

**Southgate Medallion
Family Day Homes**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS &
UPCOMING EVENTS**

19th Annual

**Caring that Counts
Provider Conference**

April 9th

8:00- 4:30

**4440 Gateway Boulevard
Underground parking**

Office Closed:

Good Friday:

April 22nd

Paid statutory holiday

Easter Monday:

April 25th

Paid holiday unless parent
needs care on this day and
you are not offering care.

Provider

Anniversaries:

The following
Providers opened their
day homes in April of the
year listed:

| | |
|----------|-------|
| Nazia | 2008 |
| Bano | 3 yrs |
| Jennifer | 2005 |
| Holland | 6 yrs |
| Meena | 2004 |
| Mishra | 7 yrs |
| Mandeep | 2009 |
| Sidhu | 2 yrs |
| Dolly | 2009 |
| Kandpal | 2 yrs |
| Kalpana | 2007 |
| Maity | 4 yrs |
| Rubina | 2007 |
| Raza | 4 yrs |
| Minal | 2006 |
| Gohil | 5 yrs |

Spring Poems for You and the Children

**On the Melting of
Snow in Spring**

As I glanced at the last
of the snow melting
away

I noticed the bright
spring day;

As snow melts away,
better days it brings-

Where spring sun shines
and the sparrow sings.

By Paige Scott



Springtime

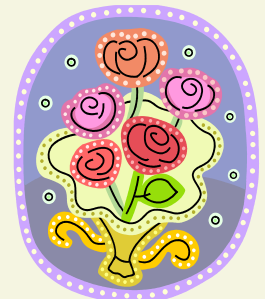


A small green frog
On a big brown log;
A black and yellow bee
In a little green tree;
A red and yellow snake
By a blue-green lake,
All sat and listened
To red bird sing,
"Wake up, everybody,
It's spring! It's spring!"

Agency Staff Changes



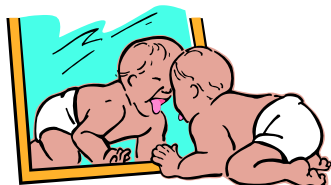
After 21 years with our agency, **Nazek Cayer** will be retiring at the end of March. She has been working in accounts receivable and has helped many families over the years with subsidy and account information. Her efforts to ensure parent accounts were up to date so providers would be paid have been appreciated by all. She hasn't had an easy job! Nazek has developed relationships with many providers over the years through her sense of humour and her friendly interactions. She is looking forward to spending more time with her loved ones and is already planning a trip to Utah with her family. We wish Nazek all the best in the next phase of her life. We will miss her greatly.



Esther Hillman has joined our staff and will be working in accounts receivable. She completed the Executive Secretarial Program at Conestoga College in Kitchener and worked at Workers Compensation Board for 7 years. She is a busy mother of two boys, aged 9 and 12, and spends a great deal of time driving them to dance, musical theatre and track and field club. She enjoys the great outdoors and loves to hike in the river valley. Please give Esther a warm welcome when she contacts you about accounts in the months ahead.

Engaging Babies and Toddlers in Text

Toddlers are egocentric. They like to know about themselves and how they fit into the world. To really engage toddlers in text choose books that relate to them.



Story books can easily become all about the child or children by changing the names in the story of those in the story to the names of the children listening. Children will be thrilled to hear even very familiar stories are suddenly all about themselves.

Stories without text can easily be adapted to be about the children being read to. A book with pictures of a child getting dressed can become a personal story about the start of the day of one of the children. A book with simple pictures of toys can become a story about each child playing with that toy.



Keep children engaged with books they know by:

- Pausing at points and allow the children to fill in the blanks.
- Choose fun rhyming books with predictable text and allow children to participate in reading the book.
- While reading, point at the picture to help children predict the next word.

Other ways to keep toddlers and babies engaged in a story:

Vary the voice. Give a special voice to each character. Just making a voice that is higher or lower than usual will create interest.

Read the same book many times a week so the children can learn the language in the story by repetition. Limit the number of books available so children are not overwhelmed by too many choices.

Musical themed books engage young children such as the Wheels on the Bus, or Old MacDonald Had a Farm.






Reading with infants and toddlers teaches language skills. Children develop oral language by interacting with adults and other children. Books allow for opportunities to connect the words heard with the pictures seen. Any attempts to vary the book experience will help keep the children engaged.

Creating personal books for your day home will also engage the children.

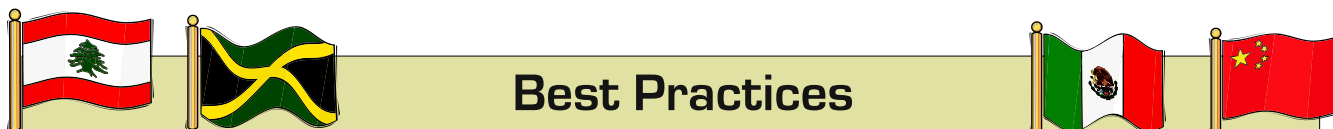
Take photos of daily routines, of the children working on a special project, a fieldtrip or just playing. Once the photos are printed and gathered together in a photo book or simply attached together in some manner, text can be added to the sheets. These types of books will be very personal to the children. Set the photo books with the other books. The children will be able to pick these books to read to each other. They will feel competent and proud of their ability to tell this story.



**Re-Accreditation Standard 2:
Each child is treated with RESPECT**
Interactions and Communications are POSITIVE and SUPPORTIVE

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| Responsive to children's needs. | Seek meaningful interaction with each child—express needs, desires and feelings. | Listen, acknowledge and respond to children's interests Ask questions. Engage conversation. | Coach children to respect the rights and property of others. |
| Parent and Provider communicate about child. | Use of communication books or email. Bulletin board has current info posted. | Encourage children to participate. | Children's feelings are valid and important. |
|  | Activities reflect children's lives. Display photos that have meaning to the children and relate to their home. |  | Meals are relaxing and have pleasant conversations. |
| | Seek children's opinions. | Encouragement for positive interactions. | Teach children that their actions hurt others without blaming. |
| | | | Do not interrupt a child when speaking.  |
| | | | Kneel, bend or sit to establish eye contact with child. |

Did you know the grant money providers receive each month comes from Re-accreditation? Therefore meeting all the requirements of Standards 1, 2 and 3 will ensure the grants continue. Child care is becoming a recognized profession as we achieve higher standards. We are no longer "babysitters". This view has become obsolete as we move toward the future.



Marie Krosova has a world map displayed on her playroom wall. She placed a pointer on each country the child is from in her day home. Then, on poster paper she displayed maps of those three countries. Beside each map she displayed the alphabet of the native language of that country and the flag. She has big posters of people in traditional dresses from different countries on the wall too.

Navnit Gupta planned active indoor play for toddlers when it was too cold to go outside. She read the book, *Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother Too?* By Eric Carle. It is a story about different animals and their babies (bear, penguin, swan, elephant...) Navnit and the children walked around pretending to be those animals and made animal sounds. Navnit led the game as "Mother" and the children followed her as "babies". The children also danced to the music later on.

Francisca Diaz had a discussion with children about different feelings with a feelings chart on hand: sad, happy, angry, annoyed, surprised, worried, disappointed. Daily, she asked children how they were feeling. The children circled the picture of the feeling on the chart. Then they talked about their feelings. The activity taught children to name their feelings and were able to talk about why they were feeling that way. It also made children aware of feelings of other children and the expectation to respect them.



The Tiny Seed By Eric Carle

