



## Educator Appreciation Day-May 6. 2022

### Child Care Educators Make a Difference!

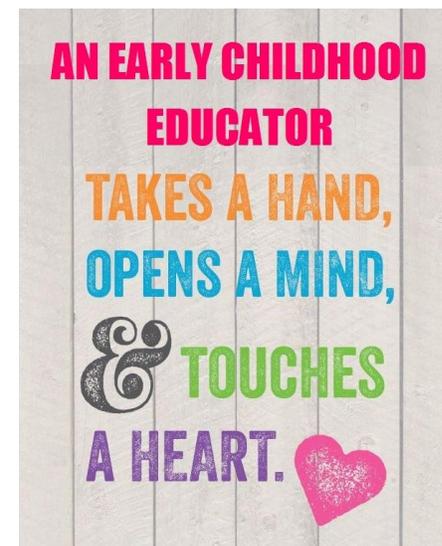
Northalta is very proud of our day home educators. They are professionals who have dedicated many years to the childcare field and their early childhood education. They understand the importance of high -quality childcare. We are especially happy to welcome many new educators and the families in their day home to Northalta this year.

Educators are an important partner to families in the development and learning of children. The educator provides learning experiences that support children's social, emotional, intellectual and physical development. Children have the opportunity to explore, be creative and curious. Educators also role model respect for all people, encouraging inclusion and diversity.

Let your educator know how much you appreciate her. A few ideas include;

- ❖ Sending flowers or a card of appreciation,
- ❖ Giving your educator a paid day off,
- ❖ Purchasing a resource for the day home or
- ❖ Providing lunch for the group.

**On behalf of Northalta staff, we'd like to thank the educators for their contributions to the childcare field and we look forward to continuing to work with you!**



### Educator's Birthdays

\*Jenny L. \*Saima M.  
 \* Nicole C.\* Pragna P.  
 \* Elysa B. \*Biba S.



# May 2022

### Educator's Anniversaries

\* Sahina A. - 3 yrs.  
 \* Ruza A.- 4 yrs.  
 \* Davorka K. - 4 yrs.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Parents Fees Due	3 <b>Eid-al-Fitr</b>	4 Parents: Late fee applies to unpaid childcare fees	5	6 <b>Educator Appreciation Day</b>	7
8 <b>Mother's Day</b>	9	10	11 Educator payment request email sent	12	13	14
15	16 Educator payment email due BY 9:00a.m.	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 <b>Victoria Day</b> Northalta Office closed and Approved Educator Holiday	24	25	26 <b>Northalta workshop</b> 6:30 pm-8:00 pm	27	28
29	30	31	<p><b>Friendly Reminder – Child care pick up</b>            We understand parents can be delayed at pick up time due to unavoidable circumstances especially weather-related issues.            Please ensure you are picking your child up at your contracted pick-up time.            If your pickup schedule has changed, please discuss the new time with your educator and contact Northalta to update your childcare contract.</p>			

### Dates to Remember

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Eid-al-Fitr** is the first day of the Islamic month of Shawwal. It marks the end of Ramadan, which is a month of fasting and prayer. Many Muslims attend communal prayers, listen to a *khutba* (sermon) and give *zakat al-fitr* (charity in the form of food) during Eid al-Fitr

**May 6<sup>th</sup> – Educator Appreciation Day** is a day of recognition celebrated annually on the Friday before Mother's Day. We all appreciate the commitment of educators to create a safe, healthy and fun day home.

**May 8<sup>th</sup> - Mother's Day** is a day to express gratitude towards mothers and mother figures. Mother figures may include grandmothers, stepmothers, mothers-in-law, guardians, foster parents, and family friends. It is a time to thank those women who took the time to care for us.

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>- Victoria Day** - The Monday before May 25 is Victoria Day and is a statutory holiday. It is the official birthday of Queen Victoria. Northalta office closed and approved Educator Holiday

**May 26<sup>th</sup> – Northalta workshop –Tips to Make Your Day Home A Success.** – There is a lot of competition in childcare so how do you make **your** day home stand out from the rest? What are parents looking for in a day home? Northalta staff will share feedback from families, suggestions from day home educators and other child recruitment tips.



## Outdoor Play Space

According to Loris Malaguzzi, founder of the Reggio Emilia approach, "There are three teachers of children: adults, other children, and their physical environment."

The outdoors provides a place for imaginative play, exercise, discovery and much more. When we move indoor activities like a kitchen and reading area outside, we provide the children a completely different learning experience.

Creating a responsive environment is not limited to the indoors.

How can we create an outdoor space that will invite, provoke, and enhance learning? The outdoor space should also encourage communication, collaboration, and inquiry.

### Tips for an outdoor play space:

- ≈ Encourage messy play – give children the opportunity to create and discover materials. Consider a mud kitchen.
- ≈ Encourage risky play – teach children to be aware and manage risks. Children take risks from the time they start rolling over, walking and riding a bike. Build a bike ramp.
- ≈ Create a sound experience - Make a music wall.

For more ideas visit <https://cutedioprojects.com/garden/best-outdoor-play-areas-for-kids/>

### Remember:

- ✓ Have extra weather appropriate clothes for the children.
  - ✓ Have an organized space - children know where to find and put away items.
  - ✓ Any size yard can be updated.
- Visit the organizations across Canada dedicated to appreciating the outdoors like [Ecokids](#) and [Outdoor Play Canada](#) for additional outdoor activities.



## Inclusive Child Care

Northalta promotes an inclusive child care environment that meets the needs and best interests of the child. Educators work with the families and other supports to assist and encourage the child's development.

The Government of Alberta ICC program assists child care programs and educators to include children who have extra needs, and increase a families access to inclusive child care and other supports.

**Access Support and Participation (ASaP)** - ASaP aims to provide access to the supports needed to ensure each child's meaningful participation in child care programs.

**ASaP** is funded by Alberta Children's Services and administered by [GRIT](#) in Edmonton.

Please visit the links to learn more about the services and supports available.

<https://www.alberta.ca/child-care-supports-for-inclusion.aspx>

## Challenging Behavior

Families and educators work together to help children identify their big emotions and manage challenging situations in a positive way.

Northalta hosted the **Strategies for Understanding and Responding to Challenging Behaviours** workshop on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

[Quality Coaching and Consulting](#) delivered relatable and helpful information educators can use to support and guide emotions.

We encourage everyone to refer to [Tucker Turtle](#) as another tool for supporting children's needs.



**TIP:** Observations are important in finding a pattern to the behavior!

What happened **BEFORE** the challenging behavior began?  
Does the behavior happen before lunch time or nap time?  
Does it happen at clean-up time or when leaving the park?  
The more information we have, the more we can support the child's needs.