



Child Development Dayhomes February 2025 Newsletter

Information for Dayhome Educators and Families in Edmonton and Area

Congratulations!

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

Yolanda Mahecha	14 years	Gaytree Bhoyroo	3 years
Monika Kohli	6 years	Catherine Kornberger	3 years
Masoumeh (Hasti)	5 years	Nidhi Dhir	3 years
Shamim Yasin	5 years	Aruni Wickramasuriya	2 years
Danielle Hachey	4 years	Alelie Api	1 year
Sathirni Wickramasinghe	4 years	Dharitri Hota	1 year
Corrine Gates	3 years	Sharanya Kandy	1 year



Follow us on Social Media



Parent 2024 Tax Receipts

All parent tax receipts have been emailed out. If you have not received yours, please contact us.



Parent Feedback Survey on CDDH Website

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



February Workshop

See the last page of the newsletter for details.

Attendance Records Due:

Tuesday, February 18 by 6:00pm

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

Upcoming Statutory Holidays

(Dayhomes and office are closed)

Family Day: February 17, 2025

Good Friday: April 18, 2025

Easter Monday: April 21, 2025



Community Events

▶ Ultimate Guide to Outdoor Skating

Website Link: <https://www.familyfuncanada.com/edmonton/outdoor-skating-in-edmonton/>

▶ St. Albert Fire and Ice Festival

Date: Monday, February 17, 2025

Time: 12:00pm - 4:00pm

Location: 151 McKenney Avenue

Cost: Free

Website: <https://stalbert.ca/events/calendar/community/fire-and-ice-festival/>



Come out for a fun, free, family event hosted by Fire Services! Kids firefighter obstacle course, petting zoo, fun crafts, sleigh rides, ice carver, fire dancer, food and refreshments by Save-on-Food and Tim Hortons.

▶ Silver Skate Festival

Date: February 7-17, 2025

Location: Laurier Park

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



The Silver Skate Festival is a free 10-day family-oriented festival that combines culture, art, education, sport, and recreation. We invite everyone to rediscover the joy of that first childhood snowfall or discover that joy for the first time.

▶ Winter Fun Day

Date: Saturday, March 1, 2025

Time: 1:00-4:00pm

Location: Leefield Community Hall

Address: 7910 36 Ave NW

Website: [Link](#)



Join us for a variety of FREE indoor and outdoor activities for the whole family; including snow painting, snowshoeing, snow fort building, hot chocolate, snacks and so much more! The event will go forward no matter the weather as we have an indoor space to use if needed.



Recipe Idea

▶ Banana Bread Muffin Tops

Have a recipe you want to share in the next newsletter?
Email jennifer@childdev.com

Recipe from [Oh She Glows](#), submitted by Nelia Horvath

“This is one of my favourite zero sugar recipes. Can easily be eaten as breakfast or an anytime snack (especially because I replace the chocolate chips with walnuts, pumpkin seeds, or other seeds/nuts). Also, I don't own a processor so this works just fine in my blender.” – Nelia H.

Ingredients

2 large ripe bananas, peeled (230 grams banana without peel)
1/2 cup packed pitted Medjool dates (125 grams pitted dates)*
1/4 cup virgin coconut oil
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 + 1/8 teaspoon fine grain sea salt
2 cups gluten-free rolled oats, divided
3-4 tablespoons non-dairy chocolate chips (or chopped dark chocolate)



Directions

- Preheat oven to 350F and line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.
- Add the peeled bananas, pitted dates, coconut oil, and vanilla into a food processor. Process until smooth. I let it run for a minute or so.
- Add in the cinnamon, baking powder, and salt and process again until combined.
- Add in 1.5 cups of the rolled oats and process for only 4-5 seconds, just long enough to roughly chop the oats.
- Remove processor from the base and then remove the blade and set aside. Carefully stir in the remaining 1/2 cup rolled oats and the chocolate chips.
- Spoon a large portion of dough (about 3-4 tablespoons or so for each) onto the parchment. Do not press down on the dough to flatten - simply leave it in a mound on the baking sheet.
- Bake cookies for 10 minutes, rotate the pan, and bake for another 7-9 minutes until golden brown on the bottom.
- Immediately transfer the baking sheet onto a cooling rack for 10 minutes. Then lift off muffins and place on the rack to cool completely.

Tip: Make sure you use very soft Medjool dates. If you are using firm dates, be sure to soak them in water until softened before proceeding with recipe.



Activity Ideas

▶ Indoor Games to Play with your Toddler

For a full list of games, please visit: <https://www.madeformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/26-indoor-games-to-play-with-your-toddler/>

Rescue the Animal

Prep time: 3 mins

Materials: Toy animals, masking tape

Gather up some toy animals (or cars or small dolls) and a roll of masking tape. Use strips of masking tape to stick the toy animals, one by one, to a window or a door. Then encourage your child to 'rescue' the toys by carefully peeling/pulling off the tape. It's a fun game for toddlers that's really good for developing fine-motor skills and hand-eye co-ordination.



Make a Toy Garage

Prep time: 20 mins

Materials: Cardboard box, cardboard tubes, glue, toy cars

With a cardboard box, some toilet paper rolls or kitchen roll tubes, scissors and sticky tape, you can create this homemade toy-car garage for toddlers, which we first spotted when it was posted by mum Leanna Bannister on the Family Lockdown & Tips Facebook group. How to make it? Leanna tells us: "I simply turned a nappy wipes box on its side, taped different cardboard rolls together and slid them into the box! My son Vinnie loves pulling all the cars out, then working out which cars can fit in which tubes! So simple to make and hours of fun!"



Hunt the Teddy

Prep time: None

Materials: Teddy

Hide Teddy (or another favourite soft toy) somewhere in the room (where your child can reach it) and go looking for Teddy together. Perhaps Teddy will 'magically' squeak when you get near (how are your ventriloquism skills?). Older toddlers might enjoy hiding Teddy for you to find, too.





Learning Story

▶ Trajectory Schema

Story By Racela Aquino, Dayhome Educator

I noticed Jude and Slyvia taking turns patiently while building a tower by putting one play dough container on top of one another. I observed so much fun, joy and excitement as soon as they built the tower and both yelled “I did it” (so much achievement and acknowledgement in their voices on building a tall tower) while running to me to give me a high five to shared their happiness and pride on an accomplished task!

Knocking over block towers is certainly an incredibly exciting experience for these two little ones! It is also part of the trajectory play schema (interest on building things and observing or problem solve on how to keep them together/movement and how objects move/land).

When Jude and Slyvia knock things over, they learn so much about how objects move (one could hit it lightly and didn't make so much noise on the floor or knock it over unexpectedly and made a loud bang on the floor). Each time they knock over their tower, I can see on their faces the recognition that something slightly different happens. The fall is different if Jude kick a tower versus if Slyvia pushes it with her hands. The trajectory of the playdough container is different if it is a light push or a strong push. I would say that this play was a huge success and will continue exploring more.

I wonder what happens if Slyvia and Jude would have knock out a block from the bottom of the tower versus from the middle or the top? The learning opportunities are endless! In the future, I will try to provide an opportunity for the children to extend or experiment on trajectory schema by providing more loose parts or building toys to play with while incorporating the rest of the play schema.



**CHILD DEVELOPMENT
DAYHOMES**

EXPLORING PLAY WORKSHOP

**Interactive workshop for educators to co-learn
alongside children. Bring the children for a
playful morning to explore, investigate and
create!**

Date: Wednesday, February 12th

Time: 9:30am-11:30am

Location: Slovenian Canadian Hall,
16703 66 Street NW, Edmonton

RSVP by February 7th to jennifer@childdev.com

SEE YOU THERE!