



GROW

Continuous Professional Learning in Durham



Welcome to the Summer 2021 edition of GROW!

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Email updates

To be notified when a new edition of GROW is available, please click the "Receive email updates" button at the bottom of the [Children's Services website](#). You will receive an email notification to let you know a new GROW is available.

"Children thrive in indoor and outdoor spaces that invite them to investigate, imagine, think, create, solve problems, and make meaning from their experiences – especially when the spaces contain interesting and complex open-ended materials that children can use in many ways."

How Does Learning Happen? pg. 20



Welcome to Summer 2021 GROW!

Welcome to the exclusive Summer 2021 edition of the GROW newsletter. Although training is not typically offered throughout the summer months, the Children's Services Division recognizes that the pandemic has increased the need for educators to come together to share experiences, successes, and support one another through reflective practice and professional learning opportunities. We also wish to recognize and honour the immense dedication to professional growth that the early learning professionals in Durham Region have made throughout this very challenging year, and their incredible commitment to making children and families their top priority.



We are excited to be offering a total of 27 training opportunities, which include a combination of 17 pre-recorded sessions, eight live sessions, two Communities of Practice, and four sessions delivered in French. 'Kognito - At-Risk for Early Childhood Educators' will be offered for the first time to supervisors on July 13, with a second session dedicated to educators running on August 25. If you have not had an opportunity to participate in this exciting simulation training program, now is your chance.

The Best Start Network is initiating a new Home Child Care Sub-Committee dedicated to building a greater education, training, and support system that will benefit children and families of Durham Region. They will be hosting an evening of focused conversation titled 'Connecting Home Child Care: A Conversation' on July 14 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. to help drive the work for this committee. We invite all members of the community to participate in this event, as all voices are important and valued. Please refer to page 8 of the newsletter for more information. If you would like to join the sub-committee, please contact Tracy Barclay at tracy.barclay@durham.ca to share your interest in this exciting work.

The Children's Services Division remains committed to supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion through addressing anti-Black racism, providing opportunities to engage in difficult conversations, addressing unfamiliar topics, and dispelling myths or misunderstandings. We are also continuing our journey developing and implementing culturally responsive Indigenous Early Years programming and focusing on imbedding Indigenous "ways of knowing" into our How Does Learning Happen? pedagogy. Please watch for upcoming training and workshops being offered by Debbie Ellis, Indigenous Training Specialist.

While the early learning resource library remains closed for in-person visits, it is currently open for curbside drop-off and pick-up every Wednesday for appointments from 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. A minimum of one business day's notice is required. The guidelines of the Durham Region Health Department continue to be followed while offering all supports and services.

Professional Education and Training (PET) Committee

The PET Committee's purpose is to provide educational opportunities for child care professionals to network with colleagues, as well as access professional development opportunities that provide relevant up-to-date information on current issues within the child care profession.

Goals and objectives:

The PET Committee will undertake the responsibility of coordinating and implementing the following educational and training opportunities:

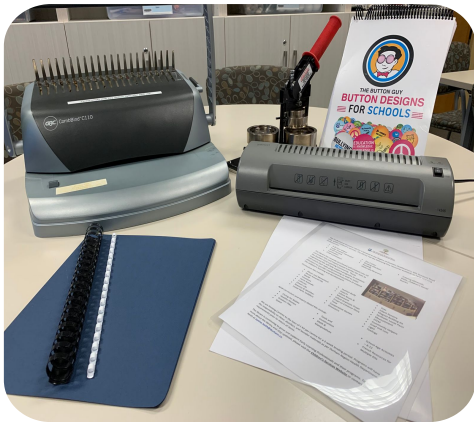
- Professional development workshops
- Supervisors' Network opportunities

Membership: The Committee welcomes all individuals who have an interest in providing training opportunities for the Durham Region child care community. We are currently looking for individuals who would be interested in being a presenter or facilitator within the community.

If you have a topic of interest that you are willing to share, please contact Lauren.Goldsmith@edukids.ca or Janine.Keith@durham.ca.



The Professional Resource Library
for Durham's early learning and child care community



July to August 2021

The resource library has the following free resources available to the early learning community: large and small button maker, large and small heated laminator, cold laminators, die-cutter, binding machine, reading materials/resources, training materials, DVDs, etc.

Kits currently available:

- Dinosaurs
- Cooperative Games
- Light
- School Age Activities (8 -12)
- Caring for Babies
- Infant - Dramatic Play
- Relaxation
- Human Body
- Community Helpers
- Emotions
- Feelings
- STEM 1
- STEM 2
- Family Dynamics
- Things that Go
- Healthy Kitchen
- Ocean Life
- Math with Loose Parts
- Space
- Measurements
- Outdoor Play
- Outdoor Play All Year Long

We are limiting centres to borrowing of one kit per centre for a two-week lending period. Programs will have the responsibility to clean, disinfect, and launder materials, as per Durham Region Health Department requirements, before the return of items.

The resource library will be open for curbside drop-off and pick-up every Wednesday for appointments made with a minimum of one business day's notice. An appointment can be scheduled between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Please contact Tracy Barclay by email at Tracy.Barclay@durham.ca to make an appointment.

We look forward to seeing you again soon!





Special Needs Resourcing



Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth- Durham Region (RFECY)

The Early Learning Inclusion (ELI) service, introduced in spring 2018, supports early learning and child care. Every licensed child care has an ELI consultant assigned to their centre. ELI consultants provide onsite consultation to work with educator teams to support inclusion. They provide resources and modeling in child care sites to support educators and promote the success of all children within the program. ELIs support the implementation of best practices and recommendations regarding a room or the specific needs of a child.

For more information, please contact Bev Cummins, Manager, Special Needs Resourcing, at (905) 427-8862 ext. 357 or Bcummins@rfecydurham.com.

Grandview Children's Centre – Preschool Outreach Program (POP)



POP provides clinical support to licensed child care programs to assist educators in supporting children with identified needs to fully participate in their program. POP provides support in the areas of physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology, based on challenges expressed by early childhood educators. This program is accessed by submitting a referral, which can be initiated over the phone or by printing the referral package.

For more information, please contact Meredith Stratton, Preschool Outreach Program Manager, at (905) 728-1673 ext. 2228 or Meredith.Stratton@grandviewkids.ca.



Infant and Child Development (ICD)

While Infant and Child Development continues to help with COVID-related work within the community, staff from Durham Behaviour Management Services are currently supporting families by discussing developmental goals, supporting new skill development, and providing links to other appropriate programs. We know how important it is for families to be connected and supported.

For more information, please contact Denise Dalton, (905) 668-4113 ext. 2829 or by emailing behaviourmanagement@durham.ca

Durham Behaviour Management Services (DBMS), The Regional Municipality of Durham



DBMS provides professional development and behaviour consultation to the early learning community. Through general room consultation, behaviour consultants provide recommendations to educators that are experiencing overall behavioural challenges in their centre. Behaviour consultants also provide child-specific services for children experiencing significant behaviour challenges and/or requiring more intensive skill-building (e.g. toilet training). With parental consent, a consultant will complete a comprehensive assessment with an individualized program and recommendations to help the child care provider address the behavioural concerns.

For more information, please contact Denise Dalton, DBMS Program Secretary, at (905) 668-7711 ext. 2829 or Denise.Dalton@durham.ca

Surrey Place – Blind-Low Vision Early Intervention Program



The Blind-Low Vision Early Intervention Program provides early intervention and support to children from birth to six years of age with a diagnosed visual impairment. This service provides supports to children and their families in natural settings, including their home and early learning settings. The goal of the service is to mitigate the risks of visual impairment on the child's development. The intervention provided through this program assists families and caregivers in providing opportunities that support the development of all the senses for optimized learning. Referrals for service must be received through the Regional Blind-Low Vision Early Intervention Program.

For more information, please contact Susan Hunt, Early Childhood Vision Consultant, at (416) 432-7640 or Susan.Hunt@surreyplace.ca.



**Community
Collaboration**



**Focused
Conversation**



Reflective Practice



Facilitated Learning



Communities of Practice

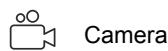
Early Learning and Child Care

Communities of Practice (CoP) workshops are facilitated online by members of the Durham early learning community, exploring topics of interest identified by early learning professionals.

CoP sessions in our early learning community will:

- Use a practice of facilitated and focused conversation amongst fellow educators in a structured format.
- Ensure equity and build trust within a community of learners.
- Support educators to share and reflect on current practice and past experiences.
- Invite educators to engage in the sharing and presentation of information to provoke deeper understanding.
- Create an environment in which educators are active participants, rather than simply a recipient of information.
- Support a culture of collaboration and co-learning amongst fellow educators.

The following technology is required to participate in these interactive virtual sessions:



To register for a session, please click on a box below:

Outdoor Learning

Wednesday, July 28, 2021
7 to 8 p.m.

Apprendre en plein air

Mardi 10 août 2021
19 h à 20 h





Workshop information

How to register for a workshop?

The dashed boxes highlight the workshop theme. Select the coloured box displaying the workshop title to be redirected to the Eventbrite registration link. A link to join the event will be emailed to you at least 24-hours in advance of the meeting's start time.

For more details on these workshops and to register, click on a box and you will be redirected to the Eventbrite registration page.

Relationships:

Sessions related to relationships between adults, children, families, and colleagues.

Introduction to Behaviour Management Prerequisite Learning Certificate (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

Standing Up to Bullying (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

Inclusion:

Sessions related to understanding developmental disorders, social and cultural diversity, and supporting mental health.

Preventing the Storm - Online Learning Certificate (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

Sleep (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

They are my size.... what now? School-age Engagement (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

The Power of Reinforcement (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

Stay Calm and Make a Plan (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

Don't Bite Me - Understanding biting in child care (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services

Initiation à l'autisme pour les éducateurs
Offert par: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Mercredi 7 juillet 2021
19 h à 20 h 30

Engaging School Aged in Child Care
Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services
Thursday, July 15, 2021
Noon to 2 p.m.



Virtual workshops Summer 2021

For more details on these workshops and to register, click on a box and you will be redirected to the Eventbrite registration page.

Home Child Care - Modifications and Accommodations

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Wednesday, July 21, 2021
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Supporting Children with Medical Needs in an Early Learning Environment

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Wednesday, August 4, 2021
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Language Learning for Littles

Offered by: Grandview Kids
Wednesday, August 11, 2021
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Modifications and Accommodations in Child Care Spaces

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Wednesday, August 18, 2021
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Pedagogy:

Sessions related to professional practice, knowledge, and competence for the early learning and child care sector.

Reflecting on Programming - Infant Criteria (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Region of Durham

Reflecting on Programming - Toddler Criteria (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Region of Durham

Reflecting on Programming - Preschool Criteria (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Region of Durham

Reflecting on Programming - Before and After School Criteria (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Region of Durham

Let's Get Physical (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Region of Durham

Let's Get Creative - Process Art (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Region of Durham

Soyons créatifs – le processus de création artistique (préenregistré)

Offert par: Spécialistes de la formation en apprentissage précoce, région de Durham

Réflexion sur la programmation - critères préscolaires (préenregistrés)

Offert par: Spécialistes de la formation en apprentissage précoce, région de Durham



Virtual workshops Summer 2021

For more details on these workshops and to register, click on a box and you will be redirected to the Eventbrite registration page.

Kognito - At-Risk for Early Childhood Educators for Supervisors

Offered by: DBMS and Early Learning Training Specialists

Tuesday, July 13, 2021
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Kognito - At Risk for Early Childhood Educators

Offered by: DBMS and Early Learning Training Specialists

Wednesday, August 25, 2021
6:30 to 9 p.m.

Health and Safety:

Sessions related to regulations concerning safety and healthy programming.

Frequent Flyers - Elopement Behaviour in Child Care (Pre-recorded)

Offered by: Durham Behaviour Management Services



Connecting Home Child Care: A conversation

The Best Start Network Committee wants to hear from members of the Home Child Care Community. We will be hosting a virtual community event with key players from the community, which includes representatives of Home Child Care organizations, special needs resourcing agencies and services, home visitors, home providers, EarlyON, and local colleges to participate in focused conversations.

Through a series of collaborative conversations, we want to discuss ways to build a greater Home Child Care education, training and support system that will benefit the children and families of Durham Region. The information gathered from these sessions will be used to develop a work plan for a newly initiated Home Child Care sub-committee of the Best Start Network.

Join us on July 14, 2021 from 7 to 8:30. Registration is now open on Eventbrite.



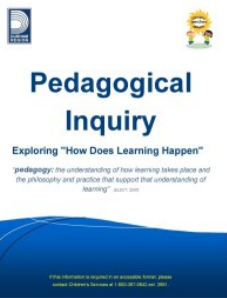


Professional learning resources



The Ontario Ministry of Education recently released **Building on How Does Learning Happen? Pedagogical approaches to reopening licensed child care**. This document shares ideas, reflective questions, and lessons learned from emergency child care to help support child care and early years settings. Building on HDLH, it encourages child care and early learning programs to continue meeting quality and curriculum requirements as they work to provide healthy physical, social and emotional spaces for children and their families during the reopening phase.

Pedagogical Inquiry Tool (2015) and new 2019 Extensions



This tool has been developed by a sub-committee of the Best Start Network to support continued pedagogical reflection utilizing: "How does learning happen?" (2014), "Think, Feel, Act" (2013), and "Think, Feel, Act: Empowering Children in the Middle Years" (2018). These activities will support deeper exploration of the four foundations, pedagogical leadership, inclusion, cultural identity, bullying, etc.

Requests for updated USB sticks containing the original Pedagogical Inquiry and the new 2019 Extensions in both English and French can be made by programs to Tracy.Barclay@durham.ca.

Important notice from the College of Early Childhood Educators: Effective April 2020 to August 2021, all members will have the option to defer compliance with their Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) program requirements for one membership year due to COVID-19. The option to defer compliance will be available to members on their next annual renewal. Members may only select this deferral option once. CPL audits are currently postponed until further notice.

For more details on the deferral options based on your renewal month, please review the [CPL Deferral Chart](#).

Durham Mental Health Services (DMHS) is a charitable not-for-profit agency providing services and supports to individuals and families who are living with mental health concerns. Operating under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors, staff work in partnership with clients, offering services that are person-centred and sensitive to individual needs.

Togetherall is an anonymous online community where members support each other 24/365. You can complete a self-assessment, read recommended resources, explore a wide range of self-guided courses at your own pace, and use creative tools to help express how you're feeling.

Children's Mental Health Ontario's nearly 100 member organizations operate in every region of the province, providing treatment and support to children, youth, and families. This includes targeted prevention, early intervention, short- and long-term counseling and therapy, and intensive services such as residential care. Children's Mental Health Ontario agencies are open and providing support via phone and virtually during the COVID-19 response.





For more information, please contact:

Children's Services Division: durham.ca/ChildrensServices

Dale Franklin: Dale.Franklin@durham.ca or 905-668-4113 ext. 2753

Janine Keith: Janine.Keith@durham.ca or 905-668-4113 ext. 2755

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-387-0642

