EARLY LEARNING FOR FAMILIES

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A FAMILY’S LIFE BY DEVELOPING YOUR SKILLS IN EARLY LEARNING.

The Surrey School District (SD36), the SFU Surrey–TD Community Engagement Centre, and Blackwood Partners are collaborating to run a drop-in Early Learning for Families (ELF) program at the Central City Shopping Centre. ELF brings early learning initiatives out of the schools and into the community by offering pop-up programming at the Central City Shopping Centre in Surrey. The program links families and their children to play-based learning, school and community resources, and support networks. In addition, the ELF Program helps to eliminate barriers that families face when first entering the education system. Some of the fundamental characteristics of the program are:

• Child-centered, play-based learning;
• Parent engagement;
• A focus on early literacy and numeracy;
• Links and referrals to the SD36 and community resources.

Activities will include coloring, drawing, reading, toys and much more!

YOUR ROLE

SFU students assist with program facilitation by setting up the physical space, engaging children and parents in play-based learning activities, and using skills in communication, patience, creativity and supervision to create a safe and entertaining environment for program participants.

In this role, you will:

• Identify the important elements of an inclusive and play-based learning curriculum that provides a welcoming and responsive environment for all families and supports children in their learning;
• Identify the important elements of safety for the successful delivery of early learning programs;
• Apply learned knowledge of early learning curriculum by assisting in the facilitation of activities that support children’s learning and development;
• Apply learned knowledge of early learning curriculum by coming up with new ideas for activities, or by altering existing activities to meet the needs and interests of the children and families attending the program;
• Apply interpersonal, relationship-building and empathy skills through communication with families from different backgrounds who may be experiencing a variety of barriers.
Other benefits:

- Develop your expertise in teaching and working with children.
- Develop experience in a school-run program.
- Build connections with the Surrey School District.
- Increase your experience in Early Learning.
- Develop interpersonal, communication and teaching skills.
- Use your skills to help others.
- Earn credit on your co-curricular record.

Program dates:
October, 2019 – June, 2020
The Early Learning for Families Program will be held every Wednesday from October 9, 2019 – June 17, 2020. There will be no sessions on December 25th, January 1st, March 18th, or March 25th.

Times:
Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Volunteers are required to go through an orientation session on October 2nd sometime between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Location:
The Early Learning for Families Program will be held at the Central City Shopping Centre (10153, King George Blvd., Surrey BC) in the open space by the Winners store.

REQUIREMENTS
Applicants should:

- have experience or a strong interest in working with young children (0-5 years),
- be able to connect with parents and young children,
- be respectful and non-judgmental,
- have a desire to help the community,
- be friendly, compassionate and motivated,
- be dependable, flexible and resourceful.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION
To begin your application:
If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Trisha Dulku, Community Engagement Associate (community-volunteer@sfu.ca) with your name, contact information, current program and year of study at SFU, and any previous relevant experience.
You will be asked to participate in a quick phone interview at a time that is convenient for you.

Deadline to apply: Friday, September 13, 2019 at 11:59 p.m.

THIS OPPORTUNITY IS RECOGNIZED ON THE CO-CURRICULAR RECORD (CCR)!
The CCR is an official university document that tracks your co-curricular involvement at SFU. Learn more about the Co-Curricular Record at www.sfu.ca/students/get-involved/recognition/co-curricular-record