



Salmo SEY2K Project

Strengthening Partnerships, Connection and Learning in the Community

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Where we started...

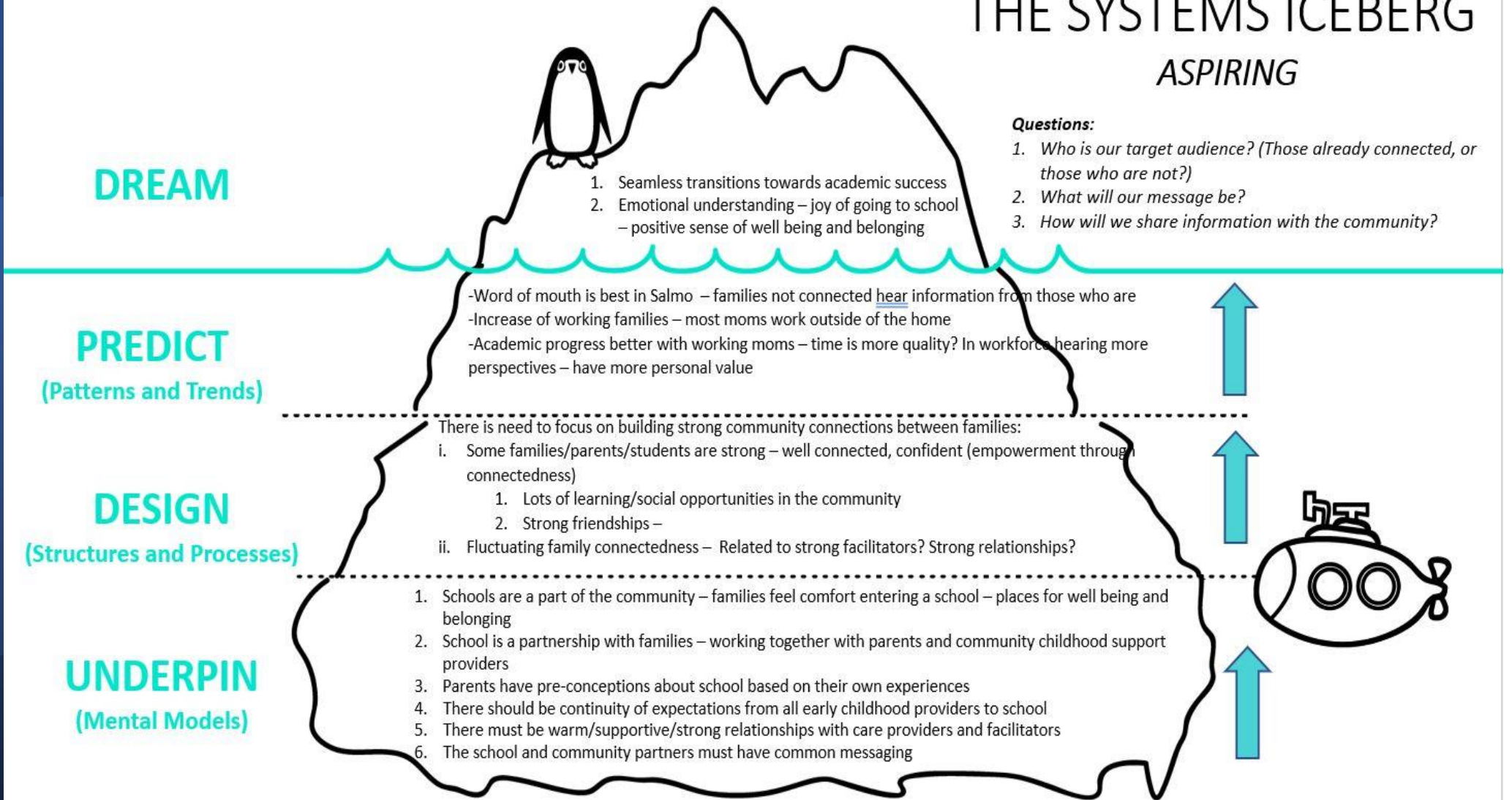


Play in the K
Pop up Play



Salmo
Elementary

THE SYSTEMS ICEBERG ASPIRING





Purpose:

Strengthen relationships between school and home, thus creating a sense of joy and supporting a seamless transition towards academic success.



Objectives:

- School environment becomes a comfortable and joyous place to be
- There are various ways for families to connect with the school
- Community professionals collaborate with and for families



To consider:

- Early identification
- How to make learning through play visible in our community
- Early learning Framework to form basis of project
- How to support development of literacy and academic readiness at home

Questions...

How do we intentionally set a goal to reach families not connected?

- How to reach those without internet – no connection to the school?
- Use all the services in the community – Public Health nurse, SCRC, village office, library, Salmo Valley Youth and community center, CBAL

What will our message be?

- Please share with your friends and share widely
- We are here to help, to be welcoming, support, answer questions
 - We want you to feel comfortable as partners in your child's educational journey
- Reach out and let us know what the needs are
- Provide information re: services available

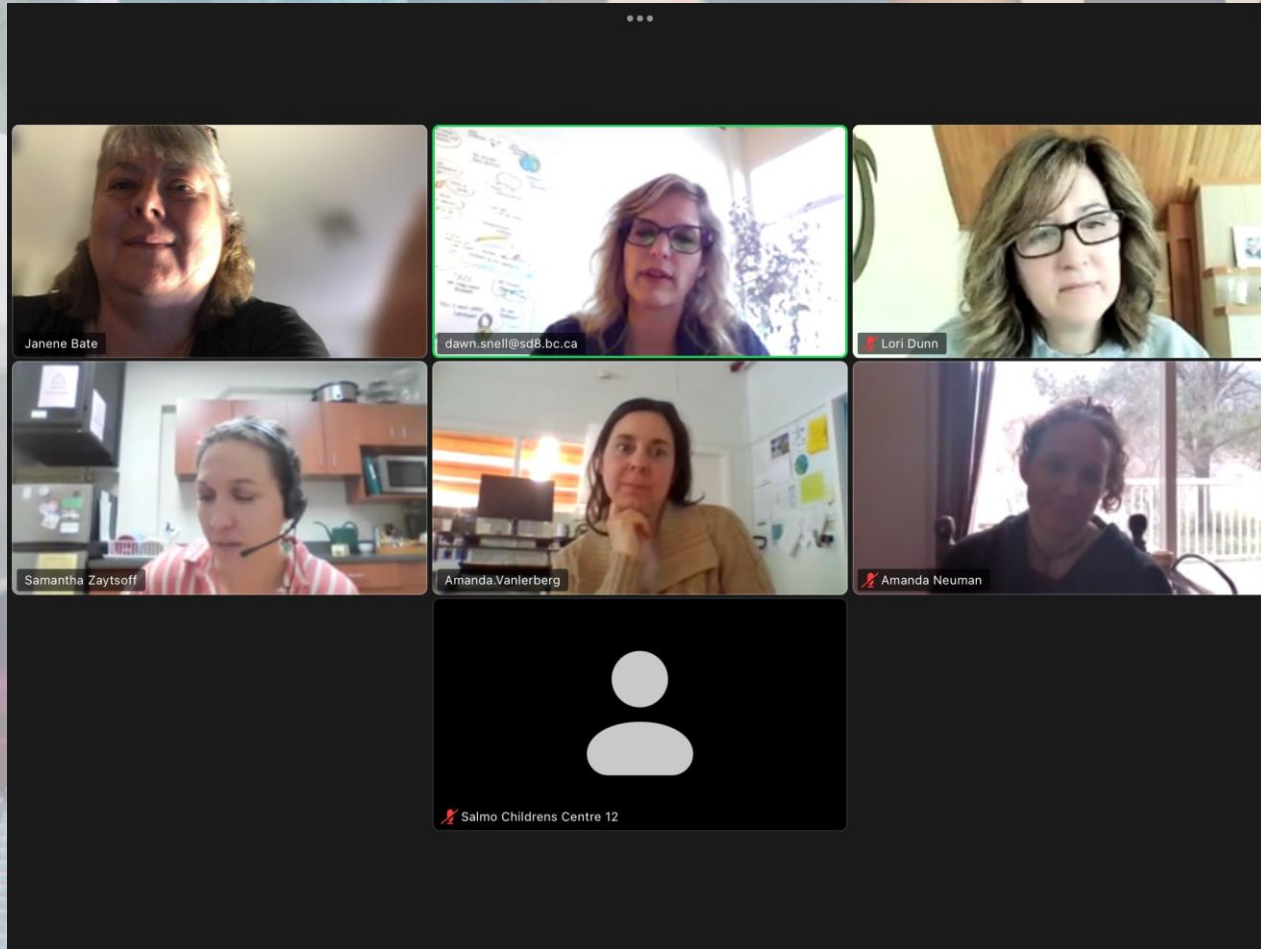
How will we share our message in the community?

- Importance for print: pharmacy, library, village office, grocery store, community centre
- Community social media pages: Salmo and area communicator, SES PAC FB, Children's center, member pages
- Videos – showcasing each of our services and how we are involved
- Monthly notices in Salmo Newsletter

Where we are now...



Team Collaboration – Building Partnerships in the community



Salmo Elementary School

Salmo Children's Centre

Columbia Basin Alliance for
Literacy (CBAL)

West Kootenay Children's
Resource and Referral (WKCRR)

Kootenay Family Place Supportive
Child Development

Inviting upcoming kindergarten students
and caregivers to Salmo Elementary School

Play in the K

Building relationships with our upcoming
students and school community. Come join us
for a morning of play in the Kindergarten
classroom!



- In person! April/May/June
- 10 students and their caregivers
- More children registered for May/June
- CBAL activity Kits
- Story Walk
- Salmo Children's Centre students

2021-22





It is important to develop relationships with families and this process is started by making connections at our Play in the K sessions.

What is Play in the K?

Monthly sessions where pre-K students and caregivers can visit the classroom and PLAY!

We invite all upcoming kindergarten students and their families into the school as we hope to develop strong relationships with the children and families before these kids are our students.

We open the classroom for 2 hours each session

We will invite children to participate in some structured activities but they are free to just play!

We will provide a nutritious snack for the children and their caregivers

In a typical year we would begin offering Play in the K sessions in the fall but as we have just been able to open the doors to outside guests/visitors we are going to host 3 sessions this spring.

At our first session we had 10 upcoming kindergarten students and one younger sibling visit the classroom with their caregivers. Children enjoyed free play time and were able to explore the classroom and make connections with their peer group. At the first session the current kindergarten students were out of the classroom for the first hour. We didn't want to overwhelm the new students so my class joined for a nutritious snack and then had the opportunity to play with the pre-k students for the remaining time.

Children were provided with goody bags from CBAL (Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy) which included a book and playdough and a small write up about the benefits of playdough.

Play is a universal language

- ✓ All students and families CAN participate
- ✓ No academic pressure on the student or family member
- ✓ All cultures play. These sessions would be appropriate for all of our diverse families
- ✓ Promotes inclusion
- ✓ Can build rapport with families in a fun setting

Why Play in the K?



An invitation to play is a great way to engage our diverse families in our classrooms. If families feel comfortable being in our space they will be more likely to engage in meaningful conversations about their child's learning and hopefully better understand the partnership we share in their child's educational journey.

Moving forward and building on...

Welcome to Kindergarten

Partnership with SCC, CBAL, WKCRR

- Welcome bags
- Story walk
- All about me booklets
- Social story and video shared through SVECAC/WKCRR
- Stations run by community partners
- Local professionals (PHN)
- School based supports (OT/SLP/ABED)
- Ages and stages



2022/23...

- Early screening
- Take home kits
- Parent Education

School
Readiness



- Continued meetings
- Collaborations
- Additional Partners

Deepen Team



- Children's Health Fair
- Library storytimes
- Raising awareness of local services

Community
Connection



- Salmo Community Resources
- Community Action Plan for Children (CAPC)
- Children's Health Practitioners

Develop
partnerships

