

GRASP Newsletter

Guiding Responsive Approaches to Strengthening Practice

Website link: <https://arcqe.ca/projects/grasp/>

January 2022

Online Database

Upcoming Virtual Information Sessions

Jan 26th 10:00 – 11:00 am, Feb 15th 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Mar 14th 10:00-11:00 am.

Reminder these sessions are informal opportunities for coaches and/or program leaders supporting the screening process for programs to log in with questions. There is no need to pre-register and links will be sent just prior to session time.

Current Statistics for Alberta

As of January 1, 2022, in all three Enterprise accounts this project has collected the following statistical information:

Number of Database Accounts: 160

- Child Profiles: 17,511
- Screenings Completed: 20,513
- ASQ-3 Screenings Below Cutoff (referral zone): 2,419
ASQ-3 Parent Concerns: 1869
- ASQ:SE-2 Screenings Above Cutoff (referral zone): 776
ASQ:SE-2 Parent Concerns: 320

Upcoming Professional Learning

Please watch for additional information regarding upcoming professional learning on fine motor and personal social development.

Showcase of Learning: we will be hosting showcases of learning virtually in March. Please start thinking of what you would like to share. We will hold a virtual information session on how programs may be able to share their success stories. Your coaches will be able to assist you in preparing for this!

Train the Trainer: We would like to hold a refresher for people who have been trained as Train the Trainer. If you are interested, please email meyernikkid@gmail.com with your name, when you had training and areas you would like to review



<https://www.cheapsnowgear.com/collections/kids-ski-gear>

Home Visitation

ARCQE has purchased a limited number of ASQ Toy Kits for Home Visitation to making screening easier in family homes. These kits include 20 attractive and engaging toys, books and other items to encourage a child's participation. The materials come in a sturdy tote bag. To receive this resource, you must be actively using the ASQ Database. Accounts can be set up for agencies at any time.



FRN and HV Support

Family Resource Networks and Home Visitation Agencies can now access direct coaching support for database implementation and ASQ support. You can receive assistance with setting up or utilizing your ASQ database account.

If you are interested in receiving the Materials Kit or direct coaching support, please email meyernikkid@gmail.com

Personal-Social Development

“It is important for children to learn they can trust and rely on their caregivers. It is also vital that children have healthy interactions with their caregivers, adults, and peers. Personal-social skills are abilities children must develop to care for themselves (washing hands, using utensils) and interact with others (playing games, understanding feelings of others). Personal development is about how children understand themselves and what they can do. Social development includes how children understand themselves in relation to their interactions with others. Providing opportunities for your child to practice these skills is important as they develop and grow.”

<https://sproutsdevelopment.com/resources/personal-social-skills/>

The ASQ-3 Learning Activities book includes activities to strengthen the development of these skills for each age interval. For example, the 36-42 month activities sheet includes activities like:

Dressing Up – dressing up in old clothes or accessories

Counting Turns – take turns counting how long a turn will last

Wonderful Rhythm and Rock – read poems or rhymes while cuddled up and let your child fill in missing words.

Cupcakes for All – let your child help make cupcakes by sifting, pouring and stirring

Counting Goodnight Kisses – count kisses out loud, ask your child how many for the chin, nose, etc.

Counting Cars – while riding in the car, ask your child to count all the blue cars, watch for blue cars together and count them out loud.

For a sample of the learning activities the book includes:
<https://agesandstages.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ASQ-3-Learning-Activities-Packet.pdf>

Waitlist for GRASP Support: We have a waiting list for programs interested in GRASP support. Please submit your interest by completing the Service Request form <https://arcqe.ca/projects/grasp/>

GRASP Facebook Group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/271931151214780/>

Feedback from “Exploring Social Emotional Kits” Session

Feedback from the October 7th session included the following highlights about what was most valued about the session:

- The range of emotions we all have, and children are no different. Learning strategies to help children learn how to deal with big emotions.
- How a positive attitude toward children can help with a happy relationship.
- The discussion with other educators.
- The presenter was engaging and passionate! I always focused on emotions by labelling them and using facial cues to associate the emotions felt. Focusing on the physical changes that the child experiences during that emotion is so important and should be focused on.

When asked about how GRASP has made a difference for their families, responses included:

- We partner with families using the ASQ and this is a spark for our family meetings and conversations around the needs of each individual in the classrooms.
- Access to the ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2, along with the resources that come with it, gives me the tools I need as a consultant to talk about the individual child’s needs and support my educators.
- It creates awareness, improves understanding, Increases confidence and builds relationships.
- The feedback we are getting from the parents is so amazing, they keep asking for more resources.
- The digital ASQ’s has been a lifesaver for time management.

