



## **BOOKMATES' WORKSHOPS FALL/WINTER 2024**

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.

### **MUD MUFFINS & STONE SOUP: Supporting Literacy & Numeracy Skills Outdoors**

This workshop focuses on providing resources, tools and strategies designed to nurture creativity, encourage outdoor play and promote the following: early literacy and numeracy skills, sensory exploration, fine and gross motor skill building, and social-emotional development. We will look at how we can extend literacy and numeracy concepts in a natural setting, focusing on inquisitive, play-based learning while enhancing children's overall healthy development. Best for those working with toddlers and pre-school aged children.



### **A BUNCH OF BOOKMAKING**

This hands-on workshop will allow you the opportunity to explore simple, accessible bookmaking ideas that can be integrated into early years programs. Experiment with a variety of materials like sandwich bags, sticks, and paper bags to come away with samples of simple books that can be replicated with children in infant, toddler and preschool programming.



## **COLOURING OUTSIDE THE LINES**

This literacy framed workshop will explore the concept that creativity is a bridge to learning and an important part of a young child's development. It is designed to share practical skills, tips, and resources for how early learning educators can engage children with open-ended process art activities to extend literacy concepts. Content includes:



- Discussing the difference between arts and crafts
- Exploring how art supports healthy child development
- Sharing how literacy and language skills are developed through art
- Providing ideas for hands-on literacy activities connected to art

## **READ, RHYME, SING AND PLAY**



In this playful workshop we will read and sing together while sharing a variety of associated literacy extension ideas. Participants will leave the workshop, refreshed with a variety of hands-on, interactive activities and book ideas that can be easily incorporated into programming. This workshop is designed for those working with infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

## **POSITIVE PATHWAYS: Literacy Strategies to Support Resilience in Early Childhood**

This workshop focuses on providing early literacy resources, tools and strategies that support the building of a positive emotional foundation of children from birth to 6. Content includes:

- What neuroscience says about early childhood brain development and resiliency
- Recognized emotional health and well-being challenges in our preschool age population
- A gathering of strategies designed to enhance mental wellness and resiliency in an early learning environment

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is a non-profit  
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