

# May 2025 Newsletter

*Making a difference in the lives of children and families since 1983!*

May 1, 2025

## Benefits of Storytelling

- Language and literacy is crucial in early childhood development for several reasons including; brain development, social integration, building of relationships and supporting cultural identity which connects to community and fosters a sense of identity.
- Storytelling with participation uses experiential learning to ask about what is happening to the characters and what they should do next.
- Storytelling is about connection. It bridges any gap between individuals, communities, and even generations. Through stories, we find common ground, empathy, and understanding.
- Storytelling helps us preserve old cultures and build new cultures. Stories serve as vessels for cultural heritage, preserving traditions, customs, and values passed down through generations.

## Educator Storytelling Workshop



## What's New? Looksee Checklists

Due to changes in provincial funding affecting the child development support initiative (JOIN, GRASP, REACH) partnerships at the Alberta Resource Centre for Quality Enhancement (ARCQE), we will be introducing the Looksee Checklists in the upcoming weeks as a replacement for the Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ's).

The Looksee Developmental Checklists are a valuable tool for parents, educators, and healthcare professionals to track and assess a child's developmental progress. With its structured approach to monitoring child development, the checklist offers several benefits such as providing a comprehensive framework for assessing various aspects of a child's development, including:

- **Gross motor skills:** Monitoring abilities such as crawling, walking, and coordination.
- **Fine motor skills:** Evaluating hand-eye coordination and dexterity.
- **Communication and language:** Tracking speech development, vocabulary growth, and understanding.
- **Social and emotional skills:** Observing interactions with peers and emotional responses.
- **Cognitive skills:** Assessing problem-solving abilities and intellectual growth.



## INNISFAIL & AREA FAMILY DAY HOME SOCIETY

— Established in 1983 —



Alberta  
Approved  
Family  
Day Homes

## Society News

Our office will be closed May 19th for Victoria Day.

Happy Mothers Day!!

Celebrating Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day on May 16th!

### Educator Training

#### Series:

Community of Practice  
Chat and Craft Night  
May 14th, 2025  
6:30pm

#### Waldorf Toys

Come together to share ideas and strategies on crafting homemade Waldorf inspired toys and discussing ECE theories.

### Happy Anniversary to:

Vanessa Ruppert  
15 years

Donna MacPherson  
4 years

*Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the children and families you work with!*

### Welcome to:

Delaney Leger  
Innisfail

*Welcome to our team!*

## Family/Home Child Care Training Series from CCCF

The Canadian Child Care Federation started work on family child care training back in 1995. The first training modules were developed and launched in 2000. By 2003, the Family Child Care Training Manual (*Canada's first and still only National Family Child Care Training Resource*) was complete. A few years later, CCCF was able to test an online version which has led to the development of this new, accessible, online 10-module course.

It is intended for individuals who are currently or who are interested in becoming family child care providers in Canada. It's an introduction for those new to the

sector. Experienced providers will find the opportunity to review and reinforce their knowledge and the sharing of experiences with others, helpful and worthwhile.

These modules may be completed at your own pace during the defined time frame. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The modules will take approximately two hours each to complete and are designed to be completed sequentially. There is also an online community of practice and a facilitator who is available to assist you with questions or concerns. Once all 10 modules have been successfully completed, you will receive a

certificate of completion to download showing 30 hours of professional development.

Topics included in the learning series are:

- ◆ Professionalism
- ◆ Code of Ethics
- ◆ Setting Attainable Goals
- ◆ Care for the Caregiver
- ◆ Conducting Effective Interviews
- ◆ Effective Communication With Parents

For more information about the next opportunity to take the course click here <https://fcct.ca/> or email [fcc@cccf-fcsge.ca](mailto:fcc@cccf-fcsge.ca)

## The Hand Holder

*A Tribute to Childcare Providers*

There is no job more important than yours,  
no job anywhere else in the land.  
You are the keepers of the future:  
you hold the smallest of hands.  
Into your care you are trusted  
to nurture and care for the young,  
and for all of your everyday heroics,  
your talents and skills go unsung.

You wipe tears from the eyes of the injured.  
You rock babies brand new in your arms.  
You encourage the shy and unsure child.  
You make sure they are safe from all harm.  
You foster the bonds of friendships,  
letting no child go away mad.  
You respect and you honor their emotions.  
You give hugs to each child when they're sad.

You have more impact than does a professor,  
a child's mind is molded by you;  
so whatever you lay on the table  
is whatever that child will explore.  
Give each child the tools for adventure,  
let them be artists and writers and more;  
let them fly in the wind and dance on the stars  
and build castles of sand on the shore.

It is true that you don't make much money  
and you don't get a whole lot of praise,  
but when one small child says, "I love you,"  
you're reminded of how this job pays.

~ By Dori Rossmann



# May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Innisfail &amp; Area Family Day Home Society</b>                      5713—51 Avenue                      Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4                      403-227-2767                      innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca                      www.ifdhs.com</p> 				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11  Mothers Day	12	13	14	15	16 <b>Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day</b>	17
18	19 <b>Office Closed</b> Victoria Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 <b>Month End Paperwork Due</b>	28	29	30	31



# June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15  Father's Day	16	17 <b>Educator Knowledge Sharing Workshop</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	18	19	20 <i>First Day of Summer</i>	21
22	23 <b>IFDH Society AGM</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	24	25 <b>Month End Paperwork Due</b>	26	27	28
29	30				<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p> <b>Innisfail &amp; Area Family Day Home Society</b>            5713—51 Avenue            Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4            403-227-2767            innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca            www.ifdhs.com         </p>  </div>	