



Children's Services Department

United Counties of Leeds & Grenville



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Newsletter

Summer 2007

New This Summer—Passport to Learning!

Our Summer Passport programs have evolved! Come and join us for a fun-filled and educational program that is being offered this summer at each of our centers.

Passport to Learning is a program that has been developed to promote your child's learning development. The program includes play/learning stations, reading circle and take home resources.

You will enjoy interactive early learning activities that promote literacy and numeracy skills, as well as creativity.

Passport to Learning will run for 5 weeks at each of our sites. The different themes are: **Health and Nutrition;**

5 Senses; Me, Myself and I; My Family and My Community.

Pre-registration is required. Please call your local centre for dates, times and further information.

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The Children's Services Department of the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville is committed to responding to the needs of parents, caregivers and young children, in partnership with the community, to encourage healthy child development and positive outcomes for all.



H

elping Your Child Cope With Separation Anxiety

Source: Canadian Child Care Federation

Starting at a new child care setting can be difficult on both the parent and the child. How easily a child adapts to a new situation depends on a number of factors such as: the child's age, past experiences, skills of the caregiver and how prepared the family is for the change. Here are some helpful hints to get you and your child through the process.

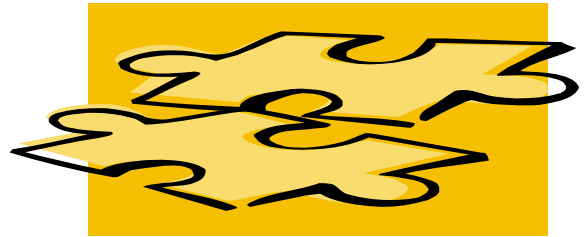


- ✦ **Share Information With Your New Caregiver:** Let the caregiver know about any unique likes, dislikes, fears and eating/sleeping habits. This will help your child feel more comfortable in the new surroundings.
- ✦ **Visit the New Setting With Your Child:** Before the child starts attending regularly, take time and show him/her the program. Creating a sense of familiarity will help make the actual separation easier.
- ✦ **Build Trust:** Children often rely on their parents to build new relationships with adults. Having brief conversations that include the three of you will help facilitate this connection.
- ✦ **Develop A 'GoodBye' Ritual:** Creating a regular goodbye routine can reassure and comfort your child. This can be as simple as always giving a hug, a kiss and a wave before you leave each day. Allow the child to help create the special ritual. Be sure to avoid repeated goodbyes.
- ✦ **Bring Something From Home:** Allow your child to take an object from home to comfort him/her throughout the day. This can be a blanket, teddy, parent's scarf or a glove. These objects will help make the transition easier and can either be put in the child's pocket or used during naptime.
- ✦ **Accept and Listen to Your Child's Negative Feelings:** Reassure yourself that you have taken all required steps to ensure your child is in a good child care setting and validate their feelings. Accept that this new arrangement may take some adjustment, but it will pass with a little time.

Sometimes it can be helpful to send your child for a couple of hours to get used to the program. This will allow both you and your child to adjust to the new situation before they are expected to go full days. Remember that some separation anxiety is normal for both parent and child.

Autism: Everyday Strategies for Your Pre-School Age Child

In collaboration with the Inclusive Child Care Program of Developmental Services of Leeds and Grenville, the Ontario Early Years Centre recently co-facilitated a workshop called “Autism: Everyday Strategies for Your Pre-School Age Child”. The focus of this workshop was to give affordable and useful ideas that would provide assistance with visual strategies, communication skills, behavioural challenges and social skills. Participants went away with many concrete resources to use either at home or in a child care setting.



This is just one example of community partners coming together to meet the needs of children and families in Leeds and Grenville. At the Ontario Early Years Centre we welcome your feedback, input and suggestions as it relates to programming that can be delivered by our own team of Early Years professionals, or which we might bring in from the community. Don't hesitate to share your ideas on your next visit to the Ontario Early Years Centre nearest you!

It Looked Like.....

Materials: “It Looked Like Spilt Milk” by Charles G. Shaw

- Sky Blue Paper
- White Paint
- Paint brushes
- Marker
- Stapler
- Construction Paper



If possible, do this activity outside. Read “It Looked Like Spilt Milk” to the children. Place sky blue paper, white paint and paintbrushes on a table to make a book-making area. Ask the children to make a “spilt milk” picture for the book. Encourage them to think of what the clouds look like, and then paint a picture of a cloud that looks like something they have seen recently. Label each painting with the child's name and sentence, “It looked like,” and add the name of the object that the child has painted. Make a book by stapling all the pictures between two pieces of construction paper. Title the book, “Our Spilt Milk Book”. Leave the book where the children can ‘read’ the book and tell others about their cloud pictures.

Taken from “Playing to Learn” by Carol Seefeldt, page 71. The book is available at the Ontario Early Years Centre-Leeds and Grenville, Gananoque Site. “It Looked Like Spilt Milk” (book and flannel story) is also available at the OEYC-L&G.



Fridays This Summer – Storytime Playgroup

The Ontario Early Years Centre of Leeds & Grenville will be providing a free summer program which will be offered **at a variety of Community Housing Locations**. This program will incorporate many fun and interactive learning opportunities for children ages 0-6 who are **accompanied by their parents and/or caregivers.**

After the “Storytime Playgroup” hour, the Toy Bus will be open for parents to sign out toys and resources for use at home. As with all services of the Ontario Early Years Centres, there is no charge to borrow toys from the Mobile Toy and Resource Library.

A terrific inexpensive way to enhance the play experiences over the summer!

Watch for the Toy Bus in the following neighbourhoodpark areas:



Fort Town Drive, Prescott	9-10:30 a.m. - July 6, 20 & Aug. 3, 17
Victor Crescent, Prescott	1-2:30 p.m. - July 6, 20 & Aug. 3, 17
Hastings Drive, Brockville	9-10:30 a.m. - July 13, 27 & Aug. 10, 24
Brighton Crescent, Brockville	1-2:30 p.m. - July 13, 27 & Aug. 10, 24

MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM

**The Moon is Round
As Round Can Be
Two Eyes, A Nose, and a Mouth
Like Me!**



The Mother Goose Program provides a group experience for parents and their babies (birth to 12 months), focusing on the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs and stories together.

Rhymes, songs and stories are taught through repetition. Parents and their babies interact during this time, through movement or identifying body parts that may accompany the song/rhyme. Songs and rhymes provide assistance with transitions, or routine times of the day, such as diaper change or feeding, or if baby needs some comforting.

This summer, the Mother Goose Program is being offered at our Ontario Early Years Centre in Prescott, located at Central Public School, 490 Jessup St., (Hyde St. Entrance). It is a registered program, and runs from Friday, June 15 to Friday, July 27, 2007, 9:30—11:00 a.m. Currently the program is full, however, you may request to be put on a waiting list.

Further, if this is something you would like to see offered again at the Centre nearest you, be sure to express interest to the Centre staff. We are always happy to hear suggestions about what families would like to see offered.

Scoop up Sand

(Sung to: "Ten Little Indians")

Scoop up sand and put it in your bucket.
Scoop up sand and put it in your bucket.
Scoop up sand and put it in your bucket.
How much do you have?



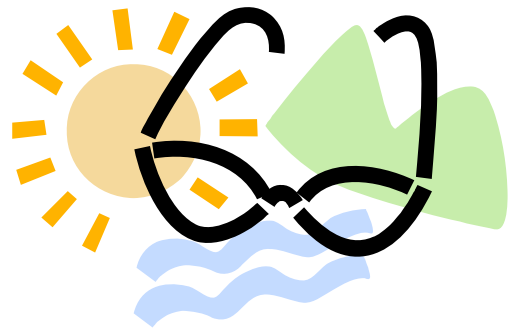
Summer is a great time for families to read together! Choose a favourite book and curl up on the couch, out in the hammock or in the tent and READ! READ! READ!



Summer's Here

(Sung to: "Frère Jacques")

Days are longer, sunshine's stronger.
Summer's here! Summer's here!
Let's jump through the sprinkler,
Let's make lemonade,
Summer's here! Summer's here!



Summer Reading Suggestions:

Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping by Peggy Parish
Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
Mrs. Wishy-Washy by Joy Cowley
10 Little Rubber Ducks by Eric Carle
Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak



FAMILY RESOURCE SURVEY

THANK YOU for making our Family Resource Survey completion a huge success! There were 87 surveys completed in total.

Look for the survey result summaries at your neighbourhood Early Years Centre in the coming weeks.



CONGRATULATIONS to the four Winners of the draw!

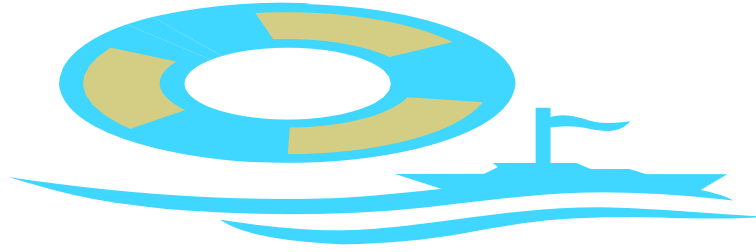


Child Care Fee Subsidy in United Counties of Leeds and Grenville - "NEW" Income Test Model.

ARE YOU FINANCIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR CHILD CARE SUBSIDY?

Eligibility is determined by your level of income as shown on Line 236 of your most recent Federal Notice of Assessment or net income as shown on your Canada Child Tax Benefit Notice. In some cases, families are eligible for a partial subsidy, but this will be determined during your appointment. For more information, call one of our friendly Child Care Case Managers at 613-342-3840 or 1-800-770-2170 extension 2366 or 2361.

SAFETY FIRST THIS SUMMER



The sun is shining, the water is gently rippling and a slight breeze is making you wonder how you managed indoors all winter . . .

Summers are short in Canada, so families tend to make the most of outdoor time and activities at this time of year. As nice as it is to see the sun again, with summer comes a new set of potential safety hazards. Put safety first this summer - take in the Injury Prevention Puppet Show at the Ontario Early Years Centre nearest you.

The Leeds Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit Injury Prevention Team will be presenting a puppet show and offering interactive activities for preschoolers at the Ontario Early Years Centre—Leeds and Grenville. The show is based on the Risk Watch® injury prevention curriculum and this year the program has been expanded to include physical activity as part of its focus. The presentation provides information on:

- Sun Safety
- Water Safety
- Fire and Burn Prevention
- Bike and Pedestrian Safety
- Poison Prevention
- Healthy Eating
- Home Safety
- Physical Activity

SHOW TIMES

Brockville Site	Gananoque Site	Kemptville Site	Prescott Site
<u>9:30—10:30 a.m.</u>	<u>10:45—11:30 a.m.</u>	<u>10:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:00—11:30 a.m.</u>
Thurs., July 5th Mon. , July 9th Tues., July 10th	Wed., July 4th Thurs., July 19th Fri., Aug. 3rd	Thurs., July 12th Mon., July 23rd	Tues., July 24th

JULY—AUGUST 2007	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Brockville Site 166 Pearl St. E. (613) 341-9044 1-866-433-8933	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. On-Site Toy Library 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. Info & Resources 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Info & Resources 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. On-site Toy Library 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Info & Resources 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Pyjama Jam 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dine & Family Fun Time 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. (Pre-Registered Program) On-Site Toy Library 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. <u>August:</u> Passport to Learning 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. (Pre-Registered Prog.) On-Site Toy Library 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Playing with Baby <i>(0-12 Months)</i> 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Sing & Rhyme Time 2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Info & Resources & Toy Library 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. On-Site Toy Library 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. p.m. CLOSED
Gananoque Site 375 William St.S Suite 100 (613) 382-8220 Ext. 3131 1-866-880-8284 Ext. 3131	C L O S E D	Info & Resources 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Passport to Learning July 11, 18, 25 August 1, 8 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. (Pre-Registered Program)	Play & Learn 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Healthy Babies, Healthy Children Week 1 of each month Inclusive Child Care Program/Week 3 of each month Info & Resources 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Baby Talk (facilitated by L, G & L District Health Unit) 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. p.m. CLOSED
Kemptville Site 215 Saunders St Unit 207 613-258-2225 1-866-433-8933 Bilingual Services Offered	Play & Learn Open Drop-In 9:30-11:30 a.m. On-Site Toy Library 9:30-11:30 a.m.	a.m. Closed Passport to Learning July 10-Aug. 7 1:00—3:00 p.m. Pre-registered Prog. Pyjama Jam (Open Drop In) 5:00-7:30 p.m. On-Site Toy Library 5:00-7:30 p.m.	Toddler Program 9:30-11:30 a.m. (Pre-Registered Prog.) On Site Toy Library 9:30—11:30 a.m. Baby Talk (facilitated by L.G. & L. District Health Unit) 1:30-3:30 pm	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:30-11:30 a.m. On-Site Toy Library 9:30-11:30 a.m. P.m. Closed	C L O S E D
Prescott Site Central Public School 490 Jessup St. Hyde St. Entrance (613) 925—4975 1-866-433-8933	Info. & Resources 9:00—11:30 a.m. & 1:00—3:30 p.m.	Play & Learn 9:00—11:00 a.m. Move, Play, Sing 11:00—11:30 a.m. Good Food for A Healthy Baby 1:00—3:00 p.m. Info & Resources 1:00—3:30 p.m.	Play & Learn (Open Drop-In) 9:00—11:30 a.m. Info. & Resources 1:00—3:30 p.m.	Passport to Learning July 5,12, 19 Aug. 2, 9 9:30—11:30 a.m. (Pre-Registered Program) Info & Resources 1:00—3:30 p.m.	Parent—Child Mother Goose Program June 15-July 27 9:30—11:00 a.m. (Pre-Registered Program) P.m. CLOSED