

Branching Out

Resource Updates to Support the Growth and Goals of Educators



The transition back to early learning programs, school, or starting them for the first time can be challenging for children, families, and educators. Many feelings may arise such as fear, uncertainty, anxiety, etc. The ECCDC lending library offers resources that can help educators, children, and their families with transitioning back. We invite you to check out the provocation for learning kits below.



Provocation for Learning Kits for Borrowing



Getting Along with Others- Exploring How to Identify and Regulate Feelings with Children

This provocation for learning kit has everything you need to help children identify their feelings. It is a wonderful introduction to dealing with difficult feelings in children.



Everyday Places & the People We Know: Children Explore the Dynamics of Families

This provocation for learning kit is a great resource for children and educators alike as it supports the notion of welcoming all families to each program.



Getting Along with Others – Cooperation Games

Many children may have had little to no contact with other children during these challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic. This provocation for learning kit is an excellent resource for educators to use to support children in making friends and building a sense of community within their early learning environment.



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Farr Out Findings

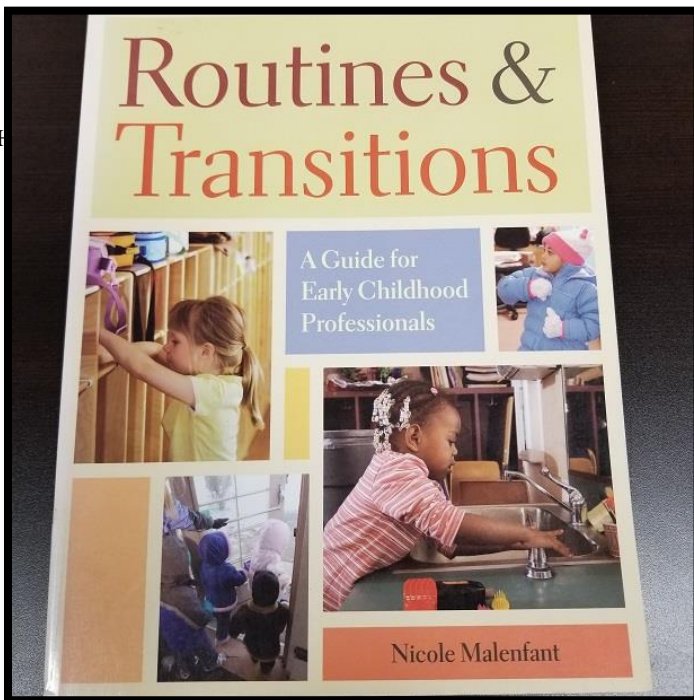
Emily Farr, Student Intern, ECCDC

Helpful Tips and Strategies to Support Educators, Families, and Children with New Routines and Transitions.

- Early learning educators take time to check on your mental health to ensure you are at your best to support children.
- Create a consistent routine for children so they know what to expect; if changes occur, communicate with the children about what will be changing and why.
- Have a designated space in your programs for children to sit and be still.
- Label emotions/feelings when speaking with children.
- Model a calming voice with relaxed body language when speaking with children.
- Stay in consistent communication with families about the children in your program.

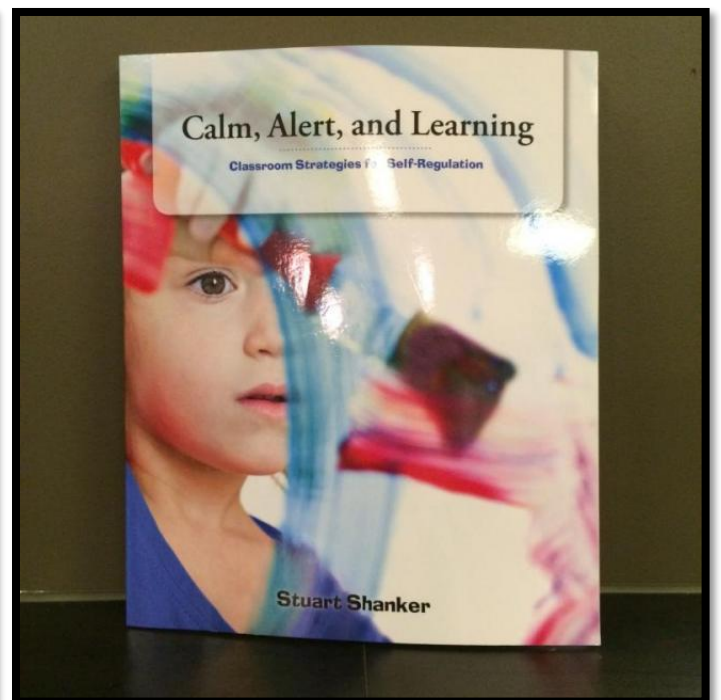


Literature Resources for Early Learning Educators



Routines & Transitions

Check out this excellent guide by Nicole Malenfant for early learning settings that supports educators' practice on implementing routines and transitions in insightful and meaningful ways to support children.



Calm, Alert, and Learning

Stuart Shanker shares his knowledge in this insightful read on how educators can support and even improve children's ability to self-regulate a needed skill in the early years and onward.



Helpful Links for Educators to Share with Families on Transitioning Back to Early Learning Programs & School

- Click Here to Read: [8 Tips to Prepare for the First Days of School](#)
- Click Here to Read: [Back to School - How to Support your Child's Mental Health](#)
- Click Here to Read: [Back to School During COVID-19: Tips for Parents & Caregivers](#)
- Click Here to Read: [Supporting Mental Health and Wellness During the Return to School: Tips for Parents and Families](#)



Presents ...

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Thank you to Our ECCDC Summer Interns of 2021!

We'd like to send a very special thank you to our summer student interns for their hard work and creative contributions to the ECCDC. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors! Check out their profiles below to learn more about each of our student interns this summer and the amazing work they have done.

ECCDC INTERNS 2021

Emily McFadden

**Marketing and Events Intern
Guelph, ON**




Welcoming our Marketing and Events intern Emily McFadden! Emily will be attending Brock University in the Fall for their Concurrent Education Program in the primary/junior stream. Emily works with Kelly Bol, ECCDC's Early Learning Training and Events Consultant, to assist with social media posts and creating events. The Mood for Food Summer Event, Places in Niagara Posts, and Lending Library Resource Videos have all been projects Emily has created! Her favourite part about working at ECCDC has been getting to work collaboratively with fellow interns and full-time staff, as well as being able to develop creative ideas for events and projects. ECCDC thanks Emily for her contributions thus far and cannot wait to see what else she creates!



ECCDC INTERNS 2021

Connor Walsh

**Training and Development Intern
Niagara, ON**



Welcoming our Training and Development Intern Connor Walsh. Connor attends Brock University, and is working towards an honours bachelor's degree in Medical Science. He works with Katie-Lynn Parkinson, Ginette Wilson and Patricia Couroux to assist with research and development. Connor's favourite parts about working at ECCDC have been, getting to do creative research to find academic articles, current trends, photos, videos, and more! He also enjoys collaborating with the other interns and exploring the topic of imaginative play. Connor will be making contributions to ECCDC's Blog as well as Branching Out issues. ECCDC thanks Connor for his contributions thus far and cannot wait to see what fresh ideas he brings in the future!



ECCDC INTERNS 2021

Emily Farr

**Lending Library Intern
Ottawa, ON**



Welcoming our Lending Library intern Emily Farr! Emily has just completed her Early Learning and Community Development Degree at Algonquin College and will begin teaching Kindergarten in September. Emily works with ECCDC'S Jennifer Mosher, our Early Learning & Child Care Resource Consultant, to support with developing new provocation for learning kits, writing our Branching Out pieces, and more! Emily's favourite part about working with the ECCDC is the creative freedom she is given when working on a variety of projects and learning more about important topics within early learning through her work! We thank Emily for her creations and cannot wait to see where her future endeavours take her next!