

LET'S Talk

Julia Gabriel
EDUCATION

TERM 1 2021



New Year: Back in Centre

Mindful Week: Appreciation of Family and Love

JULIA GABRIEL CENTRE

e-Camp (Season 3), Mar - May 2021

Dramatically Different Conversation

Supporting Your Child's Learning at Home - with Minimal Fuss!



Safe Access



Safe Behaviours



Safe Classrooms



BACK TO CENTRE

COVID-Safe ABCs

Safeguarding the school community against the risk of COVID-19

Since our commencement of physical classes at both of our **Bangsar** and **CITTA Mall** centres on 18th January 2021 for Chiltern House Preschool with our continuously updated stringent set of **Safe Management Measures** in place, the school community has been adapting comfortably to our culture of **COVID-Safe habits**.

With constant updates from the Ministry of Health, our Singapore partners and their communication with Singapore's Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA), you will continue to receive the latest information on the precautionary measures and our expectations, as a school, for our parents, staff and visitors to help mitigate the risk of COVID-19 infection.

Welcome back to the centre, and for new families who have just joined our Julia Gabriel family, we are ecstatic to kick start our dramatically different learning journey with you!



CHILTERN HOUSE PRESCHOOL

MINDFUL WEEK: Appreciation of Family and Love

As part of our positive education movement that was first introduced in Chiltern House Singapore under the guidance of our late founder director Julia Gabriel that aims to focus on character education, we have successfully introduced the first of four Mindful Weeks that we have planned for this year in February 2021.

Designed by the team in Singapore, the first theme, "Appreciation of Family and Love" was seamlessly integrated into our class activities as the teachers engaged the children through storytelling of handpicked book titles related to the theme, games and art and craft including home projects roping in parents as our partners. Together, we explored the subject matter of loving and learning to care for our family and loved ones through Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year celebrations.



ON THE COVER

Valentine's Day celebration:

Sharing sessions in class about house chores that the children performed at home as their way of showing gratitude towards their family, baking cupcakes with love, creating and drafting messages of love for family, storytelling of stories related to family and love, and more.



CHINESE NEW YEAR

Dressed in our traditional Chinese costumes, the teachers, staff and children indulged in a **Chinese New Year celebration** with a slight difference this year.

While it was a celebration that looked and felt different compared to the past, we brought the festivity cheers into each classroom with interactive activities to showcase the significance and components of the cultural festival to the children. Highlights in-class include lantern-making, cherry blossom finger-painting art, even Mandarin storytelling of 'Nian'.



Julia Gabriel
CENTRE



MISSION : SAVE EARTH

Register now



(six weeks of)

SPEECH & DRAMA PLAYCLUB

E-CAMPS

Julia Gabriel Centre's **best-selling range of e-Camp is back from 29th March - 6th May 2021!**

In this highly anticipated third installment of our e-Camp series, you will be joined by the brave, most heroic superhero of them all, *Caption Planet* in a race against time to save planet Earth. Meet memorable characters, be it friends or foes, in your journey through our toddler PlayClub e-Camp; and solve crimes and embark on fast-paced missions with our team of specialist educators over at the Speech & Drama e-Camp for Nursery to Primary.

We look forward to welcoming you in this dramatically different learning journey, designed for families who prefer learning from home.



Musical Storytelling

We will be kicking off our e-Camp with a host of Musical Storytelling sessions between **22nd - 26th March 2021**, as an introduction to our highly interactive camps. Sessions are absolutely free, but with limited spaces to allow for a smaller, more intimate group setting so interactions can be more personalised. Don't miss out on the excitement!

VIRTUAL SCHOOL TOUR

Term 2, 2021 intake

1 - 31 MARCH 2021



Throughout March 2021, participate in exclusive **e-Parenting Workshops** led by our team of experienced educators covering the following areas: building the foundations of reading and writing, discovering your child's learning style, and understanding your growing child during the pandemic.

Enjoy 50% Registration Fee Waiver worth RM400 when you sign up during March 2021 at either centres - Bangsar or CITTA Mall.

Learn more: <http://www.chilternhouse.com.my/virtual-tour>



DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT CONVERSATION



by Shoby

Head of Julia Gabriel Centre Programmes

Supporting your child's learning at home - with minimal fuss!

Shoby, Julia Gabriel Centre's Head of Programmes writes about being a mother in the modern day – and how you can support your children now that they're spending more time at home.

(First published in www.happygokl.com in August 2019)

When I became a mother with my first-born Micah, I thought myself as fortunate being an early childhood educator by profession, that I would know - quite certainly - the workings of supporting his development in positive, affirming ways. But I soon realised that in spite of being a professional in the field, I never had experience supporting my own child's learning at home.-

So juggling between learning to be a mother, managing those raging hormones, making sure Micah's needs were attended to, coping with the lack of sleep, I found myself wide-eyed and stranded. "I'm an early childhood educator, I've worked with lots of children at work – of all ages even so!" I was unbelieving of the situation I found myself in.

Gradually when things became a little calmer at home and with support from my family (thank God for families), I took things in my stride and discovered that learning is everywhere if only we open our minds and our hearts to it. I am a working mother, so the learning at home had to be of minimal fuss. So I started finding learning opportunities everywhere at home – even with household chores. Everything quickly fell into place and became a natural part of my routine at home with Micah, and subsequently with my daughter, Maia when she arrived.

Thing is, a lot of learning developments begin at home. It is their safe haven where children learn to eat, crawl, speak, walk, and most of all feel comfortable being themselves. Even if he's already attending playgroups or preschool, home is still a fantastic place for him to explore his abilities and extend his capabilities.

How then can we, as parents, best facilitate the learning of our children at home?

For a **child between 6 months and 3 years**, the best approach to any learning is **routine**, **repetition** and **reinforcement**. Here are some tips on how you can make learning at home fun and effective.

Learning Letters

- After introducing your children to a letter and its sound, take them on a treasure hunt around the house to look for the same letter. Have the same letter hidden in different places. With some planning, you could have them looking for the same coloured letter in different places, then vowels in different places. This could go on and on!

- Another exciting idea is to get them to love writing! Have your children form letters by using clay, painting with their finger, tracing it out in a tub of flour, salt, whipping cream – get creative! The idea behind this is to make writing or tracing a letter fun – so that they would start off on the right note and not look at writing as a tedious task.

Rote Counting Numbers



- Get those little hands and minds working by roping them in when you work on your household chores. Have your children help you count your cloth pegs when you're pegging the clothes up to dry, or the number of pants to fold, number of eggs you have just purchased from the trip to the grocer's, or count the number of steps when you move up and down your staircase at home! The idea behind this to get them to love counting and even help you with chores whenever possible. What you are teaching them indirectly is a skill that is crucial to lay foundations for future learning in school and also in life. So start them young!

Learning Shapes

- Introduce a shape at home – with emphasis given to the number of sides and points. Get them to go on a "shape-walk" around the house to look for objects with the same shapes.

- Or say you're making sandwiches together for breakfast. You can use the bread to teach them the square shape with 4 sides of equal length and 4 points. And when you cut the sandwich in half diagonally, you get a triangle! So what you are doing is extending their mind to look for shapes in everything that they see. A good foundation for maths! know. My children have taught me that anything is possible. They have taught me

that we can look at situations and still be calm and positive and not give in to our first instincts to react negatively.

Exploring Colours



- I love teaching colours at home – in fact, my children learned their colours by folding the laundry! We used to sort all the blue clothes together, the green ones together, and so on. It's a fun activity to try at home.

- On days when I could get my hands on some mangoes, we will be learning about yellow. And the children get to choose and wear their favourite yellow clothes or accessories; we will be searching for yellow objects at home. Our aim is to help our children understand that colours have no size, colours can manifest in a variety of shapes and textures. So grapes can be green, but so can apples. Green can be smooth but also rough. Learning colours have never been easier and fun!

The idea behind supporting our children's learning at home is to use objects that are already existing at home, even sticking to common practises at home. Then we work our creativity to infuse the learning in these every day practises. When we are not going out of our way, learning becomes more natural and sustainable.

Try these tips at home and you'll soon realize that house chores aren't that boring after all – they could be things that you do with your children and most importantly it is fun-learning for them. All we have to do is to add a dash of creativity in what we intend to do! Also do bear in mind, your children are never too young to start helping you at home! Enjoy learning with your family!

Julia Gabriel Centre

www.juliagabriel.com.my

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