



Nurturing Brilliant Minds:

A Professional Learning Series for Educators of Infants and Toddlers

The ECCDC has designed this new series to offer a variety of sessions to foster conversations around the unique strengths and understanding that infants and toddlers inspire us with. The cost of each session is \$65. Individuals who register for all three sessions at the same time will receive a discount. The cost to register for the whole series is \$185.

Session One: Rethinking Your Infant and Toddler Environment

This thought-provoking workshop will support educators in considering new ways of setting up stimulating and innovative environments for the youngest children in their care. Join us to discover the many and varied ways in which educators may design environments and materials to enhance the curiosity and wonder of infants and toddlers. Participants will gain strategies for facilitating open-ended experiences that will engage infants and toddlers and support them in taking appropriate risks to maximize learning, and how this aligns with Ontario's Early Learning Frameworks. There will be an opportunity for participants to explore and Mess About with the open-ended resources, materials and experiences.

Thursday March 8, 2018 • 6:30 to 9:00 pm • Centennial College Event Centre, 937 Progress Avenue, Toronto (Spring/Summer Room) • \$65 includes training booklet, PowerPoint notes and nutrition break

Session Two: Invitations to Play for Infants and Toddlers

Are you trying to get to grips with taking the interests of infants and toddlers, and linking them to 'provocations for learning' and 'invitations to play'? If so join us for this interactive workshop that will consider the role of 'schema play' and offering experiences that cater to all the senses. This session will take an in-depth look at the concept of 'Messing About', developed by David and Frances Hawkins, and explore how it supports educators to provide meaningful, developmentally appropriate experiences for infants and toddlers. This workshop will also consider the importance of trying out activities before offering them to children and include an in-depth look at A Thinking Lens® for Reflection and Inquiry, developed by Harvest Resources. Participants will have opportunities to practice using this resource with fellow educators and have meaningful conversations regarding their experiences, hopes, and fears.

Tuesday April 24, 2018 • 6:30 to 9:00 pm • Centennial College Event Centre, 937 Progress Avenue, Toronto (Spring/Summer Room) • \$65 includes training booklet, PowerPoint notes and nutrition break



Treasure Baskets for Infants and Toddlers

Treasure Baskets and Heuristic Play are the ultimate in Loose Parts play for infants and toddlers and affords them open-ended opportunities to explore the world around them through their senses and exploration of everyday objects that they encounter in their daily lives. They forge sensory rich experiences, which prime them for fuller exploration and investigation. This hands-on, interactive workshop will explore the origins, and the simplicity and sophistication of Treasure Baskets and Heuristic Play. Participants will investigate the sensory possibilities of Treasure Baskets and the discovery opportunities of Heuristic Play as well as develop a Treasure Basket using interesting, everyday 'household items' and items from nature, followed by an opportunity to 'Mess About' with it.

Thursday May 31, 2018 • 6:30 to 9:00 pm • Centennial College Event Centre, 937 Progress Avenue, Toronto (Spring/Summer Room) • \$65 includes training booklet, PowerPoint notes and nutrition break

To register, call 905.646.7311 ext. 304, email eccdc@eccdc.org or visit www.eccdc.org.



Ginette Wilson

In her role as ECCDC's Early Learning and Child Care Program Consultant, Ginette Wilson, BA (Hons), RECE, DiP supports early years sites with environmental design, curriculum planning, play based learning kit highlights and other consultation needs. She facilitates our Professional Network Sessions and ongoing professional learning opportunities. Additionally, Ginette offers guidance with the ongoing development of lending library resources.

Ginette has enjoyed a 30 year career in early learning and child care in North America and the United Kingdom in a variety of positions including working directly with children, managing early learning and child care teams and consulting with not for profit and private organizations and government and social service agencies. Most recently, Ginette has worked with DSBN as a Designated Early Childhood Educator and with Rosalind Blauer as a Registered Early Childhood Educator. In the United Kingdom, Ginette worked as a Childcare Development Officer, promoting high quality child care services for children from birth to 16 and their families. She also worked as a Play Training Development Instructor; developing, delivering and coordinating a variety of workshops and network sessions. Ginette also served as a Childcare Manager in addition to holding various early childhood educator positions.



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