

~Note: These are the minutes of a special called session when Centre Monthly Meeting considered how it would like to support its children, below are the themes it laid down for the focus of its curriculum in the Fall of 2014.

**Called meeting on 6th month, 8, 2014
for the purpose of discerning what we want for the children of Centre Mtg.**

The Religious Education for Children Committee is extremely grateful for the large attendance at this meeting as well as what we felt was inspired reflection. It is difficult to summarize with words alone. We trust the following provides some sense of the meeting.

What we want for the children's education at Centre:

1) To learn from one's daily experiences and stories

Time for silence and reflection

Children should feel secure, loved, free to explore; to learn to trust themselves and their own truths; to know that they are capable and free; to know more fully their own sense of spirituality; to learn to feel comfortable with uncertainty and the unknowable.

Doing and learning should honor and value their own truths

There was unity in emphasizing experiential learning rather than being "taught at".

To learn to listen to themselves as naturally spiritual beings.

To be comfortable with silence and what can emerge from it.

To have opportunities to learn from Centre adults as role models; to experience elders as compassionate and companionable; to be a presence for the children, to be listened to carefully, to hear their stories

To learn means of dealing with busy-ness in their lives.

To have experiences that are fun and relaxing.

Some areas of learning:

Through the study of different religions have the opportunity to reflect critically about different faith traditions and their cultural-bound assumptions.

A basic understanding of the meaning of stories in the Bible.

Learn about the history of Quakers and about the lives of some Quakers in the past.

Quaker values, to experience and reflect on their own values.

(ie. Tolerance, peace, compassion, etc.)

To learn how we are all part of one human family, that our lives are Interdependent.

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After the called meeting the Children's Religious Education Committee met.

We felt unity with the reflections of the Called Meeting and are contemplating the following for the Fall.

A theme for the fall curriculum will reflect honoring and experiencing Centre as a super family.

We will include more stories and experiential learning.

In the process of learning from silence we will have one meeting a month in which the children attend a full meeting for worship.

Have individuals or a couple of people participate in the First Day School

with the children and experientially share their "passions". (ie. for a person that loves dancing, to have the kids dance; for a person that loves fishing to take the kids to a local fishing hole and speak with them about how this experience reflects his/her spirituality if it does.)

Every fifth Sun. the children will have their own MMWB by which they will learn Quaker decision-making.

We expect to continue the Faith and Play stories once a month.

Further, CREC has the challenge to locate a coordinator for our First Day School for Children, We believe this is more likely from our personal contacts and ask that each member of the Meeting consider who they know that might be a good coordinator. CREC more than welcomes this involvement by Meeting.

Minutes,
Michele Sullivan
Clerk, CREC
Sixth month, 8, 2014