

Quarterly newsletter of the



Caribbean Child Development Centre

Consortium for Social Development and Research
The University of the West Indies, Open Campus



STEAM Project with Dudley Grant Memorial Trust for the GraceKennedy Foundation

Aug -Oct 2016

CCDC has been contracted as consultants to the Dudley Grant Memorial Trust to help conduct a project and research study on the implementation of a new STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) curriculum for children between the ages of 3 and 5 years old in inner city Jamaica. The project has been commissioned by the GraceKennedy Foundation in order to help them to use their STEM Centre in downtown Kingston to support young children's development.

The STEAM curriculum and training programme will reflect and model the practices teachers and children should be engaged in. While the curriculum and training will form the base for exploration and learning, it will not be prescriptive or didactic. Instead, it will guide practitioners through the investigative and creative process. The curriculum will support and nurture children's innate desire to learn through hands-on experiences, and their natural ability to be actively involved in the learning process. It will provide the springboard and strategies needed to facilitate the dispositions necessary for lifelong learning for both children and teachers.

The project, which is expected to start in November, 2016 and end in July, 2017, will include a research component to look at the impact, if any, the intervention has on children's outcomes, including cognitive and social-emotional development. The study will involve approximately 380 children in four schools (2 schools will be used as the treatment group and 2 as the control group).



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Project with the National Baking Company Foundation

CCDC has been contracted by the National Baking Company Foundation to develop content for weekly activity pages for young children, which are published on Sundays in the Jamaica Observer. The first pair of pages was published on October 9th, 2016



Grown ups, at school, three and four year old children have been learning about themselves and celebrating all of the wonderful things they can do. This is an activity for all children, and it's more fun when you do the actions together!

To make it more challenging, you can write numbers your child is familiar with on paper. Cut out the activity cards and shuffle them. Your child can pick an activity card and then a number. Then, do the action the corresponding number of times (as indicated by the number). For example, when they pick a 4 they can do 4 hops or 4 dance moves.

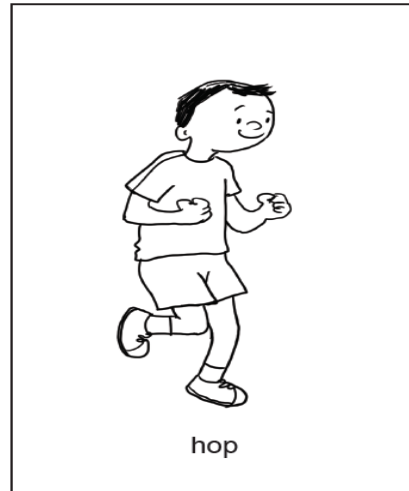
We want to learn more about you, can you show us what you can do?



twist



dance



hop



smile

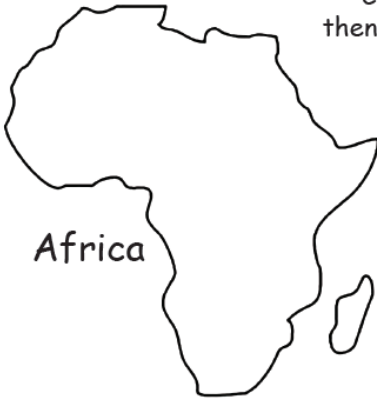


Do the actions on the cards above. You can even do the actions in different ways - silly, slow, like a monster, any way you choose! Draw other actions you can do on the blank cards!

Grown ups, at school, five year olds have been learning about people from different cultures who live in Jamaica, but this is an activity that all children can do with you. Read the instructions together and allow your child to lead as you help them to plan and write the story. Remember, before children can write they scribble and draw, so encourage and praise them for their effort.



The story of Anansi the spider who liked to play tricks,
Came from West Africa,
then we added ours to the mix.



Make up a short Anansi story, write and draw it here. You can even act it out at the end! Some of the things you can think about while you are planning your story are: Will there be other characters, such as animals or people, in the story? What will Anansi and the characters do? What happens at the end of the story?

TLP-CSC Meeting with the USAID Mission Director



Mrs. Ceceile Minott presenting Mrs. Barry Boyle a UWI Open Campus gift bag. Looking on is Mr. Andrew Colburn, Director, Office of Citizen Security, and Ms. Claudette Anglin, Agreement Officer Representative (AOR), USAID

The TLP-CSC project team met with Mrs. Maura Barry Boyle, the new USAID Mission Director to Jamaica on the 22nd of September 2016 at CCDC. Maura Barry Boyle was appointed USAID Mission Director for USAID Jamaica in August 2016. She has been working in international development for over 30 years. Prior to this assignment, she served as the Office Director of the General Development Office in the Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) in Bangkok, Thailand .

Mr. Andrew Colburn, Director, Office of Citizen Security and Ms. Claudette Anglin, Agreement Officer Representative (AOR) were also in attendance.

Dr. Anaokar gave a presentation on the project and provided an update to the Mission Director on the status of project activities to date.

Sensitization Sessions-Vocational Skills Training



Photo: CCDC's Project Staff presented to the Managers of the private Residential Child Care facilities at the Jamaica Conference Centre.

On the 9th of August 2016, a presentation was made to the Managers of the private Residential Child Care facilities. There are currently eight government child care facilities and over 40 homes which the Child Development Agency (CDA) directly manages and supports on behalf of the government of Jamaica. This exercise was conducted as part of the series of sensitization sessions for the vocational skills component of the TLP-CSC project.

The CCDC team comprising of Mrs Ceceile Minott, Dr. Priya Anoakar, Ms. Kathi-Ann Thomas and Ms. Jessica Thompson were in attendance, as well as CDA representatives Ms. Audrey Budhi and Mrs. Gail Lindsay-Bruce.