

# Child Development Dayhomes NEWS

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTING INFORMATION FOR DAYHOME EDUCATORS AND PARENTS



February 2024

## Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Dayhome Educator, Ariana Hirsch and her family on the birth of daughter, Belle, born January 2, 2024!



## Educator Workshop

### ▶ Living Wall

**Date:** February 7, 2024

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

**Location:** Online - [Zoom Link](#)

Our Mount Royal University practicum students are offering a unique opportunity to learn a new method of documentation that can be a great addition to your dayhome space! Kailee, Zeinab, and Alison will be doing a short presentation virtually on 'The Living Wall' where you can learn a new form of documentation that was created by Dr. Carolyn Bjarveit. This documentation is constantly moving, growing, and evolving within the space. It honours children and gives them a voice through the interpretation of their play! If you are looking to reignite that passion for documentation or simply learn a new and exciting way to document, the Living Wall is easy to implement and our practicum students will assist in guiding you on your journey to creating your very own 'Living Wall'. Please RSVP.

## Upcoming Statutory Holidays

**Family Day:** February 19, 2024

**Good Friday:** March 29, 2024

**Easter Monday:** April 1, 2024



## Attendance Records Due:

**Monday, February 19 by 6:00pm**

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

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

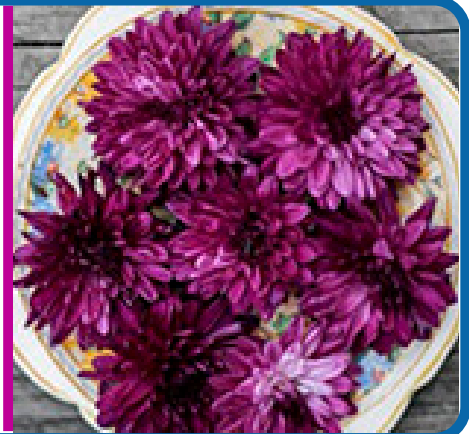


Let us know how we are doing.  
Take the Parent Feedback Survey **here**.

## Congratulations!

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

Yolanda Mahecha	13 years	Caitlin Pattyson	2 years
Monika Kohli	5 years	Nidhi Dhir	2 years
Hasti Mohammadkhani	4 years	Gaytree Bhoyroo	2 years
Shamim Yasin	4 years	Catherine Kornberger	2 years
Danielle Hachey	3 years	Aruni Wickramasuriya	1 year
Sathirni Wickramasinghe	3 years		



## Recipe Ideas

### ► Taco Cups with Beef and Cheese

#### Ingredients:

- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1lb ground beef
- 2 tbsps taco seasoning
- salt to taste
- 1 14oz can petite diced tomatoes, drained
- 24 wonton wrappers
- 1 1/4 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup sliced green onions
- 1/4 cup diced fresh tomatoes
- cooking spray

**Instructions:** <https://www.dinneratthezoo.com/taco-cups/>



### ► Baked Spaghetti Squash

#### Ingredients:

- 1/2 lb ground turkey or chicken (optional)
- 1 tsp olive oil
- 1 large spaghetti squash
- 1 egg
- 2 cups pasta sauce
- 1 cup part skim ricotta cheese
- 1 1/2 cups part skim shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 tsp fresh oregano
- 5 fresh basil leaves, torn
- salt and fresh ground peppers
- 4 10oz ramekins

**Instructions:** <https://cookingwithmykid.com/recipes/baked-spaghetti-squash/>



## Community Events

### ▶ Kids Can Catch Ice Fishing at Wabamum Lake

**Date:** Saturday, February 17, 2024

**Time:** 10:00am - 3:00pm

**Location:** Wabamum Lake, at the end of 50th St in Wabamum, Parkland County

**Website:** <https://www.ab-conservation.com/events/kids-can-catch/wabamun/>

With pre-drilled holes, loaner fishing rods, and no fishing licenses required on Alberta's Family Fishing Weekend.



### ▶ Fire & Ice Festival

**Date:** Monday, February 19, 2024 (Family Day)

**Time:** Noon - 4:00pm

**Location:** Lacombe Lake Park, St. Albert

**Website:** <https://stalbert.ca/exp/fire-and-ice/>

A fun, free, family event! Event highlights include kids firefighter obstacle course, petting zoo, sleigh rides, fun crafts, food and refreshments.



### ▶ Silver Skate Festival

**Date:** February 9-19, 2024

**Location:** Sir Wilfrid Laurier Park, Edmonton

**Website:** <https://silverskate.ca/>

The Silver Skate Festival, Edmonton's longest running winter festival, has been creating winter experiences in Edmonton for over 30 years! What began as a small skating event rooted in Dutch winter traditions has blossomed into an all-embracing celebration of winter sport, art, music, and recreation.



## Activity Idea

### ▶ Exploring Tweezers, Tongs, and Chopsticks

By Zeinab Chebbani, Mount Royal University | ELCC

By providing children with the materials listed below, children will develop their fine motor skills, enhance their hand-to-eye coordination, and will learn a new skill that they may not be familiar with yet. This activity may be tied into culture through the chopsticks that are provided, as some children may come from families who have already familiarized their children with using/eating with chopsticks.

#### **Materials:**

- Rubber/Plastic tweezers
- Rubber/Plastic tongs
- Rubber/Plastic/Wooden Chopsticks
- Muffin tray
- Loose items (pompoms, buttons, small twigs, pinecones, small pieces of fabric, etc.)

#### **Instructions:**

Have the children in your care explore and navigate using tweezers, tongs, and chopsticks by placing them in front of them on a table. Place the muffin tray in front of them on the table as well, and either place the loose items in the muffin tray so that the children can try to take them out using the tweezers, tongs, or chopsticks, or place the loose parts on the table and allow the children to try to place the items in the tray. If the children are having trouble or become frustrated and confused, model the activity for them, and assist them accordingly in terms of age appropriateness. However, try to let the children explore with the items you provide before lending a hand as this is a child-led activity.

To make the activity a bit easier for younger children, color code each section of the muffin tray so that the children can match the colors of pompoms or other loose materials accordingly.



Image 1 Source:  
<https://cleverbabi.com/2018/04/01/pom-pom-tray/>

Image 2 Source:  
<https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/91127592444574890/>

## Learning Story: Go Round and Round!

By Racela Aquino-Ellison, Dayhome Educator

Atle, I admire your strength and strong muscles turning and spinning the play equipment with four girls sitting safely and holding on to the bars. Before you start spinning, you ask them to sit on their bum and hold tight; then, slowly but surely, you spin them continuously. Atle, you used one hand holding on to the bar while running and making sure that you're going in circle. Nora and Evelyn encouraged you to go faster, but you told them, "I can't because the babies are on", which was really considerate of you and caring about the babies.

I like how you take charge and are the leader in the group. So proud of you Atle! You show them how to be kind and care for each other. Most of the time, you're the caretaker and always make sure that all of your friends are safe. They are lucky to have you for sure!

At Atle, as you grow older, you show more compassion and care for each one around you. That is one quality that makes you special!

