Implications for Future Directions

We began by inquiring into assessment. But assessment permeates all of teaching and learning. Good assessment is good pedagogy, especially if we think about it in terms of assessment as learning and assessment for learning. Good pedagogy allows for good, authentic and reliable assessment. For example, our rethinking of the centres in our classrooms enabled us to assess in a more authentic and reliable way. Our focus on inquiry allowed us to document the children’s learning in a cross-curricular way and tap into the children’s interests. Because children were more interested they showed what they could do in ways we never thought possible. Intentional placement of materials for children to use also enabled children to show what they know in many different ways.

Next Steps in Our Learning

We are going to:

- apply the documentation, learning panels and inquiry approach to the entire kindergarten program
- continue to explore the interests of children, and
- continue to give children choice.

Our approach to planning and setting up the classroom will be different:

- Planning will be more open and more flexible;
- Planning will integrate the content areas;
- The social and personal development expectations and self-regulation will be embedded throughout the program instead of being separate;
- Skills are going to be embedded naturally in the program instead of teaching things separately or in isolation.

Further Questions

- How do we apply what we know about inquiry to September?
- How do we manage our technology?
- How do all the pieces come together?
- How do we share more of what we have learned with colleagues?