




65

**His Highness the Aga Khan**  
**Inauguration of the Ismaili Centre and**  
**the Aga Khan Early Learning Centre,**  
**Dubai**  
**March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

“We welcome our new Ismaili Centre in a setting which has itself become a great centre – a hub of cosmopolitan activity, a truly global crossroads. We hear a great deal these days about the words “convergence” and “connectivity.” In my judgment, Dubai is a place where those words truly come to life. Dubai has become the very embodiment of the global village, placing itself at the forefront of an enormous surge toward global convergence.”

<https://www.akdn.org/our-agencies/aga-khan-education-services/akes-middle-east>  
<https://the.ismaili/ismailicentres/dubai/opening-dubai>





**His Highness the Aga Khan  
Inauguration of Al-Azhar Park  
March 25, 2005 - Cairo, Egypt**

“Twenty-one years ago we had a vision that launched us on a journey of inquiry, exploration and discovery that took us through some 1,000 years of history of this extraordinary city.

It was a journey in which we engaged with historians, archeologists, architects and horticulturalists. We worked with engineers, statisticians, sociologists and urban planners. We met with neighbourhood residents and businessmen, artisans and entrepreneurs, young people and old.

Like some of the great Muslim explorers such as Al-Idrisi, Al-Baruni or Ibn Batuta, our journey of discovery was an act of faith. We did not know what lay ahead, other than excitement and unpredictability. And we knew that it could be enthralling but would require patience, determination and tenacity.”

<https://the.akdn/en/resources-media/resources/speeches/inauguration-al-azhar-park-his-highness-the-aga-khan>

*Happy 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*





65

**Prince Rahim Aga Khan**  
**World Government Summit**  
**February 13<sup>th</sup> - Dubai, UAE**

“How we plan, design, and manage cities in the developing world therefore will be of vital importance, both for our fragile planet and for humanity”.

<https://the.ismaili/global/speeches/prince-rahim-addresses-world-government-summit-dubai>





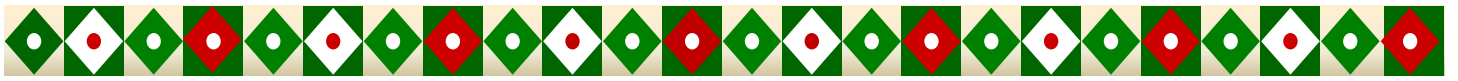
65

## **Aga Khan Foundation Portugal**

The Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) started by investing locally in ECD in the early 1980s, undertaking hands-on research to develop a child-centred learning model that would transform the preschool experience. The pedagogy-in-participation model has been developed in partnership with the Childhood Association since the early 1990s. It is used in various contexts within Greater Lisbon.

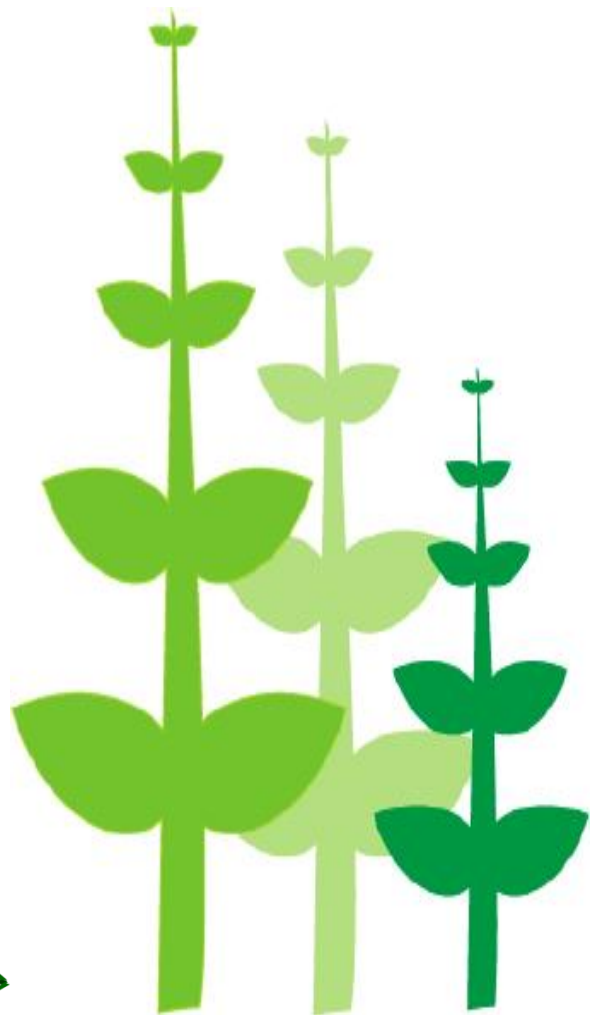
<https://the.akdn/en/where-we-work/europe/portugal/early-childhood-development-portugal>





“Exploration of the natural world begins in early childhood, flourishes in middle childhood, and continues in adolescence as a pleasure and a source of strength for social action”.

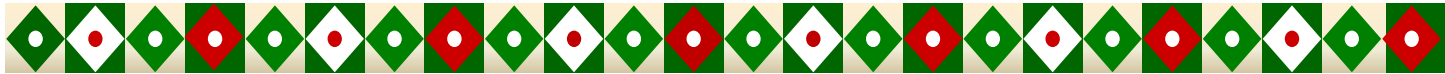
**David Sobel**



# The Early Childhood Educator



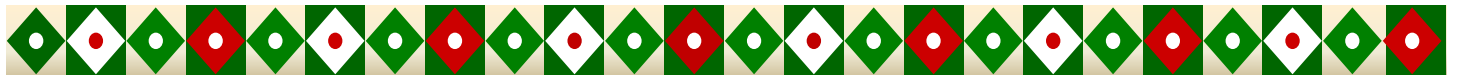
<https://earlychildhoodprofessionaldevelopment.com/our-courses-2/>



<https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/healthy-living/handwashing>







# *Happy First day of Spring*

## *March 21, 2023*



## SAVE THE DATE – March & April 2023

65

March 7, 2023 - World Book Day  
<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

March 21<sup>st</sup> – International Day for the  
Elimination of Racial Discrimination  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-racism-day>

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – Opening of the  
Aga Khan Early Learning Centre  
<https://the.ismaili/ismailicentres/dubai/opening-dubai>



**April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month**

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>

**April 2, 2023 – International Children's Book**

<https://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=269>

**April 7, 2023 – World Health Day**

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-health-day/>

**April 6-22, 2023 – National Volunteer Week**

<https://www.volunteer.ca/index.php?MenuItemID=379>

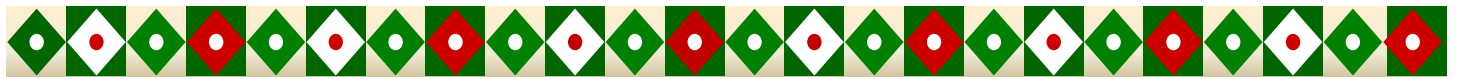
**April 1-7, 2023 – Week of the Young Child**

<https://www.naeyc.org/woyc>

**April 24-30, 2023 - World Immunization Week**

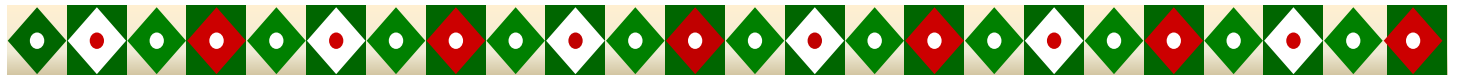
<https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2023/04/24/default-calendar/world-immunization-week-2023>





# *Early Childhood Conferences*





## Early Childhood Conferences (in person and virtual)

### Conferences in 2023

#### **National Training Institute on Effective Practices**

**April 11-14, 2023 - Tampa, Florida**

The National Training Institute on Effective Practices aims to provide professionals with an in-depth, intensive learning experience around the Pyramid Model framework.

<https://challengingbehavior.org/training/conference/>

<https://nti.cbcs.usf.edu/>

#### **National Institute on Infant and Early Mental Health**

**April 26-28, 2023 – Toronto, Ontario**

The National Institute on Infant and Early Mental Health invites practitioners, researchers and communities to submit proposals.

<https://imhpromotion.ca/Learning-Centre/National-Institute>

#### **National Virtual Conference 2023 - Leadership and Advocacy**

**April 26-28, 2023**

The conference offers opportunities to attend workshop sessions relevant to your complex role, network with professionals who relate to your trials and triumphs and gain inspiration from dynamic specialists in our field.

<https://mccormickcenter.nl.edu/leadership-connections-national-conference-2023/>

#### **International Conference on Early Childhood Education**

**May 20-21, 2023 - Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada**

The conference aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers, and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results.

<https://waset.org/early-childhood-education-and-effective-designing-instructions-conference-in-may-2023-in-vancouver>

#### **NEW ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2 Virtual Comprehensive Institutes**

**June 20-21, 2023**

Attend a virtual **Comprehensive ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2 Institute** from the comfort of your own home or office and learn everything you need to know how to use ASQ in your early childhood setting.

<https://brookespublishing.com/asq-3-and-asqse-2-virtual-comprehensive-institutes/>





## Conferences in 2023-2024

### **NEW NAEYC Annual Conference**

**November 15-18, 2023 – Nashville, Tennessee**

Annual Conference is designed for all early childhood professionals, including classroom teachers, center directors, administrators, and leaders who prepare, mentor, and support early childhood professionals.

<https://www.naeyc.org/events/annual/presenter-info>

<https://www.naeyc.org/events/annual/annual-conference-expo>

### **Division of Early Childhood's 38th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs**

**November 28–December 1, 2023, Minneapolis, MN**

More information will be coming in 2023

<https://www.deconference.org/>

### **World Forum on Early Care and Education**

**April 16-19, 2024 - Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada**

Join early childhood professionals and advocates from around the world who will assemble in work to impact the futures of young children and families.

<https://worldforumfoundation.org/2024-event/>

### **International Childhood Trauma Conference**

**4 August – 9 August 2024**

**Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre**

More information will be coming in 2023

<https://childtraumaconf.org/2024-conference-update/>

### **Division of Early Childhood's 39th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs**

**September 17–20, 2024, New Orleans, LA**

More information will be coming in 2024

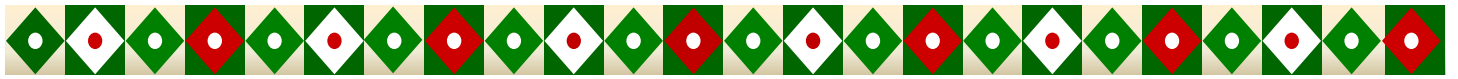
<https://www.deconference.org/>

**September 17–20, 2024, New Orleans, LA**

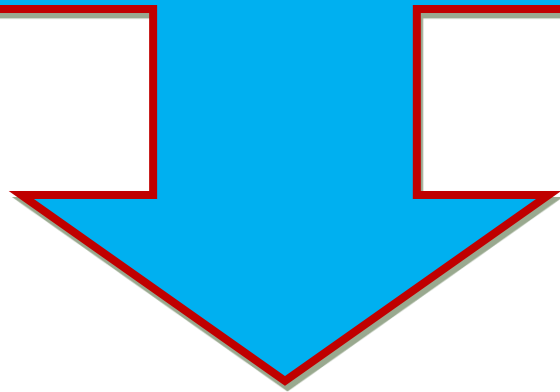
More information will be coming in 2024

<https://www.deconference.org/>





***Online Learning  
for Early  
Childhood  
Educators***





## **NEW Online Learning for Early Childhood Educators**

### **Certificate in Early Education Leadership**

#### **The Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative – Harvard Graduate School of Education**

The Certificate in Early Education Leadership (CEEL) is a first-of-its-kind, job-embedded, online program that provides early education leaders with the knowledge, skills, and tools needed to strengthen learning environments and foster quality improvement in all early education settings.

<https://zaentz.gse.harvard.edu/programs/certificate-in-early-education-leadership/>

### **(COST) Online Mindful Parenting Course**

The online course offers a practical and approachable guide to integrating mindfulness into parenting. Through journaling and physical exercises, the instructor guides her students through a clearer understanding of their current experience of parenthood, what has shaped it, and how mindfulness can influence the adventure.

<https://childlight.teachable.com/p/mindful-parenting>

### **(Cost) High Scope**

Online courses are designed to cover a wide variety of topics, learning takes place within an interactive community of teachers, caregivers, and trainers.

<https://secure.highscope.org/ecom/categorypage/2f2972a3-af36-45c1-af7f-35f260538532>

### **(COST) Shift-it-Coach – Graphic Facilitation Training**

The Fundamentals of Working visually teaches the four main approaches: Graphic Facilitation, Graphic Coaching, Graphic Recording and Studio Work. In this fun and interactive training, you'll learn foundational theory and the skills of working visually.

<https://www.shift-it-coach.com/training/fundamentals/>

### **(No Cost) Math At Home – Eight Course Online Curriculum Professional Development Series for Early Childhood Educators**

This eight-course online curriculum introduces teachers and caregivers to mathematical concepts such as math literacy, number sense, patterns, geometry, measurement, data collection and math processes. Each lesson also includes tips on setting up a math-enriched environment, as well as animations, interviews with math experts, videos of children and teachers in classroom settings and links to the Math at Home website.

<https://mathathome.earlymathcounts.org/early-math-matters/>

**Create an account to register:** <http://www.earlylearning.online/login/index.php>







## **NEW Online Learning for Early Childhood Educators**

### **(Cost) Positive Schools Online**

The Positive Schools Online service will offer evidence based, very affordable, convenient and highly meaningful learning for educators and school communities.

<http://www.positiveschools.online/>

### **(Cost) Administration of Early Childhood Programs**

This interactive course acquaints participants with critical elements in establishing and operating a childcare center. It will explore state regulations, staff relationships business practices, parent communication and community relationships.

<https://earlychildhoodprofessionaldevelopment.com/course/administration-of-early-childhood-programs-winter-2020-copy/>

### **(Cost) Institute of Child Psychology**

The Institute of Child Psychology is offering courses on anxiety, trauma, emotional regulation, grief and loss and much more. More information through the link below.

<https://instituteofchildpsychology.com/product-category/online-webinars-and-courses/>

### **(Cost) Self-Compassion for Educators – Online Program**

Mindful Schools is offering a 6-week training is designed for educators to dive into the *research, practice, and experience* of self-compassion. Enhance your well-being and revitalize your deep motivation for helping others

<https://www.mindfulschools.org/>

<https://www.mindfulschools.org/training/self-compassion-for-educators/>

### **(Cost) Outdoor Classrooms**

Online Courses for Outdoor Classrooms

A variety of topics for outdoors

<https://www.outdoor-classrooms.com/courses/>

### **(No Cost) Cox Campus**

#### **Early Childhood Video Based Courses**

Sign up and you can access the modules free of charge

<https://app.coxcampus.org/#!/courses/categories>





## **NEW Online Learning for Early Childhood Educators**

### **(COST) Early Childhood and Autism Spectrum Online Course**

Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society's Early Childhood and the Autism Spectrum is a professional development workshop or online course, specially designed for Early Childhood Educators and parents of young children with and without autism ages 3 to 7. Using real-life case studies, video instruction and interactive activities, this course is designed to support participants to gain a better understanding of the peer play and friendship needs of young children with autism.

<https://www.friend2friendsociety.org/early-childhood-and-the-autism-spectrum/>

### **Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Family Literacy**

Our program is designed to help you understand the key components of family literacy including:

- how to understand children's language and literacy development and support academic success
- how the role of adult education relates to adult learners' needs and their roles as caregivers, workers, and community members
- how to strengthen and enhance parents' knowledge of their roles and responsibilities as their children's first teachers

<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/family-literacy-certificate/overview>

### **(NO COST) CMAS Online Learning**

#### **List of Online Tutorials, Webinars and e-Courses**

- ♠ The Importance of Early Identification
- ♠ Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention
- ♠ Separation Anxiety and Culture Shock
- ♠ Working with Newcomer Families

**Free training: You can start the course through the link below:**

<https://cmascanada.ca/cnc/learning-centre/online-learning-centre/>

### **(COST) (Newly Courses Added) Online ePyramid Modules**

Infant Toddler ePyramid Module Package

Preschool ePyramid Module Package

Birth – Five ePyramid Module Package

Trauma Informed Care and Pyramid Model

Wellness: Taking Care of Yourself

<http://www.pyramidmodel.org/services/online-training/>



## **NEW Online Learning for Early Childhood Educators**

### **(No Cost) Emerging Minds Online Courses**

The National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health offers innovative online courses specifically designed to support your practice. Our courses are innovative, interactive, engaging, free and contain invaluable practical demonstrations to help you put learning into practice. Register to create a free account.

<https://emergingminds.com.au/training/online-training/>

### **(Cost) Pyramid Model Recorded Webinars**

A series of recorded webinars available to view for educators and practitioners

<https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/training/Webinar/archive/>

<https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/resources/index.html>

### **(Cost) Mindstretchers - Resources and Online Courses**

Floorbooks, Floorbooks and the Brain, Risk it, Nature Pedagogy and more.....

<http://www.mindstretchers.co.uk/>

<http://www.claire-warden.com/online-courses-and-webinars/>

### **(Cost) Online Course - Finding Calm in the Chaos**

Weekly coaching sessions that will focus on managing our emotional reactivity in response to the world around us.

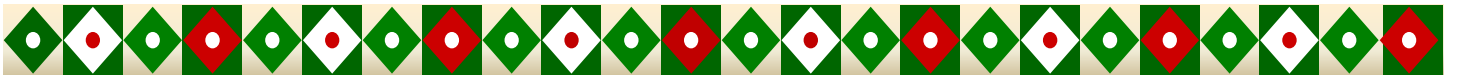
<https://www.thekindnessrocksproject.com/products/finding-calm-in-the-chaos-lewtl>

### **(COST) MindBE curriculum**

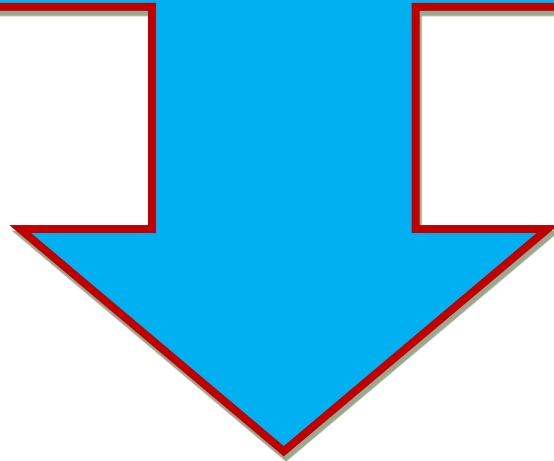
The MindBE curriculum is a researched based programme designed to reduce stress in both teachers and students, create calmer, more focussed classrooms, develop self-regulation skills and allow children to become kinder, more empathetic and caring. The 30-lesson programme incorporates printable puppets and resources to teach children the skills of mindfulness.

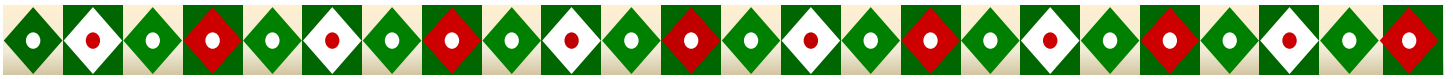
<https://mindbe.org/mindbe-curriculum>





***Early Childhood  
Websites for  
Educators,  
Families and  
Administrators***





## Refugee Resources for Educators, Families and Leaders

### Trauma in Young Children

Educators also often wonder how they can best support children and families in their care who are affected by trauma. This resource library introduces key concepts and provides trauma-sensitive strategies that can be used directly in the classroom.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pd/online-learning/resource-library-trauma>

## Grief and Trauma Websites

### Traumatic Grief

**A 4-week Online Course with Dr. Frank Anderson and David Kessler**

Week 1 When Death is Traumatic

Week 2 When Old Wounds Show Up in Current Loss

Week 3 Grieving the Extreme

Week 4 The Healing Process of Trauma and Grief

<https://www.davidkesslertraining.com/offers/H7GAWEJG/checkout>

## Coronavirus Websites

### Will Our Kids Be Okay? Parents' Concerns on Pandemic's Effect

The years from birth to five are recognized as a foundational period for child development. Children in that age bracket will have spent 20% of that important period in this altered pandemic life. How will it affect their long-term development?

<https://ceed.umn.edu/will-our-kids-be-okay-parents-concerns-about-the-pandemics-effect-on-children/>

## Science Websites

### **NEW** Free Online Development Series for Early Childhood Educators

As earth, water and air; force and motion; weather and seasons; and growth and change. You'll also learn how to engage young children in scientific activities such as observing, making predictions and drawing conclusions.

<https://earlysciencematters.org/professional-development/>



## Anti-Bias, Diversity, Bilingualism, Language, Peace & Pluralism

### **NEW (COST) Amazeworks Early Childhood Curriculum**

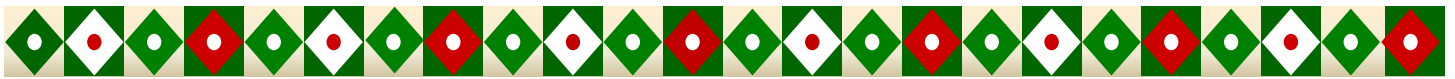
The **Amazeworks Early Childhood Curriculum** is a literature-based supplementary curriculum that fosters **social-emotional learning** through the lens of **anti-bias education**. It covers a wide range of identities, family structures, and lived experiences, allowing children to see themselves reflected in classroom materials. Using the curriculum empowers teachers to proactively address issues of prejudice for younger children before bias-based attitudes and behaviors have become entrenched.  
<https://amazeworks.org/amazeworks-education/programs/amazeworks-curriculum/>

### **NEW Build your own Museum**

What would you put in your children's museum? A piano on the roof? A dinosaur in the lobby? A rocket ship to fly to outer space? A three floor slide? Use your imagination and share your design!

<https://bostonchildrensmuseum.org/build-your-own-museum>





## Early Childhood Websites for Educators

### **NEW ECE Accelerator Toolkit and Webinar**

The ECE Accelerator Toolkit is a key resource that can support this approach and strengthen countries' capacity to better analyze, plan and implement quality ECE programmes at scale. Among its various features, this toolkit provides **interactive, customizable and action-oriented tools** that support the “how-to” of education sector analysis and planning for ECE, such as fit-for-purpose indicators, checklists, templates, and guiding questions that may be populated with recommendations provided in real-time. As a user-friendly and knowledge-sharing “living platform”, the content of the toolkit is available open-source for downloading, translation and contextualization.

<https://www.ece-accelerator.org/>

<https://www.ece-accelerator.org/updates-and-multimedia/smart-scaling-pre-primary-education-overview-ece-accelerator-toolkit>

### **NEW Free Resource Library for Early Childhood Educators**

10 Games to Prevent Challenging Behavior

Emergent Literacy

Fun with Math: Quantitative Concepts

Emergent Literacy: All About Listening Skills!

Emergent Literacy: Fun with Language!

Fun with Fine Motor Skills

Fun with Science Concepts!

Life Sciences: Animals and Other Creatures

Fun with Math: Counting

Calming Activities

Piggyback Songs for Greeting Children Virtual

<https://www.raepica.com/free-resource-library-for-early-childhood-teachers/>

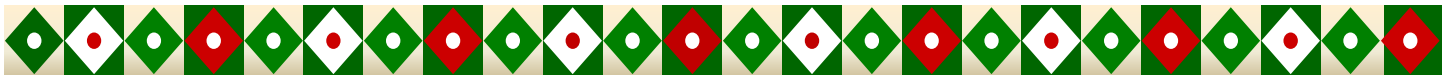
### **Importance of Schedule and Routines**

Familiar activities can provide comfort for both adults and children during challenging and uncertain times. Just like adults, children feel more confident and secure when their daily activities are predictable and familiar. A consistent daily schedule and step-by-step routines give children a predictable day. Schedules and routines in the group care setting and at home help children:

- Feel in control of their environment
- Feel safe, secure, and comfortable
- Know what is happening now and what comes next
- Know how to do an activity or task
- Engage in learning

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/article/importance-schedules-routines>





## Early Childhood Websites for Families

### **NEW International Children's Digital Library**

The mission of the International Children's Digital Library Foundation is to support the world's children in becoming effective members of the global community - who exhibit tolerance and respect for diverse cultures, languages and ideas -- by making the best in children's literature available online free of charge

<http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

### **NEW Family Tips: Promoting Physical Activity At Home**

Promoting physical activity in the home, and while with family, is extremely important in creating a positive physical activity environment for your infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Many of the games and activities your child plays in their daycare or preschool can easily be adapted for home play.

<https://appetitetoplay.com/physical-activity/tips-ideas/family-tips-promoting-physical-activity-home>

## Infant-Toddler Websites

### **Infant Mental Health Modules**

Welcome to the Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation's Foundational Modules IECMHC. There are eight modules in this series to correspond with the eight competency. These modules are designed to be flexible and can be viewed in any order.

<https://www.iecmhc.org/resources/foundational-modules/>

## Preschool Websites

### **How to Teach Phonological Awareness in Early Childhood**

In this webinar we will discuss strategies for playing with language in the classroom, and how to teach phonological awareness in early childhood. We dove into into phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and phonics in early childhood.

<https://www.himama.com/blog/webinar-how-to-teach-phonological-awareness-in-early-childhood/>







## Kindergarten and School Age Websites

### **NEW Twinkl**

Twinkl now creates digital teaching materials for educators worldwide. This includes materials for primary schools, secondary schools, parents home educators, childminders, English as a second language, special educational needs and disabilities, adult education, and international markets. Curriculum is now in many different languages. Membership required to access materials.

<https://www.twinkl.ca/>

*Twinkle Curriculum in all Languages*

## Early Childhood Websites for Administrators

### **Early Childhood Pedagogy Network**

The British Columbia Early Childhood Pedagogy Network (ECPN) is the provincial group of pedagogists who support early childhood educators in BC. The network creates spaces for vibrant public conversations about pedagogical projects and processes that matter to early childhood communities.

<https://www.ecpn.ca/>

### **Early Childhood Program Safety Practices**

Early childhood programs keep children safe when their facilities, materials, and equipment are hazard-free and all staff use safety practices such as active supervision. Find resources to help staff and families reduce the number and severity of childhood injuries everywhere that children learn and grow. Discover tips for use at home, in cars and buses, on the playground, and in all early childhood settings.

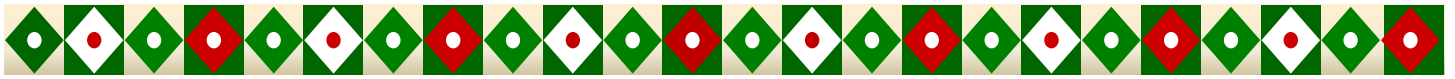
<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/safety-practices>

### **Free Weekly Exchange Resources**

To support early childhood professionals worldwide in their efforts to craft early childhood environments where adults and children thrive, they are offering a weekly free resource. Sign up here to receive a selected Exchange Press Resource.

<https://www.childcareexchange.com/free-resource-sign-up/>





## Research in Early Childhood

### **NEW** Center of Developing Child – Harvard University

**How does one spark and facilitate innovation?** That's the question that brought me to the Center on the Developing Child eight years ago. I was excited about the prospect of joining a team who was building an initiative to accelerate the pace of innovation in the early childhood sector. Over time, this initiative—Frontiers of Innovation (FOI)—became a global movement driven by change agents who were committed to sharing their learnings, building replicable processes, and applying the science of child development to their work, all in service of improving child outcomes at a population level.

<https://developingchild.harvard.edu/frontiers-of-innovation-an-update-from-corey-zimmerman/>

## (NO COST) Early Childhood Webinars

### **Standout and Grow: Make your ECE Program a Magnetic for Families and Staff**

**Date: March 1, 2023**

Program Leaders, are you looking to make your organization stand out while, saving time and simplifying systems? There's no need to lose sleep or stress out as you grow your early childhood program!

### **The Power of Stories**

**Date: March 9, 2023**

Throughout the early years, literacy development is intertwined with language, cognitive, social-emotional and motor growth. Join literacy expert to discover the building blocks for scaffolding preschoolers' literacy skills and come away with practical tips and activities for the children.

### **The Myth of School Readiness**

**Date: March 15, 2023**

Early education is all about preparing young children for school, right? Or is it? Join me for a provocative discussion about school readiness. Is it really the end all and be all of early learning? Ready for what? Can we accurately assess readiness? Does school readiness even exist?

### **Register:**

<https://www.earlychildhoodwebinars.com/>



## Forest and Outdoor Environment

**Green Teacher** (recorded webinars available till March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

Caring for Our Earth's Caregivers Part 1

Caring for Our Earth's Caregivers Part 2

Caring for Our Earth's Caregivers Part 3

<https://greenteacher.com/webinars/>

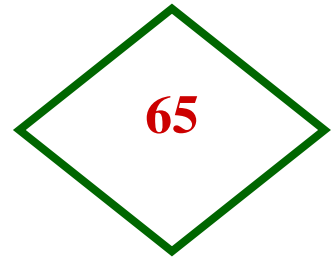
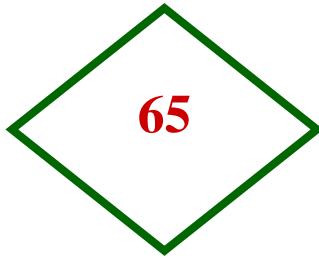
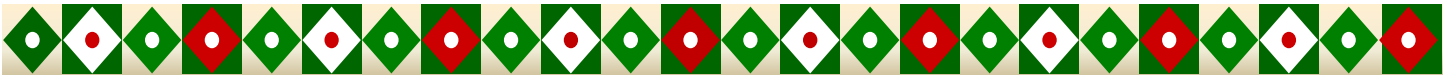
## Important Note



Please note **AKDN ECD Resource Update** with compiled information will be emailed to you at the end of each month. If you have any questions regarding the above resources or are looking for a specific resource, please do not hesitate to contact me, Naznin Salwa A. Dhanani, ECE, ITE, FRP. at [786kidzzone@gmail.com](mailto:786kidzzone@gmail.com)

*The next **116th** AKDN ECD  
Resource Update will be emailed  
on **March 31st, 2023***





***Aga Khan Development Network  
Agencies***

***Aga Khan Health Services  
Aga Khan Agency for Habitat  
Aga Khan Foundation  
Aga Khan Schools  
Aga Khan University  
University of Central Asia  
Aga Khan Trust for Culture  
Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance  
Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development***

***Institutions***

***The Ismaili Imamat  
Institute of Ismaili Studies  
Aga Khan Museum  
Aga Khan Park  
Aga Khan Gardens  
The Global Centre for Pluralism  
Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture  
Aga Khan Award for Architecture  
The Aga Khan Music Initiative  
Ismaili Jamatkhana & Centres***

