

September 2022 Newsletter

September 1, 2022

Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society



What is a Schema? ~ By Alexis Ralphs

A schema is like a set of instructions. As adults we use them all the time, and we don't really notice we're doing it. Switch on a light or make a sandwich and you are using a schema to do it; a mental model you've created through a process of trial and error to find the best and most efficient way of completing your task.

Our schemas aren't always right. What's special about them is that they represent the current state of our knowledge. Over time, and as we explore further, we come to realize that there were gaps in our understanding. We

can then modify our schema to reflect this new information. I drop a football. It bounces back up. I drop a tennis ball. It bounces back up. I have a schema that balls bounce. But one day I drop a ball of play dough and it doesn't bounce. I update my schema: balls that spring back into shape after you've squeezed them will bounce. Balls that don't, won't. Which works until I try dropping a golf ball...

Schema play is especially noticeable in toddlers. Bashing, banging, pushing, pulling: destruction testing is a key feature of this kind of activity.

What does this thing do? What happens if I drop it? Will it break if I hit it? What if I hit it again? Your child wants the answers to all these questions and will persevere until they have them.

Swiss psychologist, Jean Piaget, noticed that children of a similar age all make the same kinds of mistakes. This led him to speculate that learning happens in stages and that as children grow they progress to higher levels. Part of his theory considered how schema play enabled this transition.



Why do Schemas Matter?

Once a child has understood a schema's physical manifestation, they are able to consider more abstract applications. For example, the concept of emailing a photo to Grandma becomes easier to understand once we have had the chance to practice moving objects from one place to another, whether that's rolling a toy car across the floor or taking a doll out of her box and putting her into the doll's house.

Children also learn by using their own bodies in schema play. The simple act of walking from one point to another helps them understand the idea of trajectory, of moving from A to B.

It's incredibly satisfying to identify the schema your child is interested in. You are then able to offer toys and activities that help them get the most from their investigations.

Here are some of the most commonly recognized schemas in toddlers: Connecting, Orientation, Transporting, Trajectory, Positioning, Enveloping, Enclosing, Rotation, and Form.

www.onehundredtoys.com/blogs/news/understanding-schema-play-in-toddlers



Society News



Kinzley M	Rhett W
Emily N	Paxton A
Gracelyn R	Theo B
Logan E-B	Molly A
Miller H	Sylvia B
Aubree B	Deegan B
Brody H	Emma R
Nicky S	Brianna H
Megan F	Donna M
Jessica R	Jenapher K

**Advisory Board
Meeting
September 26th
@ 7:00 PM**

**The office will be
closed September 5th
for Labour Day and
September 30th for
Truth and
Reconciliation Day**

Orange Shirt Day



Both the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day take place on September 30. Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day that honours the children who survived residential schools and remembers

those who did not. This day relates to the experience of Phyllis Webstad, a Northern Secwepemc (Shuswap) from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation, on her first day of school, where she arrived dressed in a new orange shirt,

which was taken from her. It is now a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations. All are encouraged to wear orange on the 30th to show support. www.orangeshirtday.org

Educator Profiles



Did you know that after each home visit, our educators receive a copy of their Educator Profile?

These profiles review:

- ✓ Compliance history with the agency;
- ✓ Complaints;
- ✓ Incidents; and
- ✓ Licensing inspections.

If you are a prospective client, you can request to see this during your interview at the day home or come into the office to review it.

If you are a current client of the day home, you can request at any time to see the educators most recent

copy of their profile, or you can make an appointment to review it at the agency office.

Due to the sensitive nature of these reports, Educator profiles will not be sent to clients electronically.

Too Sick for Care — Day Home Standard 10C

If a program educator notices that a child exhibits any of the signs or symptoms listed below, the educator must ensure:

- ✓ the child's parent(s) arranges for the immediate removal of the child from the program premises; and
- ✓ the child does not return to the program premises until the educator is satisfied that the child no longer poses a health risk to others in the program

Signs or symptoms of illness exhibited by a child

include:

- ✓ a child vomiting, having a fever, diarrhea or a new unexplained rash or cough;
- ✓ a child requiring greater care and attention than can be provided without compromising the care of the other children in the program; or
- ✓ a child having or displaying any other illness or symptom the educator knows or believes may indicate that the child poses a health risk to persons on the program premises.

It is important that educators and parents both support the health and well-being of the children attending the day home.

This includes:

- ✓ ensuring that children don't attend care ill;
- ✓ washing and/or sanitizing hands before and after eating;
- ✓ washing the children's (and adults) hands after toileting and diaper routines;
- ✓ using hard surface disinfectants to slow the spread of viruses



Did you know ..?

Children's Services has made it a rule, that a family day home program must be temporarily closed if an educator's own child's symptoms fit the criteria described in Standard 10C.

Hard-surface Disinfectants

There are many hard-surface disinfectants available on the market to sanitize kitchens, bathrooms, tabletops, and toys.

In child care settings Health Canada recommends that a daily prepared diluted bleach solution be used, according to instructions on the label. If using bleach that has a concentration of 5%

hypochlorite, the instructions are to add 5 mL (1 teaspoon) of bleach in 250 mL (a cup) of water, or add 20 mL (4 teaspoons) bleach in 1 litre (4 cups) of water, to give a 0.1% sodium hypochlorite solution.

Be sure to prepare the solution fresh, when you are intending to use it, and only dilute bleach in water (and not with additional chemicals).

This is a link from Alberta Health, about disinfection guidelines for GI outbreaks: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/wf/eph/wf-eh-surface-cleaning-disinfection-gi-outbreaks-child-care.pdf>

The following is a list of Health Canada approved disinfectants to use against C-19 (so they'd be effective for other viruses as well). It includes a

search filter so you can find out if your disinfectant is on the list: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html>



We make a difference in the lives of children and families!



**INNISFAIL & AREA
FAMILY
DAY HOME
SOCIETY**

— Established in 1983 —



**Alberta
Approved
Family
Day Homes**

*We are Entering the Innisfail Scarecrow
Competition—Come out & show your support!*



Is Your Child Going to Preschool this Fall?

Going to preschool for the first time does come with some emotions, for both the parents and the child. For a child, entering a new preschool environment filled with unfamiliar people can cause both anxiety and excitement. Parents might also have mixed emotions about whether their child is ready and if they'll have fun.

Remember that separation is a process. Expect that you and your child will need time to feel comfortable with the new situation. Here are some helpful tips to support you and your child when making this transition:

1. If there is a home visit or preschool visiting day, try and participate. If you aren't able to or this isn't offered, call the preschool to arrange for a visit to meet your child's preschool teacher. This can ease concerns about this unfamiliar territory and build excitement.
2. Select a special object from home that your child can take to preschool. Even if it needs to stay in their backpack, these special items can help a child feel more safe and secure.
3. When you enter the classroom on the first day, reintroduce the preschool teacher to your child, then step back to allow them to begin forming a relationship. This can support your child in knowing you trust this new adult.
4. Always say goodbye to your child and let them know you're coming back, but once you do, leave promptly. Don't sneak out. As tempting as it may be, leaving without saying goodbye can make children feel abandoned. A long farewell, on the other hand, might only reinforce a child's sense that preschool is a bad or scary place.





SEPTMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society 5713—51 Avenue Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4 403-227-2767 innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca www.ifdhs.com 				1 <i>Office open til 6:30pm</i> <i>First Day of School</i>	2	3
4	5 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Labour Day</i>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 <i>No School</i>	24
25	26	27 <i>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30 am</i>	28	29	30 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>No School TRC Day</i>	

Happy
Thanksgiving



October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Office Open until 6:30pm</i>	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 <i>Office Closed Thanksgiving</i>	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 <i>No School</i>	22
23	24	25	26	27 <i>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30 am</i>	28	29
30	31 <i>Halloween</i>				Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society 5713—51 Avenue Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4 403-227-2767 innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca www.ifdhs.com	

