

THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The educators of the ECC use the educational program administered by the MFA with professionalism and creativity.

This program contains 5 basic principles:

1. Each child is unique;
2. The child's development is an integrated and global process;
3. The child is the first agent to his/her development;
4. The child learns through play;
5. The collaboration with the daycare educators and the parents contribute to the harmonious development of the child.

The children are separated in age groups (depending on their age on September 1) and an educator is assigned to a group:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Age</u>
Ray of sunshine:	6-18 months
Shooting star:	18-30 months
Rocket ship:	2-3 years
Planet:	3-4 years
Rainbow:	4-5 years

These are approximate ages per group!!!

Process of educational intervention

The educator does observations for each child and a planning is done according to the individual needs and interests of each child. The organization of activities and the physical environment, as well as the analysis and results, completes the process. All this information brings us to discussions with parents during educational file meetings.

The ECC offers training to educators to enable them to achieve the objectives of the process mentioned above.

Each educator is assigned and responsible for the basic application of the structure of the room. Therefore he/she must:

- Organize his/her room with activity corners keeping in mind the interests of the children especially with games;
- Let the children have direct contact with the material in the organisation of his/her room;
- Encourage global development, reaching every dimension of the child;
- Provide children enough material that is appropriate, stimulating, presentable and multi-purposeful.

Each educator is responsible for applying the basic level of structure in activities. Therefore he/she must:

- Establish and follow a regular schedule;
- Encourage children to participate in the changing of the room;
- Let the children choose their activities;
- Keep in mind the individual needs and interest of the children in the programming;
- Encourage the children to be creative;
- Encourage open-ended activities that touch every aspect of their development;
- Use all kinds of animation and structure methods;
- Adopt animation activities that encourage the child to participate;
- Give each child special attention during activities;
- Use the games to stimulate the child;
- Encourage all kinds of activities and play;
- Encourage exchanges among children;
- Encourage consistency between activities performed at the centre and those of the family;
- Encourage positive discussion between educator and parents.

Each educator is responsible for the basic application of the democratic intervention. Therefore he/she must:

- Let the child participate in decisions that concern them, by letting the child verbalize their needs, emotions, limits and negotiating the acceptable solutions;
- Communicate with the child through playing games;
- Praise the child;
- Schedule observation periods;
- Observe each child;
- Adopt and maintain a positive attitude towards parents.

With the children:

- Pedayoga: psychomotricity, control
- Québec en Forme: psychomotricity
- Minipally: Social skills
- Show and tell weekly: Language, presentation in front of a group, sharing
- Circle time
- Nursery rhymes / daily songs: songbook given to parents for the year.
- Pictograms: for tidy up, emotions, schedule, sequence of a task (washroom, washing hands, etc ...)
- Calm corners
- Responsibilities chart
- Lunch box and pencil case activities: Independence for school readiness
- School visit or bus visit
- Dental hygienist visit and /or tooth brushing
- Others: workshops on bullying, assertiveness, etc.
- Espace Outaouais Organisation: Violence Prevention, etc.
- Awareness concerning nature: Recycling, composting, gardening, (watering, maintaining, picking, bringing vegetables to the kitchen).
- Healthy lifestyles: Quebec en Forme (nutrition)/ Pat the centipede: cook for a day, Making muffin, biscuits, pizza, etc.... Pack their own lunch box with educator. Learning healthy methods such as "blowing their nose", washing hands, how to cough, brushing teeth (Germaction), etc...
- Outdoor games: 2 to 3 times a day depending on temperature. Free games and workshops.

- Responsibilities with the chickens
- ALEX program
- Daily picnics in the summer months

With the parents:

- School readiness workshop for parents in collaboration with the school.
- Monthly Newsflash: explaining themes, healthy recipes, information tools, etc ...
- Monthly activity calendar posted in the locker room: reminders of the annual calendar.
- Annual activity calendar given at the beginning of the year: monthly themes, theme days, outings, visits, etc ...
- Bi-annual meetings between parents and their child's educator. (November and June)
 - Observations with the help of a grid to evaluate the different spheres of the child's development and to define with the parents' objectives.
- Programming sheet.

For employees:

- "Joujouthèque" photo book: themes boxes, games, furniture, various materials, etc...
- Programming board