

# The Way forward

A new line up of core courses from ECDA gives early childhood professionals more opportunities for development.

**WHAT DOES IT** take to build a community of early childhood (EC) professionals who are not only passionate but also equipped with the skills they need to enhance their classroom practices? The Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) believes the answer is in continuous professional development.

Besides increased runs of sought-after courses, ECDA has also developed new courses for all EC professionals.

## Strong Foundations

Three of these core courses cover the Continuing Professional Development Framework (CPDF), the Early Years Development Framework (EYDF) and the Nurturing Early Learners (NEL) Curriculum Framework (formerly known as refreshed KCF). These courses are vital in laying a robust foundation on which EC professionals can build upon to further develop learning area-specific knowledge and skills.

In the coming months, ECDA continues to provide training in the above core courses to meet the sector's training needs. Please visit [www.ecda.gov.sg/Documents/Prospectus%202014.pdf](http://www.ecda.gov.sg/Documents/Prospectus%202014.pdf) for more information on the ECDA Professional Development Prospectus 2014.

## Overwhelming Response

ECDA has also seen an overwhelming response for its other core courses. These cover a broad range of topics including:

- Development of Numeracy In Early Childhood Education
- Mentoring For Success
- Planning An Active Curriculum Through A Responsive Environment
- Relating Well With Parents
- Story Reading And Storytelling

For more details, check ECDA's April 2014 Prospectus. ♥



## LEARNING SOMETHING NEW

"I attend CPD courses as much as possible with my colleagues. Quite frequently, what we cover in these courses is what we learnt years ago during our diploma or degree studies but might have neglected to apply.

When I attend a course with a teacher, we share what we have learnt with the other teachers at my centre. Firstly, so that the others are better prepared when it is their turn to attend the course, and secondly, so that there is momentum for change to happen. We can't wait until all the teachers attend a course to implement the things we learn."

**Elsie Tan-Chua, Principal, Living Sanctuary Kindergarten**  
**Course attended: Development Of Numeracy In Early Childhood Education**

"We are a new centre so courses like these help us to develop our curriculum. I attended with the centre's director, and the course helped us to understand each other better — she could see where I was coming from as a Principal and I could understand her concerns about the curriculum as a Centre Operator.

We included a segment on what we had learnt in our newsletter to parents, as we strongly believe that a successful centre requires the involvement of the community and parents."

**Christina Lim, Principal, Bridging Stars Childcare**  
**Course attended: NEL Curriculum Framework**

