



## **BOOKMATES WORKSHOP SUGGESTIONS FALL 2025**

For a complete listing of Professional Development opportunities please visit:  
<https://bookmates.ca/what-we-offer/>. Current themes include:

### **WE DIG DINOSAURS (AND SO MUCH MORE!): Following Children's Interests**



Join us as we explore the importance of encouraging, celebrating and building on the ideas and interests of young children in early childhood settings. Together we'll look at stories, rhymes, songs and hands-on activities that can be adapted to the interests of the children in various early learning environments while encouraging numeracy, literacy, gross and fine motor skills. Participants will have the opportunity to work with others to develop their own ready-to-use interest-based lesson/activity plans as we recognize the importance of following the lead of the children in our care. Best for those working with toddlers and pre-school aged children.

### **OPEN A BOOK, OPEN THE WORLD**



This workshop is focused on sharing early literacy resources that promote diversity including race, creed, gender, culture, family structures and abilities. Content includes:

- Reviewing the importance of being intentional with the types of early literacy information, tools and strategies we incorporate into our programs
- Exploring concepts to strengthen, support and enhance the fundamentals of literacy while celebrating diverse communities
- Sharing a variety of children's books and related hands-on literacy extension activities that can be integrated into our current environments.

### **BOOKS FOR BABIES – EXPLORING STRATEGIES FOR INCORPORATING BOOKS AND EXTENSION IDEAS IN THE INFANT AND TODDLER ROOMS**

Book exploration is so important for our youngest learners! This workshop shares a selection of books especially designed for infants and toddlers and provides activity ideas that build on the early literacy concepts that can be found in each. Designed for those working with infants and toddlers, participants will leave the workshop with a variety of hands-on, interactive activities and book ideas that can be easily incorporated into programming.

**\*\*Also available in a broader age range for toddler/preschool/kinder version called "GROWING BOOK BY BOOK"**



## **FIRST FRIENDS: Supporting Social-Emotional Skills in the Early Years**

Have you noticed more and more young children needing additional social-emotional support? This virtual workshop focuses on providing early literacy resources, tools and strategies that support the emerging social-emotional skills of children from birth to 6. Content includes:



- Defining social-emotional development in the early years and discussing how it contributes to healthy child development
- Sharing early literacy strategies that support social-emotional skill development
- Discussing how caregivers can nurture and model behaviours that will facilitate this learning
- Providing social-emotional literacy extension activity ideas that can be easily integrated into current programs

## **TAKE IT OUTSIDE! : Integrating Literacy and Nature**

Using the outdoor environment as a learning tool, this presentation will:



- Review why child-led play is important
- Explore how active play and nature support healthy child development
- Share a variety of ways of extending literacy concepts in outdoor environments
- Provide a variety of inter-generational active play and outdoor activities that can be readily replicated in existing programs or services and shared with families

## **FABULOUS FACILITATING**

This workshop is designed for those working in early learning settings and is ideal for those wanting strategies for facilitating groups of children, groups of adults/colleagues or parent-child program groups. In this interactive training you will:

- Learn what it means to be an effective facilitator
- Explore different learning styles
- Gain facilitation techniques
- Get strategies for problem solving in different situations
- Gather teambuilding activity ideas



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**Bookmates Inc is a non-profit organization focused on the development, training and delivery of family literacy and learning programs**