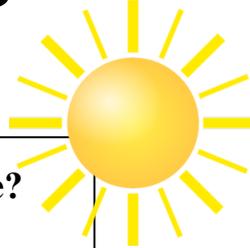




Summer: half gone or half left ?



If July = Rain does August = Sunshine?

We can hope!

The best defence against sunburn and insect bites is to wear a hat and a light, long-sleeved shirt.

If you have permission to use sun screen on the children, remember to apply it each time before you go outside and after the children have played in the sprinkler or with the water table or at a splash park.

Take advantage of every day to play with the children outside. Remember that you can sing songs in the open air, read books, eat snack or lunch, in fact you can do almost anything outside that you inside your home.

Enjoy it while you can!

Photos...

We are still looking for pictures and permission for us to use them for the 150 Faces slide show and poster project we are doing for the fall provincial Home Child Care Conference.

Private Children

We – and you – are now required to have the same information for private children as for agency children. Please send the information about private children to the agency before August 18, 2017.

You may use your own forms, but feel free to base them on agency forms. In the forms section on the website you will find a registration form for parents to complete and sign that includes the usual emergency information, and a complete set of forms without the agency logo that you can use as is or adapt to create your own forms

If a parent refuses to allow you to share the information with us, have the parent sign and date a note to that effect at the bottom of the registration form.

Replacement Provider

Does someone replace you as child care provider in your home when you go to the doctor or have some other appointment? There are new rules to follow and new paperwork to complete.

Your advisor will bring you:

- a form for anyone who replaces you as the provider to complete,
- a form for parents to complete giving their permission to have the replacement provider look after their child(ren),
- a checklist of all the documents the replacement must provide you and the agency, and the things the replacement provider must review before looking after the children.

Any replacement provider must have current Standard First Aid with Infant/Child CPR.

Before the person replaces you all the paperwork must be signed and in place in your green working binder and a copy must be at the agency office. **It is your responsibility to inform both the parents and the office each time you plan to have someone replace you.** If any parents are not comfortable having a replacement provider in your home, they may request alternate care from the agency.

Go on an Adventure Walk

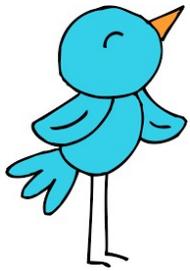


Head out the door and let the children choose which direction to turn next. Where will you end up?

Go on a Bug Hunt

Search your yard or the playground for bugs and other critters. What kinds did you find? How many? What colour? What were they doing? Get older children to record their findings and younger children to draw what they saw. Scientists in the making!

Go on a Sound Safari



Decide what sounds you are hunting for (sirens, birds, cars, construction machinery, children playing, or anything else you might hear in your neighbourhood). Make a chart with pictures and words and space to count the number of times you heard one of the sounds.

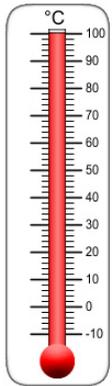
You can use this activity to compare the sounds the birds make (crows sound very different from cardinals) and the difference between the sound of a car and the sound of a bulldozer. Talk about why things sound like they do and about the sounds you didn't hear on your walk (cows, for example) and why you didn't hear them.

Create a Backyard Weather Station

A weather station is a set of devices for measuring elements like temperature, rainfall, wind direction and so on. You need a thermometer, a container for rain water and something like a sock with the toe cut out or streamers attached to a stick in the ground or on the fence to see which way the wind is blowing, and a notebook to record your findings.



If the thermometer can be left outside, keep it out of the direct sun and wind and simply record the measurement you see. If you have to bring the thermometer out from inside, give it time to reach the actual temperature before making your recording.



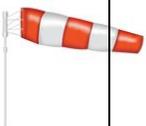
Your rain water container should be left outside somewhere that the rain can reach it unobstructed. Use a ruler inside the container to gauge how much rain has fallen, and empty the container after you record it.

If you have a compass or know your directions, record the direction the wind sock points that way. If you do not, record a landmark the wind sock is pointing at, like the shed door or the tree in the next yard.

The more detailed and accurate your measurements, the more specific your picture of the patterns will become. The fact that you are recording the measurements is more important than exactly how

you do it.

Depending on the ages of the children in care, each could have their own weather journal, or you could keep one for the whole group. Think about creating a wall chart showing the weather patterns over the past week or month. If you keep it up for a while, you will be able to prove – or disprove – the idea that it rains every weekend just when everyone wants to go to the beach!



Ministry Update

Our licensing visit from the Ministry of Education has not yet happened. While we continue to wait, please keep checking your paperwork and keeping your working binder up to date.

We have some of the best providers in the city – and maybe the world – and we know you will do us proud if the Ministry chooses to visit you. We are looking forward to showing you off!

When we know anything, we will let you know.