



January 2009 Resource Bulletin

What's New at ELSA Net?

Networking Events

On December 12th, ELSA 2 and 3 instructors braved the first snow of the year to come out to the networking event hosted by ELSA Net and Collingwood Neighbourhood House. We shared resources, lesson plans, curriculum and field trip and guest speaker ideas. Instructors worked together and discussed ideas to help deal with multi-level classes, continuous intake and how to encourage students to speak English during class time. To see some of the ideas, visit the teachers' forum at www.elsanet.org. Our next networking event will take place next month for ELSA 4 and 5 instructors. If you would like to host the event at your location, please let Colleen know.

Medical Emergencies and Accessing Community Health Services Videos and Workshops

ELSA Net is excited to have a new project underway this year with a focus on Medical Emergencies and Accessing Community Health Services. Workshops, workshop materials and video/audio materials are under development for ELSA 1-5.

Website changes and additions

Keep an eye on the ELSA Net website for changes and additions. New this month is an events calendar outlining conferences, workshops, forums and presentations in BC and across the country for the next 6 months. Events include those relevant for administrators, child care workers and instructors.

Getting involved

Know of an event that you would like to see added to the calendar? Want to be added to a resource mailing list? You would love to host the next networking event at your organization? Have a special interest and want to be part of a group or committee? Have an article for the next ELSA Net Newsletter? Created a presentation that you would love to share with instructors around the province?

Email Colleen at resourcecoordinator@elsanet.org

Teaching Multilevel Classes

For those of you who have the particularly challenging job of teaching a multilevel class, the book *Double Action English* has been recommended by several seasoned instructors:

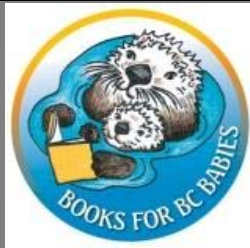
Double Action English: multilevel activities

Earl Stevick & Jane Yedlin
Edison-Wesley Publishing Company, Inc.
1985
ISBN: 0-201-08829-0

These tips for teaching multilevel classes come from Noreen McCaffrey in Courtney on Vancouver Island:

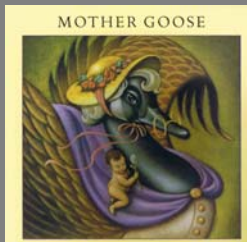
- try to have an activity that everyone does together to start the class and to end the class
- make time for students to mingle and chat
- do pronunciation practice together
- Nancy Callan's Jigsaws for Canadian holidays work well with multilevel
- Use textbooks for the appropriate levels: Canadian Concepts or ancient copies of Canadian Crossroads
- Use a great volunteer for each class and alternate





BOOKS FOR BC BABIES: A RESOURCE FOR NEW PARENTS

All pregnant students or students who have recently had babies will be pleased to know about the *Books for Babies* program. This program provides EVERY baby born in British Columbia with a package full of resources to encourage parents to share books, language and rhymes with their newborns. Each *Books for Babies* package comes with a board book, a music CD, a guide for adults, local library information and community information for babies and parents. All of this is packaged in a reusable child-sized book bag. Also available are books in two languages and translated brochures!



The 2009 book is a new Board Book edition of Groundwood Press' *Mother Goose: A Canadian Sampler*. The board book is a "sampler" of 15 nursery rhymes, each illustrated by a well-known Canadian children's illustrator including Barbara Reid, Kim LaFave, Mark Thurman and Marie-Louise Gay.

The CD for 2009 is *Zoom, Zoom, Cuddle and Croon* by Kathy Reid-Naiman featuring a collection of her most loved songs and rhymes with the addition of some brand new tracks.

Bag distribution is coordinated by the public library in each community, for more information, contact your local public library. *Books for BC Babies* is just the beginning - connecting with your library for books and programs is the next step!

Child Care resources

Free reproducible language and early literacy activities

These new materials are designed to encourage parents to interact with their children while they are "On the Go" to facilitate language, early literacy, and positive parent-child interactions. The materials include 14 activities as well as accompanying hints for each of the activities about how to modify the activities to meet the specific developmental needs of the child. They were developed by Angela Notari-Syverson, Ph.D. and colleagues.

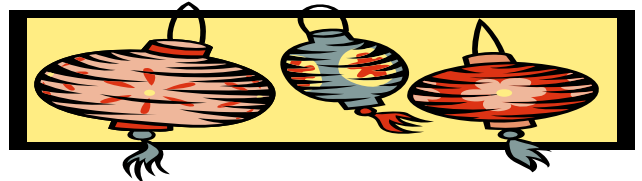
www.wlearning.com

click on the purple button that says *Free Parent Education Handouts*

The following are produced by Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services, a US-based program focused on refugee children/youth:

<http://www.brycs.org/documents/EnhancingChildCare.pdf>

<http://www.brycs.org/documents/RaisingChildren-Handbook.pdf>



The Year of the Ox

Chinese New Year falls on January 26th this year. Here are some interesting resources that you may want to use with your classes!

<http://www.teacherplanet.com/resource/chinese/newyear.php>

<http://www.ac-nancy-metz.fr/enseign/anglais/Henry/chineseny.htm>

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/chinese-new-year/>

The LunarFest Celebration at the Vancouver Art Gallery Plaza on February 1st from 3-8 pm is sure to be lots of fun!