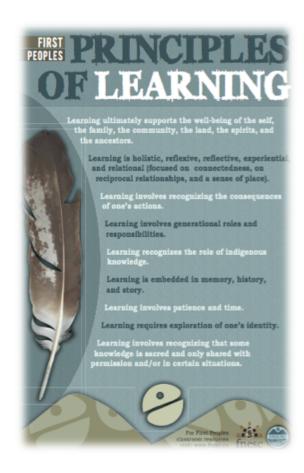


# Ready or Not!?!

A Practical Reframe of Readiness in the Early Years Moray Mclean & Sandra-Lynn Shortall

#### Welcome!

- 90 minutes & Counting!
- Introductions & One Curiousity
- Active involvement & Premises of adult learning
- Let's Begin!





#### Learning Intentions

- 1. Analyze traditional **norms** of school readiness through the conceptual application of mutual regulation, executive function, play-based learning and physical literacy
- 2. Examine school district and community **structures** that impede or enhance building instructional capacity, and related developmentally appropriate instructional practice in the early years
- 3. Apply the core elements required to build **strategic** developmentally appropriate learning design in the preschool, K, 1, 2 context



# Warm Up - True or False?

- 1. Early experiences shape brain development.
- 2. Brain development strongly influences learning, behaviour, and health throughout life.
- 3. The early years are a period of heightened opportunities and increased risks.
- 4. Families and communities matter.
- 5. Early childhood development programs matter.



#### @ 1998 Randy Glasbergen. E-mail: randy@glasbergen.com



"Sometimes you get a brainstorm, sometimes you only get the clouds."



# Section 1: Norms?

#### Readiness Primer

#### 1. A-B partners

#### 2. 4 minutes

 Think about what school readiness looks like in your context, from your perspective. Share with your partner.

#### 3. 5 minutes

• Now label the poster child with the attributes of readiness discussed.

#### 4. 6 minutes

Group debrief



# School Readiness Quiz

#### True or False?

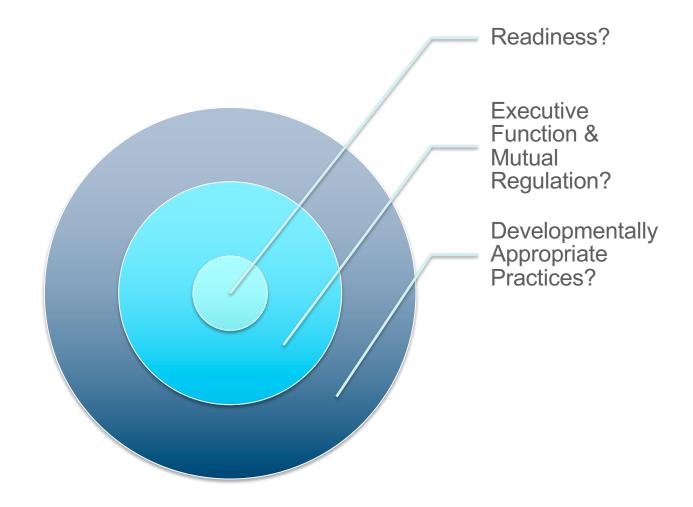
- ☐ Children need to come to Kindergarten knowing their colors.
- ☐ Children need to come to Kindergarten recognizing upper and lower case letters.
- ☐ Children need to come to Kindergarten able to identify the sounds that letters represent.
- ☐ Children need to come to Kindergarten able to print their first name and cut on a line.
- ☐ Children need to come to Kindergarten recognizing numerals 1-10 and able to count to 20.
- ☐ Children need to come to Kindergarten able to compare measurements by size and weight.



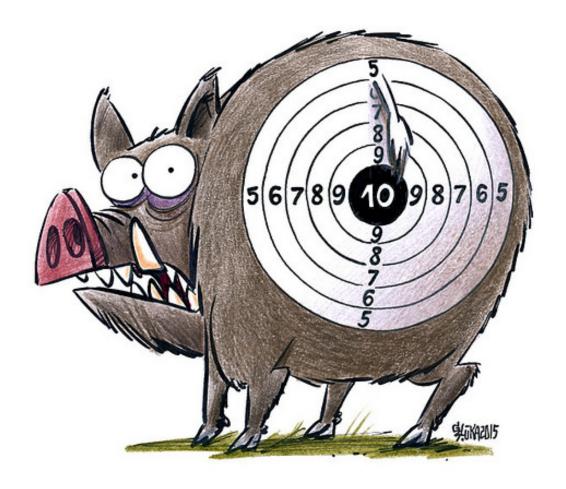
# The Overshadow













### Kindergarten Readiness is a complex notion.

Ladd, Birch, and Buhs 1377

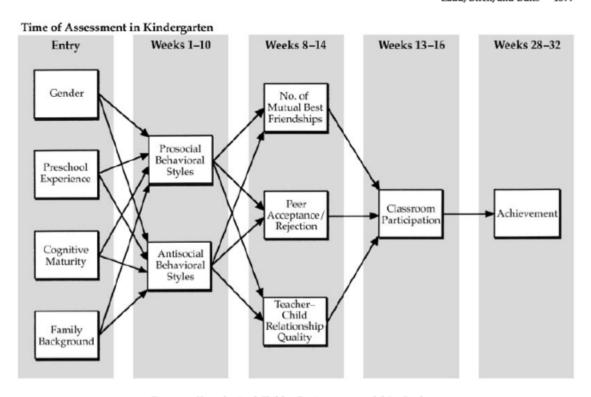


Figure 1 Hypothesized Child × Environment model for Study 1.

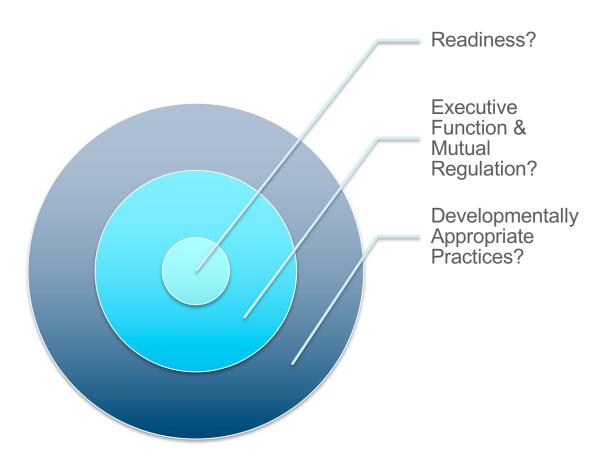


Children's Social and Scholastic Lives in Kindergarten: Related Spheres of Influence? (G.W. Ladd, S.H. Birch, and E.S. Buhs, 1999)





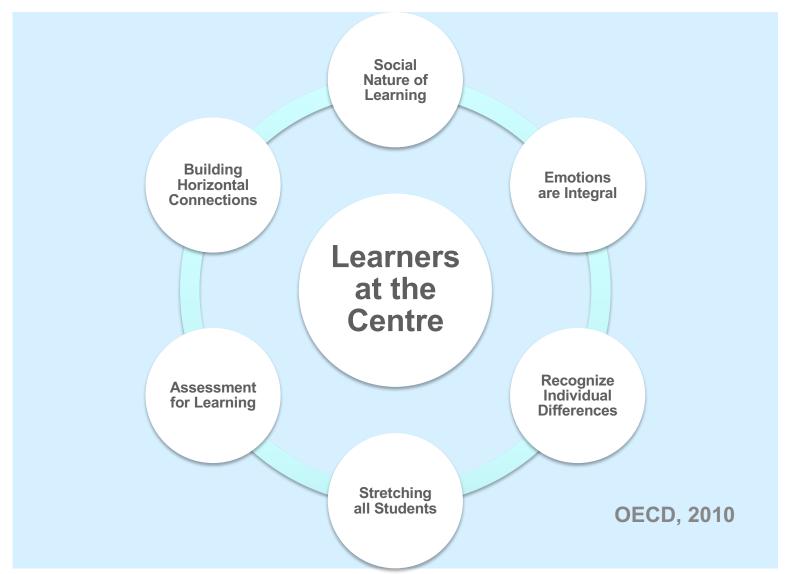
# Let's Unpack This ...







# 7 Principles of Learning



Physical play helps children re-energize their nervous systems and allows their brains to concentrate more fully on cognitively demanding tasks.

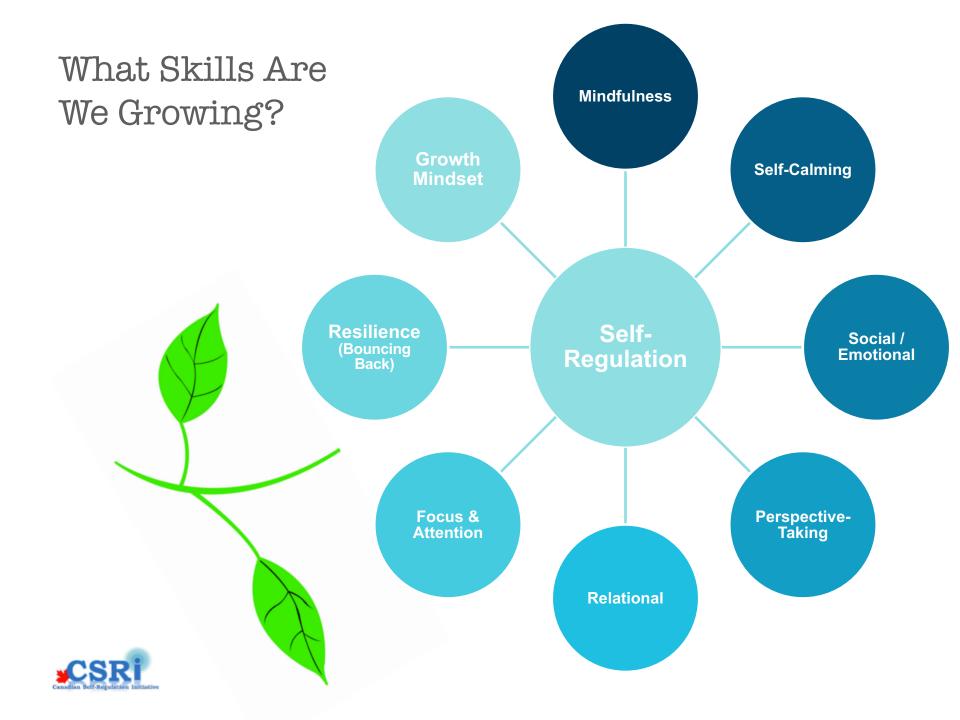




# What are we growing?

- Mindfulness skills
- Self-calming skills
- Social and emotional skills
- Perspective-taking skills
- Executive function skills
- Focus and attention skills
- Resilience (bouncing back)
- Growth mindset (focus on potential)





#### Major Milestones of Social Development

Pictured here we see highlights of the ages and stages of the important underpinnings of solid social ability from birth to five years of age.







7 - 12 Months



13 - 18 Months



19 - 24 Months



3 Years



4 Years



5 Years +

Imitates tongue
protrusion; social
smile; facial
expressions match
mental state.

Preference for caregivers; social referencing; responds to name; pointing.

Collaborative engagement; recognizes self in mirror; recognizes others' desires as distinct from their own.

Symbolic play emerges; shows awareness of own and others' feelings; talks about feelings. Group imaginative play begins; infers emotions from facial expressions and vocal tone. Social problem solving; passes false belief tests—theory of mind! Uses language to indicate metacognition. Able to learn in a group; fully functional language ability: uses language to learn; solid group collaborative play skills.

# Developmental and Lifespan Perspective

Social Emotional Development in Middle Years (6 to 12)



### Developmentally Supportive Environments

- Provide choices to help develop self awareness
- Create connections and sense of belonging
- Offer varied sensory experiences
- Encourage movement and changes of position for learning
- Create a space where energy can be recouped and/ or focus can be improved



# Executive Function & Mutual Regulation?





# What is Self-Regulation?

#### Self-Regulation is...

- 1. Matching energy level to the demands of a task or situation.
- 2. Monitoring and managing emotions.
- 3. Focusing attention and ignore distractions.
- 4. Understanding and engaging in social interactions.
- 5. Connecting with and caring about others.

(Baumeister & Vohs, 1994)



# The Development of Self-Regulation

Physiological Regulation

Emotional Regulation

Self Regulation



### Development of Self-Regulation

#### Infancy:

- Mastery over sensory functions. Regulation is provided by caregiver predictability/ stability
- Co-regulation

#### Toddler:

- Beginning to participate in managing their responses
- Co-regulation

#### School age:

- Increasing autonomy to manage within institutions
- Co-regulation & Self-Regulation

#### Teen:

- Self regulation is devolved within institutions/society
- Co-regulation & Self-Regulation

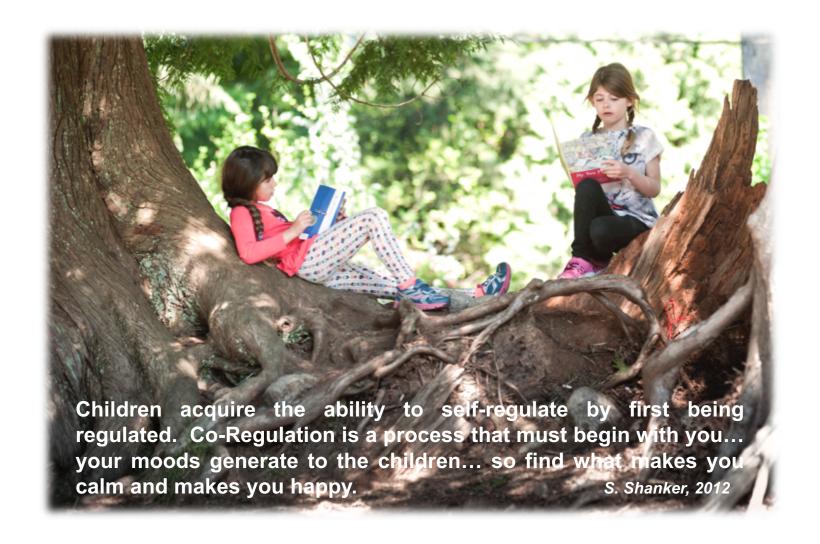


# Co-regulation









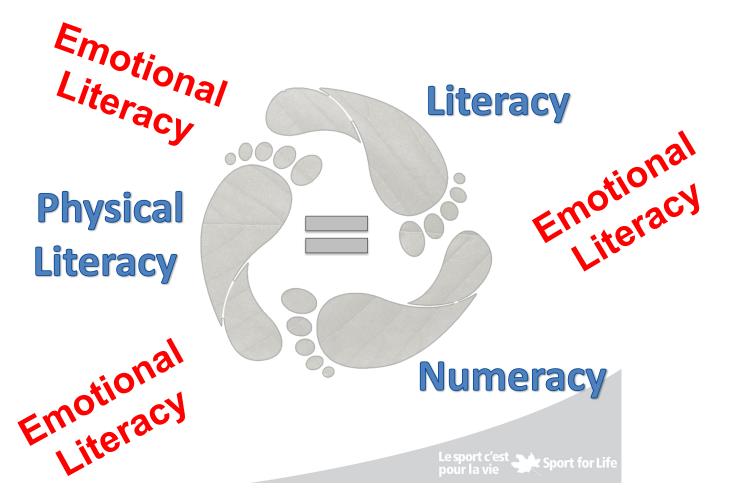


#### Human Development

- ✓ Developmentally children **need** structure and **need** direct instruction to co-regulate and self-regulate.
- ✓ The adults in the child's world **need** to create these structures and invest time in creating environments where children can thrive.
- ✓ Investing **time** in developing and nurturing emotional literacy is important and necessary. Learning how to manage emotional states and cope with life's stressors is critical.
- ✓ Investing **time** here is worthwhile and will allow for deeper and more complex cognitive processes to take root.



#### Core Foundations?





# Section 2: Structures

# Reflective Case Study - The Twins

- 1. 4 groups A-B-C-D
- 2. 5 minutes Read & Reflect
- 3. 4 minutes debrief with group
  - What?
  - So what?
  - Now what?







# IF...

- ✓ Not all students learn in the same way.
- ✓ Not all students learn at the same speed.
- ✓ Some students are lagging in the prior skills and knowledge.



# THEN...

Ensure **universal access** to essential grade-level curriculum.

Identify and teach essential academic and social **behaviours**.

Provide **preventions** to proactively support student success.





#### 1 in 3 kids is vulnerable

This means 1 in every 3 kids starts school not ready to learn. In some Lower Mainland neighbourhoods, that number is even worse: it's 1 in 2.

Up to half of the five year olds in the following locations were identified as "developmentally vulnerable" when they entered kindergarten. We've already begun to see some improvements since United Way Avenues of Change was launched.

- Strathcona (Vancouver) 51% vulnerable (down from 52%)
- Guildford West (Surrey) 51% vulnerable
- Richmond City Centre 44% vulnerable
- Coquitlam River (Tri-Cities) 38% vulnerable (down from 43%)
- Squamish 35% vulnerable

In each of these areas, we are working closely with key community partners and stakeholders to deliver neighbourhood-specific strategies to help kids succeed.









#### http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/interactive-map/



SCHOOL DISTRICT 44 ■ NORTH VANCOUVER **WAVE 6** COMMUNITY PROFILE



SCHOOL DISTRICT 45 ■ WEST VANCOUVER **WAVE 6** COMMUNITY PROFILE











#### The magic doesn't **begin** in Kindergarten...













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## Early Learning Student Support Services

**Early Intervention** 

Building Capacity

Formative Assessment

Response to Intervention

Literacy Foundations Numeracy Foundations

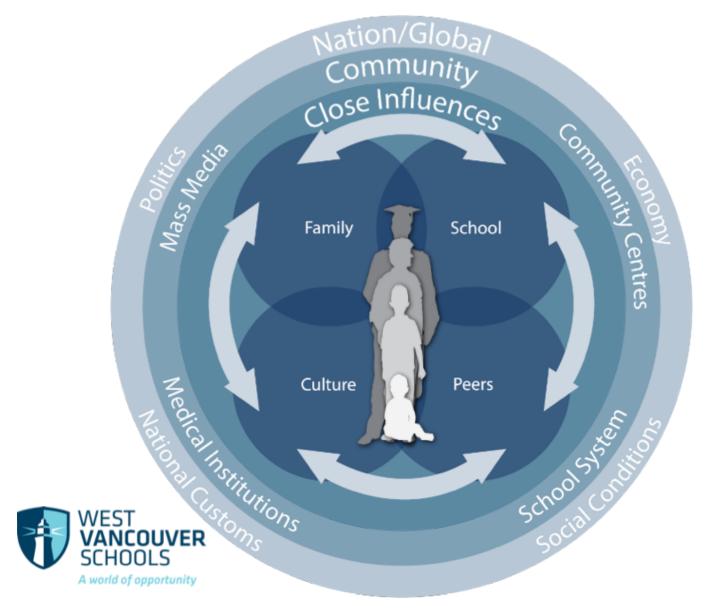


Physical Foundations

SEL/S-R/E-F Foundations

# Section 3: Strategies

#### Influences on Development



### Asset Mapping & Exploring Barriers



#### Asset Mapping

- Asset mapping, drawing a map of what is valuable in our communities, is an exercise in community development.
- Personal asset mapping starts with self-reflection and is a critical starting point.
- Community mapping helps us learn about the places in which we live.



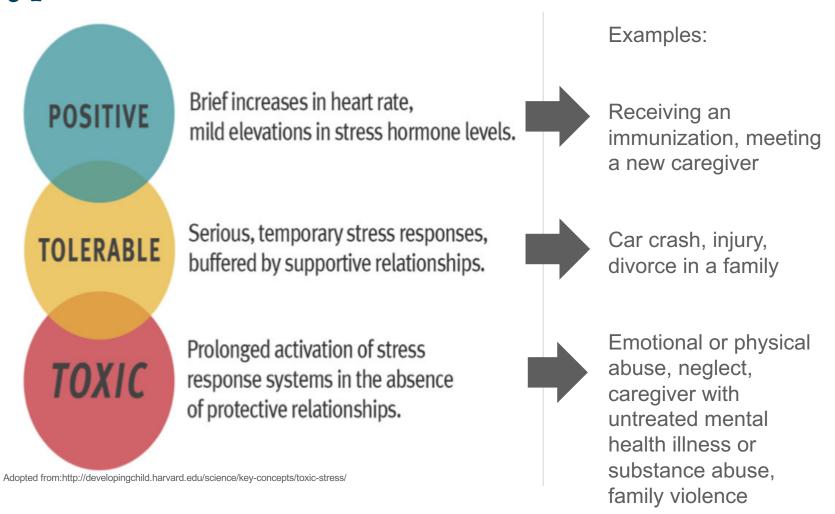
#### Addressing Barriers

Barriers to healthy development exist at all levels:

- ✓ Close influences of family, school, culture & peers.
- ✓ Community influences, including community supports and services, the school and health systems.
- ✓ Global/national influences including the economy, culture and customs, social conditions and policy.



#### Types of Childhood Stress



Consistent, predictable, caring, loving parenting and caregiving builds healthy brains

#### Now what?

A powerful antidote for child vulnerability is the **universal provision** of family strengthening programs, services and resources that support families with young children.







Celebrate the joy of

through play IPALS 课程 中文( 毎周一 帮助移民家长成为更好的语言读写支持者 2018年 2月5、 免费、有趣的学习 3月5、

什么是IPALS 课程?

针对家有3-5岁孩子的移民家庭设计的读写课程。 家长学习如何鼓励年幼孩子发展语言和读写技巧的方法。帮助他们

This program is presented by: 参与者注册需提供永久居民卡(枫叶卡)信息。

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· Face Painting

- Bouncy Cartle Circus Performing Arts · Sport Demos from Pros
- · Family Yoga Hockey Skills Testing
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\_and so much more!

Win prizes in our family table tennis, hula hoop and old

Food Trucks: Doke Amore Ice Cream, Slavic Rolls -European Pastries, Tim Horton's Community Coffee Truck and White Spot

The first 150 people will receive a \$5 gift certificate

#### COMMUNITY BARTNERS PARTICIPANTS:

Beyond Sound, Champions Martial Arts, Dence PLTY, North Show Tenns Club, Eagle Song Drummers, West Vancouver Martial Arts, Red Fox Healthy Living Society, West Vancouver Schools Remainer Hooley Academy, Ballet Academy-Ballet Russe DC, Fencing Academy, Mediatorics and Robotics Academy, WV Westmotal Library, West Vancouver Prolice and Fes

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Talk to community nurses, West Vancouver School staff, enjoy Storytime with West Vancouver Memorial Library librarians, hop on a West Vancouver fire truck, stop by our retro technology petting zoo and more!

#### SPECIAL ATTRACTION!

This year's fair will feature a free concert by award-winning children's performer Ginalina brought to you by the Kay Meek Centre

westvancouverrec.ca











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#### Rethinking Kindergarten

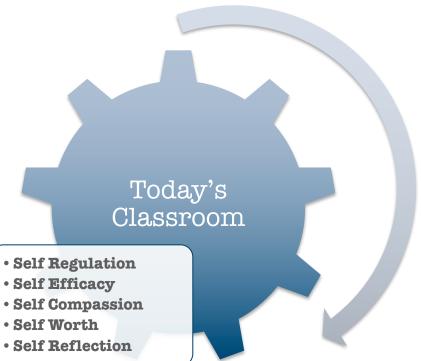
- 1. A program that emphasizes **play**
- 2. Set the 'stage' for learning
- 3. Support the child's **individual** needs
- 4. Teach kids about **Self-Regulation**

(J. Hoffman, 2012)









## The Critical Dance

(N. Fryer, 2012)

# Contexts that support kindness and compassion...

Result in humans who are **resilient** and able to **regulate** in the most challenging of contexts.



(M. Greenberg, 2014)







#### Keep in touch

Sandra-Lynn Shortall
District Principal, Early Learning
Student Support Services
sshortall@wvschools.ca

Moray Mclean
Occupational Therapist
BC Centre for Ability
moray.mclean@bc-cfa.org



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