

February 2023

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## HOPE EVERYONE IS SAFE AND WELL (QUALITY AREA 6 COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES)

2023 has certainly started with a bang! We would like to welcome a number of new Educators who have started over the last month and look forward to getting to know you and your families.

We are so excited with the successful role out of the new Educator Book (Diary/Program) and the Coordinators are so impressed with how you are using this to enhance your day to day practices.

The Environment Checklist book, while a requirement has also proven to be a timesaving and popular addition, along with the Logbook.

Please remember that the Environmental Checklist needs to be completed daily (before care commences) and the logbook needs to be completed for every trip outside your home.

If you haven't purchased these books and feel like you have missed out, fear not we still have stocks available. Just talk to your Coordinator.

## FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Please ensure you have completed your food handling training and sent confirmation through to Kathy.
- Please ensure you are a member of the My Place Educator Facebook Page. If you are not already a member, please request to join. It is a great way to collaborate with fellow Educators, share ideas and resources and keep up to date with the latest information.

## THIS MONTH WE EXPLORE RAMADAN

MARCH 22<sup>ND</sup>-APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>

Principle: Respect for diversity  
Practices: Holistic, integrated, and interconnected approaches.

Did you know a quarter of the world celebrates Ramadan? This major Muslim holiday is coming up! Whether you have children in care, or they have family, friends and neighbors who celebrate, or you just want them to understand more about the world around them, there are plenty of creative ways to teach children about this holy month.

Ramadan is a **holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer for Muslims, the followers of Islam**. It is celebrated the month during which Muhammad received the initial revelations of the Quran, the holy book for Muslims. Fasting is one of the five fundamental principles of Islam.

"Muslims fast during Ramadan, which means they usually don't eat or drink anything from dawn until dusk for 30 days. The fast also includes moral goals, like no lying, gossip, or treating others badly.

*Google activities for children around Ramadan for great ways to incorporate this into your program.*

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## Policy, Procedure & QIP Review

At the end of 2022, we started the process of reviewing and updating our Policies and Procedures. This process involves stakeholders across the board and throughout this process we may require input from the Educators, Educational Assistants and families.

We will keep you updated on changes through the newsletter, Facebook page and on our visits.

As always, the information we gather and share with all stakeholders goes into our QIP to help guide and shape our practices in the future.

## FOCUS OF THE MONTH

### Working towards Critical Reflection!

National Quality Standard 1.3.2

So, what's the difference between reflecting and critically reflecting? When we reflect on an action, we begin to think more deeply about what happened and the 'why' behind it. This deeper thinking is called 'critical reflection'. It can take place at the time of the event, but usually takes place after the event.

As a Service (which will include all stakeholders) we will be looking into how critical reflection makes a difference to children's learning and development.

While this practice has been in place, we would like to revisit this as a process that will be gradual and will involve many steps including some of the following: survey questions, home visits, Educator and Coordinator training and reflective questions.

By the time we have worked through this process we believe that all Educators will be able to define critical reflection and identify why and how we do this.

We want this to be an embedded practice across our Service to help us enrich the lives of the children we educate and care for.

Please look out for the survey questions (via email) and reflective questions (via your coordinator) which will all be coming soon.

## WEBSITE PROFILES

Please take the time to go onto the website to set up your Educator profile or if you have a profile, go in and update. This is a great way for parents to see what is available and the wonderful environments that are on offer.

If you are unsure on where to go for this, please contact the office.

### Feedback:

As a team, all feedback goes to helping us work on areas of improvement, extend on areas we are doing well in and most importantly work towards giving children the best quality care possible.