

September 2021 Newsletter



September 1, 2021

Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society

Listening, Observing, and Documenting is a Pedagogy

Why do we document and write learning stories?

“When we begin to value who children are (*not just what we want them to be*), a shift happens in the way we think about learning and teaching. Our jobs [as educators] become more engaging and fulfilling. We also begin to envision a larger purpose for our profession. We strive to make childhood visible and valued for the ways that it can enrich humanity and contribute to our collective identity.

We need to make time to develop curriculum

collaboratively with our coworkers, the children, and their families. We must focus our attention away from the clocks and checklists to see what is going on with the children themselves. Teachers who subscribe to a pedagogy like this come from a place of curiosity. They believe in a children’s capabilities and know that they are engaging in a process that is not static; it’s unfolding.

The benefits of this approach are far-ranging. Moving children into the center of our focus teaches us more about child

development. We begin to understand the learning involved in self-chosen play and the components of a curriculum shaped around children’s perspectives. We create a collective context for mutual respect and learning from each other.

Gathering observation notes and other forms of documentation and sharing them as stories of children’s pursuits gives the children and their stories more visibility, meaning and respect.”

*Excerpt from The Art of Awareness
by Deb Curtis & Margie Carter*

Learning Stories – An Illustrative Narrative

Learning stories are illustrative narratives about children’s learning which involves the children, educators & families. “Learning stories shows a child’s progress over time and tend to be a more engaging form of reporting. The stories also provide valuable information which can be used to establish strong links between home and the care environment, and provide parents with an insight into what happens when the child is in care” (Ryan, K. nd)

Learning stories evolved from New Zealand’s Te Whariki curriculum and over time have been simplified into four key sections:

1. The image (photo),
2. A description of the activity taking place,
3. Reviewing the learning and connecting it to the curriculum, and
4. What will the educators do to further support the learning.

Another technique typically used in learning stories is the recording of ‘voices’ of each stakeholder including:

- ✓ the child’s voice
- ✓ the educator’s voice
- ✓ the families voice

flightframework.ca

www.raiselearning.com.au/blogs/news/2765692-back-to-basics-a-brief-summary-of-early-childhood-observation-methods-and-techniques



Society News

Happy Birthday To:

Wyatt T	Luke T
Jocey H	Emily N
Paxton A	Theo B
Molly A	Kinzley M
Olivia B	Sylvia B
Aubree B	Deegan B
Jasmine T	Nicky S
Megan F	Donna M

♪ Happy Birthday to you... ♪



**Advisory Board
Meeting
September 27th
@ 7:00 PM**

Welcome To:

**Brittany
Springbrook**

We are Recruiting Day Home Educators for the Communities of Olds and Three Hills!

If you or someone you know is interested in a career in child care, fill out an application at: www.ifdhs.com/application-form

Updated COVID Guidelines for Child Care

On August 20, 2021 the Covid-19 guidelines for day homes was updated.

[open.alberta.ca/dataset/3fcd93d6-3060-4db4-850d-e0263b0e5ff6/resource/2b972300-e174-44d9-a6bf-](https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/3fcd93d6-3060-4db4-850d-e0263b0e5ff6/resource/2b972300-e174-44d9-a6bf-01500f2b32d6/download/covid-19-guidance-family-day-homes-2021-08.pdf)

[01500f2b32d6/download/covid-19-guidance-family-day-homes-2021-08.pdf](https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/3fcd93d6-3060-4db4-850d-e0263b0e5ff6/resource/2b972300-e174-44d9-a6bf-01500f2b32d6/download/covid-19-guidance-family-day-homes-2021-08.pdf)

Enhanced sanitation practices will continue and should be used by all homebased child care operators. They must:

- ✓ Routinely clean and disinfect any surface that people regularly touch,
- ✓ Provide handwashing facilities or have hand sanitizer available for the children,
- ✓ Ensure children do not enter or attend care if they are feeling unwell.



Too Sick for Care Policy—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

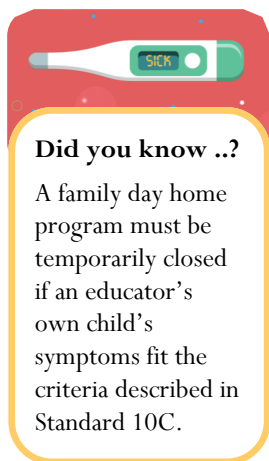
compromising the care of the other children in the program; or

- ✓ 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.

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/ac5d6de9-3a2b-4fb5-abd1-7ad4582a709d/resource/9e2e6bf-b6c1-454b-abc2-9ad8765ab5d4/download/cs-family-day-home-standards-manual-for-alberta-2021-02.pdf>

Did you know ..?

A family day home program must be temporarily closed if an educator's own child's symptoms fit the criteria described in Standard 10C.



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**



Farewell to Sarah!

*Thank you Sarah for all of your hard
work and the wonderful summer!*

*You have been a great asset to our
agency and day home educators.*

Best of luck in your future studies!

~ Reshann & Ella

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.





SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Office Open until 6:30pm</i> <i>Team Meeting 7pm</i>	2	3	4
5	6 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Labour Day</i> <i>No School</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>No School</i>	25
26	27	28 <i>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30 am</i>	29	30 <i>National Day for Truth & Reconciliation</i>	<div data-bbox="1486 1333 1969 1507" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p>Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society 5713—51 Avenue Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4 403-227-2767 innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca www.ifdhs.com</p>  </div>	

Happy
Thanksgiving



October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Office Open until 6:30pm</i>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>No School</i>	9
10	11 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Thanksgiving No School</i>	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 <i>No School</i>	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 