

STRONGSTART BC

Early Learning Centers

StrongStart Closures

- Nov 9** Changing Possibilities for young children
- Nov 13** Remembrance Day
- Nov 14** Non-Instruction Day
- Nov 24** Administrative Day

Let's talk about PLAY! *"The qualities developed through play are the same [qualities] required to succeed at school. Children who [have] strong oral communication skills, are confident, able to make friends, are persistent and creative in completing tasks and solving problems and are excited to learn, have pathways set for academic success."* (McCain, Mustard & Shanker 2007, p. 49)

Young children's play is typically described in four categories: **functional play, constructive play, dramatic play, and games with rules** (Smilansky, 1968). I will be sharing, with each newsletter, information on each of these four categories together with examples of how we see it manifesting in our early learning programs. Click [here](#) for a look at Play Today.

Functional play is an exploratory type of play that begins when children are infants and it manifests in the repetition of movements when new skills are learned, with or without objects. Children experiment with materials and learn how things go together and how they work. They are learning about the physical characteristics of objects, exploring and examining the functions and properties of objects, but most importantly they ask questions and form theories in play in dialogue with their peers. Functional play emerges in infancy and continues throughout childhood when there are new objects to explore.

In our early learning programs, you may find this showing up with paint and art play invitations, loose parts, building blocks, at the light table, in the presence of magnifying glasses and clipboards as an invitation to think together with children.

Uplifting quote + song that illuminates:



"The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let things go" ~ Unknown.

Inspiring song: "Fallin'" by Alicia Keys

Happening this month:

Connaught Heights StrongStart

- Nov 3** Infant Development Consultant
- Nov 21** SFU Infant language learning information
- Nov 22** YMCA/ CCRR consultant visit

Queensborough StrongStart

- Nov 8** Librarian Visit
- Nov 15** Dental Hygiene Practitioner
- Nov 21** Infant Development Consultant
- Nov 28** SFU Infant language learning information

Skwo:wech StrongStart

- Nov 7** SFU Infant language learning information
- Nov 21** Dental Hygiene Practitioner
- Nov 27** Kinsight consultant visit
- Nov 28** YMCA/ CCRR consultant visit
- Nov 28** NWPL Librarian visit



Exploring colours



Play dough



Discovering leaves

