

CHILD DEVELOPMENT DAYHOMES OF ALBERTA

APRIL 2011

Provider Feature: Sonia C

Sonia had the Firefighter come to her Dayhome. The children received tips and information on Fire safety, well as fire evacuation practice!



Great idea Sonia!



FIELD TRIP IDEAS:



Playing in the melting snow on a warm winter day is always fun. Let the children play in the melting snow, slush and running water. Be sure children are dressed with water proof boots, and you have extra clothing for back up just in case. Use this time to talk about the seasons changing.



Fatime and Ritha

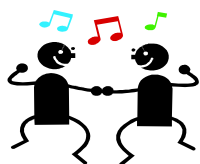
April is

"Music Month"

Everything about good music is positive, with the power to affect our lives forever. In our hurry-up dot-com world, musical experiences provide a sense of community and belonging. A simple song, readily available, can help slow things down.

Studies suggest that music and movement help to:

- Nourish the brain while affecting all areas of development
- Strengthen listening, motor skills, language, problem solving, spatial-temporal performance and literacy
- Help develop critical listening skills
- Create space for emotional well-being
- Provide opportunities to practice social skills
- Support phonemic awareness
- Instill acts of kindness and cooperation
- Calm and focus the mind



You can incorporate music into your home many different ways

Child Portfolio Checklist

For the month of **April** you should be filing a sample of your **Childs Drawing**

Don't forget to name and date your children's examples.

1-2 yrs- Scribbling stage

Random scribbles begin at age one to two, but quite quickly take on shapes.



3 years-The preschematic stage

First conscious creation of form occurs around age three



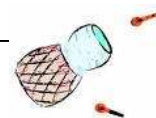
4 years-The preschematic stage

At four or five, the child begins to tell stories



6 years-The schematic stage

At this stage, there is definite order in space relationships: everything sits on the base line.



Many Languages Many Cultures

Let's Make a Shekere

The shekere is an instrument from Africa made out of a hollow gourd. Outside the gourd is a netting that holds seeds or bead so the instrument makes a wonderful rattling when played. How do you play it? This is the best part of this instrument. It gets to jump between your hands and into the air. Of course, you try to catch it and shake it in the rhythm to your song and that makes for lots of fun.

Since it can be hard to find a hollow gourd, we're making our shekeres from recycled milk jugs - or similar containers. Start by cleaning out the container and getting some materials you may wish to use. These might include, sand, salt, bird seed, un-popped popcorn or uncooked macaroni. Anything that will shake, rattle and roll!

Decorate Your Shekere -Can you make your recycled container look like a gourd with netting? Draw on beads or seeds or be creative and simply decorate it to your taste. For younger children, you can draw the netting and they can affix their favorite stickers. Some people like to leave their container clear and then fill with interesting contents like glitter and marbles. Experiment and see what you like in your homemade shekere.



Health/Nutrition:

When Spring is in the air, so is spring cleaning! The only problem is that with all of the potent chemicals used in cleaning products these days, we are exposed to many health hazards.

Frequent use of store bought cleaners can cause serious illness immediately or cause long term effects. Why bother with the risk when you can make your house immaculate with home made solutions? Go green this spring with chemical free cleaning

Microwave The inside of the microwave is always a pain to clean - For a quick fix, mix two tablespoons of baking soda in a bowl of water and use with a cloth to wipe down the interior.

Food Residue-We love our dishwashers for reducing the stress of our household chores during the week, but after a while a build up of food can accumulate inside. To remove all food residue from the dish racks run the washer empty with a cup of white vinegar. Voila, sparkling clean!

Odor-Vanilla extract works wonders as a cleaning solution particularly for refrigerators. Using a fresh sponge or paper towel, wipe down the inside walls, shelves, and drawers of your fridge. **Furniture**-Mix half a cup of lemon juice with one cup of olive oil. and stir well. Use on a soft cloth to wipe down. coffee tables, kitchen tables, cabinets, etc.

RECIPES

PB & J Blossom

Sandwiches



Ingredients

- Bread
 - Peanut butter or cream cheese
 - Jelly or jam
- Water bottle cap

Instructions

- For each sandwich, cut two slices of bread into flower shapes with a cookie cutter.
- Cut a hole in one of the slices by pressing a water bottle cap into the center.
- Spread the peanut butter and jelly on the whole piece and place the slice with the hole on top

Have the children help, they will love it!

MARCH 2011

GROSS MOTOR Activity:

Music is a wonderful medium for play. Even young children love to bounce, sway and wiggle to the music. When they get older, you can make instruments. This is a great way to get the children to march with their knees high for a parade or play "follow the leader".

Have fun trying all of these gross motor activities for children... they'll love them!

LITERACY: Tired Bunnies



"Come my bunnies, it's time for bed."
That's what Mother Bunny said.
"But first I'll count you just to see,
If you have all come back to me.
Bunny 1, Bunny 2, Bunny 3, oh dear,
Bunny 4, Bunny 5, yes, you're all here.
You're the sweetest things alive.
My bunnies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5."
(Use rhyme to count baby's Fingers and toes.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Janet Huffman,
OSC Program Coordinator**

Presents:

"CHILDREN ARE WHAT THEY EAT"

- Monday April 04, 6-8 pm
Father Turcotte School Meeting Room
- Tuesday April 05, 6-8 pm
St Gabriel School Meeting Room

Contact Janet-780-799-5799 Ext 5044

ARCQE Presents

April 29 and 30

Learning Through Play Series

- Room arrangement and play areas that support learning through play
- Elements of true play and the value for the whole child
- Brain development
- Observation and Recording Critical Skills
- Play and Assessment
- Family involvement in the play based classroom
- ... and much more

For more information www.arcqe.ca

Don't FORGET!



**Timesheets need to be sent in
by April 17**

CDDH will have Debit and Credit machine for child care payments as of May 1, 2011.

Provider Appreciation Day!

May 18th

Celebrate your Family Day home Provider in May!



Next First Aid in Child Care

MAY 28 & 29, 2010

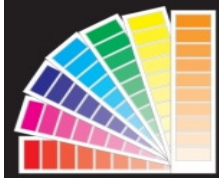









8 am—5 pm

Call early to register 780-743-0991



April 2011










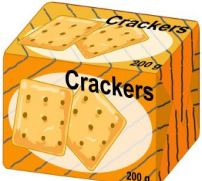


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Chart the children's favorite colors. Keep the colors in mind when making colored water on the 14th/15th	2 
3 	4 Edible Easter Bunny Salad- Place lettuce leaves on a plate. Add a pear half on the lettuce for a body. Insert raisins for the eyes and nose. The ears are made from apple slices and miniature marshmallows or cottage cheese become the bushy tail.	5	6 Making Flowers- Encourage the children to color and add sparkles to cupcake holders. Allow them to dry. Poke a hole on the bottom of the cupcake holder and glue and run a pipe cleaner through the hole.	7 Flower Pot Plants- Purchase mini pots from the Dollarstore. Encourage the children to decorate their own with paints, glitter, etc. Using soil, plant bean seeds. The children can water their plants daily and watch them grow in sunlight!	8	9 
10 	11 Wheat/Cress Field- Spread cotton wool at the base of a bowl. Moisten with water. Sprinkle over wheat or cress seeds. Leave in an area where there is plenty of light. Drain off the previous days water. Water a little daily. Place in the sunshine occasionally to allow greening. Watch as the Cress grows!	12	13 With toddlers, Bunny hop to music. Stop when the music stops.	14 Dye Easter eggs- Fill cups half full of water. Add 1tsp of vinegar to each cup of water. Add food coloring to the water. Place hard boiled eggs gently into the cups until egg is colored. Gently remove the egg and allow for it to dry.	15	16 
17 	18 Construct a bunny headband out of construction paper. Encourage the children to decorate with a variety of art supplies.	19 Read the book: The Easter Egg by Jan Brett	20 Hide colorful plastic eggs in the neighborhood playground. Encourage the children to find them collect them using their own baskets.	21 Butterfly wands: Using food coloring and eye droppers decorate coffee filters. Allow to dry. Scrunch onto a popsicle stick and use pipe cleaners for antennas.	22  ~Agency Closed~	23 
24 	25  ~Agency Closed~	26 Face Paint Fun: In a small container mix 1 tsp of cornstarch, 1/2 tsp of cold cream until well blended. Add 1/2 tsp of water and stir. Add food coloring. Make a few different colors and decorate each others faces. Washes off easily with soap/water.	27	28 Sing- Easter: The Easter bunny's feet go hop hop hop. While his big pink ears go flop flop flop. He is rushing on his way. To bring our eggs on Easter Day. With a hop, flop, hop, flop, hop.	29	Attendance Records are due: April 19



May 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Encourage children to play instruments to their favorite songs while singing along.	3 Play "Simon Says". One child instructs the others to perform actions such as "Simon says.... dance with the person next to you" Encourage the children to follow the directions; allow other children to be Simon so everyone gets a turn.	4	5 Sing the song "B-I-N-G-O"	6 Place colored ice in the water table. Observe with the children the changes to the ice and the color mixtures that happen over time	7 
8 	9 Set up a puppet theatre and multicultural puppets for the children to explore.	10 Play "I Spy". One child says "I spy with my little eye, something that is..... BLUE" Everyone has to guess what the person is pointing out that is blue.	11	12 Read, Alligators All Around: An Alphabet by Maurice Sendak	13 Paint to music. Alternate the music (fast, slow, with a beat etc).	14 
15 	16 Place baby dolls in the water table with soap and cloths. Supply towels for drying.	17 For snack-time: Sort small foods such as dry cereals and cut up fruits and veggies. Give each child their own plate. Encourage the children to pick up food they want with the chopsticks and place it on their plate, then try eating with the chopsticks too.	18	19 Give the children colored felt and encourage them to cut out shapes. Supply a felt board for the children to use their imaginations and create their own pictures on.	20	21 
22 	23 	24 Supply children with scissors, construction paper, glue and magazines. Encourage the children to cut out pictures of favorite things from the magazines and glue on the paper. Then, staple the pages together to a create a special "dayhome" favorites book. Add this book to your Quiet space.	25	26 Go on a nature walk with the children. Ask the children what they see and hear. Ask them to look for certain things (eg: 3 pine cones, or 2 birds).	27 Encourage the children to explore magnetic letters on a metal cooking sheet	28 
29 	30 Add empty food boxes and containers with their labels still on, to the house corner for dramatic play	31 Sing the song "Down by the Bay"	~ATTENDANCE RECORDS ARE DUE ON MAY 23/2011~	