

Community Connections – June 9



Good morning!

During these uncertain times, we want to stay connected to you and our community, supporting each other and sharing resources will help all of us and the families that we work with. Below you will find information and resources that are inspiring us – please feel free to pass this information on to anyone who might be interested.

*Also, please let us know if there is anything you have found that has **inspired you** and we will share in future newsletters.*

A dark, textured background, possibly a close-up of a tree trunk or a similar natural surface, with a quote overlaid in white text.

When you can't control
what's happening, challenge
yourself to control the way you
respond to what's happening.
That's where your power is.

Spotlight Program: Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care

Since the closure of child care centres in March our team at Rosalind Blauer Centre for Child Care has continued to work from home but we have stayed connected as a team:

- We set up a working group in Facebook Messenger so we can share information with each other on an ongoing basis
- We have been working on a group project around transitions (webinar through [Click Here](#)) in small and large groups using Zoom. Additionally, we are all individually attending webinars and online courses. Our goal is to look closely/critically at our daily practice as educators so we can return to our work as Registered Early Childhood Educators with new perspectives and skills.

We have also worked at staying connected with our families:

- One of our team members made hand made cards for each of the children and the educators wrote individual messages to every child. The cards were address to the children and sent out in the mail.



- We have weekly group zoom meetings for each age group. Each age group has a scheduled time and day. The educators provide the children with a variety of activities such as science, literacy, music, yoga, jolly phonics/math, outdoor/nature and physical activity. The response from our families has been wonderful. Because we have many siblings at the centre so we often have children in more than one meeting. We have had families join us for the child's zoom group meeting while traveling in the car, while out on a hike and in the back yard. One of our children doesn't like to be on camera so his parents keep the camera off and the mic muted. They type his response in the comment box and the educators respond to him verbally.
- We have regular ongoing posts on our Facebook page [Click Here](#). We also do three posts each Wednesday on our page that are specifically for our families. They include "Hello's from educators, Stories, activities and songs. All of our educators take turns creating new posts.

- We send out emails to families every Monday with the link to their child's Zoom Group Meeting as well as information about anything that their child will need to bring to the meeting that week and a list of what will be included in the Wednesday Facebook Post.
- We have been continuing our Seeds of Empathy visits with our Seeds Family. The senior preschool children have been joining the visits on zoom so they can continue to see Amy and baby Evelyn. Each visit takes place after the reading of two books on a specific topic (posted on Facebook). This month's topic is "Friends". We are very happy that the children can continue to see baby Evelyn's development.
- We continue to put out a monthly news letter.
- We encourage our families to send up pictures and video of what they are doing. The educators respond to parents' submission.
- Our Kinder Forest School Group also stay in touch through their blog [Click Here](#)
- We are currently in the process of planning for graduation. We are working on plans for "Drive by Graduation" in June.

Stay up-to-date:

Want the latest Covid-19 information from Canada, Ontario and Niagara? Be sure to get your information from dependable sites: (**Facebook Friends are NOT reliable information sources**)

Niagara Region Public Health Daily Covid-19 Updates: [Click Here](#)

Niagara Region Community Resources: *is working with the community to ensure residents are connected to resources, services, programs and support during the COVID-19 pandemic.* [Click Here](#)

Ontario Government Covid-19 Update Page: [Click Here](#) français: [Cliquez ici](#) (this site has the information available in many other languages)

Health Canada Covid-19 Update Page: [Click Here](#) français: [Cliquez ici](#)

Supports for you, your clients and families:

Parent.com: [Click Here](#) for an Anti-Racism age-by-age guide to fighting hate

Stronger Minds by BEACON [Click Here](#) for a free digital program for all Canadians – to support your mental well-being through the COVID-19. français: [Cliquez ici](#)

The Toronto Hospital for Sick Children: [Click Here](#) for resources on COVID-19 and how to help you cope. There are resources on how to support your child's mental health and general wellbeing through physical activity, sleep, nutrition and learning. Also included are videos and audio meditations to help you cope with stressful thoughts and experiences that occur throughout your day. français: [Cliquez ici](#)

World Health Organization: [Click Here](#) for support to parents and projects that will engage children in understanding the coronavirus, the challenges it brings to their world and what can be done to protect them. This is updated regularly so check back. français: [Cliquez ici](#) Also available in many other languages.

Child Care Express: [Click Here](#) for the free video series: **Surviving to Thriving**. Each video has inspiration, support, and practical advice from experts to help you navigate the rough waters of this crisis.

Check out these Locally Sourced resources and activities:

The Brock Learning Lab: Brock's educational team has curated online resources for parents to use at home with their children [Click Here](#) for the full list of ideas and resources.

Autism Ontario Webinaire en français: avec Catherine Desjardins "Comment rester calme quand rien ne va plus?" Le vendredi 26 juin, de midi à 13 h. [Cliquez ici](#) enregistrer

YMCA at HOME: [Click Here](#) for supports for you and your family to stay healthy and connected at home. YThrive - workouts for the whole family; YWell - keeping your mind healthy and strong; YPlay - fun and healthy activities for families; and YGym - physical activity to keep kids active.

London's Children's Museum: [Click Here](#) for learn at home resources developed by the London Children's Museum's Ontario-certified teachers and Education Specialist, these resources are designed specifically with e-learning in mind. All are hands-on and tied directly to the Ontario curriculum

Centre de Santé Communautaire Voici l'horaire des activités de cette semaine et les coordonnées pour vous connecter :

- Mardi : zumba bébé à 10h (10 am) [Rejoindre la réunion Zoom](#) - ID de réunion: 773 7674 2707 mot de passe: 1CExiw
- Mercredi : zumba adulte à 18h (6pm) [Rejoindre la réunion Zoom](#) - ID de réunion: 772 4285 0191 mot de passe: 5Vw2kB
- Jeudi : Zumba kids à 14h (2pm) [Rejoindre la réunion Zoom](#) - ID de réunion: 781 8604 2869 mot de passe: 0FwwMr
- Vendredi : pound kids à 10h (10 am) [Rejoindre la réunion Zoom](#) - ID de réunion: 756 2258 3115

Things to do to keep you and your children busy while you are at home:

Magination press has made a number of activities and books downloadable for free:

- [Click Here](#) for a book for children to doodle, scribble, and draw out your thoughts, emotions, and feelings.
- [Click Here](#) for a drawing activities to assist with emotions and feelings children may be experiencing.
- [Click Here](#) for a mental health check up toolkit.
- [Click Here](#) to download the free booklet: "*Dream It – A playbook to spark your awesomeness*".

Cosmic Kids Yoga: [Click Here](#) Yoga, mindfulness and relaxation designed specially for kids aged 3+, used in schools and homes all over the world.

Happy Hooligans: [Click Here](#) for over 100 fun things to do at home during the warmer weather

Active For Life: [Click Here](#) for 42 easy activities to keep children busy while you work at home.
français: [Cliquez ici](#)

Parent.com: [Click Here](#) for virtual summer camp ideas

Ottawa Humane Society: [Click Here](#) for animal-themed activities the whole family can participate in

Mommy Poppins: [Click Here](#) for 100's of activities and resources for families at home

Virtual Tours of Canada: [Click Here](#) for virtual tours of zoos and aquariums, famous landmarks, parks, museums and other places of interest in Canada.

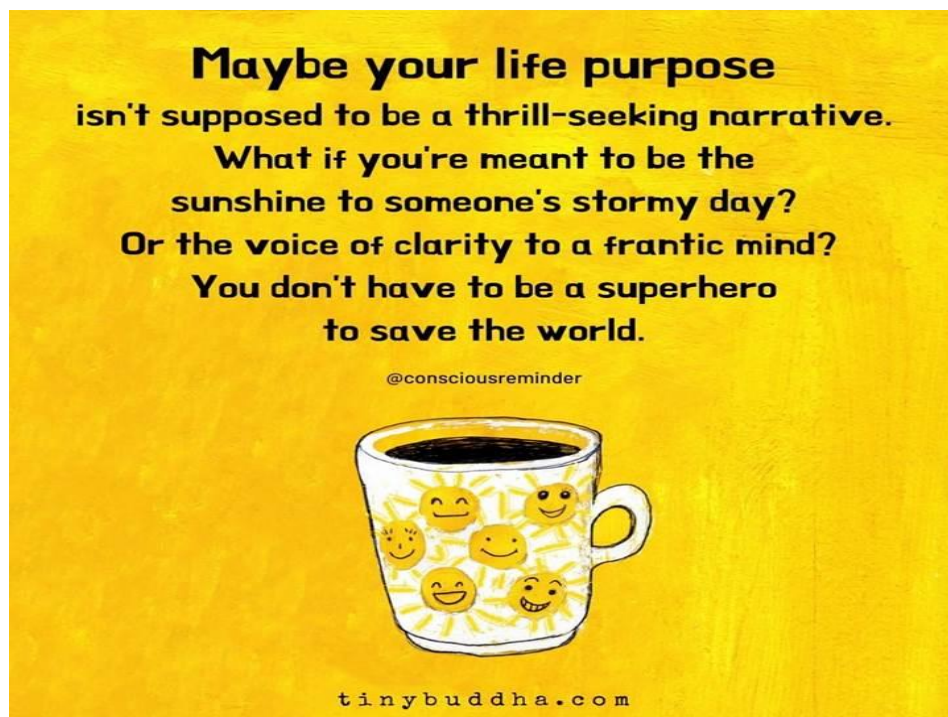
June is Pride Month: [Click Here](#) Fay Sliff's Top 10 Pride Reads for Kids

Aurora Borealis - Northern Lights: [Click Here](#) to stream the northern lights from the webcam in Churchill Manitoba

Bored Panda: [Click Here](#) for a collection of light-hearted and fun things to lighten the day

@loveyolibrary on Instagram – images, updates and resources promoting reading

Studio East Virtual Theatre Summer Camp: [Click Here](#) for training in the performing arts and live theater. Tapping the most talented teaching artists from Seattle's rich theater community, our classes and camps are available to any student across North America – age 4 through 19.



We would like to apologize if you received multiple copies of this email. We are trying to reach out to as many early years educators and staff as possible. Please share with all of your staff, clients, families or anyone who is not on this email list.

Take Care and Stay Healthy

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