



Fort Saskatchewan P-CMGP Celebration, June 2010

Imagine a large room with a circle several people deep of well over one hundred parents, children of many ages, community members and P-CMGP teachers all sitting on the floor saying "The Moon is Round." Practically everyone knows the words and actions and the few who don't know quickly learn. When that rhyme has been repeated we move on to another.

That was the scene at the celebration of twelve years of the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta. Heather Boonstra and Kim Heatherington had planned this wonderful day. They invited anyone who had ever attended a Mother Goose Program in Fort Saskatchewan to come on that Saturday morning in June. And they invited me to come from Toronto and Merle Harris to come from Edmonton. Merle and I had brought the program to Alberta back in the '90s and Merle had trained Heather and Kim so it was a real pleasure to see how the program has flourished and how happy everyone was to sit down and do rhymes and hear a couple of stories.

One of the most special things for me was seeing how children who are now six and seven years old or older still remembered the rhymes even when they didn't think they did. As soon as we started saying "A smooth road, A smooth road" children of all ages were looking for laps to bounce on.

After the rhymes, songs and stories it was time to cut the large and beautiful cake adorned with the P-CMGP goose/egg/baby logo and everyone partied. It was a wonderful time.

Later Merle and I had a chance to sit down with program teachers and trainers from the area and talk about the beginnings of the program over twenty years ago and share stories and thoughts about our experiences with the program.

Many thanks to Heather and Kim for working hard to have programs worth celebrating and for planning such a beautiful celebration.

Celia Lottridge
Toronto



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... Mother Goose Across Canada ...

The Toronto Parent-Child Mother Goose Program held an exciting fundraising event on October 30th. Dan Yashinsky, a well-known storyteller, performed *Talking You In*, a powerful story inspired by Dan's experience when his son was in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at The Hospital for Sick Children. Brian Katz, a very fine guitarist, accompanied Dan with music he has composed to go with the story.

The concert took place in the Hollywood Theatre at The Hospital for Sick Children. In addition to providing a moving program and raising money for the P-CMGP, we also celebrated the publication of *It Was Midnight on the Ocean*, a book of rhymes and stories published by the hospital in cooperation with the Mother Goose Program and edited by Celia Lottridge.

The book is intended to give parents whose babies are in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit some rhymes and stories they can read and eventually say to their babies, helping them establish a connection with their fragile infants during this difficult time. The book will not be for sale but will be given to parents with babies in the NICU.

Ruth Danziger



Celia Lottridge



... Rhymes to Share ...

I've just started a group with migrant adults in Albury (southern Australia) and I've been looking for some more face rhymes. Here is one I use:

Ring the Bell:

Ring the bell (Tug at a lock of hair)
Knock at the door (Rap gently on child's forehead)
Peek in (Touch corner of child's eye and look in)
Lift up the latch (Lift up on child's nose)
Walk in (Dance your fingers on child's lips)
Let's go down into the garden and eat apples (Run your fingers down child's body and tickle tummy)

(Cellars are not common here so I've inserted 'garden' instead!)
I've just started using this rhyme with my 13 month old and he loves it, particularly the tickle!

Cheers, Naomi Peters

I wanted to share this follow along song that teaches some basic words from English to Cree:

Tansi:

Hello (hello)
Tansi (tansi)
How are you (how are you)
Tansi keya (tansi keya)
I am fine (I am fine)
Namoyanantow (namoyanantow)
Come on in (come on in)
Pitakwe (pitakwe)
Sit down (sit down)
Apé (apé)
Have some tea (have some tea)
Muskatewapwey minikwan!

I wish I could sing it with you!
Jule Asterisk,

Hanky Panky:

Down on the banks of the hanky panky. (bounce on lap)
Where the bull frogs jump from bank to banky. (hop from knee to knee)
With a hip, hop, hippety hop. (hop from knee to knee)
Jump off the lilly pad and kerplop! (hop off lap to floor)

The Little Old Man:

The little old man went up in space (toss baby in the air)
And he got ice cream all over his face (touch cheeks)
So we'll wash him with a wash cloth (wash face)
And roll him in a rug (roll him up)
And tuck him in a blanket until he is snug, snug, snug. (hug/rock)

If you're looking for some more new rhymes or music to go with old familiar ones, don't forget to check out the 3 Parent-Child Mother Goose Cds by Kathy Reid-Naiman that are available through the Toronto Region office and by checking our website:

<http://www.nald.ca/mothergooseprogram/>

Share your program with the rest of the P-CMGP Network!

Write about your program for the Network News newsletter. It brings joy, strengthens the network and creates new energy when you share your stories across Canada and Australia. We love to include your stories, pictures and news. Please send submissions to Nancy Thurston, Communications Committee Animator: nancy@ns.aliantzinc.ca

... Mother Goose Across Canada ...

Parkdale Parent-Child Mother Goose Program, ON Participant Responses – Spring 2010

The PCMGP is a vital and meaningful program for parents especially here in Parkdale where language barriers and economics may isolate new parents. For us, the program and the leaders made us feel welcome, were kind and caring and very resourceful. We got so much out of it for just an investment of one home outing a week but the knowledge and confidence building we gained from the songs we learned and the stories we heard will last a lifetime! – Kathy & Eduardo

Sandra and the staff are so caring and kind...I am a first-time mom without family support and experiencing post-partum depression. I enjoy Mother Goose for the opportunity to socialize with other parents and share parenting tips. It's a once-weekly special-time where I'm fully in the moment enjoying my son. We enjoy Mother Goose more than any other program we go to in the city. The rhymes and stories are so unique and touching, I sing the songs I learn to my 9-month old son every night, that is how he falls asleep. The Mother Goose experience will stay with us for the rest of our lives. I hope other families in the future have the chance to benefit from this one-of-a-kind program. – Vicki Lau

An excellent program – provides valuable support to mothers. We use the sings and rhymes all the time. I look forward to the group every week and feel sad the session is ending! I feel he [my son] has learned a lot about rhythm, music and words from the group. The best program I have participated in with my son!!! – Cynthia Pay

This is an excellent parent-child program. I'm learning rhymes and songs that I didn't knew and to use and enjoy for our kids. I wish this program had at least twice a week. Children loves it. – Yssa Santa Cruz-Gutay

Keep on supporting mothers. This program. helped me a lot as a new mom so I think it can do the same to other moms. – Lzu

This program is good, the staff is friendly and the songs, rhymes, stories we learned here is great. – Lorato

This is a friendly place to stay for mother and children; a place where spend nice time. - Paola

Check this out:

A You Tube video produced by the Canadian Council on Learning on P-CMGP in Quebec. A nice video on a multicultural group for immigrants offered in French.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kD3Kllp_Nel

... Mother Goose ...

The National Council of the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program invites you to the Yearly AGM to be held *Friday, November 19th at 12:30pm Toronto Time*. This meeting will be an opportunity for us to reflect on the past year across Canada and around the world. If you would like to participate in this celebration of the year, please contact Nancy Thurston: Nancy@ns.aliantzinc.ca /902-895-0200 for the information to connect with us. This will be a SKYPE meeting: you may participate by computer (without video—you have to download the free software) or phone. Nancy will add you to the conference call by whichever means. We hope you will join us!

The Toronto Region Parent-Child Mother Goose Program will hold their AGM *Friday, November 26th*. Please contact their office for information on how you may participate: Natalia Crowe: mgoose@web.net /416-588-5234 ext 21

The Toronto Region Parent-Child Mother Goose Program is part of the Toronto Community Foundation's [Community Knowledge Centre](#), showcasing innovative solutions to our city's pressing issues - learn more by viewing our Toronto P-CMGP profile at <http://ckc.tcf.ca/org/211>



Please keep in touch with us:

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Training Opportunities

British Columbia

TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

- **Queen Charlotte**, School District 50, November 28 & 29, 2010, Alison Gear, 250 559 8471, agear@sd50.bc.ca

BUILDING ON YOUR EXPERIENCE WORKSHOPS

- **Vernon**, Boys & Girls Club Early Learning Programs, November 19, 2010, Asia Dolling, 250 542 3121 ext.108, asiadolling@hotmail.com

Ontario

TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS [NEW Toronto Workshop Rates Effective January 2011!](#)

- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [November 12 & 13, 2010](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net
- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [January 28 & 29, 2011](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net
- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [April 8 & 9, 2011](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net
- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [May 13 & 14, 2011](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net
- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [September 30 & October 1, 2011](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net

STORYTELLING WORKSHOPS

- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [March 5, 2011](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net
- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [October 21, 2011](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net

YOUR GRANDMA & MY GRANDMA WORKSHOPS

- **Toronto**, National Office of the P-CMGP, [February 25, 2011](#), Natalia Crowe, 416 588 5234 x 21, mgoose@web.net

If you are a program teacher who has completed your Apprenticeship, have sent in the necessary paperwork but have still not received a certificate, please contact Kim Heatherington at blairkim@shaw.ca. There may have been a gap between processing your paperwork and getting the certificate to you. We don't want you to think you have been forgotten!



SUPPORT THE PARENT-CHILD MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM!

Become a member of the

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® Because.....

- A strong membership demonstrates that our work has community support
- As an informed member you can become a voice for the program
- Your questions and comments can help us develop our resources, our programs and our outreach

But what kind of member should I be?

Program & Agency Members \$35.00 (Includes International Members)

- Receive three electronic newsletters each year
- May use the registered trademarked name and logo
- May photocopy newsletters or articles from the P-CMGP®
- Receive results of research and professional studies of the program
- Receive notification of special events and new publications
- May attend Annual General Meeting and elect the National Council Members
- Send us regular reports to help us advocate for the program and to plan for new resources and training
- Receive electronic copies of our brochure to assist with program promotion and outreach
- Your P-CMGP program is posted on our website for others to find!

Friends of Mother Goose (interested individuals who are not affiliated with a registered Parent-Child Mother Goose Program) \$25.00

- Receive 3 electronic newsletters each year
- Receive invitations to events and announcements of new publications
- May attend our Annual General Meeting and elect the National Council Members

Our membership cycle is January 1st - December 31st

Please mail this form with your annual fee and/or donation to: The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program®

720 Bathurst Street, Suite 500A

Toronto, ON M5S 2R4

Ph: 416-588-5234 Fax: 416-588-1355

E-mail: national@web.net www.nald.ca/mothergooseprogram

The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® is a not-for-profit charitable organisation.

Donations are vital to our ability to deliver and develop the program. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt for your donation. Charitable Registration Number 859460842 RR0001

Contact Person _____ Agency _____

Mailing Address _____

City/Town _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

This membership is for the program year: 20____ - 20____

cuddle ... communicate ... connect