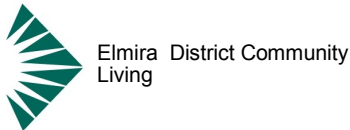




What's New in Special Needs Resourcing

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December 2011



As this is the final bulletin for 2011 and we are approaching the holiday season, I want to wish each of you the peace the season can bring, and want to thank each of you for your ongoing commitment to supporting the needs of young children.

This month I have provided some information on the services that Preschool Support Services offers in addition to individual consultation.

Services at kidsLINK, Preschool Support Services

By Tina Gaudin

Did you know that in addition to providing consultation to licensed early learning and care programs throughout the region around the social, emotional and behavioural needs of *individual* children, that Resource Consultants in Preschool Support Services offer Program Consultation and Social Skills groups?



Through Program Consultation the social and emotional development of all the children in the program is promoted, helping them become more resilient. The Resource Consultant utilizes an assessment tool called the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) to help the teachers identify the strengths and potential areas of emotional growth for all the children in the centre, with parental consent. (continued on page 2)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Peace-it does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart”. Unknown



(continued from page 1)

Reflective checklists are also completed by centre staff to allow for programming improvements to be made to better support resiliency and minimize problem behaviours. Resilient children become competent, confident adults!

With a Social Skills Group, the kidsLINK Resource Consultant co-leads and supports a group activity with the classroom teachers based on one of two programs, “Tools for Life” Relationship – Building Solutions or Second Step.

Both Tools for Life Relationship –Building Solutions and Second Step are resources that teach young children to think about the feelings of others, to solve problems in an age-appropriate manner, and to manage anger in a positive way. Through a series of fun lessons, photographs, songs and role plays, the children will learn these social emotional skills. The weekly sessions typically run for 8 – 10 weeks.

If you are interested in either of these services for your program, please contact the Supervisor of Preschool Support Services, Paula Brunkard at 519-741-1122 ext. 237 to make a referral.



For more information on the Child Care Special Needs Resourcing Partnership or to make a referral to the Child Care Special Needs Access Point please contact:

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MCYS Child Care Supervision Policy for Volunteers and Students

The CCSNRP is aware that this policy has led to some discussions regarding professionals consulting to ELCC settings and the need to have parental consent to be alone with a child.

To address this, all of the affected CCSNR partners have agreed that they will add a statement to their service agreements with ELCC programs. These are reviewed with and signed by parents and will identify the possibility that a consulting professional may be alone with a child at some time and the parent has consented to this.



Upcoming Professional Development Events

Have you seen kidsLINK's new 6 month workshop calendar hot off the press!

All of the training opportunities for both ECEs and parents from January –June 2012 are listed!

Don't forget the new webinar option for some workshops again this time!

If you did not receive a copy call the office at 519-741-1122 or log onto www.kidslinkcares.com

Current Research- Links

THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The mission of the Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development (CEECD) is *"to improve our knowledge of the social and emotional development of young children."*

The website has information for both educators and parents regarding the healthy social development of young children.

Check out the website!

www.excellence-earlychildhood.ca