

LEARNING EXTENSIONS: HOW TO USE THE TUTORIAL & QUESTIONS FOR TEAM TRAINING

To support programs in meeting professional development needs, we've designed a tutorial and group discussion questions so that you can easily facilitate your own *Power of Play* team training. Team training based on the tutorial and Group Discussion Questions will create an opportunity for your team to:

- collaborate and learn together
- discuss issues that are specific to your site
- share ideas, expertise and challenges
- build supportive team relationships
- solve-problems

To develop effective training for your team, we suggest that you (the facilitator):

- preview the tutorial and list the questions
- select questions that are most helpful to your team
- decide how long the training will be and determine the format
- determine how you will introduce the questions and how long you will spend on each question
- think about how you will encourage participants to follow through with ideas and suggestions at the end of the training.

It might be helpful to schedule a follow-up meeting to discuss how the ideas and strategies are working in the program. Enjoy your training and let us know how it goes!



GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can you use the power of play to support children's development? List three key points from this tutorial that will impact your programming in the future.
2. Consider your space. Is there anything that you could change to encourage more opportunities for play and learning?
3. As a team, discuss the opportunities children have to practice problem-solving when they play. Is there an opportunity for improvement?
4. Reflect on how the parents in your CNC program feel about play.
 - a. Do the parents in your program understand the power of play?
 - b. What can you do to show/remind parents the skill development and learning opportunities that happen through play on a regular basis?
5. Reflect on how much of children's time is adult directed (in your program and at home), and whether they have enough free time for play.
6. Consider/discuss your daily CNC routine.
 - a. Count how many transitions you have in a day. Consider whether you could reduce the number and/or minimize the impact of transitions?
 - b. Think about 3 daily activities or events. How often do you direct play during each of those activities/events? Could you modify your approach so that less adult-direction is required?
 - c. Could improve your schedule and/or approach to increase the amount of uninterrupted free-play time?
7. Do you allow children to take materials from different interest areas to use in their play? (ie: taking blocks and dinosaurs into the house centre)
 - a. Consider/discuss the benefits of this kind of flexibility
 - b. Consider/discuss some of the challenges it can present, and strategies for managing them (ie: clean up time and how to get children involved)
8. Consider the children in your CNC program, and the skills they are currently working on. What types of group or solitary play ideas might support their development in these areas?

