

PARTNERS FOR CHILDREN



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It is Spring!...? It is Winter!...? In like a lion or out like a lamb? Do I wear my warm winter boots, rubber boots or... sandals? The weather is so confusing this year...

The weather might not be dependable but one thing everyone can count on is our children. Without fail they arrive as tiny giant packages into our crazy world. It is no question that they absolutely depend on every adult to make good decisions on their behalf.

If I were a betting woman, which I am occasionally, and if I had the choice, which I do, I'd put all my coin into the child's corner. It is the one and only guarantee that will give a very good return on investment. If nurtured reasonably well the child will give back.

Really, who could argue that every child born deserves a fair chance at a good life? Every. Single. Baby.

Is it possible to look at a new born and say 'Hey, you cute and helpless little thing, you've been born into a less than privileged situation. Tough Luck... you are going to have a heck of a life. Actually, by the time you get to school you're going to be a problem child. The not-so-fun will continue and because, hey little baby, just because, you deserve a life of difficulty that will include prison and health problems.'

Sound absurd? Seriously? Yet, this is exactly what we're doing. When our community does not nurture Mom, Dad we punish their baby. Let's turn this around. It is entirely possible for a good news story in a short period of time with just a little effort by all of us.

To help kick that off, there are some Really Great things going on in our Yukon and the world that are making a difference. Check out the other 23 pages of this newsletter and you'll catch some of them.

It might give you pause for a smile and a try. What else is there?

Kate

Please consider sharing these ideas widely.



partners for children

contact information

To get program information; to be added to our mailing or e-mail list; to make inquiries; or, to approach us about workshop ideas, please contact us here:

Phone: 867.668.8794 or toll free 1.800.661.0504

Fax: 867.456-8634

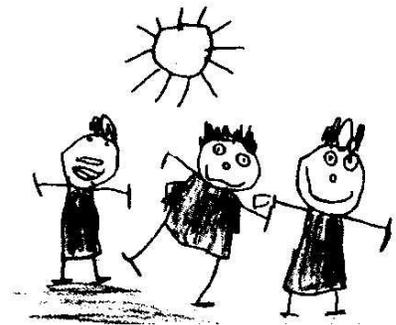
E-Mail: pfc@yukoncollege.yk.ca

Mail: Partners for Children
PO Box 2799
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5K4

Web: www.partnersforchildren.info



Production of the Partners for Children newsletter is made possible by a financial contribution from the Community Action Program for Children - "The Agency" otherwise known as Public Health Agency Canada, in agreement with the Yukon Territorial Government.



The Partners for Children newsletter is edited and produced in the School of Health, Education & Human Services at Yukon College.

The views expressed herein are solely those of the author's and do not represent the official policy of Partners for Children, Yukon College, "The Agency" nor the Yukon Territorial Government.



Community Websites

Autism Yukon
www.autismyukon.org

Child Abuse Treatment Services
(CATS)
www.hss.gov.yk.ca/programs/family_children/

Child Care Services Unit
www.hss.gov.yk.ca/earlychildhood.php

Child Development Centre
www.cdcyukon.com/

Early Childhood Development
Program
www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/programs/info/eed

Family Law Information Centre
(FLIC)
www.yukonflic.ca/

Fetal Alcohol Society Yukon
www.fassy.org

Hospice Yukon Society
www.hospiceyukon.net/

Learning Disabilities Association
Yukon (LDAY)
www.nald.ca/lday/

Many Rivers Counseling and Support
Services
www.manyrivers.yk.ca

Partners for Children
www.partnersforchildren.info

Recreation & Parks Association of the
Yukon (RPAY)
<http://www.rpay.org/>

Traditional Parenting Program
www.skookumjim.com/tradpar.html

Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre
www.vfwc.net

Whole Child Program
<http://wholechildprogram.weebly.com>

Yukon Child Care Association (YCCA)
www.yukonchildcareassociation.org

Yukon Literacy Coalition
www.yukonliteracy.ca/





A mobile app that will connect
parents with Yukon services, to
help make the toughest job
a little bit easier.

coming to you... FREE... May 2015

www.yukonbaby.ca

A service provider?

A regular person wanting to know what's up?

If you're interested in scheduling effectively or

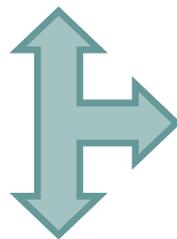
looking for the latest health or social events

in your community?

Look no longer! Wonder no more...

This Council of Yukon First Nations and Government of Yukon joint project enables communities to use a common calendar.

The online events calendar can be embedded organizations' website so the public can easily view when health professionals will be visiting the communities and when local social events are happening.



<http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/eventscalendar/>

March 2015

Today



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Has Events | Today

[view large calendar](#)

**Outreach
 Travel Schedule
 April - June 2015**

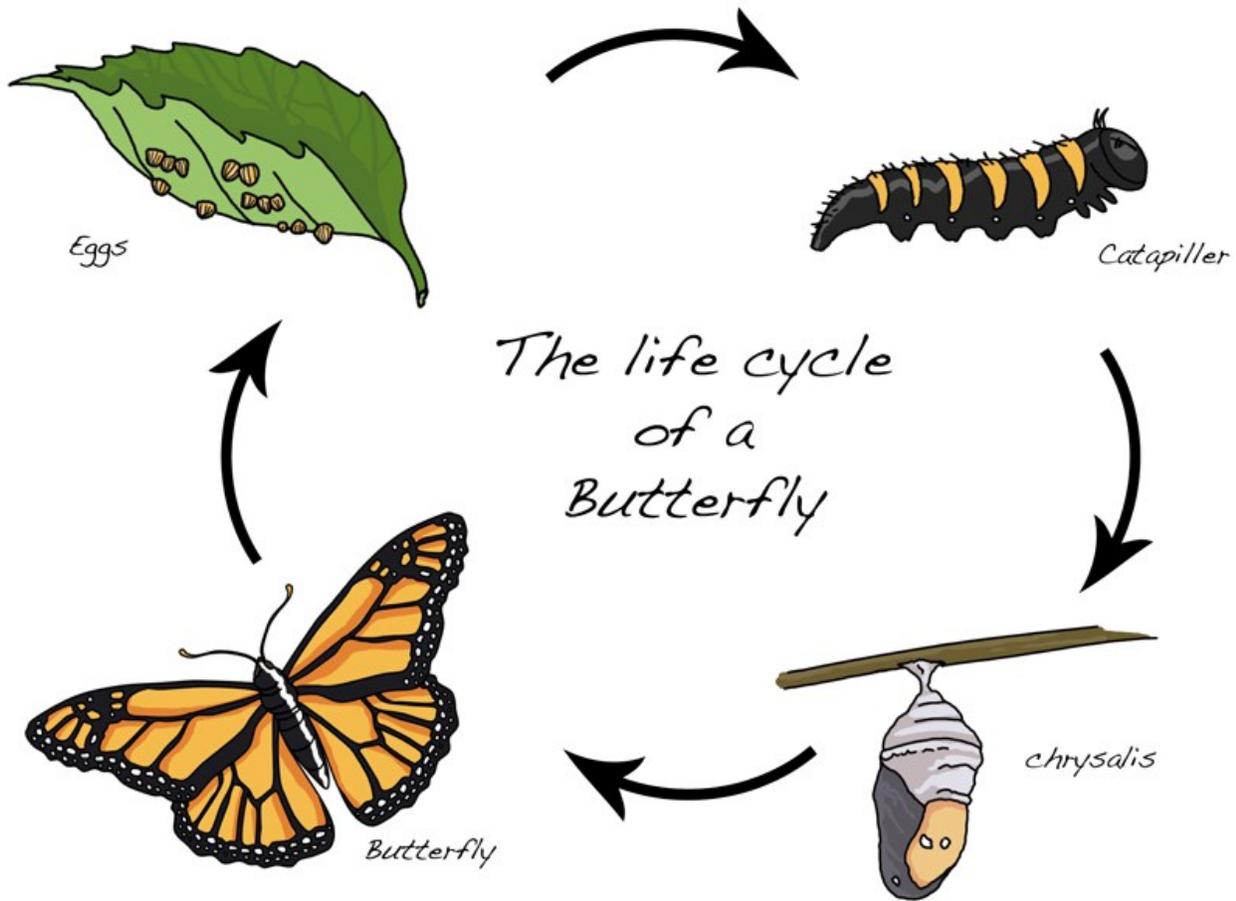
April	
Mar 31- Apr 2	Dawson City
Mar 30 - Apr 1	Ross River, Faro
7-10	Watson Lake
9	Carcross
14-16	Pelly/Mayo
20-22	Old Crow
21	Teslin
23	Haines Junction
30	Carmacks

May	
7	Carcross
11-14	Watson Lake
19-21	Faro/RR
19	Teslin
21	Haines Junction
27	Carmacks
26-28	Dawson City
26-28	Pelly Crossing, Mayo



June	
June 2-4	Destruction Bay, Burwash Landing, Beaver Creek (
4	Carcross





Butterfly Cycle

(to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

Hatch, hatch little egg,
I'm so very small.
Teeny tiny caterpillar,
You can't see me at all.

Crawl, caterpillar,
crawl,
Munching on a leaf.
Crawling, munching,
crawling, munching,
Eat and eat and eat.

Form, form chrysalis,
I'm a different shape;
Hanging by a silken
thread
Until I can escape.

Rest, rest, chrysalis
While I change inside;
Now at last my time
has come
To be a butterfly.

Stretch, stretch,
pretty wings,
It's a special day;

Soon they will be
strong enough
For me to fly away.

Fly, fly, butterfly,
Fly from flower to
tree;
Find a place to lay my
eggs
So they can grow like
me.

[2003 Suzy Gazlay](#)

The Four-Way Signal System for Babies

February 18, 2015

"Adults who trust themselves to be loving and facilitative are sensitive to the child's signals of distress and responsive to expressed needs," writes Alice Honig in her book, [The Best for Babies](#). She continues...

"Attachment researchers have confirmed how critical it is for caregivers to provide assurance that a child is well-loved through daily, tuned-in, intimate ministrations. A quality caregiver nurtures each child's trust in the adult and acknowledges the child's own ability to express distress and to get someone to meet those needs promptly and effectively. Trust is built on a four-way signal system:

- The child trusts himself: 'When I am feeling miserable, I can cry really loudly.'
- The child trusts the willingness and efficacy of the caregiver to fix the problem.
- The caregiver trusts her own effectiveness.
- The caregiver acknowledges and attends promptly and appropriately to the child's signals of stress or distress.



The Feelie Heart Story

Dr. Rachel Remen tells a poignant story from her practice as a caregiver for those who live and die with cancer. One of her patients, a young mother of thirty-seven, had died of breast cancer. Dr. Remen met with the grieving husband and his four-year-old daughter Kimmie.

"We sat in silence watching Kimmie as she gently patted my cat. Feeling herself watched, she looked up. With a smile, she abandoned the cat and climbed into my lap. Reaching into her tiny pocket, she took something out and put it into



Feelie Hearts are a great way to teach children about healthy grieving. They are made by volunteers and are available free of charge at Hospice Yukon.

my hand. It was a small stuffed velvet heart, obviously handmade. I looked at her father. 'It's a feelie heart,' he said. 'She never goes anywhere without it.' A friend had sent it from a bereavement center that serves children who have been touched by death. Small enough to put into a little pocket and take to school to hold and rub, these soft little hearts give children permission to hold their own hearts tenderly and to grieve. To remember that they were loved and know that they can love. Children carry them for as long as they need to, finding comfort in the softness when thoughts of their loss might otherwise overwhelm them."

The Feelie Heart Story now has reached far and wide... these little handmade hearts are now used in many places around the world by children, adults and by many health professionals.

Hospice Yukon volunteers make hundreds of feelie hearts each year for our Yukon community and they are available at Hospice at no charge. Each one is unique.

Easily tucked into a coat pocket, pencil case or desk drawer, they remind us of our losses, of the love we have given and received, and serve as a gentle reminder to hold our own hearts tenderly.

If you know of a child in your life who could use a feelie heart, please pop in to Hospice to get one. We also have kits available to make Feelie Hearts.

You may also like to browse our wonderful lending library that has many books on bereavement and navigating the grief journey with children, teenagers and adults.

Counselling

Grief Support Groups

Lending Library

Healing Touch

Vigil Support

Professional Support

Public Education

www.hospiceyukon.net

Mon - Fri 11:30-3:00

409 Jarvis St.

Tel. 667 7429



Some quality websites that could be helpful
for parents and practitioners

Parents Matter

www.parentsmatter.ca

Encyclopedia on Early Child Development

www.child-encyclopedia.com/en-ca/home.html

Child Care Canada

www.childcarecanada.org

Canadian Child Care Federation

www.imhpromotion.ca/

Family Resource Programs Canada

www.frpcanada.ca

Early Childhood Educators of B.C.

www.ecebc.ca

Human Early Learning Partnership

<http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/>

Infant Mental Health Promotion

www.imhpromotion.ca

Welcome Here

www.welcomehere.ca

Child Care Information Exchange

www.childcareexchange.com



Don't forget the
local Yukon sites
on page 3!



Autism Yukon

108 Copper Road
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2Z6

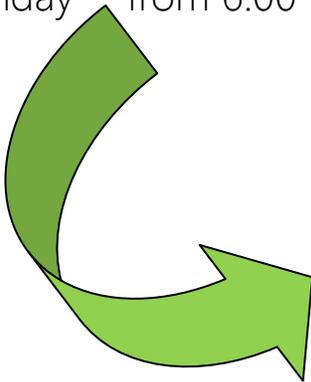
667-6406
executive@autismyukon.org
www.autismyukon.org

Office Hours

Monday —Friday 10-3:00

(unless out for a meeting—please call ahead)

Beyond our normal office hours and many supports our FANTASTIC library is open with accommodating times! Come on down every Monday from 6:00-9:00 pm!



books, dvds, videos, board maker,
special utilities for trial...





Canadian
Red Cross

INFORMATION: 867.668.5200
REGISTRATION: 867.668.8710

ce@yukoncollege.yk.ca

Authorized Provider

CCFA 002: Child Care Standard First Aid

Comprehensive First Aid and CPR training for individuals who need training for child care or early childhood education work, or who simply want more knowledge to respond to babies and children's injuries and emergencies at home. The course covers a variety of topics from basic (such as cardio vascular emergencies for adults, children, and babies, CPR Level B, choking, airway and breathing emergencies, and prevention of disease transmission) to in-depth ones, such as sudden medical conditions and injuries to the head and spine. This course is 16 - 20 hours and includes AED certification.

FA 003: Standard First Aid/CPR-C

Comprehensive two-day course offering first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) skills for those who need training due to work requirements or who want more knowledge to respond to emergencies at home. Includes the latest first aid and CPR guidelines. Meets federal and a variety of provincial/territorial regulations for Standard First Aid and CPR. Exceeds competitors' standards by including injury prevention content, CPR and AED.





10 Ways Babies Learn When We Sing To Them!

By Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer

Bonding – When you sing to your baby, she bonds with you and your voice. Singing makes yours the first and most important voice in her life. Your baby learns that you LOVE her!

Transitions – Babies feel safe when life is predictable. A song for waking up, sleeping, and other routine transitions and activities helps them know what comes next.

Language – Language is in itself musical, and when you sing and speak, your baby learns about words, language, and communication. Through your singing, baby’s language comprehension begins.

New words – While you sing and hold your baby, you introduce new vocabulary. When you hold up a stuffed dog as you sing about a dog, baby learns to associate the name of that toy with the words you sing. When you sing about parts of the body and kiss your baby’s feet or tickle his tummy, he learns new words.

Rhythm and rhyme – Music includes rhythm and rhyme, again, part of our language. In time, babies will recognize rhymes and rhythms.

Play – Singing is one of many methods of play and “sing-play” is a fun way to interact with babies.

Family fun – Singing is a great way to involve older siblings in welcoming a new baby to the home. Singing to and playing with the baby builds a bond between siblings. Make singing a family activity.

Singing names – A baby can learn his name by hearing it in songs. Try substituting your baby’s name for other words in songs so he hears his name sung over and over again.

Listening skills – Like reading, singing is an activity that requires listening. It’s another opportunity for your baby to begin to understand language and feelings expressed through language and sing-play.

LOVE – All of the above boils down to using your singing voice as a way to express love. Babies don't care if you are a great singer. They only care that you are singing to THEM! In their eyes (and their ears), you'll be a star!

See more at: <http://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/music-math-more/10-ways-babies-learn-when-we-sing-them#sthash.kCVC8k90.dpuf>

Family Literacy Centre - Spring Schedule

March 30th to June 13th, 2015

* The FLC will be closed on April 3rd -6th & May 16-18th, 2015

* For more information call 668-8698 /668-6535, or check us out on Facebook at Yukon Family Literacy Centre

Groups are encouraged to contact the centre for space and program availability

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>SCIENCE MAGIC AGES 2 & UP</p> <p>10:30- 11:30 AM</p> <hr/> <p>Explore fun & exciting experiments in the fascinating world of science.</p>	<p>BACK TO NATURE AGES 2 & UP</p> <p>10:30- 11:30 AM</p> <hr/> <p>Enjoy a mixture of nature stories, songs, crafts and exploration.</p>	<p>1,2,3 RHYME WITH ME AGES BIRTH & UP</p> <p>10:30- 11:30 AM</p> <hr/> <p>Learn songs and rhymes that can be used anytime.</p>	<p>CLOSED (The FLC can be booked by user groups on Thursdays 9 – 12PM Contact 668 -6535 for more info.)</p>	<p>FAMILY SIGN AGES BIRTH & UP</p> <p>10:30- 11:30 AM</p> <hr/> <p>Join us in a unique and interactive early child sign language program!</p>	<p>FAMILY FREE PLAY DROP- IN (All Ages)</p> <p>10:00AM – 2:00PM</p> <hr/> <p>This drop-in includes story time as well as an interactive activity.</p>
<p>CLOSED FOR LUNCH 11:30- 12:30PM</p>					
<p>FAMILY FREE PLAY DROP-IN ALL AGES 12:30– 3:00 PM</p>					



Program Descriptions

All programs are free!

Science Magic- Mondays, 10:30-11:30am

This interactive program introduces children and parents to stories that extend into science experiments, allowing kids to explore and learn about the world through science.

Back to Nature-Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30am

Using Nature as our theme, this program will bring the outdoor world inside, with a mixture of stories, songs, crafts and exploration.

1,2,3 Rhyme with Me– Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30am

Talking, rhyming and singing with your children are some of the most important things you can do to help them build strong language skills. Learn how you can use singing and rhyming with your children while waiting in line, in the car, to calm them down before bedtime, or anytime!

Family Sign- Fridays, 10:30-11:30am

Join us in a unique and interactive early child sign language program! Help your child develop their emotional language and expression, and build vocabulary through using sign! (Taught by Neal Rawlings-Bird.)

Family Free Play Drop-in – Monday to Friday 12:30-3 pm, Saturdays, 10:00 – 2:00pm

In order to develop socially, emotionally and cognitively, children need plenty of free, unstructured play - in other words, lots of old-fashioned free playtime. Unstructured play gives children time to adjust to new settings and allows them to use their creativity to explore and find out what they really like, acquire and practice their social skills, and solve problems. Studies have shown that children who experience lots of unstructured free play tend to become more resilient.



Whole Child Program

Family Support and Recreation

What is the Whole Child Program? (WCP)

- a non-profit, school-based family support & recreation program since 2001
- non-government, confidential supports on an individually tailored basis
- free family activities and fun on a weekly basis
- our advocacy & supports come from a place of positive support and equality for all

Who is the Whole Child Program for?

open to ALL families, regardless of ages of children, or where they go to school

Where is the Whole Child Program?

WCP offices are in Whitehorse Elementary (WES); activities take place at:

- Ecole Whitehorse Elementary School
- Child Development Centre (Family Support sponsored PCMG group)
- Canada Games Centre
- Mad Trapper Alleys
- Teen-Parent Centre (TPC sponsored Positive Discipline program)
- Heart of Riverdale (HoR sponsored PCMG group)
- Family Literacy Centre (Yukon Literacy Coalition sponsored PCMG group)

When is the Whole Child Program?

- free family/youth recreational activities on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00pm
- other family program programs offered throughout the week

What do the Whole Child Program activities & programs look like?

- Open Gym, Crafts for Kids, "Stone Soup" Cooking
- Family Swim Nights
- Family Glow Bowling Nights
- Nobody's Perfect Parenting
- Parent-Child Mother Goose (PCMG)
- Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting
- Special interest workshops for parents

What do the Whole Child Program supports look like?

We provide individual tailored supports to our families, and can include custody, access, and/or child support issues; providing information or help with Kids Rec Fund, Children's Drug and Optical Program,

Food Bank, Legal Aid, etc; parenting supports (structure/routines, child development, age appropriate expectations, or chores); postpartum issues, nutrition, budgeting, healthy relationships, boundaries, addictions; accessing other community supports or programs, etc.

We Are PROUD Of Our Community Partnerships & Programs

Parent-Child Mother Goose:

Tuesdays: Infant Group: Birth to 18 months

Heart of Riverdale (10:30am)

<http://www.theheartofriverdale.com/tuesday---parent-child-mother-geese.html>

Sponsored by the Heart of Riverdale

Fridays: Toddler Group: 1 to 3 years

Child Development Centre (10:00am)

Pre-registration Call Barbara @ 335-2283

Sponsored by the Family Support Program, YTG

Fridays: Multiage/Preschool Group

Whitehorse Elementary School (1:45pm)

Pre-registration Call Barbara @ 335-2283

Sponsored by the Whole Child Program

**For more information about
any of our programs or
supports
please call Barbara Curtis, WCP
Outreach Worker @ 335-2283**

Saturdays: Multiage Group

Family Literacy Centre (10am)

Pre-registration Call the Yukon Literacy Coalition 668-6535

Sponsored by the Yukon Literacy Coalition

Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting

Presented in partnership with Yukon Family Support Program

This innovative and empowering approach to child discipline was developed by Joan Durrant Ph.D. (University of Manitoba) for Save the Children Sweden in 2007. Positive discipline is based on children's rights to healthy development, protection from violence and participation in their learning. Parents are shown how they can teach their children while respecting their human rights. It is relevant to parents of all children from infancy to adolescence.

We are now taking registrations for Spring 2015 group. For information or to pre-register please call Barbara @ 335-2283

Whole Child Program Nights: Wednesdays 5:30-7pm

Wednesday, April 8/2015 WCP Night @ Whitehorse Elementary

Wednesday, April 15/2015 WCP Night @ Whitehorse Elementary

Wednesday, April 22/2015 WCP Night @ Whitehorse Elementary

Wednesday, April 29/2015 Glow Bowling at Mad Trappers Alleys

Wednesday, May 6/2015 WCP Night @ Whitehorse Elementary



What will my garden look like? Start planning now...
Draw it below!

GARDENS... now is the time to consider

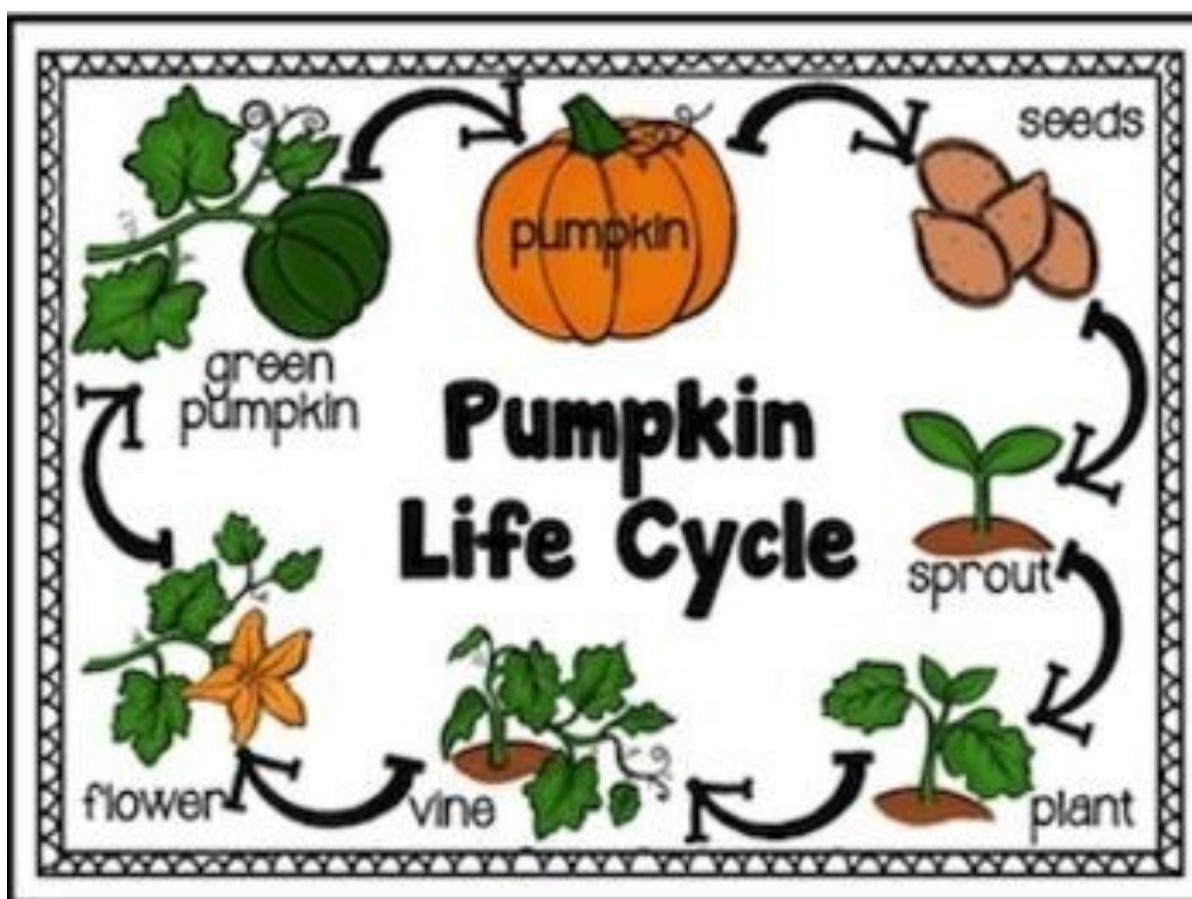
Gardens are magical, fun, and always full of surprises.

Watch a child pull a [carrot](#) from the earth, brush off the soil, and take a bite, or see the anticipation in the eyes of a youngster creating a bouquet of [flowers](#) she grew.

There is a natural magnetic attraction between children and the earth, whether it's making mud or discovering a germinating seed emerge from the earth.

Gardening with children, from toddlers to adolescents, opens new windows in a world dominated by technology.

Start your pumpkin seeds indoors at the start of May and don't plant outside until after the risk of frost—at the end of May.





Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies

Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Programs offer free, nutritious drop-in meals, and nutrition education such as how to stretch your food shopping dollars, how to plan, shop for and prepare a healthy meal plans, and how to start your baby off with nutritious, developmentally appropriate foods.

Being healthy includes physical activity, so programming includes mom and baby fitness programs such as swimming, yoga, walking and stroller fitness. Mental health is also addressed at the drop-in lunches with informal discussions and guest speakers from Alcohol and Drug Services and Community Health Centres.

If you are pregnant or just had a baby, or know someone who is pregnant, consider a visit to your local CPNP site. They would be happy to see you!

In Whitehorse:

Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre @ 667-4134 or CPNPwhitehorse@northwestel.net

Skookum jim Friendship Centre: 633-7682 or sjfcprenatal@northwestel.net

Mamans et Bebes en sante at Les EssentiElles: pcnp@essentialles.org or 668-2663 x 810

Teen Parent Centre—667-8336 or

teenparentcentrecpnp@gmail.com

Rural Communities:

Dawson City: 993-5149 or CPNPdawson@northwestel.net

Carcross: 821-4251 or CPNPinfo@ctfn.ca

Teslin—390-2532 x 324





*Mothering Your Baby
...The First Year*

Mothers and their babies (birth to 1 year) are invited to join our mothering group. You will meet other mothers, enjoy a nutritious snack and have fun with your baby. We'll talk about the ups and downs of mothering and living and learning with your new baby.

The sessions are led by two caring and trained facilitators. Each group meets once a week for 6 weeks. For more information please call 667-8864



In the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program, parents and young children between the ages of 0 and 4 come together to enjoy songs, rhymes and stories.

There are several organizations providing opportunities to join a group in the rural communities and in Whitehorse. Please call 668-8794 or check www.partnersforchildren.info for a location and time that works for you—we'll help get you connected.

Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies Recipe

Toasted Pita & Bean Salad Makes 4 servings of 2 cups each

- 2 cloves garlic, peeled
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons ground toasted cumin seeds
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- Freshly ground pepper to taste
- 2 cups cooked pinto beans, well drained and slightly warmed
- 1 cup diced plum tomatoes or 1/2 pint cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 1/2 cucumber, peeled and diced
- 1 cup sliced romaine lettuce
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh mint



PREPARATION

1. Preheat oven to 400°F.
2. Spread pita pieces out on a large baking sheet. Bake until crisp and beginning to brown, 5 to 7 minutes. Let cool on the pan.
3. Mash garlic and salt with the back of a chef's knife to form a paste. Transfer to a bowl, add lemon juice and ground cumin and whisk to blend. Add oil in a slow, steady stream, whisking continually. Season with pepper. Place beans, tomatoes and cucumber in a serving bowl. Add the toasted pita, lettuce, feta, parsley, mint and the dressing; toss to mix. Season with more pepper. Serve immediately.

Global Business Leaders Support Early Childhood Development Creating the workforce of tomorrow through the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Report

March 2015

Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki-Moon
H.E. David Donoghue, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN
H.E. Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the UN
Executive Director of UNICEF Anthony Lake
Director-General of UNESCO Irina Bokova,
Special Advisor on Post-2015 Development Planning
Amina Mohammed

As business leaders with global interests, we write to stress the vital importance of the early childhood years as creating the foundation for life-long health and productivity in all countries. A well-trained workforce is essential to address any international priority, including economic development, energy, environment, health, gender equity and conflict resolution. Children's experiences before birth and during the first five years of life lay the crucial foundation for a productive citizenry that can contribute to solving the world's pressing challenges.

We applaud the United Nations for including the youngest children in the Synthesis Report of the UN Secretary General on the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda, and we ask for continued attention to this critical issue in the final report. During the first five years of life, children not only build their academic abilities but also the key physical, social and emotional skills that profoundly influence life outcomes. Remediation is costly and uncertain to succeed in helping children become the productive employees and customers every business needs and the informed citizenry every country desires.

Therefore, we urge the United Nations to:



In the final report, keep under Goal 4 Education the specific target of Goal 4.2: ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.



In the final report, keep under Goal 3 Health the specific targets of preventing maternal deaths and those of children under five.



In the final report, stress the importance of providing sufficient public and private funds to support effective investments that prepare children for success in school and in life.



Ensure that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals includes the measurement, monitoring and tracking of births and child development through age five through coordinated efforts across health and education.

An overwhelming body of research across the world has shown that high-quality, evidence-based investments in early childhood, such as early education, health, parent supports, nutrition, etc., increase the chances of young children succeeding in school and in life. A recent study by Nobel Laureate James Heckman and others found that early parent and health supports in Jamaica increased adult earnings by 25%. Research in Brazil showed that early education increased second grade literacy, improved math scores in fourth grade, and increased rates of educational completion through college. A meta-analysis by the National Institute for Early Education Research of 56 studies across 23 countries in Africa, Central/South America, Asia and Europe found positive impacts of early childhood programs on health, education, IQ and emotional development.

An extensive body of research in education, developmental psychology, neuroscience, medicine and economics shows that quality early childhood education programs produce better education, health, economic and social outcomes for children, families, and the nation. “Early Childhood Education Consensus Letter” signed by more than 1,200 researchers from 34 countries and every state in the U.S., sponsored by the National Institute for Early Education Research.

ReadyNation is a business membership organization of more than 1,100 leaders across the United States and internationally. Members speak to the media and key decision makers in support of increased public and private investments that improve the economy and workforce through research-backed services for young children and their families.

Thank you for recognizing the vital importance of early childhood in achieving global health and prosperity. We applaud your vision and look forward to seeing this crucial issue in the final United Nations report.

John Pepper

Former Chairman and CEO, Procter and Gamble
Co-Chair, ReadyNation CEO Task Force on Early Childhood

Jim Zimmerman

Former Chairman and CEO, Macy’s Inc.
Co-Chair, ReadyNation CEO Task Force on Early Childhood

Sarah Brown

Executive Chair, Global Business Coalition
for Education

Roberto Alonso

Former Vice President and Managing Director,
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Executive Director, Private Sector Foundation Uganda

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Chairman and CEO, Ecolab Inc.

Mercy Barzola Becerrin

President, MB Equipamiento Medico Hospitalario, Ecuador

Marc Benioff

Chairman and CEO, Salesforce

Roy Bostock

Vice Chairman, Delta Airlines

Luis Fernando Cruz

CEO, Fiduciaria Agraria de Colombia

Robert Dugger

Managing Partner, Hanover Provident Capital
Former Managing Partner, Tudor Investment Corporation
Former Board Chair, Singita-Grumeti Reserves, Tanzania

Ian Duncan

General Manager, Kampala Sheraton, Uganda

Tokunboh Durosaro

Director, Oando Foundation
Co-Chair, Biz4ECD Task Force

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Carl Camden

President and CEO, Kelly Services

George Halvorson

Chair, Institute for InterGroup Understanding
Former Chairman and CEO, Kaiser Permanente

Richard Hazleton

Former Chairman and CEO, Dow Corning Corporation

Larry Kellner

President, Emerald Creek Group
Former Chairman and CEO, Continental Airlines

Candace Kendle

Former Chairman and CEO, Kendle International

Andrew Kent

Chief Executive, Angel Solutions Ltd., UK

Sebaggala M. Kigozi

Executive Director, Uganda Manufacturers Association

Mark Long

Chief Executive, Ignite, UK

Jhonny Loor Chavez

President, Equipos Medicos Loor, Ecuador

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Lenny T. Mendonca

Director Emeritus, McKinsey and Co.

David Merage

Chairman and CEO, Consolidated Investment Group

Anne Mulcahy

Former Chairperson and CEO, Xerox Corporation

Michael O'Connor

Director, State Government Affairs, Eli Lilly and Company

John Oliver

Vice President for Public Affairs, L.L. Bean Company

Rosa Penido Della Vechia

President, Conselho Curador da Fundação Lúcia e Perleson Penido, Brazil

Philip Peterson

Former

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President, Chile-US Chamber of Commerce

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President, Conselho de Administração do Grupo Gerdau, Brazil

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Managing Partner, The Pritzker Group

Richard Robinson

CEO, President and Chairman, Scholastic Inc.

Richard Scott

Director, Surface Gallery, UK

Mary Ellen Sheets

Founder, Two Men and a Truck International

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Chairman, General Motors Company
Retired Chairman and CEO, Cummins Inc.

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Chief Executive, Sorenson Companies
Chairman and Founder, Sorenson Media

Al Stroucken

Chairman and CEO, Owens-Illinois, Inc.

Rosemary Turner

President, UPS, North California

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President and CEO, Bay Area Council
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(Company names are listed for identification purposes only and do not imply endorsement)

ReadyNation is a non-profit business membership organization of more than 1,100 executives. We support business leaders to take action at the community, company or policy levels to promote a stronger economy and workforce, through effective investments in children and youth. ReadyNation's international work is funded in part by the Bernard van Leer Foundation.

On October 1-2, ReadyNation will host the first Global Business Summit on Early Childhood Investments, in New York City. We welcome more business leader names on this letter; contact info@ReadyNation.org.