



"Enhanced partnerships between early years practitioners and the K-12 education system increase opportunities for collaboration on community-based early learning. Given the specialized knowledge, skills, training and experience of early childhood educators and kindergarten teachers, such partnerships have the potential to ensure that children make smooth transitions to the Primary program. This framework has the potential to enrich the dialogue about young children's learning between early childhood educators and elementary school teachers."

— British Columbia Early Learning Framework

WHY? We know that collaborative models of support (C-MOS) enhance both adult learning and student learning. Both ECEs and teachers bring unique perspectives to the art of teaching and learning.

WHO? StrongStart Facilitators and Kindergarten Teachers form collaborative teams.

WHAT? Support to Kindergarten teachers and students based on a collaborative partnership which includes co-learning, co-planning and co-facilitating of play-based learning activities. The main goal of the project is to support the developmental needs of all kindergarten students through personalizing and differentiating instruction.

WHEN? StrongStart facilitators (licensed Early Childhood Educators) will be offered 7 additional hours of employment each week during the school year to support play-based inquiry learning in participating Kindergarten classes where StrongStart centres are located.

WHERE? in eight of our elementary schools across the School District.

HOW?

- ❖ early learning consultant facilitates collaborative learning sessions with school teams and the larger network
- ❖ cost shared by Ministry of Education for StrongStart programs and School District No. 23
- ❖ together teams co-plan, co-facilitate, co-learn play-based tasks
- ❖ unique needs, passions and interests of every learner are targeted as are foundational literacy and numeracy skills – all are developed through play-based tasks and centres co-created by school teams

Belief Statements:

- ❖ Kindergarten children are unique individuals who learn with their whole bodies, minds and hearts through active participation in a variety of situations.
- ❖ Early learning teachers and educators develop programs that foster a joy of learning in safe play-based environments. They support, challenge and nurture all children's potential, growth and development by building on strengths and respecting the uniqueness each child brings.
- ❖ Young children learn best through play and exploration with consistency, nurturing relationships and safe environments.
- ❖ An early learning program should support the whole child, be developmentally appropriate, intentionally planned and structured, and responsive to and accepting of the individual learning needs of all children.



StrongStartBC

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