



Child Development Dayhomes February 2025 Newsletter

Information for Dayhome Educators and Families in Fort McMurray

Congratulations!

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

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|--|---------------------|--------|
| Hodan Dameye | 10 years | | Nezha Paras | 1 year |
| Shamaila Chaudhry | 6 years | | Hamidah Javeed | 1 year |
| Josephine Angelada | 3 years | | Bhashini Vithanage | 1 year |
| Aiel Bandy | 2 years | | Irina Krinitetskaya | 1 year |

Upcoming Statutory Holidays

(Dayhomes and office are closed)

Family Day: Feb. 17, 2025

Good Friday: Apr. 18, 2025

Easter Monday: Apr. 21, 2025

Victoria Day: May 19, 2025

Canada Day: July 1, 2025

Civic Holiday: August 4, 2025

Upcoming Educator Workshops

▶ Promoting Sensitive Interactions with Children

Date/Time: Feb. 12, 2025 - 6:00pm-9:00pm

Online: ARCQE's Zoom Virtual Platform

▶ Meeting the Challenge

Why are interactions between caregiver and child so important? This interactive workshop is a resource to support techniques and strategies for front line professionals enhancing quality child care particularly Adult/Child Interactions.

Link to register: Click [here](#).

Welcome Educators!



Mary Jane (new)
Elisabeth (returning)



Parent 2024 Tax Receipts

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



Attendance Records Due:

Monday, February 17 by 6:00pm

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

Happy Birthday to the following Educators!

Aysha, Geeta, Marquita, Arlene,
Khadija, Tahira, Sherri Lyn, Uchenna



Community Events

▶ 2025 Multicultural Expo

Cost: \$5.00

Date/Time: February 1, 2025 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Location: Syncrude Sport & Wellness Centre (9908 Penhorwood St)

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/2025-multicultural-expo/>

Get Your Tickets: <https://mcawb.org/expo>



▶ Pride Bingo Fundraiser (Ages 14+)

Cost: \$40 (pizza included with cost of ticket!)

Date/Time: February 8, 2025 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Location: Stonebridge Hotel (9713 Hardin St)

Link: click [here](#)



▶ Black History Month Events

Cost: Free

February 3, 2025 - Proclamation Ceremony - Jubilee Centre (Time tba)

February 15, 2025 - 1/2 day seminar "Black Canadians Charting a Successful Future"

February 22, 2025 - Cultural Extravaganza - Suncor Energy Centre for the Performing Arts (12pm-5pm)

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/black-history-month-events/>

▶ WinterPlay

Cost: Free

Date: February 21–25, 2025 (all day)

Location: Snye Point Park (1 Morimoto Drive)

Link: Click [here](#).



▶ Family Literacy Class

Cost: Free

Date/Time: 2 sessions - February 22, 2025 and March 29 - April 12 (10:00 am - 12:00 pm)

Location: Keyano College (8115 Franklin Ave)

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/familyliteracyclass/>





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.



Standards

FAMILY DAYHOME STANDARDS MANUAL FOR ALBERTA

This manual contains the standards for Dayhomes and Dayhome agencies to provide child care. Every month we will review a Standard.

Standard 13: Visual Identity

- Programs must display the visual identity for family day homes in a prominent place in the program residence while they are approved.
- If a program does not maintain approved status, they must remove all logos from their residence.



Standard 4C: Outdoor play space

- The program must ensure that children have access to outdoor play space.
- If the outdoor play space is part of the program residence, it must be securely enclosed.
- If the outdoor play space is not part of the program residence, it must be within a safe and easy walking distance.

Follow us on Social Media



Métis Dayhome Program

This program aims to support Métis Albertans in opening licensed day homes, made possible in partnership with Apeetogosan Métis Development Inc. Successful applicants will receive a one-time \$20,000 grant. For more information and how to apply, click [here](#).

Car Seat Info Sessions

Upcoming Date: Feb. 8, Mar. 7

More [info](#).



Parent Feedback Survey on CDDH Website

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



Can Avenue

Learn English on your own or with friends and family. CanAvenue online learning is free. The site has hundreds of learning activities. Sign up for a free account to get started.

Website: www.canavenue.ca

Flight Focus

“Deeply connecting with/in our physical world begins with being responsibly playful in nature. This means spending time outdoors, in Alberta, it may mean taking opportunities to appreciate the uniqueness of the seasons and changes in weather and daylight at different times.”

Think about your dayhomes access to play in the outdoors, what materials are rotated through outdoor areas, what activities are available in the outdoors?



Educator Professional Learning Highlights

How to teach picky eaters to try new foods without a battle -Titilayo

Early Learning and Childcare Diploma-Abeer

“Level 1 Early Childhood Educator Certificate”-Irina, Nezha

“Voices of Tradition; Weaving Indigenous Literacy into your Early Childhood Space”
Meaghan

Nurturing Childhoods Through Indigenous Ways of Knowing-Michelle A

Challenging Behaviors- Michelle A

Get Outside and Play - Sidra, Maria Frac

“Celebrating the Wonders of Winter” -Tanya

Mind Up for Life - Cristie, Uzma

“Finding the Magic in Out of School Care Programming- Trupti

Part 1: Foundations: Understanding a Rights Based Approach to Practice Webinar Series”
-Marivic

Brain Story Certification- Marivic

Nutritional Workshop - Olubola, Sumaira, Abeer, Arlyn, Aysha, Bernadette, Bhashini, Cassia, Cristie, Elianne, Gemma, Hafida, Hodan, Khadija, Maria B, Maria F, Marivic (Abby), Mary Jane, Nezha, Saadia, Salma, Sheri, Uchenna, Vandana





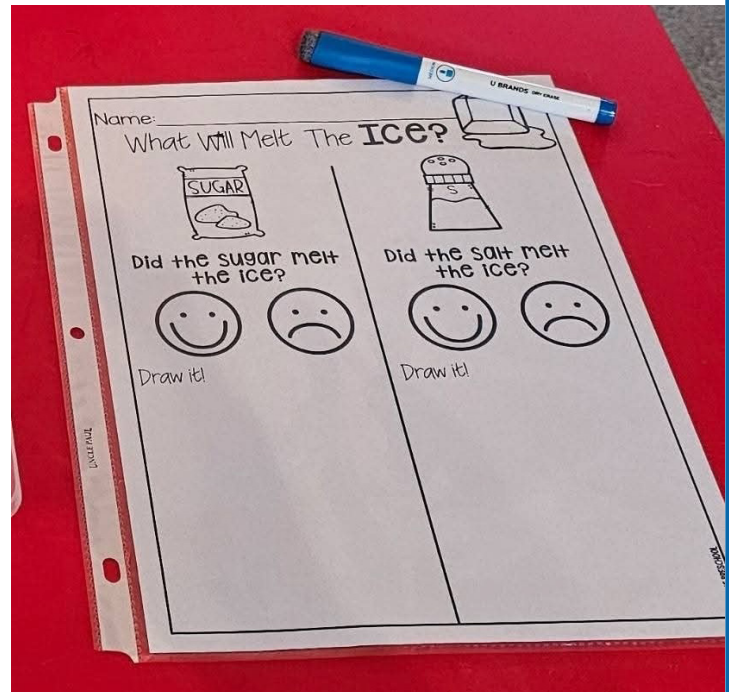
Learning Story

► Fine Motor Ice Experiment

Sheri Lynn's Dayhome

The scientists at Sheri's dayhome were experimenting with ice and snow and Sheri set up a provocation/experiment for the children. On this day the children were able to provide a hypothesis as to what would melt the ice? Salt or Sugar?

The children recorded their hypothesis and got to work adding the salt and sugar to the ice in the bins. This simple activity required team work, communication, fine motor and some hand-eye coordination to ensure that the ice was adequately covered.

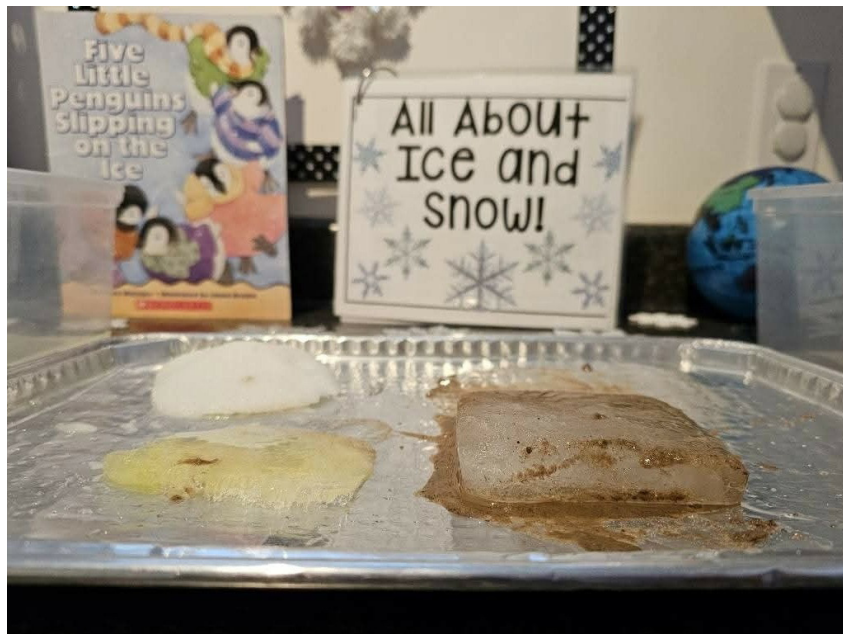


Looks like the Salt was better at melting the ice than the sugar was..... onto the next experiment - Salt vs Sand....



In the photos that Sheri provided, I see the dispositions of **Seeking**: questioning, wondering and curious and the children are also using their senses as they work through this provocation.

Using the disposition of **Participating**, I see the following: The children are engaged with each other, they had to negotiate, take turns, and observe what others were doing and where they fit it.





Using the lens of **Flight: Alberta's Early Learning Curriculum** I can see the following Holistic Goals that the children are engaged in:

Well-being: Children gain a sense of others as they listen, support, encourage and care. Children build respectful and responsive relationships with others.

Play and Playfulness: Imagination and Creativity supports children to develop flexible thinking and explore opportunities for creating new possibilities. Playful Exploration and Problem Solving supports children as they learn about the properties of objects, test limits and negotiate to work out practical problems.

Providing children opportunities to explore and discuss different thoughts, ideas and processes allows them to understand the world around them. Do the trucks put sand on the road? or is it a mixture... salt to melt and sand for traction? I am curious what the children thought about this... how could we find out?

When we look at planning for children we can use a simple format: What, So What, Now What...

What happened, what did the educator notice the children say and do?

So What- How do we make meaning of what is happening... what significant learning did you see or hear? Was it something about a child's fine motor development? Was it language enhancement?

Now What- How will I, as the educator plan to support the extension of this provocation/experiment? Are there new materials that I want to add? What do I think the children would like to add?