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The Educator provides a variety of different sizes and shapes of coloured ice blocks in her backyard. The children decide they would like to build with them. They are building unassisted.



“Alberta’s Early Learning and Care Framework is intended to awaken the image of the child as a strong, resourceful, capable child – a mighty learner and citizen.” (Makovichuk, Hewes, Lirette, & Thomas, 2014, p. 38).

Educators see the children as mighty learners. The traditional view of children as needy and cute has changed. We look at children as being thoughtful and capable learners. They have visions and ideas and need us to trust them to explore.

Through listening and observing, Educators provide a variety of activities and materials so children can make choices and communicate their interests.

The Educator observes as the children imagine the possibilities!

The children create and construct as they lift and move the ice blocks.

They work both collaboratively and independently deciding which blocks to use and where to place them. The children help each other to lift the ice squares, circles and rectangles. They try different placement and patterns until they have completed their vision. The variety of shapes and colors make for an interesting build.





### Educator's Birthdays

Ela J. Marion I.  
Beth B. Raman B. Belen G.

# January 2021

### Educator's Anniversaries

Belen G. 11 years  
Rosa K. 3 years  
Biba S. 1 yr.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
This year has been a challenging for everyone. While we can't go back and change 2020, <b>2021 is a new year with new opportunities.</b> Northalta and the Educators will continue to follow AHS guidelines and ensure children enjoy a safe and fun child care environment. <b>Happy New Year, from the Northalta Staff</b>					1 <b>New Years Day</b> Northalta office closed, approved Educator holiday	2
3	4 Parent fees due	5	6 Parents: Late fee applies to unpaid childcare fees	7 <b>Orthodox Christmas</b> (Julian calendar)	8	9
10	11	12	13 Educator payment email sent	14 <b>Orthodox New Year</b> (Julian calendar)	15	16
17	18 Educator payment email due BY 9:00a.m.	19	20	21 <b>Educator Training –</b> To be announced	22	23
24/31	25	26	27 <b>Family Literacy Day</b>	28	29	30

## Dates to Remember

**January 1<sup>st</sup>: New Year's Day** - January 1 is the first day of a New Year.

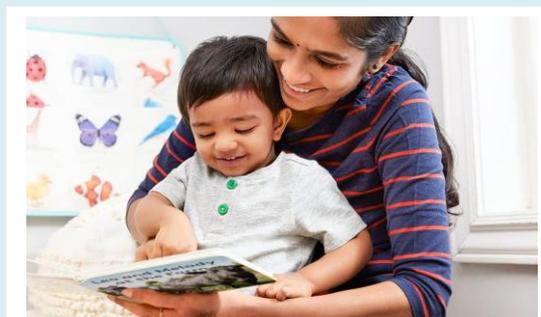
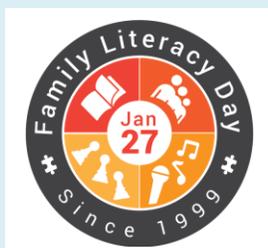
**January 7<sup>th</sup>: Orthodox Christmas** – Many Orthodox churches in Canada such as the Russian, Ukrainian, Serbian, and Ethiopian celebrate Christmas on January 7<sup>th</sup> (based on the Gregorian calendar).

**January 14<sup>th</sup>: Orthodox New Year** - Celebrations include dinners featuring traditional activities and dishes from counties like Russia or the Ukraine.

**January 27<sup>th</sup>: Family Literacy Day®** - This initiative was created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 and is held annually on January 27. The day raises awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development and improving a child's literacy skills. <https://abclifeliteracy.ca/all-programs/family-literacy-day/>

**\*\*Educators and Families – Please send us pictures of your Family Literacy Day activity! Email to [office@northaltacare.com](mailto:office@northaltacare.com)**

**January 21<sup>st</sup>: Educator Training – To be announced**



## Celebrate Family Literacy Day by Reading Aloud

Enjoy the day by having the children pick out their favorite book and then enjoy sharing the story. When we read aloud to young children, we should intentionally be enthusiastic, engaging, interactive, interesting, seeking to captivate their childlike imagination.



### Benefits of reading aloud include:

- Children's self-esteem grows as they experience the security of having a parent or other caring person read aloud with them.
- Children are introduced to new concepts such as colors, shapes, numbers, and alphabet in a fun, age appropriate way.
- Children build listening skills vocabulary, memory, and language skills.
- Children develop imagination and creativity.
- Children develop individual interests in special subjects like dinosaurs, cats, or cars.
- Children learn positive attitudes towards themselves and others.



Retrieved Dec.22, 2020 from <https://www.ccpa-accp.ca/why-reading-is-important-for-your-children/>

## Northalta Professional Development Opportunities for 2021.

Northalta will offer educator training opportunities virtually this year. We look forward to offering in person training when it is safe to do so.

Northalta will be focusing our training on exploring the concepts of *Flight, Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework.*

*The "made for Alberta" Framework will guide and create opportunity for increased reflection on our work with children.*

Please note the dates below. Topics will be announced.

Training dates and topics are subject to change.

- January 21<sup>st</sup>
- March 18<sup>th</sup>
- May 20<sup>th</sup>
- June 17<sup>th</sup>
- July - No training, summer break
- August – No training, summer break
- September 16<sup>th</sup>
- \*\*October – on hold
- November 25<sup>th</sup>
- December – No training, Christmas break

\*\* Note: The Annual Northalta Educator Celebration is on hold at this time.

## 2021 Approved Holidays for Day Home Closure

The following is a list of day home closures, approved by Northalta. Educators are not required to work on the following days:

- New Year's Day - January 1st, 2021
- Family Day - February 15th, 2021
- Good Friday – April 2nd, 2021
- Victoria Day - May 24th, 2021
- Canada Day - July 1st, 2021
- Heritage Day - August 2nd, 2021
- Labor Day –September 6th, 2021
- Thanksgiving Day –October 11th, 2021
- Remembrance Day – November 11th, 2021
- Christmas Day - December 25th, 2021
- Boxing Day - December 26th, 2021

**Note:** When an approved holiday is on a Saturday or Sunday, another day in lieu of the holiday may be taken. Educators and Parents will receive notice regarding the approved Educator day in lieu in the Northalta newsletter.