



Child Development Dayhomes

October 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 October

Saadia Nawaz	13 years	Maria Teresa Balasa	4 years
Aysha Aamir	11 years	Letty Lumhod	4 years
Ruthchel Verma	7 years	Gemma DeCastro	4 years
Bernadette Guerrero	6 years	Jera Mae Misa	1 year
Bhartiben Patel	6 years		



Upcoming Online Workshop: Learning Through Active Play

Part 1- October 20th 6:30-8:30 pm. We will explore how to easily facilitate play opportunities by setting up spaces that invite movement, making play accessible for children of all abilities. Educators learn how to create inclusive, developmentally appropriate environments where active play habits naturally flourish. Developing active play habits is the heart of Learn Through Active Play: simple, small shifts in play behaviour that steadily build individual confidence while strengthening relationships between children, and between children and educators.



Part 2: November 10th 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



Thickwood: [Felin](#)
Parsons Creek: [Ma Anna Katrina](#)
Timberlea: [Roselyn](#)

Upcoming Statutory Holidays

(Dayhomes and office are closed)

Thanksgiving Day: Oct. 12, 2026

Remembrance Day: Nov. 11, 2026

Christmas Day: Dec. 25, 2026

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



Attendance Records Due:

Wednesday, Oct. 21 by 6:00pm

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



Community Events

▶ All-Ages Youth Cooking Class

Date: October 5 or Oct. 19, 2026

Time: 5:30 - 8:00pm

Location: 8310 Manning Avenue

Event by: Nistawoyou Association Friendship Centre

Website: [Link](#)



▶ Parenting Without Burnout

Date: October 10, 2026

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Location: Online/Virtual

Website: [Link](#)



▶ Winter Donation Drive

Date: October 19, 2026

Time: 8:30am-4:30pm

Location: 206-9401 Franklin Ave

Website: [Link](#)



▶ Caregivers Coffee

Date: October 21, 2026

Time: 9:00am - 11:00am

Location: 28-117 Millennium Gate

Event by: Autism Society

Website: [Link](#)



▶ The Table – A Family Experience

Date: October 24, 2026

Time: 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Location: Fort McMurray Golf Club

Cost: \$31.50

Website: [Link](#)





Flight Focus

When you choose an image of the child as a strong, resourceful, and capable mighty learner and citizen, you enter into relationships with children to learn about what they know and want to know and you have an opportunity to respond to that information through your curriculum decisions.



ASaP Expectations and Rules

We will continue to explore Nurturing and Responsive Relationships:

- For infants and toddlers, imitate and expand on children's vocalizations or imitate actions
- Encourage back and forth exchanges or conversations by responding to children's communication by asking questions and making comments.
- Find one-on-one time to spend talking and playing with each child
- Know what interests the child and engage the children in conversations about those interest.

Educator Accomplishments

Creating Smooth Transitions- **Bernadette**
Meeting the Challenge- **Bernadette, Gemma, and Chita**

PFP Possibilities for Practice Learning Series-
Edna, Virgie

ASap Modules 1, 2, 3, 4 -**Gul Jana**
Promoting Sensitive Interactions
- **Ritha**



Happy Birthday to the following Educators!

Seema, Angel, Arlene R, Arlyn, Elisabeth, Josephine, Meaghan, and Bernadette



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](#).



CDDH Surveys

Let us know how we are doing!



Family Survey



Educator Survey





Recipe Ideas

► Apple and Cheese Quesadillas

Ingredients:

- 4 tortilla wraps
- 1 apple, cored and thinly sliced
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, grated

Instructions:

- 1) Sprinkle $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of the grated cheese on one of the tortillas.
- 2) Place half of the apple slices on top
- 3) Sprinkle with another $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of cheese and top with another tortilla.
- 4) Heat a non stick frying pan over a medium heat. Carefully place the quesadilla in the pan and heat for 2-3 minutes.
- 5) Using a spatula, gently flip the quesadilla and cook for a further 2-3 minutes.
- 6) Remove, slice and serve.
- 7) Repeat for second quesadilla.



Source: [Healthy Little Foodies](https://www.healthylittlefoodies.com/)

Activity Ideas

► Autumn Leaf Activities for Children

Link: <https://playofthewild.com/2019/09/03/autumn-leaf-activities-for-children/>





Learning Story

► Outdoor Play and Fun

By Trupti Kanchan, Dayhome Educator

After breakfast, the children enjoyed a fun and active morning at the park. They explored the outdoor environment with curiosity and enthusiasm, engaging in physical play that supported their gross motor skills, balance, coordination, and confidence.

In the evening, the children engaged in a variety of active outdoor play experiences. Through games such as tag and statue, they developed their social skills, turn-taking, listening, and ability to follow simple rules. Practising cartwheeling and standing on one foot supported their gross motor development, balance, coordination, body awareness, and physical confidence. The children then moved to the backyard sandbox, where they explored sensory play, used their imagination, and practised fine motor skills as they scooped, poured, and manipulated the sand. These experiences provided opportunities for physical development, social interaction, problem-solving, and independent play.

