the page)  
Page 4--At school we learn about shapes.  
(shapes on the page)  
Page 5--At school we learn about animals.  
(animals on the page, a bear, dinosaur, frog, etc.)  
Page 6--At school we learn about plants.  
(tree, flower, vine on page)  
Page 7--At school we learn about people.  
(Santa Claus, Indians, king etc. on the page)  
Page 8--At school we learn about places.  
(castle, tepees, barn, etc)  
ETC ETC ETC (as many or as few pages as you want to have)

### **Outdoor Car Wash**

Materials: Riding cars, tricycles, scooters, skate boards, etc., sponges, water hose, buckets of soapy water and old rags.  
Description: During outside time, set up an area where the children can pretend to be a car wash. Place a bucket of soapy water outside and give each child a sponge and rag. Promote sharing and cooperation as the children work together washing the riding toys. The children will love this idea. Before you know it they will be washing all the outdoor equipment.

### **Whistle Game**

Have all the children line up and make a train. Instruct the children that one short whistle means stop and two short whistles mean go slowly. If they do well with the two whistles add more, three whistles mean back up, one long whistle, stop and turn around, etc.

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## ONLINE FAMILY CHILD CARE TRAINING

### About F.C.C.T.

The Family Child Care Training Course is a collaboration of six provincial family daycare organization, two national organizations and a prominent Canadian university, supported by the Child Care Visions Program, HDRC. The course represents an important first for the family day care community. It is the first time that provincial associations representing both regulated and unregulated family child care sectors and national organizations have had an opportunity to work together on a project that will enhance, support and enable the delivery of training for family child care providers across Canada.

The Family Child Care Training Course will provide you, the caregiver, with an understanding of young children and the skills to work more effectively with them and their families. Consideration is also given to legal and business matters which serve to protect you from unnecessary expenses and liability.

### Individual benefits:

- Strengthen your confidence as a family child care provider
- Teaches you the skills to operate your own business
- Prepare you to meet the care giving needs of families in your community

Family Child Care Training consists of three levels, each level contains 12 units of study. Each unit is designed to equate to approximately 3 hours of class time. Each of the assignments for evaluation requires an average of 2-4 hours of independent work. Completion of each level, with an evaluation component, would equate to approximately 60-80 hours of training.

### Who was the program designed for?

**Level 1** is intended for individuals who are currently, or who are interested in becoming providers of family child care in both the regulated and unregulated sectors. It is primarily intended for those who have had little or no previous training related to family child care. However, even experienced, trained caregivers will find the opportunity to review and reinforce their knowledge, and the sharing of experiences with others, helpful and worthwhile.

**Level 2** is intended for individuals who are currently, or who are interested in becoming providers of family child care in both the regulated and unregulated sectors. It is primarily intended for those who have participated in an introductory level training program, (e.g. Level 1 of the Family Child Care Training Course, Step Ahead, Good Beginnings) and/or have experience as caregivers and participated in some training/professional development opportunities.

**Level 3** is intended for individuals who are currently, or who are interested in becoming providers of family child care in both the regulated and unregulated sectors. It is primarily intended for those who have participated in an introductory level training program, (e.g., Level 1 and /or Level 2 of the Family Child Care Training Course, Step Ahead, Good Beginnings), and/or have had experience as caregivers and participated in some training/professional development opportunities.

### About the training

You can take training from anywhere with access to the internet!! The training is also available for you to take any time of the day, whatever fits your schedule. Each unit allows you to go at your own pace within the time frame for completion. If you have a question or comment about the unit you can email your instructor! Or, if you'd like to discuss the unit with others you can use the Child Care Provider Connection member's forum.

The Child Care Provider Connection provides you with the verification you need. When you successfully complete all 3 Levels of training within 36 weeks from starting date you will receive a printable certificate for your records.

Questions/Comments to Instructor will be replied to within 24 hours via email.

Access to Online Training Chat Forum is available 24/7 after registration to C.C.P.C. Message Board

### Next Starting date for Online Training is Level 1 on September 7, 2008

If you are interested in registering for any of these free online training courses contact Donna at 734-0761 or by email at [childcareproviderconnection@sympatico.ca](mailto:childcareproviderconnection@sympatico.ca)

**Level 1 is offered in the Fall, Level 2 is offered in the winter and Level 3 is offered in the Spring.**

# CALLING ALL HOME CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

## Summer Barbecue/Potluck Social



**Monday July, 13, 2009**

**5:30 pm - dusk**

**At the home of Donna Cherutti  
In Minesing**

**Bring a salad or desert to share. I will provide the meat and beverages for the group. If you know of other Home Child Care Providers who would enjoy an evening of friendship and sharing please bring them along the more the merrier just be sure to register yourself & your guest.**

**Bring a bathing suit & towel for a dip in the pool**

**Pre-registration required:  
Contact Donna at 734-0753 for directions to my home**

**There will also be a presentation to the care providers attending who have completed all  
3 levels  
of  
Family Child Care Training**

## CATERPILLARS AND KIDS

Recently I came across this wonderful quote from Bradley Millar: "Teaching a child not to step on a caterpillar is as valuable to the child as it is to the caterpillar." It resonated with me strongly, knowing what I know about both caterpillars and kids. I have spent my professional life watching kids. I know their boundless curiosity, their innate desire to explore, and their fascination with critters and creepy-crawlies. I also recognize their inability to look ahead and see the results of their actions.

I know that, unintentionally usually, children's exploration of tiny things can result in hurt for the creatures, and kids' reactions of surprise, confusion, and sometimes remorse.

On the fewer occasions when I have seen children deliberately hurt tiny creatures, it has usually been because they are fearful of what they don't understand, and no adult has ever helped them know their responsibility to the natural world around them.

In this world where we humans are supposed to be the smartest species, it behooves us to help our children assume their rightful responsibilities of protecting the living things around us. It will ultimately help our world, fragile as it is. But it will certainly help our children see themselves as part of something larger than themselves.

It is the nature of young children to be egocentric. Slowly, through experiences and explicit teaching, they move to being able to appreciate others' needs and rights. In coming to understand, appreciate, and know the stories of living things around them, children develop what Rachel Carson called "a sense of wonder."

The ability to marvel at life processes, and to appreciate the many forms of beauty in our world, will sustain children through the routine or dreary parts of their lives.

As we encourage children to explore with gentleness, and care for tiny creatures, they learn to control the impulse to smash and overpower, a very important kind of self-control indeed.

As we give them information and help them make connections between the caterpillar and the butterfly, we expand their understanding of the world around them.

As we validate their curiosity and help them learn skills for studying nature, we aid their understanding of what is important. "No, you can't keep it," we say. "What would that caterpillar need to be healthy?" Slowly the child learns to put aside his own wants in favor of what is best for another, no matter how small.

So when you teach respect for all things, even something as small as the caterpillar, your child is coming to be a caring, compassionate person. Your child is also coming to see herself as part of the larger human community to whom is entrusted the care of this earth, and all the creatures on it.

Those are important lessons indeed, all coming from teaching your child not to step on a caterpillar

*Until the next time, take care nonna*