

## YMCA CCRR Workshops

Enhancing Communication in Early Years - May 3rd, 9:30AM-12:45PM, Online, \$15.

K-Transition Support Children during Kindergarten Transition - May 10th, 9:30-11:30AM, Coquitlam CCRR, \$10.

Using Literature to Nurture Social and Emotional Development May 15th, 7:00-9:00PM, Online, \$10.

Weaving Together the Health and Wellbeing of Children & Land - May 24th, 9:30AM-12:45PM, Coquitlam CCRR, \$15.

Visit [myymca.ca](https://myymca.ca) to register!

## YMCA CCRR Program News

May is Childcare Month!

The Province of British Columbia proudly recognizes May as Child Care Appreciation Month. Child care providers and the child care workforce play a vital role in our community, and we are excited to celebrate you! If you are a child care provider or part of the workforce serving New Westminster, Burnaby, or the Tri-Cities, we warmly invite you to participate in this month's YMCA CCRR Child Care Appreciation Events. Please note that spaces are limited — visit [myymca.ca](https://myymca.ca) to find out if spots are still available, and to register. Join us for an evening filled with celebration, gratitude, and connection!

To everyone who attended the Conference for Childhoods and Pedagogies at Capilano University on Saturday, April 5th, thank you! The YMCA CCRR truly appreciated being involved in the planning of this event, and it was a pleasure to participate in such an engaging and thought-provoking gathering. Seeing some of your familiar faces among the attendees and presenters was the icing on the cake!

Qualicum First Nation has graciously provided our CCRR program with a stunning assortment of Indigenous resource kits. These kits have been thoughtfully assembled and are now available for borrowing from our program, quickly becoming popular among our borrowers. It's hard to express just how remarkable these kits are, and we highly encourage you to explore our early learning library platform to see [photos of their diverse collections](#). On our library platform you can also place holds on any of the seven different kits you'd like to borrow.



Attendees at our recent networking event, "Library Resource Exploration and Provocation," had the chance to collaboratively explore and unpack one of the Qualicum First Nation kits. It was a significant evening focused on deepening our understanding of Indigenous culture, history, and the interconnected relationships among people, animals, and the land.

## YMCA CCRR Program Features

Spring is in full bloom, bringing vibrant seasonal elements into your program planning and activities. Are you seeking inspiration to maintain the enchanting spirit of spring in your classroom? If so, we're here to assist! Our [Spring Seasonal Resource Sheet](#) is packed with imaginative ideas to integrate this beautiful time of year into your early learning spaces. Share your creations with us on social media if you implement any of our suggested resources or activities; we would love to see what you come up with!

In case you didn't know, our [Y Ignite](#) self-paced workshops (which are completely free and available online) have now expanded to include a total of 12 professional development options! "A Deep Dive into Loose Parts" was launched in 2024, and "Exploring Outdoor Early Learning" is a new addition that became available in 2025. Workshops on the platform range from 2 to 3 hours and can be completed at your convenience, with all participants receiving a certificate of completion at the end. Are you interested? Would you like to explore our catalog of offerings? If so, visit [Y Ignite](#) today!

## YMCA CCRR Event Photos



Did you get photographed at one of our events? Check out our social media to see if you were featured!



## Free Community Events

**Fingerling Festival** - May 3,  
11:00AM–3:00PM, Port Moody Rec  
Center/Noon's Creek.

**Little Explorers** - May 4, 2:00-  
3:00PM, Coquitlam Library Poirier  
Branch.

**Burnaby Blooms** - May 4, 11AM-  
4PM, Shadbolt Centre for the  
Arts/Deer Lake Park.

**Red Dress Day** - May 5, 1:00-  
3:00PM, Hyack Square.

**Anmore Community Market** - May  
10, 10:30AM-4:00PM, Anmore  
Village Hall.

**Rotary May Day Parade** - May 10,  
11AM, downtown Port Coquitlam/



**Colour Fest** - May 10, 3:00–7:00PM,  
Towne Centre Park (kids are free).

**Day of Play** - May 23, 2:00-3:30PM,  
Lobley Park.

**New Westminster's 155th May Day** -  
May 24, 1:30-3:30PM, Queens Park  
Stadium.

## Family Resources

Come visit our family drop-in at the Bettie Allard Y! Parents and caregivers with children aged 0-5 can enjoy fun activities in a friendly environment, allowing children to socialize, explore art, sing, and enjoy stories. Resources on child development and parenting will be available. Special guests include visits from the Coquitlam Library, Westcoast Families, and Kinsight on various dates (see when [here](#)). Mark your calendars for these opportunities to connect and engage!

For a complete list of drop-in programs available in your community and their schedules, please check the [drop-in programs](#) page on our website.

## Child Care News

[ChildCareBC Bulletin](#)'s latest update contains information about the following:

- ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund – Funding Announcement
- New \$10 a Day ChildCareBC Centres open
- Commemorating the 100th edition of the ChildCareBC Bulletin
- Sector highlight: Margaret Manifold

### **BC Gov News - Investments will boost child care for families:**

Families throughout British Columbia continue to benefit from government investments in child care, as more families gain access to \$10-a-day spaces and new child care centre projects are funded. ... For this investment, the government's focus was to prioritize new \$10-a-day facilities in communities that do not yet have access to the \$10 a Day ChildCareBC program and/or providers who serve low-income areas.



## Articles of Interest

**39 Fun Ways Kids Can Play Outside this Spring:** "The sun is getting warmer, birds are singing, and children are shedding their winter gear! Spring is in the air! After the long sleep of winter, nature is filled with a flutter of activity and new energy. Trees are exploding with blooms, insects are buzzing, and critters are busy building nests. The kids are full of energy too! Thankfully, spring offers many simple, easy, and fun outdoor activities for children to get their wiggles out. This article highlights 39 free and easy activities you can do outside with your kids this spring."

### **Seeing Children do More with**

**Less** by Deb Curtis - "I am always thoughtful to avoid over-stimulation, as well as to ensure the materials encourage children to be the inventors of their work, the story of the Pikler babies and their hands challenged me to rethink my practice. What might be the impact of these different approaches on the development of children's creativity, initiative, and self-regulation? In my desire to give children all they need to grow and learn, am I giving them too much?"



## YMCA CCRR Services ... Now with links!

### **Families**

- [Child care information and referrals, including local community resources.](#)
- Help with [ChildCareBC](#) programs like the Fee Reduction Initiative and Affordable Child Care Benefit.
- [Workshops, drop-ins, and family programs](#) to support your parenting journey.
- [Lending library](#) with books, toys, and materials to support your child's learning through play.

### **Child Care Providers and Child Care Workforce**

- Guidance on becoming a licensed [child care provider](#).
- Support with [ChildCareBC](#) applications like Start-Up Grants, Wage Enhancement, and the Fee Reduction Initiative.
- [Workshops and courses](#) to strengthen early learning practices.
- [Supportive site visits](#) to enhance and grow your program.
- Referrals to local resources to support your work.
- [Networking opportunities](#) with others in the child care field.
- [Job posting services](#) for providers looking to hire.
- [Lending library](#) with books, toys, and materials to enrich your curriculum and inspire play.



## Early Learning Library Corner ... Bo's Lending Library Resource Picks!

Let's create refreshing lemonade with chilled ice and fresh lemon slices to enjoy the warmer weather. Engaging in dramatic play enables children to take charge of the story and express their feelings, creating a sense of comfort that helps them manage stress.



Insects play a crucial role in our ecosystem and contribute significantly to biodiversity, sparking curiosity in children. This specimen set allows kids to explore and observe the intricate details and fascinating facts about insects. And yes, these are indeed real bugs!



### Social Media & YMCA CCRR Early Learning Library

On our social media platforms, we frequently showcase resources through our Exploring Materials series. Moreover, our Virtual Story Times highlight our resources in use, complete with song suggestions. Follow us to explore these offerings!

click  
here

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