

North Edmonton Family Day Home Agency

Educator News April 2020



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2020 Statutory Holidays

Friday April 10 Good Friday	Monday September 7 Labor Day
Monday May 18 Victoria Day	Monday October 12 Thanksgiving Day
Wednesday July 1 Canada Day	Wednesday November 11 Remembrance Day
Monday August 3 Heritage Day	

Office Closed:

Easter Monday, April 13

If you plan to take additional days off, you need to let families know in writing, at least two weeks in advance, of your planned absence. This allows back up care to be arranged.

COVID-19

**PLAYGROUNDS
CLOSED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Currently the transmission of COVID-19 in our community continues to rise. It is important that we do all we can to stop the spread.

Consultants did not make home visits from mid March. For April the decision to do visits will be made depending on the situation in April.

What you need to do:

- Take a Zero Tolerance for any signs or symptoms of illness. First and foremost any person, child or adult, who is ill with any respiratory infection or illness, which may include cough, fever, or sneezing, needs to be excluded from care, or from dropping off a child. If the ill person lives in your home, you need to close your home.
- Hand wash, Hand wash, Hand wash, Hand wash, Hand wash. **Use hand washing as a learning time.**
- Do not serve food family style or serve on a community plate or share utensils, or cups/water bottles.
- Remove activities where children share or reuse the material. Play dough, sensory bin, and water table.
- Remove all toys that cannot be easily disinfected, plush toys, pillows or foam sofas like you might put in a cosy reading centre.
- Limit the amount of material children have to choose from while still maintaining choice.
- Local park(s) are now closed but avoid any community gathering spots. Stay in your yard or walk in your community, maintain social distance with others persons you meet along the way.
- Maintain social distancing outside of your home and stay home when ever possible. You may want to discuss with parents about social distancing when they come into your home.
- Do not have visitors to your home other than when children being picked up and dropped off.
- Teach everyone to cover their coughs and sneezes. They can cough or sneeze into their elbow or better yet a tissue, and then have the person wash hands their hands with soap and water for 20 sec. Have Kleenex and a lined garbage can accessible.
- Ensure regular and routine disinfecting. Wash the surface with soap and water then disinfect the surface using a mixture of 1 part bleach (5% sodium hypochlorite) and 9 parts water, ensuring the dilute solution makes contact with the surface for the manufactures suggested time for disinfection. This solution is strong and should not be used on fabrics, or surfaces that the manufacture states it should not be used on. It is the solution that is recommended for blood, mucous, and bodily fluids. Do not mix with anything accept water and only use when children are not in the area. Make fresh daily.
- Use a sanitizing solution on food contact areas, change pads and toys. Wash with soap and water first and then sanitize with a solution of ½ teaspoon of bleach to 4 cups of water. Make daily. Do not use when children are in the area when in use. Poisonous when wet. ONLY add water to bleach!

COVID-19 can be a serious but temporary illness, do all you can do to stop the spread and then remind yourself, life will return to normal in time.

Administrative Fee Change

The agency has increased the administrative fee for NEW, full time families coming into care. The admin fee is now \$150.00.

Increasing the admin fee to new families was a hard decision, but a necessity, due to finding cuts the Government has recently imposed on agencies. The increase was done in a way not to impact families presently in care. If you are quoting fees to NEW FAMILIES please include the increase in your quote.

Postponed
until further notice

Hatching Chicks

Hatching chicks is a wonderful way to introduce children to the wonders of nature. Through this experience children learn about the life cycle, growth and development of a chicken. The experience also encourages social interactions and promotes caring and nurturing skills.

Cost **\$25.00 for 6 eggs and \$44.00 for one dozen eggs. Cost will be a payroll deduction.**

Cost includes: All materials needed to hatch and support the chicks after they hatch, (heat lamp, container for the chicks, thermometer, basket for eggs, the feed and feeder, water feeder, pads for bedding) is

Educators, even those with previous hatching experience, **must attend an information session**, prior to the eggs being delivered to you. The session will include set up, maintaining the ideal environment for successful hatching, and provide information on how to care for the chicks once they have hatched. In previous years educators were not always as prepared as they needed to be to care for this living creature.

10 spots available for each date.

*The City of Edmonton does not allow a chicken to be kept as a pet or for any other reason without a special permit.

All chicks need to be returned to the agency the Monday after the eggs have been delivered. We will donate the chicks to a farm or you could take the chicks to a farm you know.

Dates: **The Agency will re-evaluate this activity as we get closer to the date.**

Second Grouping

April 16 - Thursday 6:30 – 7:30, Information Session, and equipment pick up.

April 20 - Monday - Eggs brought out to you.

April 27 – Monday - Chicks and equipment brought back to the Agency – late drop-off can be arranged.

Third Grouping

April 30 - Thursday 6:30 – 7:30, Information Session, and equipment pick up.

May 04 - Monday - Eggs brought out to you.

May 11 – Monday - Chicks and equipment brought back to the Agency – late drop-off can be arranged.

Teaching Children About Ramadan

April 24 – May 24 2020, Little Passports
littlepassports.com/blog/world-holidays/teaching-kids-ramadan/

Muslim's around the world are getting ready to celebrate Ramadan, which occurs during the 9th month of the Islamic calendar.

Not sure what Ramadan is all about?

Here's a list of fun facts about this holiday:

1. The Islamic calendar is lunar, not solar. Unlike holidays like Christmas, which falls on the same day every year, Ramadan starts on a different date each year.
2. People who celebrate Ramadan "fast" for the duration of the holiday, which means that they do not eat or drink anything from the first light of dawn until the sun sets.
3. The purpose of the fast is to take away focus from food, allowing that time and energy be put towards other things such as doing good deeds and spending time with family.
4. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims pledge not to tell a lie, gossip, or be greedy!
5. At the end of Ramadan comes the large and joyous celebration of Eid ul-Fitr, which lasts for 3 days! On the first day everyone puts on new clothes for a visit to the mosque, which is followed by a huge breakfast with friends and family.

If you don't celebrate Ramadan but would like to get in the spirit, here are a few things that you can do as a family:

- Eat dinner after the sun sets. Typical dinner items include; dates, fruit salad, kabobs and Rooh Afza) a sweet syrup that can be added to milk or water)!
- Volunteer, give to charities and be kind to others, which are some of the key principles of Ramadan.
- Make time to visit family and friends. During Ramadan, Muslim's make an extra effort to go and see loved ones.

Easter, April 12, 2020

Easter, also called Resurrection Day and Pascha, is a Christian holiday celebrating Jesus Christ returning from the dead. Christians believe that it is the holiest day in the year. People wear new clothes and go to **church**.



Some people who are not Christians celebrate Easter as a cultural holiday and celebrated in several ways. Most of these celebrations have nothing to do with the Christian meaning of the holiday. These celebrations are related more to the pagan festivals of ancient Germany. Children are given baskets to fill with candy. Eggs are decorated and hidden for children to find that the "Easter Bunny" supposedly laid.

Postponed

until further notice



workshops

Re-certification First Aid

Cost: \$110.00

DATE: SUNDAY April 5, 2020

TIME: 8:30 – 4:30

LOCATION: Agency Office

12704 - 101 street

Morning Snacks, and a Pizza Lunch with salad will be provided.

Call the office to register 780-478-3376

Maximum 12 participants



Educational Experience



Witness the miracle of metamorphosis with a Butterfly Raising Kit!

Check out the Education Station website to book your butterfly kit. The Kits sell out fast so book today. There are 6 weeks to choose from.

The process from **Larvae to Butterfly** takes approximately 3 weeks and is probably one of the coolest things that you can do with your children this spring.

https://www.educationstation.ca/catalogue/butterfly-life-cycle-raising-kit_215482/?fbclid=IwAR1BKXhvbGcG2rsEe6y_uutKUF97aogT_-oPv-BY-d8YH7D6IF5NkBxnp0



Family Day Home Standards

Family Day Home Standards Standard 10F: Animals

Where there are pets in the provider's home or other animals on the provider's property:

- children must not have access to animal/pet foods or wastes;
- children should not have unsupervised access to pets;
- pets must be vaccinated according to local veterinarian recommendations;
- reptiles and amphibians must be kept in safe, locked aquariums or cages.

Pets Policy Review

Educator Handbook

Plans to obtain a pet needs to be discussed with your consultant in advance of bringing any pet into your home. It is important to consider the children in your home. Are there any allergies to consider? Are families comfortable with a pet in your home?

Any pet which could pose a risk to a child, needs to be removed immediately and permanently from the family day home. Children, whether awake or asleep, should never be left alone with animals. Animals can be unpredictable and it is the responsibility of the Educator to anticipate unpredictable animal behaviour and



protect children. This applies to animals which may be indoors, or those which remain outside in a kennel. Pets have caused serious injuries to children and the sole responsibility lies with the Educator to ensure there is no opportunity for a child to be injured by a pet. Reptiles and amphibians must be kept in a locked aquarium or cage.

Congratulations!

***The following Educators are celebrating their anniversaries with NEFDHA in April.
Thank you for your gift of CARE.***

Delores Bruce	32 Years	Anamika Khanna	6 Years
Sharon Singh	25 Years	Particia Flores	5 Years
Susan Jakab	19 Years	Fariha Nadeem	4 Years
Rubia Ali	11 Years	Kim Hyunsook	3 Years
Jody Aubin	10 Years	Samia Zaroui	2 Years
Sobia Mubarik	9 Years	Jocelyn Petoral	1 Year
Ghazala Choudary	8 Years	Mohanjit Sehra	1 Year
Easmine Haque	8 Years		

Teaching Children to be Environmentally Responsible. How to Care for their World Every Day.

As an Educator you can help children learn about and experience how they can help change the world in a positive way. It isn't as hard as it may seem. It is best to start young and it will become a life-long habit.

As with other behaviours we wish to instil in our children, start small and be a role model!

Here are everyday ideas to help teach children to care for their world:

1. Conserve water
 - When brushing teeth, turn off the water.
 - Teach children about water saving.
 - Show them how to water a lawn and garden properly.
2. Flick the switch
 - Turn off the light when you leave the room.
 - Turn off electronics.
 - Finally, try turning off the air conditioner if the summer's not too hot.
3. Close the door
 - Keep doors to the outside closed so you won't let air conditioning or heat escape.
 - Don't leave the refrigerator door open for too long.
4. Start a Garden
 - Start simple, with containers of herbs.
 - Plant a small garden in your yard.
5. Avoid disposables
 - Use recyclable or reusable containers when packing food/lunches.
 - Use cloth instead of paper, like napkins or paper towel.
6. Recycle
 - Teach children what can be recycled instead of becoming household waste. Make a recycling centre.
7. Reuse
 - Clean out glass jars and reuse them.
 - Use empty paper towel rolls and boxes in art, building or storage project.
 - Reuse cleaned out plastic containers with tight-fitting lids for storage or a compost bin.
8. Compost
 - Teach children what can and can't be used for garden compost.
 - Have the children sort the food waste.
 - Show them the compost process as it happens.
 - Let them use the fertilizer in their window boxes and garden.
9. Walk or bike
 - Lead by example: Not all trips need to be taken by car.
 - Go for walks together.
 - And, when kids get older, let them walk or take a bike.
10. Take Care of Nature's Creatures.
 - Teach children the importance of insects, birds and other creatures.
 - Teach children not to kill any insect/creatures. Teach them not to fear them. Teach how to remove from an area you don't want them to a safe environment for them to be. If a bee gets inside of your home catch and release. Do not catch bugs/creatures in a catcher but observe them in their natural habitat.

Earth Day is April 22, 2020 Celebrating 50 Years