

The GRIT Program

The gift of a fun and joyous childhood

Special points of interest:

- ☺ **CPI Fundraiser**—Wine Tasting & Silent Auction -Friday, **October 21** in support of GRIT
- ☺ **Fall Festival**—Friday, **November 4**. Come and have fun with other GRIT families and staff.
- ☺ **ERC - Advocacy through Collaboration**—Wednesday, **October 12**.
- ☺ **Individual Program Plan (IPP)** - What you can expect.

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Inspiring Inclusive Futures

October & November 2011

Annual General Meeting - Celebrating 30 years!

As September draws to a close, we hope families and staff are smoothly settling into their fall routines and enjoying the burst of warm weather! We look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, "Celebrating 30 years of GRIT!"

This is an opportunity to meet other parents, staff, and GRIT board members. It is also an evening to learn more about GRIT as we review our goals, accomplishments, finances, and future direction.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

6:15 Dinner

7:15 Annual General Meeting

8:00 "ACTION ON INCLUSION" Learn about the new framework designed to bring needed change in attitudes and practices in hopes of creating one inclusive education system for all students. **Guest Panel:** **Dianne McConnell**- Alberta Education, Director of Special Education
GRIT Alumni Parent- To share their perspective on the changes and hopes for their child's inclusive education experiences.

Video - Inspiring Inclusive Futures- GRIT alumni families' reflections.

Where: The GRIT Office, 14930 - 114 Avenue

RSVP to the office (780.454.9910) by Thursday, October 20

We Are Family...Sibshop

Learn with other parents while your children have a stimulating playful workshop. Then celebrate your learning together at noon and at the end of the workshop.

Date: Saturday, November 19, 2011

Time: 9:30 am—3:00 pm

Location: GRIT office: 14930—114 Avenue

***pizza lunch provided**

Cost: GRIT families are free or \$40.00/family for non-GRIT families

Registration begins September 1st : please visit our website for a registration form or call the office at 780.454.9910



Upcoming Events!



Edmonton Regional Coalition

Advocacy through Collaboration

Wednesday, October 12th

Successful inclusion is grounded in teamwork and mutual respect. Learn from other parents on how to create a valued parent role on your child's learning team.

Facilitators: Sandy Price & Leach McRorie (GRIT Alumni parents)

"We are a collective and unified voice within the Edmonton region for inclusive education. Through education and advocacy, we promote access for students with special needs to receive the support they need to learn, academically and socially, as valued members of regular classrooms in their neighborhood schools or schools of choice."

Parent 2 Parent

Evening Group

You're invited!!!

Tuesday, October 18th



7:00 —8:30 pm

Come and meet other parents, join in activities and discussions and take some time for yourselves!!

Please call Sherri if you need childcare



FALL FESTIVAL!

Friday, November 4th

9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Who: Everyone is invited to join the fun! Children, families, brothers, sisters, staff, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

What: Fall fun for all ages—crafts, games, songs, face painting, indoor playground, and a petting zoo!

Where: The GRIT office (14930-114 Avenue, Edmonton)

Why: To provide an opportunity for families and staff to socialize and celebrate autumn together!

This event is also a potluck!

Please bring enough snacks or pot-luck style luncheon item to share with six people.

Coffee and juice will be provided.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to severe allergies, we are asking everyone to AVOID bringing anything that may contain nuts or fish/shellfish.



Upcoming Events!

For **30 years** GRIT has been offering an exemplary, fully-inclusive early childhood program for families in the Edmonton area. *We feel this is an anniversary to be celebrated!*

As part of our celebration throughout the year, please plan on joining us.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

✓ Help us break a record!! For the first time ever GRIT needs over **120 Volunteers ALL IN ONE WEEK!!!** Come meet new friends and have fun while supporting a great cause!!

Casino

March 13 & 14, 2012
(Tuesday & Wednesday)

Oilers 50/50 March 16, 2012 (Friday)



For more information on volunteering or to purchase tickets:

Contact Heather Luciow at 780.454.9910 or

gritprog@gritprogram.com.



Join CPI Construction at a fundraiser event to benefit The GRIT Program

Friday, October 21, 2011

Muttart Conservatory

Wine Tasting & Silent Auction

7:00 pm—11:00 pm

Tickets \$70

Individual Program Plan (IPP)

What you can expect at

Individual Program Plan (IPP) Meetings

A friendly relaxed atmosphere where each child is celebrated. It is an opportunity for the whole team to meet and share ideas to create a rich educational program for the child.

An Individual Program Plan is a requirement of Alberta Education and **parent participation is essential**. Your coordinating teacher will be booking your IPP meeting. As scheduling for 81 families is very complex, we thank you for your support in making every attempt to attend at your scheduled time.

NOTE: The IPP meeting is a great opportunity to gather all team members together to plan for your child. In order to protect this valuable time and allow parents to participate fully, **it is important that parents make childcare arrangements for all your children.**

We recognize that some families may need help locating childcare, so if you are unable to find your own childcare, please contact Sherri at **least one week prior** to your IPP to assist you. **GRIT will reimburse all families for any costs related to your childcare plans.**



The IPP Agenda:

1. The whole team identifies the child's strengths/ interests.
2. Goal setting—Parent(s) share their priorities for their child's development in this program year, as well as identify their own strengths and learning goals. (Use enclosed Parent Planning Sheet in your monthly envelope to guide you). In kindergarten programs, the kindergarten teacher shares her/his priorities for the child's learning.
3. The developmental specialist gives a brief overview of the daily program routine and how the child is enjoying and participating in play activities.
4. Team members identify measurable goals that are short-term in each area of the parent priorities.
5. Team members discuss play ideas and teaching strategies to support the DS and the family to promote learning for the child.



Onsite Childcare for Workshop Series:

Beginning in September, GRIT will provide highly skilled childcare providers (past developmental specialists) to support parents who are interested in attending GRIT Workshop Series.

If you plan to use childcare to attend a workshop, please note:

- ➔ Childcare will be provided to the GRIT child and siblings
- ➔ Childcare staff will be available from 8:45 am to 11:15 am and 12:45 pm to 3:15 pm.
- ➔ Parents will be responsible for providing lunch for their children and administering of any medication

In order to ensure appropriate care of children, we ask that you phone to confirm your children's participation as soon as possible. Please call the office at 780-454-9910.

OCTOBER WORKSHOP SERIES

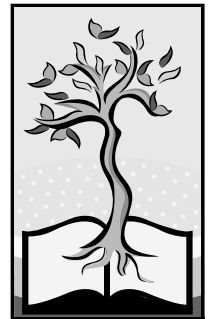
****Check your workshop calendar for more information and registration.****

Tuesday, October 25—"Option"

Having Fun in Hospital (am)
Emergent Literacy (pm)

Wednesday, October 26—"Core"

Social Stories (am)
Play: A Child's Work (pm)



Upcoming Workshops:

****Saturday, November 19.**

Sign Language—First Words: Basic

Sign GRIT office from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. We are pleased to facilitate a fun, innovative workshop with activities and stories.



GRIT Updates

Parent P.O.W.E.R.

Play Opportunities Within Everyday Routines
Watch for dates coming up in January

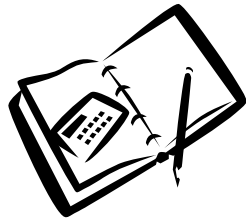


Parent POWER is a six week play and learn group for you and your child. During this group, you will be guided through strategies you can use to enhance the quality of interactions you share and responses you experience with your child.

For more information contact Krista Wennerstrom, Speech Language Pathologist, ext. 225.

Respite Binder for Parents & Staff

GRIT staff can access our 'Respite Binder' (located in the prep room) which has forms completed by families who are looking for respite workers.



If you are a GRIT

staff member: please check the binder regularly and also let Christina or Sherri know that you are available and what hours you are looking for. We will do our best to match you with a family that is in need of respite.

If you are a family: please contact Sherri and complete a respite form for the binder. We will do our best to provide some resources and possible matches for respite. Sherri will try to match DS' and families the best she can to assist in childcare for meetings at GRIT and respite possibilities for in your home.

When a family and a staff member do connect for childcare, please remember the following:

- ☞ **IF** the childcare is for any GRIT meetings (IPP, orientation, etc.) GRIT will cover the cost and pay the DS at their hourly rate. The DS is to complete a timesheet and submit it to finance.
- ☞ **IF** the childcare is for **respite only**, the payment arrangements are strictly between the family and the DS. Families who have FSCD contracts should base the rate on what they receive through FSCD and what they are able to add onto that rate. This should be discussed before any childcare begins.



Need a DS Substitution?

If your developmental specialist is absent because of illness, etc. remember you may:

- ☞ Hire a person from your community to support your child during program time. GRIT will reimburse parents for this cost. For more information about this process call Sherri.
- ☞ Request a GRIT sub (Vicki or Gina) to support your child.
- ☞ Spend the day on your own.



Reduce the spread—

We strongly encourage families and staff to follow the procedures below to reduce the risk in coming down with any illnesses:

- ☞ Cover your cough by coughing into your elbow or sleeve.
- ☞ Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Hand sanitizers are also effective.
- ☞ We ask that staff be extremely cautious when they are sick. Stay at home rather than exposing the family and child you work with.

Seasonal Influenza Immunization

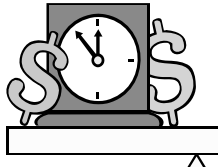
Alberta Health Services **Seasonal Influenza Immunization** clinics will be available from mid-October into November 2011.

For more information check the website at www.albertahealthservices.ca or call HEATHLINK Alberta at 1-866-408-5465

GRIT Updates

Time Sheet & Travel Reminders for DS

- ⇒ **Record of travel claims**—please submit time sheets and record of travel claims on your workshop day team time. Ensure the claim is **totaled** and **signed**.
- ⇒ **Time sheets**—please indicate the exact time spent at workshop days. GRIT will pay for a maximum of five hours. Time sheets must be signed by the parent.
- ⇒ **Employee Pay Statement**— will be placed in team mailboxes for you to pick up at the end of the month. Payday is always the 2nd last business day of the month (*with the exception of December, which will be December 23rd*). Please don't hesitate to speak with Sue White, Financial Manager (ext. 202) if you have any questions or concerns regarding your payroll.



Staff Health Line

As per the Guide to Programming , Page 19 if developmental specialists are unable to come to work for any reason it is your responsibility to:



1. Call the parent and determine whether the parent wants a substitute if one is available.
2. Leave a message on the GRIT Health Line (voice mail box #1) when absent from work for **ANY** reason. Include a **confirmation of whether the parent wants a substitute for the day**.
3. **If a consultant is visiting on that program day**, the DS must call and leave a message for the consultant (s) in their personal voice mailbox.



Staff Photo Identification & Emergency Procedures Card

By the end of September each D.S. will receive an **ID card** and **Emergency Procedure card**.



The **ID card** is **mandatory** and used:

- ✓ For outings where the developmental specialist can be admitted at no additional charge
- ✓ As an identification badge (if requested) at preschools and kindergartens .
- ✓ As an identification badge when you are in the GRIT office (playgroup, prep, workshop days, etc.)
- ✓ **Please take care of this VALUABLE IDENTIFICATION CARD— A \$5.00 charge is in effect to replace lost cards.**

It is also required that you take the '**Emergency Procedures Card**' or the copy any time you take the child on an outing without the parent. To get your card you must:

- Ensure the parent has completed information on the emergency procedures form.
- Submit to GRIT for processing to wallet size.
- Keep copy of emergency information sheet with you until you receive your card.

Peanut & Nut Allergies



Please be advised that **GRIT is a peanut and nut free environment**. We appreciate your understanding in ensuring food brought into the building does not contain nuts or made in a facility where there might have been exposure to nuts.

Such items manufactured in Canada are marked with a *safe to share* label. GRIT is a nut free environment to protect those children and staff that have allergies (that can be life threatening) to products that contain nuts.

Your assistance will enable us to ensure the safety of all who come to the GRIT office.



Creative Corner—The Magic of Fall

By Vicki Traub, Resource Coordinator



Fall is a beautiful season with so many opportunities to explore using all our senses. Whether it's spending time indoors or outdoors there are many ways to experience the richness of the season.

☺ Make some scented playdough.

1 cup flour

½ cup salt

2 tsp. cream of tartar

1 cup water

1 tsp. vegetable oil

Lots of cinnamon, allspice, ginger, nutmeg!



Mix dry ingredients and spices together in a pot. Mix water and oil together first and add to dry ingredients. Cook the mixture for 2 to 3 minutes, stirring frequently. Take the dough out of the pot and knead it until soft.

Take turns adding ingredients, describe the actions you're doing, "pour in," "stir, stir". Once it is made have fun watching what your child creates with it and copy their masterpieces.



☺ Take a walk through the river valley and collect some different colored leaves, acorns, rocks and twigs. You can feel the coolness of the river, touch the different textures, and look for minnows, frogs or insects.

☺ Experiment with different kinds of food that are in season, such as squash, pumpkin, apples. Talk about how they look, "long, round, bumpy" how they taste, "sweet, juicy" and how they feel, "hard, slimy, smooth". Your child may just want to look, be willing to touch or may want to try eating it. Whatever stage they are at encourage them to give it a try and positively reinforce them for their efforts.



☺ Reading stories with your child is always a nice way to spend time together. A fun book to read is "The Leaves Are Falling One by One" by Steve Metzger. Have some leaves beside you and let them fall around you as your reading.

☺ Painting can be a fun activity that can be done in so many different ways. Use the rich colors of fall, orange, yellow and red and try painting with sponges in the shape of leaves or pumpkins, dipping acorns or leaves in the paint and making different designs, or finger painting and see what happens to the colors when they get mixed together.



Take time to enjoy the fall season with all it has to offer. When you try something that you and your child enjoy a lot, share it with a friend so others can experience the fun of fall.

October at a Glance

October 1 CPR—Parents & New Hires (all day)
 October 3-9 **National Family Week**
 October 3 Parent 2 Parent (am)
 Playgroup (am & pm)
 October 6 Assisted Prep—New DSs (am & pm)
 October 7 Assisted Prep—New DSs (am & pm)
 October 10 **Thanksgiving Day—Program closed**



October 17 Parent 2 Parent (am)
 Playgroup (am & pm)
 October 18 Parent 2 Parent Evening Session
 October 21 **CPI Wine Tasting Fundraiser (pm)**
 October 24 **Annual General Meeting (6:15—9:00 pm)**
 October 25 Community Learning Workshops (Option)
 October 26 Community Learning Workshops (Core)
 November 4 **Fall Festival (am & pm)**

The Value of Child Guidance.....

Young children communicate their wants and needs through a variety of different behaviors. As caregivers we must have an understanding of our child's developmental needs and what the behavior might be trying to tell us.

Appropriate child guidance meets the developmental needs of the child AND builds:

<p>Self-control the ability to balance one's own needs with those of others</p>	<p>Self-discipline the ability to take ownership for one's own actions and understand the consequences of one's behavior</p>	<p>Self-esteem to be independent and have a feeling of self-worth</p>
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PREVENTION: Preventing undesirable behaviors should be 80% of your focus!

- ☺ **Plan for transitions:** verbal/visual warnings, picture schedule, predictable routines, etc.
- ☺ **Arrange the environment:** remove distractions, set out appropriate number of materials, etc.
- ☺ **Be child-directed:** developmentally appropriate activities, allow the child to make choices (i.e. what to play, how to use materials, etc.)
- ☺ **Use positive and effective communication:** listen to the child's feelings. Use simple, positive language (tell the child *what* to do, *not what not* to do).
- ☺ **Model appropriate behavior:** e.g. sit at the table to eat, stay calm and count to ten when frustrated.
- ☺ **Take care of yourself!**



INTERVENTION: How we respond to a child's behavior must guide the development of their self-control, self-esteem, and self-discipline.

- ☺ **Ignore minor behaviors** (note: if the child has been rewarded for the behavior in the past, expect it to increase before it decreases. BE CONSISTENT once you choose to ignore a behavior.
- ☺ **Redirect:** use songs, dancing, a new activity, or go outside when you observe a potential motivator for behavior or see behavior escalating.
- ☺ **Limited Choices:** this is different from providing choices as good practice; it builds self-control when intervention is necessary. Keep in mind the developmental understanding of the child. e.g. Child is unsafely standing on a chair at snack time. "You can sit on the chair, or you can stand beside the chair."
- ☺ **Natural Consequences:** this is when an obvious consequence presents itself (e.g. cleaning up water that has been spilled onto the floor, helping a peer rebuild a tower that has been knocked down, etc.)
- ☺ **Logical Consequences:** choose a consequence to minor inappropriate behaviors that fit the situation and are developmentally appropriate. (e.g. "You are still throwing sand on the floor; you need to stay out of the sand box for five minutes.") NOTE: return to the activity after the stated time so the child can practice how to behave appropriately.
- ☺ **Problem Solving:** for children who have the ability to think of possible solutions and choose their own resolution. Children need support of adults to follow through on the solution chosen.
- ☺ **Time Away:** Removal from an activity or setting, with support of an adult, to engage in problem solving, calming, etc.

ONLINE RESOURCES FOR GUIDING BEHAVIOR:

- <http://www.child-encyclopedia.com/en-ca/key-messages-list.html>
- <http://raisingchildren.net.au/>
- <http://www18.triplep.net/?pid=20>



Parent Corner



Penny Pinching!

It's a busy time of year and unfortunately an expensive time of year for parents! Here are some subsidy programs and cost saving programs that may help you pinch those pennies!

Alberta Child & Family Services—Stay at Home Subsidy Program

This provincial subsidy is for any playschool or early childhood fee based program for children up to Grade 1 (if they are in Grade one they are not eligible).

Eligible families who have one parent who stays at home or works, volunteers or attends school less than 20 hours per week may qualify for a subsidy of up to \$1,200 per year for each pre-school-aged child who attends a licensed pre-school or an approved early childhood development program (please note: GRIT is NOT an approved early childhood development program, but other community programs may qualify).



If you have further questions, you should contact your local Alberta Child & Family Services Day Care Subsidy office by calling 310-0000 or go online at www.child.alberta.ca— For Parents Link. www.edmontonandareacfsa.gov.ab.ca - go under the tab 'local offices'

Families Services for Children with Disabilities (FSCD)

FSCD assists families with the added financial costs that is involved in having a child with a disability. Some items they can assist with are:

- Reimbursement for meals, parking, driving, ETS, sibling care to take your child to multiple doctor visits and costs of hospitalization if needed.
- Respite, community and/or behavioral aide, 24 hr. overnight care and personal care aide costs.
- Extra costs around dietary, toileting and specialty needs (i.e.: orthopedics, clothing).



Please access FSCD Intake to see if you qualify at 310-0000 (ask for your local office) or get more information at www.child.alberta.ca - Children with Special Needs.

City of Edmonton Leisure Access Pass! Fit More In!

The Leisure Access Program allows eligible low-income Edmontonians to access participating City of Edmonton recreation facilities.

- Unlimited, free admission to participating facilities.
- 75% discount for 3 registered programs* and required supplies for adults and seniors.
- 75% discount for 4 registered programs* and required supplies for children and youth.
- 75% off the cost of materials for registered programs where applicable.

Visit their website at www.edmonton.ca—programs or call 780-496-4918.



If you need more resources for cost saving subsidies or programs, please speak to your coordinating teacher or contact our Family Support Social Worker, Sherri Kirkland, at 780-454-9910, ext. 207!



Parent Information and Learning Opportunities

Please remember that GRIT will reimburse parents for learning opportunities outside of GRIT if it contributes to increasing their parenting skills. Please call or email Sherri for more information.

You Are Invited



Conversation Café:

What Do Siblings Want?

Thursday, October 5, 2011, 5-7:00 pm

WHERE: Gateway Association

ADDRESS: 105, 18304 105 Ave

Gateway wants to hear from YOU! What supports and resources if any would be beneficial to you in your role as a sibling to someone with a developmental disability?

Supper Provided

Please RSVP by September 29 to
Sarah At 780 454 0701 x 221
sarah@gatewayassociation.ca



Workshops for siblings of children with special needs. Join us! These workshops will provide opportunities for brothers and sisters of children with special health, mental health and developmental needs to obtain peer support and education within a recreational context.

Sibshops are lively, pedal-to-the-metal celebrations of the many contributions made by brothers and sisters of kids with special needs. Sibshops acknowledge that being the brother or sister of a person with special needs is for some a good thing, others a not-so-good thing and for many somewhere in between. They reflect a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another, if they are given the chance.

Sibshops are not therapy, group or otherwise, although their effect may be therapeutic for some children. Sibshops acknowledge that most brothers and sisters of people with special needs, like their parents, are doing well, despite the challenges of an illness or disability.

6 - 8 year olds

Saturday, October 16, 1:00pm - 3:30pm

John Walter Museum

\$25.00

13 - 15 year olds

Tuesday, November 20, 10:00am - 2:00pm

Muttart Conservator

\$30.00

For more info, contact Debi Currie at 780-496-7318
or debi.currie@edmonton.ca

To register call 311 or visit www.edmonton.ca/ereg

Inclusive Programming for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders A workshop with SHEILA WAGNER Friday, October 21st, 2011

This presentation will examine the process of behavior analysis for teachers who have students with autism spectrum in general education classes. This setting poses challenges that must be considered in light of this disability, zero tolerance and student needs. It will identify the key components for analyzing the inappropriate behaviors and identify ways to improve student performance, increasing the likelihood for inclusion.

This session will examine the behavior plans that have proven successful for students with ASD in inclusive classrooms from elementary to high school.

Register today at www.autismedmonton.com or call 1-877-9AUTISM

LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Our vision is to be a leader in delivering programs and services, educating the public and providing information on treatments and resources relating to cerebral palsy in the province of Alberta.


Classes offered are for all age groups and include:

YOGA/ MUSIC THERAPY/ DANCE /ART /COOKING

Check out our website at www.cpalberta.com or call Kim at 780-477-8030 (email: kim@cpalberta.com) for more information.




Parent Learning Opportunities —Cont'd



NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

October 3-9, 2011

Turning Your Family's Values into Action

For information and activities:
 www.frp.ca/nfw



Presents

Dr. Jan van Dijk

Full 2 day conference only \$45.00!!

Don't miss this once-in-a lifetime opportunity to learn from a world-renowned expert in deafblindness and multiple disabilities!

The Emotional Brain—October 17, 2011
Child Guided Strategies: The van Dijk Approach to Assessment—October 18, 2011

Dr. Jan van Dijk has pioneered assessment and teaching approaches for children with deafblindness and other disabilities. He is known as the father of coactive movement strategies, anticipation cues for communication, and calendar systems that have been adapted as strategies for working with children and adults who have other disabilities such as autism and behavior disorders.

For more information contact:
MDRL website: <http://mdrl.educ.ualberta.ca>
Dr. Lynn McQuarrie at mdrl@ualberta.ca or 780-492-1146



LD Edmonton

Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta
Edmonton Chapter

The right to learn, the power to achieve

Parent Information Series

Fourth Wednesday of every month
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.


Our Parent Information Series is a monthly presentation on a topic meant to support families affected by Learning Disabilities and ADD/ADHD. The goal is to give parents information to support youths in their educational setting and at home. All our presentations allow for audience participation and have a question period afterwards. Examples of topics include: understanding an IPP, homework and study strategies, advocating for your child and yourself, making the transition to post secondary education, exploring different kinds of assistive technology, and other informative topics.

This series is not exclusively for parents but may be attended by adults with LD and ADD/ADHD and professionals as well.

Where: Room 24 Fulton Place School 10310-56 Street Edmonton	To Register: Call: 780.466.1011 Email: info@ldedmonton.ca	Cost: Free - members \$10 - non-members
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The Learning Disabilities Association of
Alberta
Edmonton Chapter
#22 Fulton Place, 10310-56 Street
Edmonton Alberta T6A 2J2

Phone: 780 466-1011
Fax: 780 466-1095
E-mail:
info@ldedmonton.ca
www.LDEdmonton.ca



Be A Great Dad!

5 week workshop created WITH Dads, BY Dads, FOR Dads!

Week 1: 5 Things Great Dads Do
Week 2: Communicating With My Kids
Week 3: Quality Time With My Kids
Week 4: Discipline And How To Handle It
Week 5: Being A Positive Role Model

When: Tuesdays, Sep. 27 - Oct. 25, 2011
Where: Norwood Child & Family Resource Centre
9516 - 114 Avenue
Time: 5:30 pm - 8 pm
Cost: FREE

To register or for more information please call 780-478-5396

The GRIT Program
14930 - 114 Avenue
Edmonton, AB

Phone: 780-454-9910
Fax: 780-455-1806
E-mail: gritprog@gritprogram.com
Website: www.gritprogram.com



The GRIT Program's Mission Statement

To provide a family centered, early education program which will assist the child with special needs to be fully included in family life and community.

To provide the information and support necessary for the successful transition to and full inclusion in a community school.

To promote public education and public awareness in support of inclusion and inclusive communities.

Do you know how far your donations dollars to GRIT can go?

For example.....If you donate \$500 to GRIT, you receive a \$200 tax credit. That means your \$500 donation only costs you \$300! And GRIT can take that \$500 donation and have it matched by the Alberta Government (Culture & Community Spirit) to make \$1000!..... **In other words we turn \$300 into \$1000!!**

Please keep GRIT in mind for your 2011 tax donations by:

- ◆ designating GRIT as your charity of choice through United Way payroll deduction
- ◆ donating online at CanadaHelps.org* For more information, see our website at www.gritprogram.com
- ◆ monthly donating on your Visa or MasterCard
- ◆ GRIT Staff payroll deductions

For more information please call either Sue, ext. 202 or Heather, ext. 200.

All donations to GRIT support the children's growth and learning, and enhancement of GRIT's service to families. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Thank You



GRIT would like to thank everyone for their kind donations.