

# Child Development Dayhomes NEWS

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTING INFORMATION FOR DAYHOME EDUCATORS AND PARENTS



December 2023

## Educator Workshops

### ► **How to Feed and Educate Children to Create a Positive Relationship with Food**

**Date:** Thursday, January 11, 2024

**Time:** 6:30pm - 8:00pm

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Cost:** \$50 per person - Approved for PD Funding and 1.5 hours of "release time". The agency will pay the cost and collect the PD Funding. Please check to see if you have PD Funding available for the year. Please register in advance using the link below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Register [here](#).

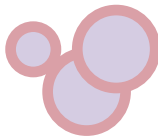
### ► **Income Tax Workshop for Educators**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024

**Time:** 6:30pm - 8:30pm

**Location:** Online via Zoom

Please RSVP to your consultant.



## Welcome New Educators!



Mahira Zeeshan  
Rebecca Agana  
Naljaa Hussein



Nominate an inspirational educator for a 2024 Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education! Click [here](#).

## Follow us on Social Media



## Upcoming Statutory Holidays

**Christmas Day:** December 25, 2023

**Boxing Day:** December 26, 2023

**New Years Day:** January 1, 2024



## Attendance Records Due:

**Tuesday, December 12, by 6:00pm**

Dayhome Educators, please ensure all the times for the month have been entered on TimeSavr.

## **Parent Feedback Survey on CDDH Website**



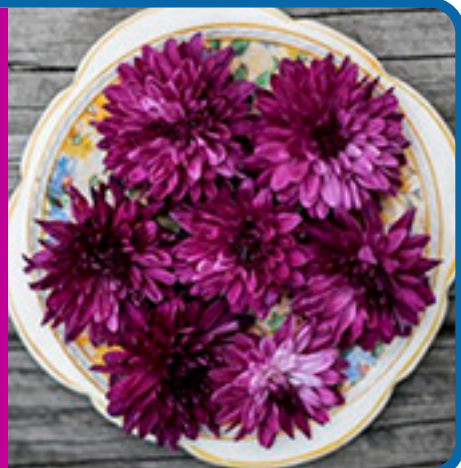
Let us know how we are doing.  
Take the Parent Feedback Survey [here](#).



## Congratulations!

To the following dayhome educators celebrating their anniversaries with Child Development Dayhomes in the month of December

Urszula Hadyna	27 years	Komal Ahmed	5 years
Ragini Seemrith	16 years	Maria Fegarido	3 years
Bing Ling Feng	12 years	Olanrewagu Mebude	2 years
Mohaddisa Mukhtar	11 years	Cherrie Moreno-Ferrer	2 year
Shazia Amjad	8 years	Ariana Hirsch	1 year
Zakia Alam	6 years	Nanuka Tiwari	1 year
Doris Lagarit	5 years		



## Snack Ideas

### ▶ Healthy Candy Cane

#### Ingredients:

- Banana
- Strawberries

#### Directions:

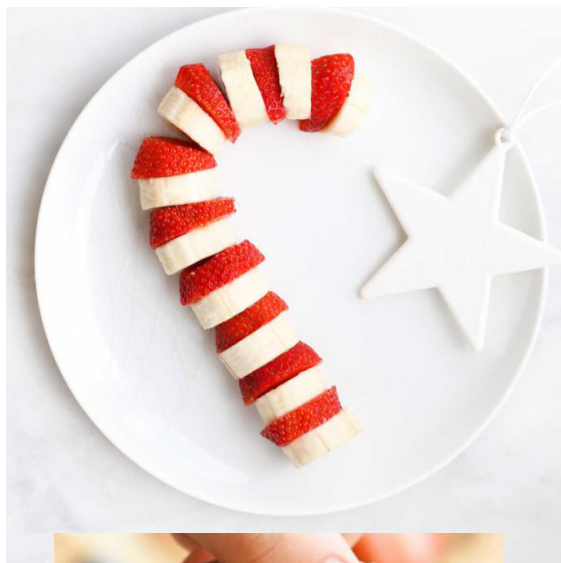
<https://www.healthylittlefoodies.com/healthy-candy-cane/>

### ▶ Gingerbread Pancakes

#### Ingredients:

- All-Purpose (Plain) Flour
- Baking Powder & Soda
- Gingerbread Spice
- Sugar
- Egg
- Milk
- Lemon Juice
- Lemon Zest
- Vanilla Extract

**Directions:** <https://www.healthylittlefoodies.com/christmas-spiced-pancakes/>



## Community Events

### ▶ Indigenous Holiday Market

**Date:** December 16, 2023 9:00am - 3:00pm to December 17, 2023 11:00am - 3:00pm

**Location:** Edmonton Downtown Farmers Market (10305-97 St NW)

**Website:** [Link](#)



### ▶ Best Rated Tobogganing Hills for Kids

**Website:** [Link](#)

Map showing the best rated toboggan hills, the ages and levels they are best suited for, where to park, etc.



### ▶ Free Skating in and Around Edmonton

**Website:** [Link](#)

Free indoor and outdoor skating list. Many communities have smaller ice rinks as well that are not listed here.



### ▶ St. Albert Snowflake Festival

**Date:** Friday, December 1, 2023

**Time:** 6:30pm - 9:00pm

**Location:** Perron District

**Website:** [Link](#)

Join us in the heart of downtown St. Albert as we light up the Perron District with the warm glow of the Christmas lights. Enjoy all the festivities as we welcome the holiday season with our annual Snowflake Festival.

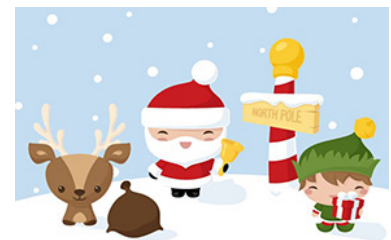
### ▶ Stony Plain - Christmas Store for Kids

**Date:** December 7, 2023

**Time:** 4:00 - 8:00pm

**Location:** Family Connection Centre (5600 50 St, Stony Plain)

**Website:** [Link](#)



Children 4-10 years old will experience the joy of giving by “shopping” with one of Santa’s elves. Each child selects 4 gifts total for 2 special adults. They then take their carefully wrapped gifts home to put under the tree.





## Activity Ideas

### ► Frozen Ice Ornaments

This is a two-part activity that needs a little preparation on your part. First, you'll fill a container with natural treasures (leaves, berries, pine cones) and add a few inches of water. Then, leave this outside to freeze overnight. On the second day, go see what happened. Take the frozen disks out of the containers and hang them in the trees as decorations.



Or, raid your recycle bin for some empty yogurt or milk containers and fill these with coloured water. Your toddlers will definitely help with this! Then, leave these outside to freeze. Once they're frozen, pop them out of their containers and your littles can play with these in the snow.



## Activity Ideas

### ► Haul the Toys Outside

Sandbox toys are just as fun in the snow! Fill the dump truck and use the sand shovels to build a snow city complete with roads, tunnels, apartment buildings, and even snow bridges! Or, instead of sand toys, try some kitchen tools like muffin tins, cookie cutters, scoops, and rolling pins.



### ► Be a Winter Wildlife Detective

Head to a natural area and see how the animals are managing in the snow. Make a little winter-time scavenger hunt before you head out, or just pretend to be nature detectives and look, listen, and feel with curiosity.

#### **Ask your child some of these questions:**

- What are the animals doing and saying?
- Have they left any evidence in the snow?
- Whose tracks are whose?
- Can we figure out

Activities are from this site: <https://www.takethemoutside.com/outdoor-winter-activities-for-toddlers/>







## Learning Story: Helping Animals Cross the River



By Yanping Li, Dayhome Program Educator



### What's happening:

The children had great interest in animals these days. So this morning I brought out a piece of paper, some toy animals and Legos to the children.

“There’s a river here, and these animals need to get to the other side. With this piece of paper and these legos, what can you do to help them?” I asked. “We can build a bridge for them.” Gabriella said. “Yeah!” Mia chimed in. They then started building two piers with the Legos.



When the piers were placed in place, they then added a piece of paper onto it to finish the bridge. Afterwards, they were taking turns to help the animals to get on the bridge. Unfortunately the paper bridge was too soft to hold them, so it collapsed immediately. “Why did the bridge crash down?” I asked. “It was too soft.” Mia said. “So what should we do to make it stronger?” I continued.

After discussing it for a while, the children decided that folding the paper up to make it stronger and then experiment again. And this time it worked!

## **What it means:**

1. When discussing how to help the animals survive from the river, the children developed their language skills and problem solving skills while learning how to take care of our environment, including animals.
2. When the paper bridge didn't work out, they did not give up. Instead they generated ideas for changing the environment to solve the problem. They not only learned science in materials, but fostered the quality of persistence as well.

## **What to do next:**

Create more stories related to environment caring and problem solving to further the children's critical thinking and problem solving skills.

