

Call for Submissions: Early Learning Framework Activities & Experiences

Thank you for your interest in developing activities that will support **parents** in the BC Early Learning Framework!

Why is this important?

The BC Early Learning Framework supports adults to create rich early learning experiences and environments to support young children’s early learning and development. The purpose of this project is to develop ideas of experiences that parents can use at home that will support children’s learning and development.

What is the goal?

The aim of the project is to develop 16 “experience ideas” that link with the four Areas of Learning in the Early Learning Framework (4 activities for each Area of Learning). The Areas of Learning are:

1. Well-Being and Belonging
2. Exploration and Creativity
3. Communication and Literacies
4. Personal Identity, Social Responsibility and Diversity

Below you will find an example of such an experience (Story Stones). The experience idea is organized into different sections listed below:

- **What/How:** a description of the activity and how to do it
- **Who:** identifying who can participate in the activity/experience, based on beginner, intermediate and advanced level suggestions
- **Where:** a description of where the activity can occur
- **When:** a description of when the activity can occur
- **Why:** a description of how the activity/experience supports the area of learning.

ASK:

If you have ideas of successful learning experiences for children in the early years (0-5 years old), please fill out the form below, and send your ideas to us by **October 26, 2018**. We will be very happy to hear from you and to learn more from you! These activities aim to be about 2 pages in length (not including photos or illustrations).

TEMPLATE: EARLY LEARNING FRAMEWORK ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCES

Please see the example below (Story Stones) for ideas. Submit your ideas to Sana Fakh at sana.fakh@cw.bc.ca

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sana Fakh, Provincial Lead, Early Years Health & Wellness for Child Health BC at sana.fakh@cw.bc.ca or 604-877-6441.

Example Experience: Story Stones

Focusing on Communication and Literacy

Focusing on Exploration and Creativity

WHAT/HOW

This activity originates from a tradition of Aboriginal peoples of Australia. Story Stones are painted stones kept in a small pouch and used as a tool to tell stories.

Simplicity is key for this activity. Paint various images that support the different interests of the child(ren) on small rocks. Once dried, place them in a pouch.

Allow the children to explore the stones and create their own stories using the rocks. This activity will support children's creativity, language development, and confidence.

WHO

Beginner Level Suggestion:

Paint very simple images like a house, dog, cat, tree, car, mountains, waves, and individual people (possibly even small caricatures of family members). For some children this will act as more of an explorative or sight-word activity. Encourage your child to mimic the name of the image several times with you. Most children will be able to form more of a storyline at the intermediate level (see below).

Intermediate Level Suggestion:

Allow the child(ren) to explore the stones. Some children will automatically create their storyline whereas others may need some encouragement. You can support their development by having them explain the symbolism of all the stones and ask them who the characters all are. Ask probing questions such as "Where do they live?", or "What are they doing" to help them develop a storyline.

Advanced Level Suggestion

To encourage further exploration, you can have the child(ren) paint their own rocks. This will allow the child to take full ownership over the activity and truly highlight and encourage their ideas and creative thinking. Also, try encouraging your child(ren) to develop a storyline.

WHERE

This experience can be completed anywhere, preferably in an area with ample room for them to spread out the stones to create their story.

WHEN

This activity can occur at any time of the day, and best explored individually or in small groups.

WHY

By playing Story Stones, children will be learning to:

- Communicate thoughts and experiences creatively using many different forms of expression
- Experience the stories and symbols of their own and other cultures
- Express their own points of view
- Understand abstract and critical thinking, creativity, and invention
- Be independent and confident as they take initiative to create their storyline
- Enhance their communication and literacy skills

Template: Early Learning Experience

[Please insert title of Experiences/Activity]

What Area of Learning is this Experience focusing on? (Note: it is common where activities/experiences focus on more than one Area of Learning. Please choose the ones that are most applicable.)

- 1. Well-Being and Belonging
- 2. Exploration and Creativity
- 3. Communication and Literacies
- 4. Personal Identity, Social Responsibility and Diversity

WHAT/HOW (describe the activity/experience and how to do it)

Write down in point form, or in paragraphs, what the activity aims to do, and how parents can approach the activity/experience.

WHO (identify who can do the activity/experience)

This section provides parents information on the beginner, intermediate and advanced learning experiences a child could possibly participate in. Write down in point form or in paragraphs, what the different levels could include. See the Gardening with Kids experience as an example.

Beginner Level Suggestion:

Intermediate Level Suggestion:

Advanced Level Suggestion:

WHERE (describe where the activity/experience can occur)

Describe where the activity can occur. For example, would this experience occur indoors or outdoors, or both?

WHEN (describe when the activity/experience can occur)

Describe when the activity can occur. For example, what time of day? What season?

WHY (describe why the activity/experience supports the area of learning)

Describe how this activity supports the Area of Learning that is chosen above. We can help with this too.

Reference

Please provide any references or sources you used for the development of this activity/experience.

Tell us more about you:

1. What field do you work in?
2. How long have you been working in the early years?