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Welcome

We are excited to continue our bi-monthly newsletter the ‘CTAS Update’ in 2014. We would like to invite you to share any ideas or feedback about the update and let us know what you would like to see in the 2014 issues. You can contact us on 9350 9222 or via email admin@ctas.wa.edu.au

Student of The Year 2013

Congratulations to Rebecca Jack and Jo Cook

The CTAS student of the year is a yearly award that recognises the students who have excelled not only in their qualification studies but also as inspirational educators. The students are nominated by their CTAS trainers and a Certificate III and Diploma student are awarded with a certificate and prize to recognise their achievements in the relevant qualifications.

We would like to congratulate Rebecca Jack from Great Beginnings Wanneroo on winning the Certificate III in Children's Services student of the year award. Rebecca has consistently demonstrated characteristics of an outstanding assistant educator while also being a fantastic student who has shown great dedication and pride in her studies. We wish Rebecca all the best for her future studies and congratulate her on this fantastic achievement.

We are also delighted to congratulate Jo Cook from Organikids on winning the Diploma of Children’s Services (Education and Care) student of the year. Jo has displayed a very positive attitude towards her studies and consistently submitted work of a high standard. As an educator Jo is a fantastic role model to others and her strengths are really shown within the strong relationships she has with the children, families and the educators in the service. We wish Jo all the best in her future endeavours and we think she will make an outstanding qualified educator.

Qualification Update

The new year also brings new qualifications for the ECE profession. CTAS has kept up to date with the changes to the training package and will be offering the following qualifications in 2014:

CHC30113—Certificate III in Early Childhood Education & Care
CHC40113—Certificate IV in School Age Education & Care
CHC50113—Diploma of Early Childhood Education & Care

Students who are currently studying our 2013 qualification will continue on with their current studies if they are more than 50% of the way through. Students who have completed less than 50% of their 2013 qualification will be transitioned on to the above qualifications. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us or your trainer for further information.

We are now taking on new enrolments for 2014, if you would like to receive a expression of interest form or learn more about qualification training please email admin@ctas.wa.edu.au or call the office on 9350 9222.

Our Vision

Childcare Training & Accreditation Solutions is a team of passionate, committed and highly experienced childcare professionals, whose vision is to raise the standard of childcare by sharing their knowledge, skills and experience with other through high quality personalised training.

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PD Training Update

We are ready for a fantastic year of professional development in 2014! We have listened to your feedback and have brought on some new and exciting sessions such as Supporting Children’s Behavior, Sustainability in Child Care and More Than Just a Child Care Worker. The February 2014 – June 2014 CTAS calendar has now been emailed out and bookings are now open. Just a friendly reminder that the sessions are capped at 25 participants so to ensure your place please return your booking forms before the stipulated due date. If you do not have a copy of the 2014 booking form or the CTAS Professional Development Calendar please email pdtraining@ctas.wa.edu.au or contact us on 9350 9222 and request the required documents.

CTAS are now able to take credit card payments for professional development training. To pay via credit card please complete the payment option section on the booking form ensuring that the form is signed by the card holder. Once the form is completed the card holder will need to contact CTAS on 9350 9222 to submit the credit card details over the phone. Please do not email or fax credit card details for privacy and security reasons, we do not keep credit card information after payment has been made.

What’s Coming Up?

Child Protection
In this session we will cover Types of Child Abuse, Indicators, Protective Strategies and Reporting Procedures.
Date: Wednesday 26th February 2014
Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm
Location: CTAS Training Room
Cannington
Bookings Due: 12th February 2014

Cultural Competence
Discuss the benefits of diversity, understanding and honouring differences and avoiding tokenistic experiences.
Date: Wednesday 12th March 2014
Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm
Location: CTAS Training Room
Cannington
Bookings Due: 26th February 2014

Workplace Health and Safety
This session covers Emergencies, Hygiene Practices, Infection Control, Manual Handling and more.
Date: Wednesday 26th March 2014
Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm
Location: CTAS Training Room
Cannington
Bookings Due: 12th March 2014

For the complete February 2014 - June 2014 calendar or for further information on Professional Development please contact CTAS either via email: pdtraining@ctas.wa.edu.au or phone: 9350 9222

Maggie Dent Professional Development March 2014

Who is Maggie Dent? Maggie is an educator, author and a parenting and resilience specialist who has a particular interest in the early years and adolescence. Maggie delivers inspiring seminars nationally and internationally in the hope to inspire, encourage and assist every person on this planet to maximise their potential. To learn more about Maggie or to access some fantastic free resources check out her website
http://www.maggiedent.com/

CTAS and CWA have come together to sponsor Maggie Dent to deliver two inspiring workshops in 2014. If you would like to book into these workshops please do so via CWA’s online booking system, you can dint this in the events section of CWA’s website https://childcarewa.com/cawa-events. Spaces are limited and bookings are open to all educators. Please see below for some information on the two sessions Maggie will be delivering.

Dare to Be Exceptional: For Early Years Professionals: This seminar challenges the mediocrity of meeting minimum standards and shaping people to be able to do a job instead of creating a person who can change the world. Maggie inspires big thinking in a simplistic and practical way and shows that anyone can be exceptional in their chosen career provided they follow their passion and use their natural abilities and talents. Our children deserve the best care and early years’ education possible — this seminar will have you and your team inspired to be exceptional. (Linked to the EYLF — Belong, Be and Become)

Date and Time: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 - 6:15pm Venue: Fremantle Function Centre (Griff John Room)

Real Kids in an Unreal World: Building Resilience and Self Esteem in Today's Children: Children need many essential experiences to build the competencies that will help them manage life — the good, the bad and the ugly. Maggie's common-sense, practical model of 10 building blocks will reassure those who work with children that what they have always known to be important in the early years of a child’s education is still important! In this seminar, Maggie will take participants through her building blocks to resilience, a model that will resonate with anyone who works with families and help our world to raise healthier, happier, more resilient children. (Linked to EYLF — all 5 Outcomes)

Date and Time: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 - 6:15pm Venue: WA Basketball Centre, Floreat
Minutes Matter

Small Cuts & Abrasions - Basic Minor Wound Care

Most childcare educators find that the most common first aid injuries to children are small cuts and abrasions. Most of the time a cartoon character Band-Aid with a sticker with lots of reassurance will work wonders. In this article we are going to run through some basic minor wound care for small abrasions and cuts, and some possible complications that can occur from these seemingly minor injuries.

Abrasions occur when the surface layers of the skin are broken and scraped. There is often a small amount of bleeding with dirt embedded in the wound. The bleeding will often stop by itself. These usually occur on hands and knees on children.

Cuts slice or puncture the skin. Small cuts will usually stop bleeding by themselves- but even very small cuts to the scalp can bleed a lot due to the large number of blood vessels in the area. If the bleeding does not stop, is deep, is a penetrating wound or blood is spurting out rather than oozing or just flowing- an Ambulance should be called immediately. If in doubt always seek professional advice.

Here are some simple steps to help you deal with these types of injuries;

Clean the wound
As with all first aid treatment- good sterile hygienic techniques are required to protect you from infection, and minimize cross-infection for the casualty.
Wash your hands and wear gloves from your first aid kit. Do not breath or cough over the wound. If there is the possibility of blood splashes; safety glasses and surgical facemask should be worn. Correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is a workplace health and safety issue and must be used.
Wash the wound area with clean running water or sterile saline to remove any dirt and debris. Warm soapy water can also be used although it may sting.
A sterile piece of gauze or dressing from your kit can be soaked to help clean the area. Do not use any materials that are fluffy and can shed fibers into the wound, such as cotton wool or tissues. Do not scrub the wound as this can damage the wound further.

Control Any Bleeding
A simple rule that I use for bleeding is- If it is RED & WET- STOP IT- unless it is coming out of the ear. Using Pressure, Elevation and Rest can do this.
Apply firm pressure using a suitable dressing from your first aid kit such as a wound dressing, combine dressing or sterile gauze. If you do not have a first aid kit, then using a clean cloth or your gloved hand is better than doing nothing.
Elevate the wound-if the cut is on their hand or arm, you can help slow the bleeding by raising it above their heart. For leg wounds, you can lie them down and elevate the leg.
If blood continues to come through the dressing then add another dressing on top. Do not lift off dressings to see if it has stopped bleeding- you may dislodge any clots that have formed and it will start to bleed again.
Remember if it does not stop or is spurting out- Call an Ambulance.
Abrasions normally do not bleed very much but are more likely to become infected if left uncovered after cleaning.
Apply some antiseptic cream
Trim a piece of Non-Adherent Gauze Pad that is slightly larger than the wound area. The plasticized shiny side goes on the abrasion and is less likely to stick when removed.
Tape it on all sides to the skin- Remember to check that the casualty is not allergic to the tape or antiseptic cream.
Dressings should be kept dry and changed daily until a scab forms. Children love to pick scabs when they form this can result in longer healing times, infection and more scarring. Picking scars should be discouraged.
Remember to follow your centers procedures for recording and reporting injuries or accidents and keep the child's parents informed.

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When to see a Doctor
Most small minor cuts and abrasions will not need a Doctor and will heal without any problem. The casualty should see a doctor if:
- The cut needs stitches or gluing
- If the cut has jagged edges, or gapes open or is a deep puncture wound
- Is more than 5mm deep or you can see fat or muscle underneath
- Is on the face or over a joint
- If it was an animal or child bite
- If you cannot get all the debris out or clean the wound completely
- If they have not had a tetanus jab in the last 5 years or it was caused by something rusty or dirty.

The injured area feels numb or can’t be moved very well
- If the wound isn’t healing or you notice any of these signs of infection, a doctor should be called right away:
  - Increasing pain and discomfort
  - Redness, swelling, and warmth at the wound site
  - Red streaks around the wound
  - Pus or drainage from the wound
  - High temperature over 37.8°C or a fever

The child’s parents should also be made aware of what look out for, and should be advised to change the dressings daily. As always if you or the parent are worried about anything then get the child to see a Doctor.

Don’t forget to document your treatment and advice to the parent on your incident report form- if it isn’t written down: it never happened!

If you follow these basic steps and use your First Aid training- you will be able to deal with these very common injuries in a much more confident and professional way. Just don’t forget the cartoon Band-Aids- they really work.

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Disclaimer: This article contains only generalized first aid advice and is not a substitute for attending a nationally accredited training course. You should always keep within your skills and training limits.

Regional Training Update

In 2014 CTAS aims to continue to expand in WA regional areas. If you are looking for a training organisation that is passionate, committed and highly experienced then we would love to hear from you to discuss your training needs. We are looking at taking on qualification training in regional areas of Western Australia that are not currently being serviced or working with services who are looking for training with a difference. Once students in these areas have been established we will then be able to develop a professional development calendar to coincide with student visits. For more information or to express your interest in qualification or professional development training please email admin@ctas.wa.edu.au or call 9350 9222.

Megan travels to the Geraldton / Dongara area on a monthly basis and visits multiple services who have Certificate III and Diploma trainees. We have now emailed out the Geraldton CTAS professional development calendar for February 2014- June 2014 if you are not on the mailing list and would like to be added please email pdtraining@ctas.wa.edu.au.
Multicultural Celebrations, Festivals and Events

Celebrations, festivals and events are a fantastic way to bring together families, staff and the local community. They provide an opportunity to learn more about a family’s or individual’s culture, values and beliefs. However it is important to not assume that particular events and celebrations are important purely based on an individual’s or family’s ethnic background and that each family may value a particular event or celebration based on their culture. We need to remember that each person has their own culture and we need to be respectful and sensitive when celebrating events and holidays that is of importance to them. Educators who are committed to multicultural education should not be satisfied with insincere celebrations of holidays and festivals. Therefore we need to be proactive in ensuring that everything we do is meaningful and a true reflection of the children, families, educators within the service and the local community.

Incorporating cultural celebrations into your service is a fantastic way for educators, children and families to learn more about a wide range of different values and beliefs and can also build a healthy respect for one another’s culture. Many services develop a multicultural calendar each year and it’s important that educators ensure that the calendar is a genuine reflection of the service and that cultural tokenism and stereotyping are not evident. It’s also important to implement strategies to learn more about the service’s cultural identity, you can do this through enrolment forms, surveys, formal meetings with families and taking the time to get to know each child, parent and staff member. Building close and trusting relationships with children and families will also help with linking and connecting children’s home life to the service. It is also important to be aware of your local community’s cultural identity, often different communities will celebrate cultural events and festivals throughout the year. You can contact your local council and ask for their annual celebration calendar and provide copies of this to your families or include what is coming up in your centre newsletter.

When celebrating or planning for cultural events/festivals keep in mind some of these tips:

- When developing a multicultural celebration calendar ensure it is a genuine reflection of your service
- Encourage families, children and educators to share the cultural celebrations and customs they participate in out of the service
- Consider that not all parents can make celebrations during the working day and that planning a weekend event would appeal to those families
- Ensure you include the children’s voice when planning a celebration
- Use centre newsletters, notice boards or create a celebration journal as a way for families and educators to reflect on previously celebrated events
- It is important to also provide ‘open ended’ celebration activities for those children who may not want to participate in particular celebrations
- Respect children and families choices in not participating in certain events and celebrations
- Use celebrations as a way to bring together families, educators and the local community and promote awareness and respect for diverse values and beliefs
- Keep informed about what events and festivals are being celebrated in your community and share what events are coming up with your families
Out of The Box Experiences

Experimenting with Celery and Colour

What you Need:
- Celery
- Clear Cups
- Various coloured food dye
- Water

This is a fantastic science experiment that is great for curious minds. All you need to do is mix 2-3cm of water and food dye together and place the mixture into a clear cup and add a stalk of celery with the leaves still attached. Over the next 2-3 days observe and record what changes take place. At the end of the experiment cut the stalk in half and reflect on how the dye travelled through the celery. Darker coloured food dye work best for this experiment but using a various colour pallet will give a diverse range of results to discuss and observe.

DIY Water Colour Paint Using Fresh Flowers

What you Need:
1. Several flowers varying in colour
2. Clear snap lock bags
3. 1/2-1 Cup of Water
4. Rolling Pin

The first step to making your own water colour paint is to explore your outdoor environment with the children to find several different coloured flowers, you could even ask your families to bring in some flowers from home. Before you get started on the experiment take the time to ask the children for their predictions of what they think will happen when the petals and water mix together, what colours do they think will be bright / dull or simply what do you think is going to happen? You could record the group’s predications on a large sheet of paper to look back on once the experience has completed. Once you have gathered all the flowers and recorded the children’s predictions you will need to prepare the flowers by separating the petals from the stalks, place the petals in a snap lock bag with 1/2-1 cup lukewarm water, in another bag add the left over stalks and the water and seal all the snap lock bags. Use a rolling pin to gently squish the flowers and then leave the bags for a few hours to allow the colours to develop. Once your colours have developed transfer the water paint into containers to be used for a creative experience, don’t forget to also reflect back with the children on their predictions.

Painting with Fruit and Vegetables

What you Need:
- Paint & Paper
- Fruit and Vegetable off cuts from the centre kitchen

Using fruit and vegetables in a creative painting experience provides children with the opportunity to discover new textures, sight, smell while also being provided the chance to explore different uses for materials in a creative setting. The best part about this experience is that you can use the off cuts from the kitchen preparation which is a fantastic way to implement the reuse, reduce or recycle message.

To share your Out of The Box Experiences please email us at admin@ctas.wa.edu.au. If you have used any of the ideas / experienced shared we would love to hear how the experience went.

DIY Music Station

Great Beginnings Bentley have recently created this amazing music station for their service. They found inspiration for the station via the Imagination Tree Website and came together with the educators families and friends to source their materials. They found their equipment from roadside collections, a jewelry store donated materials to the service and materials sourced from family and friends. The only materials the service had to buy were the chains, pots and the building materials costing $35 in total. The educators spent a day of fun and friendship together with a husband on hand to help with the construction. The educators felt so passionately about this project that they decided to do this in their own time. All the hard work was well worth it for the educators as the children thoroughly enjoy the music station using it everyday and from this they have even initiated their own extension of play by making drums in the sandpit out of buckets and tubs. Thank you for sharing Great Beginnings Bentley!

Where in The World Do We Come From

Check out this great display in the kindy room at Geraldton Early learning Centre. The idea for the display was inspired by the addition of many new families to the service. The educators and children wanted to learn more about each others culture and where in the world they came from. Educators wanted to learn more about families origins by sending home a questionnaire asking them to share more about their culture. Once the information was gathered the educators took a photo of the children and then used string to link the children to which country they originated from. The display has been well received by the children and families and has been a fantastic way to learn more about the cultural identity of the children and families in the service.

Farewell

We love hearing from our readers especially if you have any feedback, upcoming special events, inspiring and ‘out of the box experiences’ or any organisations that you would like to share with us. You can call us directly on 3950 9222 or email admin@ctas.wa.edu.au