

Ontario Early Years York North



JANUARY 2014

A Gathering of Guys & Their Little Ones

This is a lively play-based program for the important men in a child's life. If you are a dad, grandpa, uncle, significant other or caring friend, you and your children, birth-six years of age, are welcome to drop-in and join us at the OEYC Newmarket main site on Saturday mornings from 9:30-11:00 am.

Our regular open Stay & Play follows, running from 11:30-2:00 pm.

Participants in A Gathering of Guys will enjoy:

- exclusive use of the Early Years Centre
- morning snack
- a variety of age-appropriate activities
- active playtime
- special planned activities and story telling time
- the opportunity to chat with other men and their children
- support and resources from early years professionals



Making Learning Visible

Over the next few months, you may be aware of staff taking notes and photographs (with permission) of some children engaged in specific activities throughout all of our OEYC sites. This process of "documentation" is derived from the

Early Learning Framework, developed by the Ministry of Education in an effort to ensure the best possible experience for you and your child. It enables us to demonstrate the learning that is taking place and helps us to understand whether or not the outcomes we have determined for each program are being met.

Please feel free to speak with any staff should you have questions or concerns. You are an important part of the process and an invaluable resource when it comes to supporting both you and your child. We believe that by working together we can ensure the best possible experience for all families passing through our doors. We appreciate each and every one.

Letting Children Choose

Why do we as adults pursue hobbies such as golf, scrapbooking or gardening? We spend time in such an activity because we find it enjoyable, we have some control over the activity and we see it as offering some probability of success. We choose what we will scrapbook or plant; we decide where, when and with whom we will play golf or tennis.

Children too learn best when they have some control over their learning, when activities are meaningful and relevant and when they can make choices with the materials and how they might use them.

Children thrive when they have opportunities everyday to make choices in their learning. We facilitate children's choices within a carefully planned environment. We create an atmosphere that allows each child to choose activities that are developmentally appropriate for their age. The child chooses the peers with whom they will play and usually determine how they will use the available materials.



These choices empower children to take control of their own learning. Children use materials and equipment in far more creative and innovative ways than we could ever plan, and in ways that meet their needs.

Research indicates that intrinsic motivation – when we work on a task primarily because we find it satisfying – is the most effective and engaging way to learn.

Special thanks to OEYC Family Space, Quinte

“Tell me and I forget,
teach me and I may remember,
involve me and I learn.”

Confucius



Emotions Matter



Research concludes that children, who can identify, understand and manage their emotions do better in life. Like learning to walk and talk, the process of learning to deal with feelings takes place gradually over months. One of our jobs as parents, guardians and educators is to help children understand and deal with their feelings.

Handling intense emotions and feelings takes more than limit setting or telling children to “use their words”. Children need to be taught the skills of “emotional” intelligence!

Here are five Tips to Help Guide Children’s Emotions:

1. Acknowledge children’s feelings
2. Help children notice that feelings change
3. Distinguish between feelings and actions
4. Offer children several ways to calm themselves down
5. Teach tools to resolve situations that are hard for children

Mary Stuart, E.C.E.D.H.

Advice From a Dog



1. When loved ones come home, always run to greet them
2. Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride
3. Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy
4. When it's in your best interest - practice obedience
5. Let others know when they've invaded your territory
6. Take naps and stretch before rising
7. Run, romp, and play daily
8. Thrive on attention and let people touch you
9. Avoid biting, when a simple growl will do
10. On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass
11. On hot days, drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree
12. When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body
13. Delight in the simple joy of a long walk
14. Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough
15. Be loyal. Never pretend to be something you're not
16. If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it
17. When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently

We should all be so lucky...





York Child Development &
Family Services Inc.
is the lead agency for
Ontario Early Years, York North

17310 Yonge Street,

Unit 6

Newmarket, L3Y 7R8

Ontario Early Years Main
Site, Newmarket:

905-853-0754

www.yorkchild.ca



Grandparent Story

An elderly woman and her grandson, whose face was sprinkled with bright freckles, spent the day at the zoo. Lots of children were waiting in line to get their cheeks painted by a local artist who was decorating them with tiger paws.

"You've got so many freckles, there's no place to paint!" a girl in the line said to the little boy.

Embarrassed, he dropped his head. His grandmother knelt down next to him. "I love your freckles," she said, while tracing her finger across the child's cheek. "Freckles are beautiful."

The boy looked up. "Really?" "Of course," said the grandmother. "Why, just name one thing that's prettier than freckles." The little boy thought for a moment, peered intensely into his grandmother's face and softly whispered, "Wrinkles."



Satellite & Outreach Locations

Please check our calendars and website for updated locations throughout the riding.

Newmarket Main Site

Meadowbrook PS

Park Avenue PS

Glen Cedar PS

Newmarket Library

Lake Simcoe PS

Phoebe Gilman PS

Georgina Site - R.L. Graham P.S.

Prince Charles PS

Armitage Village PS

Schomberg United Church

East Gwillimbury Library

Stuart Scott PS

Newmarket Welcome Centre

Ontario Early Years Centres



A Place For Parents And Their Children.