



## Hello & Welcome PPP Families

By Roberta Stuart, Executive Director, CPPPBC



I would like to take this opportunity to Welcome all our new families to the Parent Participation Preschool community. I would also like to Welcome Back all our returning PPP families to preschool. I hope your children settle easily and happily into their Preschool routines. I know your preschool year ahead with your child will be full of wonder, joy and amazement.

I trust you had a summer break full of adventures and, hopefully, some moments of calm and relaxation. As always, you have a busy year ahead of you,

but I hope you find the time to join us at some of our Council sponsored events, such as, the October 1st Treasurer's Workshop and the Leadership and Conflict Resolution Workshop. For the November Parent Education speaker on November 17th, we have booked Dr. Lynn Miller, a UBC researcher involved in child and adolescent anxiety research. This PPP community event is sure to be informative and is not to be missed. Pre-Registration is required. Please feel free to contact us at the Council office anytime via email or telephone. We will try to address your questions in a timely and thorough manner.

### Dates to Remember

- Fall Executive Workshop's  
Saturday, Oct. 1st  
9:30am -1:00pm
- Thanksgiving  
Monday, Oct. 10th  
Office closed
- CPPPBC Board Meeting's  
Monday, Oct. 17th, Nov. 14th,  
Dec. 12th at 7:00pm in the  
Council Office
- CPPPBC Parent Education  
Speaker Event  
Thursday, Nov. 17th  
7:00 -8:30pm

### NOTICE TO ALL PARENT PARTICIPATION PRESCHOOL VOLUNTEERS PPP FALL EXECUTIVE WORKSHOPS



**LEADERSHIP &  
CONFLICT RESOLUTION  
WORKSHOP**

Location: Council of Parent Participation Preschools in BC office  
#4 - 4340 CARSON STREET, BURNABY  
October 1st, 2011 9:30am -1:00pm  
Call for directions or an email map

**TREASURER'S  
WORKSHOP**

By email [cnclbc@telus.net](mailto:cnclbc@telus.net) or phone (604) 435-4430. Cost: \$20 for up to 4 people per preschool

*These workshops are essential for School Executive Members and receive excellent reviews year after year!*

### A Parenting Education Evening Hosted by the Council of Parent Participation Preschools in BC



Dr. Lynn Miller, "Anxiety in Children"  
Thursday November 17th, 2011, 7:00 - 8:30 pm  
North Vancouver Location—Carisbrooke Elementary  
510 East Carisbrooke Road



Dr. Lynn Miller, R. Psych, is an Assistant Professor in the Counselling Psychology program at UBC. She is the Primary Investigator on several research projects aimed at ascertaining the effectiveness of school-based interventions, the evidence-based (CBT) "FRIENDS" (Barrett, 2004) program in reducing anxiety disorder symptoms in children and youth. The *Aboriginal Primary Prevention Project* uses a culturally enriched version of FRIENDS in urban and rural schools. She also studies adolescent populations.

\$90.00 for PPP member schools with 30 members or fewer, \$110.00 for more than 30 members.

Single tickets available at door \$10.00 - Open to the Public. Tell a friend, bring a Friend.

Contact Council for tickets: (604)435-4430 or [cnclbc@telus.net](mailto:cnclbc@telus.net)

Attendance at this event can count as Parent Ed requirement for either November or December!

**Block Discount Tickets!**



## See Me Beautiful By Ronda Cafe, Supervisor, LVPPP

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### *Looking for the best in all of us*

*"See me beautiful, look for the best in me  
it's what I really am, and all that I want to be.  
It may take some time, it may be hard to find:  
but see me beautiful.  
See me beautiful, each and every day  
could you take a chance, could you find a way;  
to see me shining through, in everything I do  
and see me beautiful."*

L&R Grammer, 1986 smilin' atcha music

"See Me Beautiful" is one of my favorite songs. It holds a powerful message about respecting and finding the best in everyone. I am sure all of us would love to be in an environment where we were valued and supported for the unique and worthy people that we are.

Changing the world may take a somewhat larger committee than the CPPP could strike at this time.... however we could think about the world that is right at our doorstep; the world of our preschoolers. In our classrooms is a rainbow of wonderful little people, each one unique in his or her own way. Each one with strengths and challenges, needs and abilities, likes and dislikes.

Perhaps we could take the time to ask ourselves "Do I do my best to ensure that every child who comes to our school each day feels completely supported and valued?". "For every child who comes through our door; do I do my best to make them feel beautiful?".

Each day at a PPP we have a high ratio of adults to child; wouldn't it be great if all of us took the time each day to seek out several children and try to give them the support, understanding, guidance and encouragement that they need to be the best that they can be?

Imagine the difference we could make if each of us really committed to seeking out the many strengths of each child and made a strong effort to provide each child with the support that

they needed to overcome their own challenges and really shine as a unique and valuable individual.

Surely one of the many reasons why you choose a PPP was to stay involved and connected with your child as they move our educational system. You want to be a part of their education and you know how valuable your influence is in your child's life. You know your own child well, and you are interested in further understanding how children best develop and learn. A simple way to gain a better understanding of your child is to look at all the children in the classroom, to try and see the similarities and differences as part of the uniqueness of humankind.

You have, *right now*, an opportunity to teach your child and the children for whom you care for how all people are worthy, how each one of us makes different but valuable contributions to our society. You are modeling for your child and for all the children in the classroom that being 'different' from each other is something to be embraced, not something to turn away from or judge. Have you had the time to think about where you stand in your very important role as a parent/teacher in the classroom? Can you take the time to appreciate uniqueness in others? Do you teach by example that there are many ways to be 'right'? Can you see the value in accepting the different ways that we are all beautiful?

As parents, we are our child's most influential role models. They look to us for signals; both spoken and silent. Can you look for the best in all of us? Can you help each of us to reach our full potential? "*It may take some time, it may be hard to find, but see me beautiful*"

I know that only by working together, can we make our schools the positive environment that each of us deserves. My thanks go out to all of you for your support, time and commitment that you have put forth in our schools. Let's continue to seek the best in all of us, and work together in making this school year a positive experience for all our beautiful children. best in all of us, and work together in making this school year a positive experience for all our beautiful children.



## Our Preschool Community Events & Announcements



Saturday, November 5th, 2011  
North Vancouver PPP Fall Open House

Visit Seymour Heights PPP on Saturday, November 5th, 2011, 10am-12pm at 800 Lytton St., North Vancouver.

If you are interested in attending or would like to register, contact Seymour Heights Parent Participation Preschool at 604.929.1813 or [seymourheightspreschool@gmail.com](mailto:seymourheightspreschool@gmail.com)

Saturday, November 5th, 2011, 10am-12pm  
Pied Piper Parent Participation Preschool Open House

Visit us at 8757 Armstrong Avenue in Burnaby, behind Armstrong Elementary School, off of Cascade Street.

Pied Piper preschool has open spaces available in the 3's class to be filled immediately, for more information call 604-524-0833 or visit [www.piedpiperppp.com](http://www.piedpiperppp.com)

# Promoting Lifelong Literacy

By Carolyn Hart, BC Certified Teacher



STORYTIME STANDOUTS

It is almost impossible to believe that the 2011/12 school year marks the tenth anniversary of **Storytime Standouts**. Indeed, I have been writing about wonderful picture books for families associated with The Council of Parent Participation Preschools for nearly a decade (my first column was dated April 2002 and included a review of **Stella, Fairy of the Forest**). I love letting parents and teachers know about wonderful children's books just as much today as I did ten years ago.

Given that this is a special anniversary for Storytime Standouts, I have decided to devote this month's column to my suggestions for ensuring that young children mature into young adults who love to read..

## Start 'em young -

Beginning at six months of age, every child should hear at least two picture books read aloud every day. If we begin when a child is still an infant, the baby gets used to the idea of snuggling close and enjoying a story. If we introduce stories when children are older and 'on the move,' it may be more difficult to entice them to cuddle with us, enjoy the story and the illustrations.

## Every day, no matter what -

Making time for stories, whether at bedtime or during the day, should be sacred. Even on busy days, when we are on holiday or when a babysitter is involved, enjoying two picture books every day is essential for youngsters. It is for this reason that bedtime stories should never be withdrawn as a form of discipline.

## Help your child learn words, concepts and lessons -

When children hear two stories a day, they will enjoy 730 stories in one year and 3650 stories in five years. Hearing more than three thousand stories in five years will introduce all sorts of delicious vocabulary, fascinating concepts, wonderful artwork and important lessons. If we delay reading aloud to our children, perhaps waiting until they are two years of age, we miss the opportunity to expose them to the vocabulary, concepts, artwork and lessons in more than one thousand picture books. If each story introduces just two new words... that means your child will have missed the opportunity to add more than two thousand words to her vocabulary.

## There is something for everyone -

Exploring the vast array of children's books will be fun and rewarding for both you and your child. Visit your local library or book

store and dive into the wealth of fairy tales, fables, tall tales, concept books, alphabet books, nursery rhymes, poetry, humor, lift the flap, wordless, fiction and nonfiction picture books. There is truly a picture book for every occasion.

## Make connections -

Encourage children to make connections with the books they hear read aloud. Whether starting school or visiting a pumpkin patch, dealing with a sibling or learning to ride a bike, there are picture books to match a young child's experiences. Parents can enrich the read aloud experience by pausing to ask questions, "What do you think Little Red Riding Hood should do?" "Which version of The Three Bears did you like best?" "Which story book character do you like best? Lilly, Wemberly, Olivia..."

## Continue reading aloud -

Even once children have become independent readers, they will benefit from sharing a great book with you. Although it may be tempting to step aside when your child is eight years old and is reading chapter books independently, there are all sorts of wonderful novels for you to enjoy together. You and your children will remember and reference these shared books for years to come.

**Storytime Standouts** is written by Carolyn Hart. Carolyn is a former PPP parent and a B.C. Certified Teacher. She presents Early Literacy programs at Richmond community centres and programs for adults throughout the Lower Mainland. In addition, Carolyn writes an email newsletter featuring information about Early Literacy and children's books. Please visit [www.StorytimeStandouts.com](http://www.StorytimeStandouts.com) for more information.

## Who is the Council of Parent Participation Preschools? By Hilary Feldman

The Council is made up of all the families in our member preschools. Every one of these families, totalling around 1,300+ children and their families, is part of a larger community of people working together for a common goal. We all want the best possible preschool experience for children – through the cooperative efforts of parents and teachers.

Each family belongs to a preschool. Each preschool belongs to a Branch of the Council. And all the Branches come together as the Council. Along with the Teachers' Association (PPPTA), we form the broad support to sustain a larger parent participation community.

Parent participation preschools operate through the efforts of parent volunteers. This means that, as our children graduate to elementary school, their families move on. Every year, there are new faces and new families who need to understand their preschool jobs. The Council provides the necessary continuity to parents, while the PPPTA supports the teachers.

The Council provides training workshops and materials, direct support, and advocacy on preschool issues. The Council negotiates affordable group insurance coverage for all member preschools. The Council also provides teacher contracts that have been negotiated with the Teachers' Association. In addition, the Council works on behalf of all member preschools across BC – liaising with Licensing, the Ministry of Children and Family Development, and Gaming Enforcement, as well as other stakeholder groups.

The Council office has three part-time staff: the Executive Director, Office Coordinator, and Bookkeeper. These staff members run the day-to-day operations of the Council. Like your preschool, the Council is a non-profit society and must be administered by a volunteer Board of Directors. Each year, a new Board is elected. Typically, it is made up of current and past preschool parents, along with two representatives from the Teachers' Association and the Executive Director. Monthly Board meetings are open to all preschool members, and every preschool is invited to send a representative.

## MAPLEWOOD FARM



405 Seymour River Place  
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Email: [prooke@shaw.ca](mailto:prooke@shaw.ca)  
Or visit [www.peterrookemagic.ca](http://www.peterrookemagic.ca)



## Promoting Early Numeracy by Chandra Wu, former PPP parent and BC-certified teacher

As a member of a play-based learning preschool, you already realize the importance of allowing children to build cooperative social relationships through play together, but did you know that some of the stranger behaviors we associate with the young preschoolers may also have an important purpose? Skipping over sidewalk cracks, making patterns out of rocks or sticks, or even throwing a large number of objects on the ground to observe the pattern are all elements of play that promote early number sense. Observing symmetry in nature, such as the number of leaves on a clover or rose stem, also creates new mental pathways for recognizing number patterns.

Like literacy, numeracy begins very early, in the second year of life or perhaps even earlier. Children begin to recognize the number of objects in a collection by sight in much the same way a kindergartner might learn to "sight-read" simple words. It begins with simple patterns such as identifying two's as distinct from ones (two eyes, one mouth, two hands, one nose, two feet, one head) and seems to increase in complexity (for instance, to 5 fingers on just one hand, or ten fingers in total).

The ability to recognize a set of objects on sight and notice the pattern or visually count the number present is the early number

sense that lends itself to early arithmetic "facts" in elementary school. Sorting objects by color, shape or size is a common activity for preschoolers that may contribute to developing numeracy. The number of each set depends on the classification system and even the preschooler's aesthetic.

Consider sorting games such as sorting laundry together by the number of holes (shirts have four holes, pants have three) or during meal preparation when measuring amounts for recipes or dividing up portions (how many pieces to cut, how many eggs in a carton). So the next time your preschooler is insisting on touching each fencepost or stepping on each crack on the sidewalk while you are simply trying to get from point "A" to point "B," consider playing along and counting out loud together. You may be giving your child the early skills that will enable them to master mathematics and perhaps even someday become the engineers who design and build your community sidewalks!

*If you can dream it, you deserve to achieve it.*

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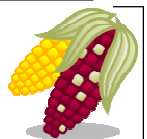
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## Wishing you a peaceful & harmonious time of giving and sharing thanks with your loved ones! Happy Thanksgiving



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### The PPP Partner Newsletter of The Council of Parent Participation Preschools in BC

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Council Office: Monday to Thursday 9:30 am – 2:30 pm



For a Member Preschool near you please visit our website at [www.cpppreschools.bc.ca](http://www.cpppreschools.bc.ca)