

Infant and Toddler Network Meeting Minutes

Friday May 1 2020

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Acceptance of Agenda
 - Reviewing the agenda and adding additional areas - accepted
3. Housekeeping –
 - How to raise hand, unmuting on Zoom
 - ECCDC Webpage
 - What's New Section
 - Couch Exchange – new issue coming out today
 - QCCN Webinars
 - COVID-19 Webpage
 - Lending library curb-side pick up
 - Webinars
 - How to use website catalogue
 - Articles/ links shared via email
 - Moving webinars and training
4. Mindful Moments
5. Video Reflections
 - How Does Learning Happen?
 - What questions do you have about children in your program? What do you want to investigate further?
 - Questions about the children can be used in our documentation to focus ourselves
 - View of the child – competent, capable, and curious – how are we using that in our documentation?
 - How can others contribute to your interpretations? Thinking about preschoolers – can we involve them? Where is their voice in your documentation? How can we use the documentation to engage families?
6. Reflective Protocol
 - Attentiveness Protocol – the act of paying close attention to something
 - I see, I wonder, I think – what are you seeing the children doing? What are you wondering/ curious about? What might provoke the children's thinking? This informs us through our documentations. Can also use this with our families – I see this, this is what I wonder – what do you wonder?
 - Important to set aside time in your day to focus and reflect – very rewarding for your observation and documentation

7. Photo Reflections

- Couches and table with babies – welcoming, inviting, multicultural babies – see a reflection of themselves in the classroom, invitation to explore to see what they might do with those materials. May not go as you thought but this informs your documentation – what did they do with the materials and why might that be? Also, responsibility of taking care of someone else
- Sand box and pergola – natural materials, calming space, open space, design elements, space to move around. Stuart Shanker – spaces having islands, some children need islands that need more versus less in it – depends on their needs at that time.
- Ramps and building materials – stairs and ramp to help with coordination of balance, quiet area for children to go self-regulate, documentation on walls – think about placement of your documentation, good mix of both gross and fine motor in environment, opportunities for creativity – how are the children using these materials and how will this inform my documentation?,
- Carpet with building materials – giving them a challenge, natural materials, endless possibilities, opportunities for creativity and enhancing cognitive skills
- Carpet and pergola with blocks – variety of hollow blocks and other blocks used in combination so that children can use in a variety of ways, makes you look deeper at their play – what can we add?, mix of soft and hard materials, allows for relaxation during exploration, pathway on floor using materials with excess materials to continue pathway, neutral colours – calming and welcoming, comfort level with having gross motor activity (jumping space to space), consider colours and sound within the room, lamps as opposed to overhead lights to create calming space, mirrors on the wall
- Outdoor space – logs for children to climb and use as stepping stones, bridges, endless possibilities, variety of surfaces – good to document how they are using the variety of materials, collaborating on garden, bridge supports imaginative play but also used for a variety of other ways, opportunity to use found items
- Hallway documentation and sound tubes – opportunity to engage with something while they are waiting in the hallway, sound tubes good for exploration and discussion and can be used with families, sound tubes also good for use outdoors

8. Questions and Connections

- Can connect with ECCDC for support with outdoor environment, including shared spaces
- Low cost/ no cost options outdoors – tires, connect with municipality for wood stumps, old pots and pans for music wall, create wish list for donations from parents/ community, weaving wall using thick dollar store ribbon, pool noodles for dollar store and use on fence for counting, bathroom sink for mud kitchen – connect with Habitat for Humanity or renovation companies
- Muddyfaces.co.uk – website for outdoor play, has How to Create a Mud Kitchen, ideas for outdoor space, etc.
- Keeping outdoor space tidy – milk crates are good for children to carry but also don't store water. Put up pictures of the work that is happening for parents to see

9. Resources Available

- Kits available for borrow
- Support for observation and documentation – coaching and mentoring support from ECCDC
- Website: Couch Bulletins and Branching Out

10. Next Meeting June/Fall 2020

11. Meeting evaluation sent electronically