



## Community Child Care ~ July 2016



Ontario Early Years Centre-Carleton invites you to their /  
Le centre de la petite enfance de l'Ontario vous invite au

# Nature Playgroups / Groupes de jeu en nature

Join us in the outdoor with this summer's weekly nature playgroups! Held at local NCC hiking trails, these playgroups invite children 6 and under and their families to come explore the forest! /

Joignez-vous à nous chaque semaine pour les groupes de jeu en nature! Situés le long des sentiers CCN, ces groupes de jeu sont conçus pour les enfants de 6 ans et moins et leur famille afin d'explorer la forêt qui nous entoure.

Bring sunscreen, bug repellent, snack and water / Apportez votre crème solaire, produit anti-insecte, collation et une bouteille d'eau.



Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

jeudi matins de 9 h 30 à 11 h 00



### Schedule - Horaire:

July / juillet 12: P5 Old Quarry Trail / Sentier de la vieille carrière, ch. Eagleson Rd. (across from Hazeldean Mall)

July / juillet 19: P7 Sarsparilla Trails, ch. Richmond Rd.

July / juillet 26: P1 Shirley's Bay, Rifle Rd.

August / août 2: P3 NCC trails, ch. Corkstown Rd

August / août 9: Sheila McKee Park, Sixth Line Rd, Dunrobin

August / août 16: Hidden Lake Park, Carp Hills Forest, Carp Village

No registration needed - meet at the parking area /  
Aucune inscription requise - nous nous rencontrons au stationnement

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**Statutory Holiday:**  
Civic Holiday  
Monday, August 1, 2016  
*If your parents require care ask them to contact the office to have it approved.*



### How Does Learning Happen Videos

The Ministry of Education has posted videos to help us all learn how to effectively apply *How Does Learning Happen?* in our daily activities. The videos run from 10 to 22 minutes and are available in English and in French at:  
<https://vimeo.com/endlessfilms/elmfinal>

# FOCUS on Early Childhood Mental Health

Factsheet # 30, September 2011

## NURTURING THE NATURAL CURIOSITY OF CHILDREN



In the introduction to a collection of *Curious George* books, the editor quotes one person's response about why he liked the books: "George did all the things we didn't dare to do, so we could do them in our imagination and not be scared." Curiosity, especially when mixed with courage and imagination, helps us understand our world and is something to encourage in our children right from the start.

### WHY CURIOSITY IS IMPORTANT

- Helps children develop their whole selves, including their minds
- Provides answers to many of the mysteries of daily life: What happens when I do that?
- Increases children's potential to learn new things and builds confidence in the ability to learn and grow
- Enhances children's ability to be open-minded and tolerant of different ways of handling challenges
- Contributes to their enjoyment and awareness of the world

### HOW CURIOSITY FADES

- Fear—when a child is afraid, she won't explore and will stick with the familiar
- Disapproval—when a child hears "Don't" all the time, his desire to experiment will decrease
- Absence—when a child doesn't have a caring adult to share his new experiences or offer safety when trying new things, he may stop trying

## HOW TO ENCOURAGE THE NATURAL CURIOSITY OF CHILDREN

- Show your own interest in what's happening in your world
- Encourage children to pursue their own interests (music, play, books)
- Answer questions simply, clearly, factually, and in keeping with the child's developmental stage
- Ask open-ended questions (How do you feel about \_\_\_? Why is green your favorite color?)
- Redirect a child's interest but don't discourage it (e.g., if he likes to pour his cup of water on the floor, provide opportunities to experiment with water in the bathtub or backyard)
- Provide toys that encourage a child's imagination and aren't limited in their use
- Praise a child's discoveries of new things and efforts to master new skills
- Encourage children to explore their natural surroundings and look for answers to their own questions

### RESOURCES

- "Tips on Nurturing Your Child's Curiosity," Zero to Three; <http://tinyurl.com/3fgyuzk>
- "Emotional Development: Curiosity—The Fuel of Development," by Bruce Perry, M.D.; <http://tinyurl.com/nss2gu>
- "Five Ways to Develop Your Child's Curiosity," ETL Learning; <http://tinyurl.com/3wvnm6>



**Pennsylvania Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Committee**  
*Ensuring that coordinated and effective mental health services are available for all young children across the commonwealth*

FOCUS on Early Childhood Mental Health factsheets: [www.parecovery.org](http://www.parecovery.org)  
Pyramid Model graphic courtesy of the Center for the Social and Emotional Foundations of Early Learning