



The Learning Exchange: Quick links for Inspiring Professional Growth

Issue 62 • December 2023

Explore your personal professional learning goals through a variety of workshops, webinars, resources, websites, and other virtual learning opportunities that support your ongoing journey and well-being.

Professional Development

Virtual

- Planting & Cultivating Seeds of Mindfulness in Early Learning Series Session 3: Deepening Mindfulness Practices & Pedagogy in Early Learning Environment - **Monday December 4, 2023** from **6:30 to 8:00 pm**: [click here](#)
- Understanding the Best Practices of Technology in Early Learning Environment Series: Session 1 Embracing Technology - **Tuesday December 5, 2023** from **6:30 to 8:00 pm**: [click here](#)
- Inclusive Principles to Support Your Daily Practice Series: Session 1 Laying the Foundations to Start the Journey - **Thursday December 7, 2023** from **6:30 to 8:00 pm**: [click here](#)

In-person & Via Livestream

- December 14 Making the Most of Shared Spaces in Your School Age Program: Session 2- Documentation in Share - **Thursday December 14, 2023** from **6:30 to 9:00 pm (In Person)** and **6:30 to 8:30 pm (Live Stream)**: [click here](#)

December Highlights

Tree Decorating Day - December 2

- All about Tree Decorating Day: [click here](#)
- Decorating an Outdoor Edible Tree for Animals: [click here](#)



International Day of Disabled Persons - December 3

- United Nations: [click here](#)
- Celebrating Children with Disabilities: [click here](#)
- Adapting Common Games so Everyone Can Play: [click here](#)
- 25 Disability Awareness Activities for Kids of All Ages: [click here](#)
- Play and Friendship Games for Children with Disability: [click here](#)
- 25 Inclusion Books for Kids: [click here](#)

World Soil Day - December 5

- All About World Soil Day: [click here](#)
- Activities to Get Kids Caring More About Soil: [click here](#)
- Celebrate World Soil Day: [click here](#)

Hanukkah - December 8-15

- Hanukkah 101: [click here](#)
- 8 Ways to Celebrate Hanukkah with Kids: [click here](#)

Bodhi Day - December 8

- What is Bodi Day: [click here](#)

International Mountain Day - December 11

- All about International Mountain Day: [click here](#)

Ugly Sweater Day - December 15

- All About Ugly Sweater Day: [click here](#)

International Anti-Bullying Day - December 17

- Bullying Canada: [click here](#)
- Bullying Solutions for All Ages: [click here](#)

Winter Solstice - December 21

- All About the Winter Solstice: [click here](#)
- Yule: [click here](#)
- Dongzhi Festival: [click here](#)



Christmas Day - December 25

- Christmas Traditions: [click here](#)
- Reggio Inspired Christmas activities: [click here](#)

Kwanzaa-December 26

- What is Kwanzaa: [click here](#)
- Giving Children Authentic and Specific Praise and Feedback Blog: [click here](#)

Early Learning Podcasts, Videos and Websites

- Workforce Challenge Facing Early Learning Providers: [click here](#)
- What If They Don't Know How to Play? (early childhood Nerd podcast): [click here](#)
- Five Tips to Host a Fun and Educational Professional Development Day: [click here](#)
- A Guide to Unoccupied Play for Infants: [click here](#)
- Driving Change in Early Education Policies (podcast): [click here](#)
- Kindness Calendar - Supporting Social and Emotional Learning Daily: [click here](#)
- How to Build Autonomy in Early Childhood Classrooms (video): [click here](#)
- Incorporating a Calming Corner: [click here](#)
- 4 Theater Games That Make Great Morning Meeting Activities: [click here](#)
- Using Picture Books to Make Your Classroom More Welcoming: [click here](#)
- DOs & DON'Ts of Classroom Decoration: [click here](#)

Diversity and Inclusion

- Autism - The Impact of Community on Identity (Blog): [click here](#)
- Understanding Culture: [click here](#)
- Preschoolers Have Cultural Differences in Competitiveness and Generosity, Researchers Find: [click here](#)
- The Role of Place: 5 Moore Minutes Podcast: [click here](#)
- 6 Ways to Combat STEM Stereotypes Through Play: [click here](#)
- Tapping Into the 5 Senses to Support Children with Disabilities: [click here](#)
- How to Support Twice Exceptional Students: [click here](#)
- 16 Books for Teaching Tolerance and Understanding: [click here](#)
- A Landmark Study Strikes a Resounding Note for Inclusion Video: [click here](#)
- Finding and Utilizing Culturally Relevant Texts: [click here](#)
- Eyes on Culture: Understanding Differences: [click here](#)



Health, Wellness and Safety

- A 12-Minute Loving - Kindness Meditation to Connect with Compassion (podcast): [click here](#)
- Turn Your Walk Outside Into a Mind-soothing Exercise: [click here](#)
- Mindful Eating: [click here](#)
- Healthy Fruit & Veggies Sushi: [click here](#)
- Love as a Workplace Communication Tool: [click here](#)
- 2SLGBT+ Minority Stress in the Workplace: How Discrimination Hurts Health: [click here](#)
- Lunchtime Meditation: [click here](#)

Outdoor Activities & Resources

- Finding the Perfect Snowpants for ECEs: [click here](#)
- Adult Winter Boots Blog: [click here](#)
- Bird Friendly Schools: [click here](#)
- Schoolyard Bird Blitz: [click here](#)
- Outdoor Activities for Building Confidence in Kids: [click here](#)
- 3 Easy DIY Birdfeeders for Kids: [click here](#)
- 3 Key Ingredients for Supporting Children's Outdoor Play with Dr Mariana Brussoni (video): [click here](#)
- Exploring Listening Sounds Around Your Neighbourhood: [click here](#)

Celebrating Winter

- Getting Dressed for the Winter Kids' Video: [click here](#)
- 12 Ideas for Winter Outdoor Fun: [click here](#)
- 10 Winter Activities for Kids: [click here](#)
- 10 Outdoor Winter Activities for Preschoolers: [click here](#)
- Guidelines for Winter Outdoor Play Video: [click here](#)
- Activities for Toddlers: [click here](#)
- 3 Colourful Ideas for a Winter Scavenger Hunt: [click here](#)
- Children's Winter Scavenger Hunt Ideas: [click here](#)
- Adult Winter Scavenger Hunt: [click here](#)
- Family Winter Scavenger Hunt: [click here](#)
- Celebrate a Month of Activity with Advent Calendar Printables: [click here](#)



Small Business Resources

- Attracting the Emerging ECE Workforce: [click here](#)
- 5 Key Strategies to Retain Quality Educators: [click here](#)

Uplifting Stories

- Niagara Engineer Recognized – Again - as One of Canada’s Most Powerful Women: [click here](#)
- Indigenous Headdress Set to be Returned to Blackfoot Homeland after Century in UK Museum: [click here](#)

Do you have any uplifting stories you would like to share? [Click here](#) to email the Early Childhood Community Development Centre and it may be included in a future edition of The Learning Exchange.

Want to Know More about ECCDC Services?

- Check us out online at www.eccdc.org or in person at **3550 Schmon Parkway, Thorold**.
- We are open for members to visit onsite and can also make resource deliveries directly to member centres. Please contact the ECCDC at **905.646.7311 ext. 304** to make arrangements.
- The ECCDC offers a resource lending library of pedagogical materials, specialized workroom, an on-site conference room and a boardroom available for booking.
- Want to purchase items from a distance? We offer an online **EStore** with resources, books, and more!
- Our organization offers early learning programs organizational supports including indoor and outdoor environmental design services, team building, board development, curriculum planning and everything in between!
- The ECCDC designs and delivers professional learning opportunities in person and via webinar on a range of topics. We can customize and deliver to small or large groups, and we always have sessions advertised for anyone to join. [Click here](#) to see what we have scheduled or register for one of our sessions. [Click here](#) to view our Esteem page, the new issue will be released in late summer. [Click here](#) for a catalogue of customized offerings.