

# October 2023 Newsletter

October 1, 2023

Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society

## “Cooking Safety Starts With You”

Fire Prevention Week is happening October 8th to 14th in communities across North America. This year's focus is “Cooking Safety Starts With You. Pay Attention To Fire Prevention” to bring awareness to the important actions you can take to keep yourself & those around you safe.

**Did you know?** According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires & home fire injuries. Unattended cooking can be dangerous! To help prevent injury & cooking fires, check out these simple but effective tips:

- **Turn** pot handles towards the back of the stove & always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan & turn off the burner
- **Watch** what you heat & set a timer to remind you of what you're cooking
- **Have** a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove, areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried



**Don't forget to check your local community for Fire Prevention Week Events!**



## Fire Safety Tips: Creating An Escape Plan

In the event of a fire, seconds matter!

Check out these tips to assist in the development of your family's Home Escape Plan

### Escape Planning

- Walk through your home with family to identify multiple exits. It's recommended to have at least 2 exit routes from every room.
- Dedicate someone to assist children, pets & anyone who may require support to get out of the home safely.
- Identify a meeting spot outside that's a safe distance away from your home & ensure your street address is visible

### Smoke Alarms

- NFPA recommends testing your smoke alarms at least once per month.
- Ensure everyone knows the sound & how to respond to it.
- Install a smoke alarm on each level of your home & smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years
- Replace batteries every 6 months or when it makes a chirping sound

**Don't forget to practice your Home Escape Plan & ensure everyone knows how to contact 9-1-1 or your local emergency number.**

## Society News



**Office will be Closed  
October 9th  
for  
Thanksgiving**

**Happy Anniversary:**

**Rebecca Levy**  
1 year

**Donna Brouwer**  
3 years

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

**Educators Save the Date  
Program Planning Inservice & Team Meeting on  
November 21st at 7pm.**

## Starting A Social Media Conversation



Innisfail Family Day Home Society, New Dimensions, Red Deer Child Care Society, and Razzle Dazzle are happy to host “Starting a Social Media Conversation”, with Jo Phillips. This is a program designed to stimulate a continuous, positive social media conversation led by the lived-experience of the

kids. Many children won’t report the bad things that happen online, because parents takeaway their video game, or phone, or Snapchat to keep them safe. These adults and parents need to learn how to support and understand social media from the child’s perspective, and to create

space to help with the negative in an effective manner.

Tuesday, October 10th in-person at the Bower Ponds Community Centre (Red Deer) from 6-8PM

*This is a Free Training Opportunity for all our Family Day Home Educators!*



## Helping Children See Themselves as ‘Thinkers’

**We Need Thinkers** ... Thinking helps us plan ahead, make decisions, solve problems, make choices about our day, etc. Critical Thinking is about how to think; not what to think.

Children are curious by nature. The whole world is new to a young child. You must have noticed children asking so many “Why” questions. That is their natural curiosity about the world. This is how children learn. By observing children you will find out what they are curious about and you can extend their learning by focusing on their curiosity. Ask open-ended questions to encourage critical thinking; there is always more than one answer. Encourage creativity and wonder. Classify, explore, and ask opinions.

**Ask a question to invite children to share their thoughts:** *“Would you like to share your idea?”*, *“I am wondering what you are thinking about.”*

**Let the child think before you respond.** *“How are you going to make sure this tower does not fall? What do you think will work?”*

**Tell the children that you have noticed them thinking.** *“I saw you were thinking very hard to figure out how to make a tunnel with cereal boxes.”*

**Share your thinking.** *“I was thinking about the butterflies that we saw yesterday. How do they live in winter? Where do they go?”*

**Help children to think before they respond.** *“Take a minute to think and then let me know your thoughts.”*

Help children become more aware of their own thinking and that of others, and support curiosity questions to make children more confident in expressing their thoughts.

## Extend the Learning: Responding to Curiosity

- **Tell the child what you see them doing** by using the word “*curious*” and “*curiosity*”. “You seem curious about this sound. Let’s go find out where it’s coming from.”
- **Show pleasure in a child’s curiosity.** “Oh, that was amazing. You made the toy squeak by squeezing it”.
- **Join the child in their curiosity** and model your own. “I wonder where the ball is? Let’s go find it!”
- **Encourage the child to notice the details.** “Adam found a lady bug. Let’s look at it closely. What do you notice?”
- **Ask open-ended questions** to extend a child’s curiosity. “Emily, what do you think lady bugs eat?”
- Instead of answering the children’s questions, **help children find answers.** “That’s a great question, Jonas. How can we find out?”





## INNISFAIL & AREA FAMILY DAY HOME SOCIETY

— Established in 1983 —



Alberta  
Approved  
Family  
Day Homes



Thank You

Thank you to this years Innisfail Harvest Festival Scarecrow Competition Committee for awarding us first place in the Business Category!

## NEXT STOP

Penhold  
Pumpkin Head  
Scarecrow  
Contest



## Curriculum Corner: Sensory Exploration



**Did you know?** Sensory play is so much more than just getting messy! Although this may be a big part of it, Sensory play stimulates our senses including our touch, sight, hearing, smell & even taste! Sensory play is also beneficial as it encourages learning through exploration, it sparks curiosity & engages problem solving. When experiencing big emotions, sensory play has been shown to provide children with a calming effect. This tactile play is also critical for building important nerve connections in a child's brain while

### How to Make a Spooktacular Halloween Sensory Bin

#### What You Will Need:

- 5 Cups of White Rice
  - 5 Tablespoons of White Vinegar
  - Orange Food Coloring
  - Freezer Bag(s)
  - Cookie Sheet
  - Plastic Spiders
1. Pour rice, vinegar & food coloring into bag
  2. Shake vigorously until the food coloring is coated evenly over the rice
  3. Pour content evenly over cookie sheet
  4. Let dry for a minimum of 3 hours

Happy  
Thanksgiving





# October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	5	6	7
8	9 <i>Office Closed Thanksgiving</i>	10	11 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	26 <i>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30am</i>	27	28
29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>			<div data-bbox="1449 1328 1948 1510" data-label="Complex-Block"> <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>	



REMEMBRANCE DAY  
*Let Us Not Forget*

# November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	2	3	4
5  <b>Fall Back</b> Set your clocks back one hour before bed on Sunday. <i>Fall Time Change</i>	6	7	8 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	9	10 <i>Office Closed</i>	11 <i>Remembrance Day</i>
12	13	14	15 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>Educator Training Evening 7pm</i>	22 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	23	24	25
26	27 <i>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30 am</i>	28	29 <i>Office Closed at 3pm</i>	30	<div data-bbox="1465 1323 1953 1502" data-label="Complex-Block"> <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>	