Child Development Dayhomes

November 2026 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 November

Eva Fabales	7 years
Shaista Shameem	5 years
Zohra Ali	4 years
Analisa Ebuenga	1 year

Upcoming Online Workshop: Learning Through Active Play

*Must have attended Part 1 in October.

Part 2: November 10, 2026, 6:30- 8:30 pm
The second half of the workshop explores how to weave movement into daily routines and relationships. Participants are shown how active play can support smooth transitions, strengthen connections with children and colleagues, and create meaningful learning moments without interrupting play. Educators learn how to sustain active play habits over time, deepening their practice and making active play a natural part of every day in the early learning environment.

Welcome New Educators

Timberlea: Joy
Timberlea: Sharon Ellise
Thickwood: Ana Marie

Upcoming Statutory Holidays

(Dayhomes and office are closed)

Remembrance Day: Nov. 11, 2026

Christmas Day: Dec. 25, 2026

Boxing Day (in lieu): Dec. 28, 2026

New Year's Day: Jan. 1, 2027

Follow us on Social Media

Attendance Records Due:

Thursday, November 19 by 6:00pm

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

Alberta Approved Family Day Homes

Community Events

Youth Cooking Class (all ages)

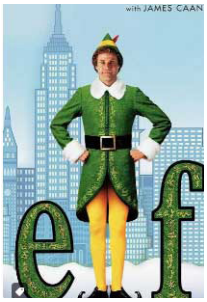
Date: November 2, 2026
Time: 5:30pm
Location: Nistawoyou Association Friendship Centre (8310 Manning Avenue)

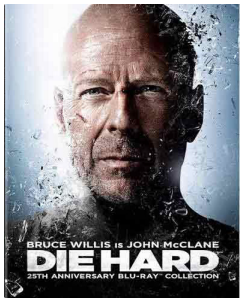
Join Knowledge Keeper Claire and Education Coordinator Jen for a fun and welcoming Youth Cooking Class at the Nistawoyou Association Friendship Centre! This beginner-friendly program invites youth and their families to learn essential kitchen skills together, including knife safety, kitchen awareness, table setting, and serving a family meal. Each session offers a hands-on cooking experience where youth gain confidence, strengthen family connections, and share a delicious meal they helped prepare. This is a drop-in program - no registration required!

Wellness Summit: Thrive Through Winter

Date: November 28, 2026
Time: 10:00am - 5:00pm
Location: Oil Sands Discovery Centre (515 MacKenzie Blvd.)
Cost: $35.00
Website: Link

Horizon Holiday Special





Date: November 20, 2026
Movies and showtimes:
Elf : 6:30pm
Home Alone: 8:45pm
Die Hard: 11:00pm
More info: Link

Westwood Music's Winter Market

Date: November 14, 2026
Time: 10:00am - 3:00pm
Location: Westwood Community High School (221 Tundra Dr.)

Local artisans, crafts, jewelry, custom woodworking, tumblers, soaps and bath products, ornaments, treats, and local businesses.

Flight Focus

Educators might join the children in play, thoughtfully and respectfully becoming a co-player and a co-learner. As a co-player in children's play, educators are in a unique position to extend children's ideas and/or challenge inequities that arise.

Educator Accomplishments

ELCC Diploma- Carol

Level 1 Certificate- Kate

Environmental Health Awareness and Learning Toolkit (EHALT) in Early Childhood Education- Bernadette

Beyond Behaviour- Bernadette

The Flight Course Series: Naming- Maria F

Learning through Active Play- Bernadette

Flight Course Series-Noticing, Naming & Nurturing

Wellbeing through Outdoor Learning, Nature Connection, and Mental Health – Zohra

Car Seat Info Session

Offering the session online! Dayhome educators can register, pay a $25 fee, and complete the session at their own pace. At the end of the session, participants will complete a 12-question knowledge check. Upon successful completion, a certificate is generated and emailed to them. Please see the link.

BUCKLE UP

ASaP Expectations and Rules

Educators acknowledge children who initiate interactions with them and engage in positive conversations, both brief and longer in duration, expanding and commenting on children's ideas and interests.

Supportive conversations enhance the communication and relationship building between educators and children, allowing them to confidently explore their environment.

Happy Birthday to the following Educators!

Nancy, Saleha, Irina, Geraldine, Sona, Shaista, Feline Kate, Sharon,

CDDH Surveys

Let us know how we are doing!

- **Family Survey**
- **Educator Survey**

Recipe Idea

Magnesium Magic Bars

From the Nourished Mother Cookbook

15 minutes Prepping
1 hour Cooling
Makes 1 8 x 8-inch pan

Base Layer Ingredients
½ cup almond butter (thin, not too thick)
3 tbsp coconut oil
⅓ cup maple syrup
¼ cup dark chocolate chips or chopped dark chocolate (70% cacao)
1 tsp vanilla extract
¾ cup oats
½ cup puffed quinoa
¼ cup hemp seeds
2 tbsp ground flaxseed
¼ cup pumpkin seeds
¼ tsp sea salt

Crispy Chocolate Topping
½ cup dark chocolate chips
1 tsp coconut oil
⅓ cup puffed quinoa

Optional: A sprinkle of coarse sea salt before refrigerating

How to Make It
In a small saucepan over low heat, melt almond butter, coconut oil, maple syrup, and chocolate chips, stirring until smooth. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla.

In a large bowl, combine oats, puffed quinoa, hemp seeds, flaxseed, pumpkin seeds, and sea salt.

Pour the melted mixture over the dry ingredients and stir well.

Press the mixture firmly into a parchment-lined 8×8-inch pan, smoothing the top.

For the Crispy Chocolate Topping, melt chocolate chips and coconut oil in the same pot you used earlier on low heat. Stir in puffed quinoa until coated.

Spread the Crispy Chocolate Topping mixture evenly over the bars, then sprinkle on coarse sea salt (if using).

Refrigerate for at least 1 hour until firm, then slice into bars.

Storage: Keep in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 1 week, or freeze for longer storage.

Pictured:
Abby Horvath making the recipe

Activity Idea

Ideas for Celebrating National Child Day - November 20

1. Wear a royal blue ribbon.

2. Attend a special event with a child.

3. Ask a child for advice.

4. Introduce your child to your place of work.

5. Plan a special visit to your child's class or child care setting.

6. Send a card to a child, caregiver or teacher in honour of the day.

7. Explore ways to make your neighbourhood a safer place for children.

8. Organize a fundraiser to support activities for children.

9. Invite a child out for a meal or snack.

10. Share a book or story with a child.

11. Cook a celebration dinner and invite friends and family.

12. Make a scrapbook highlighting a child's past week, month or year.

13. Think back on great moments of your childhood.

14. Thank relatives for caring for you as a child.

15. Reflect on the rights of children.

16. Send a package of toys, clothes or books to children in need.

17. Raise awareness for children's issues by talking to local politicians.

18. Donate time or money to a children's charity.

19. Tell a neighbour or friend about National Child Day.

20. Consider ways you can make Canada a better place for children.

Source: CCCF/FCSGE

Resources for National Child Day

National Child Day Videos

National Child Day Book List

Link: https://www.nationalchildday.ca/

Learning Story

Our Dinosaur World: Loose Parts, Big Ideas and Lots of Imagination

By Sheri Bugden, Dayhome Educator

Our dinosaur loose parts invitation turned into so much more than just playing with dinosaurs! The children created their own prehistoric worlds using dinosaurs, playdough, rocks, wood, greenery and other loose parts. Their play quickly filled with stories, questions, problem-solving and big ideas.

The children's words really showed how deeply they were engaging with their ideas:

Owen created a T. rex and a volcano and wondered, "How can I make lava?" He experimented with different shapes and materials as he built his world.

Macey created a forest and a volcano and even added a person to her scene. She wondered, "What is this dinosaur?" as she examined the dinosaurs and their features.

Wren commented that if we had blue playdough we could make water. So I found her some. She created grass for the dinosaurs, made a little island and asked about a duck-billed dinosaur. She also made her own volcano and invited others into her dinosaur play.

Paisley used the dinosaurs to roar at each other and stomp around. She excitedly pointed out, "Look at the green dinosaur!" She also covered the dinosaurs in playdough so they "would be so comfy."

Chase became interested in what happened to the dinosaurs. He wondered, "What killed them? How did the meteor kill them?" He explored ideas about water, lava and the mass extinction of the dinosaurs.

Kaiden created yellow lava and imagined a dinosaur stuck in it. In his story, the dinosaur was biting his mommy because he was stuck and he was helping his mommy.

My big dinosaur book
DINOSAURS