



The Learning Exchange: Quick links for Inspiring Professional Growth

Issue 66 • April 2024

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

- Learning Disabilities in the Early Years Series Session 2 - Strategies for Supporting Mathematic Difficulties in the Early Years **Thursday April 4** from **6:30 to 8:00pm**: [click here](#)
- Connecting Children to a Love of Food Series Session 1 - Nurturing Childrens Healthy Development **Monday April 8** from **6:30 to 8:00pm**: [click here](#)
- Vicarious Trauma: Strategies for Resilience **Tuesday April 9** from **6:30 to 9:00pm**: [click here](#)
- Fostering an Inclusive Environment Through Nature Play Series Session 1 - Supporting Inclusion for Children with Exceptionalities in Nature Play **Wednesday April 10** from **6:30 to 8:00pm**: [click here](#)
- Nurturing Brilliant Minds, A Professional Learning Series for Educators of Infants and Toddlers Session 6 - Supporting Risk & Challenge for Infants & Toddlers **Thursday April 11** from **6:30 to 8:00pm**: [click here](#)
- Flourishing in the Early Years Series Session 1 - Introduction to Gender Vocabulary, Identity Milestones, Assumptions & Biases **Tuesday April 16** from **6:30 to 8:30pm**: [click here](#)
- Addressing Challenging Behaviour in Young Children – The Leader’s Role in Supporting Teams and Supporting Families **Monday April 22** from **9:30 to 11:30am**: [click here](#)
- Challenging Behaviour: Supporting the Child, Family and Educator Session 1 - Putting Positive Supports in Place to Support Children with Challenging Behaviour **Tuesday April 23** from **6:30 to 8:30pm**: [click here](#)
- Pedagogical Documentation in the Early Learning Classroom Session 1 **Thursday April 25** from **6:30 to 8:00pm**: [click here](#)
- Risk Taking in Play Series Session 3 – Conversations about Risk & Challenge **Tuesday April 30** from **6:30 to 8:00pm**: [click here](#)



In-person

- Creating a Culture of Reflective Practice: The Role of Pedagogical Leadership in Early Childhood Education Programs, Book Signing & Full Day Institute **Saturday April 13** from **9:00am to 4:30pm**: [click here](#)
- Child Care Program Self Navigating Tour **Saturday April 27** from **9:00am to 4:30pm**: [click here](#)

April Highlights

Poetry Month

- ATA Libraries: [click here](#)
- Writing Poetry with Preschoolers: [click here](#)

National Wildlife Week - 2nd week of April

- CWF: [click here](#)

Soil Conservation Week - 3rd week of April

- Soil Conservation Canada: [click here](#)
- Soil Activities for Preschoolers: [click here](#)

Community Clean-up Week - 3rd week of April

- Wildsight Co-community Clean-up: [click here](#)
- National Geographic Neighbourhood Clean-up with Kids: [click here](#)

National Dandelion Day – April 5

- Dandelion Playdough: [click here](#)
- All About Dandelion Day (National Today): [click here](#)
- Muddy Faces - Inspiration Dandelions: [click here](#)
- Dandelion Activities for Kids: [click here](#)

Eid al-Fitr – April 5

- All About Eid al-Fitr: [click here](#)
- What is Eid al-Fitr?: [click here](#)
- What is Eid al-Fitr and How is it Celebrated?: [click here](#)
- Eid Recipes: [click here](#)



Solar Eclipse – April 8

- Total Solar Eclipse of April 8, 2024 (Government of Canada): [click here](#)
- 2024 Total Eclipse: Where & When (Nasa Explore): [click here](#)
- Solar Eclipse Safety (Canadian Association of Optometrists): [click here](#)

World Voice Day – April 16

- Using Movie Making as a Form of Engagement & Assessment Centers Students' Voices: [click here](#)
- Engaging Children's Voices in the Early Years: [click here](#)

Earth Day – April 22

- Mindfulness for Earth Day: [click here](#)
- All About Earth Day: [click here](#)
- Innovative Earth Day Activities for Kids: [click here](#)
- Earth Day Facts for Kids - Learn How Earth Day Stops Pollution (video): [click here](#)

World Penguin Day – April 25

- All About World Penguin Day: [click here](#)
- Activities for Kids: [click here](#)

The City Nature Challenge 2024 – April 26

- Canadian Wildlife Federation: [click here](#)

International Dance Day – April 29

- All About International Dance Day: [click here](#)



Early Learning Podcasts, Videos and Websites

- Something for School-agers; Improv is a Great Way to Keep Physically Literate Kids Moving: [click here](#)
- Something for School-agers; 5 Ways to Use Playing Cards for Cooperative Learning: [click here](#)
- Canadian Study Into the Benefits of Physical Literacy in ECE: [click here](#)
- Free Physical Literacy Resources for ECEs: [click here](#)
- Making Physical Activity a Part of Your Home Child Care Program: [click here](#)
- Songs and Games for Infants: [click here](#)
- ECE Quality Ireland Podcast – STEAM: [click here](#)
- Montessori Flower Arranging Activities with Children: [click here](#)
- Trauma & Trauma Informed Practice - The Everything ECE Podcast: [click here](#)
- 30-day Physical Literacy Challenge: [click here](#)
- Dissecting Daffodils & Tulips with Kids: [click here](#)

Diversity and Inclusion

- Share Your Strategies for Equity in Action with Exchange and CAYL Institute: [click here](#)
- Online Cree Language Course: [click here](#)

Health, Wellness and Safety

- A Cosmic Kids Yoga Adventure: [click here](#)
- What Nature Teaches Us About Well-being: [click here](#)
- 12 Minute Meditation for Cultivating Daily Gratitude: [click here](#)
- We're Hardwired to Crave Nature: [click here](#)



Outdoor Activities & Resources

- Infant Explores Outdoor Drumming Video: [click here](#)
- Child & Nature Alliance Using Tools Workshop: [click here](#)
- Child & Nature, Forest School Adapting to Diverse Environments Survey: [click here](#)
- The Healing Power of Nature: [click here](#)
- The Importance & Benefits of Gardening with Young Children: [click here](#)
- WILD Generations Gardening Club: [click here](#)
- How to Take an Awe Walk: [click here](#)
- A Pollinator Conservation Program for Schools: [click here](#)
- Flower Pounding & Wildflower Nature Study: [click here](#)
- Mother Nature's Paintbrushes: [click here](#)
- How to Build a Willow Den: [click here](#)

Small Business Resources

- Mental Health Commission of Canada Launches New Program to Promote Workplace Psychological Safety: [click here](#)
- Email Marketing 101: How to Create Effective Email Fundraising Appeals: [click here](#)

Spring Activities

- 100+ Spring Activities: [click here](#)
- DIY Wildflower Seed Bomb for Kids: [click here](#)
- Starting From Seed - 5 Easy Steps to Get a Jump Start on the Growing Season: [click here](#)
- How to Make DIY Wildflower Seed Bombs with Kids: [click here](#)

Uplifting Stories

- Millionaire Builds 99 Tiny Homes to Cut Homelessness in his Community: [click here](#)
- He Found the Largest Old Growth Cedar in BC: [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. [Click here](#) for a catalogue of customized offerings.