

Learn with Fred



Background – Hotspot Literacies

- Two year funding from Education Scotland
- Targeted approach to family literacies delivery – linked to Christie Commission’s view on early intervention
- One of the 5% SIMD areas in the city using data which indicated the likelihood of potential literacies needs down to a street level and offering everyone in those areas, with a child 0 – 5years old, the chance to take part

Aims

To highlight and reinforce the important role parents have as their child's first educator.

- Awareness of learning opportunities
- Share knowledge and information
- Develop parents' skills and build confidence

Themes

- Songs, Rhymes and Music
- Language and Communication
- Sharing Books
- Play



Initial Engagement with Families

- Door knocking
- Messy Play/Baby Memory Books/Family Fun
- Invite to participate



Relationship with Parents

- Positive, trusting partnership
- Met families individually
- Introductory session



Working with Parents

- Parent Time/Family Time
 - Chill out/feedback/snack
- Fun, interactive and **learner led** as much as possible
- Hook in parents/light bulb moments (experiential learning)
- Making quality, useful resources
- Do it **with** them not **at** them

“What are we doing this week?”

Fred's Role

- Attachment
 - Introductory session
 - Special to each child
 - Fred Time
 - No replacements!
- Learning tool in group and at home
- Attachment to parents



Fred's Travels

Adult Learning Awards, Edinburgh

Las Vegas



Always in handbag

Wedding in Glasgow

Mums' Night Out



Ninewells Hospital

Language and Communication

- Talk to your child from birth
 - “Babies brains are built not born.”(Unknown)
 - True/False Quiz
 - Early brain development



Language and Communication

- Having a conversation with your child
 - Smelly boxes/key rings
 - Input from Speech & Language Therapist
- Conversation Prompts and Practical Activities
 - Feely bags
 - Fred's House play mats
 - Post Box
 - Fred's morning
 - Room on the Broom



I never thought about how hard it can be if they don't know the right words. I had nightmares about that Lego!

I use the post box for all sorts of things – colours, counting, sorting - and we sing the song! She loves it so that's half the battle!

I like the key ring, I've put it with my other keys. I use it when we're shopping and he's much better behaved.

Parents' Comments

I liked the counting to 5 tip – I did that – asked him loads of questions and never gave him a chance to answer. He must have thought 'Will you just shut up for a minute!' Now I just ask one question and wait for him to answer.

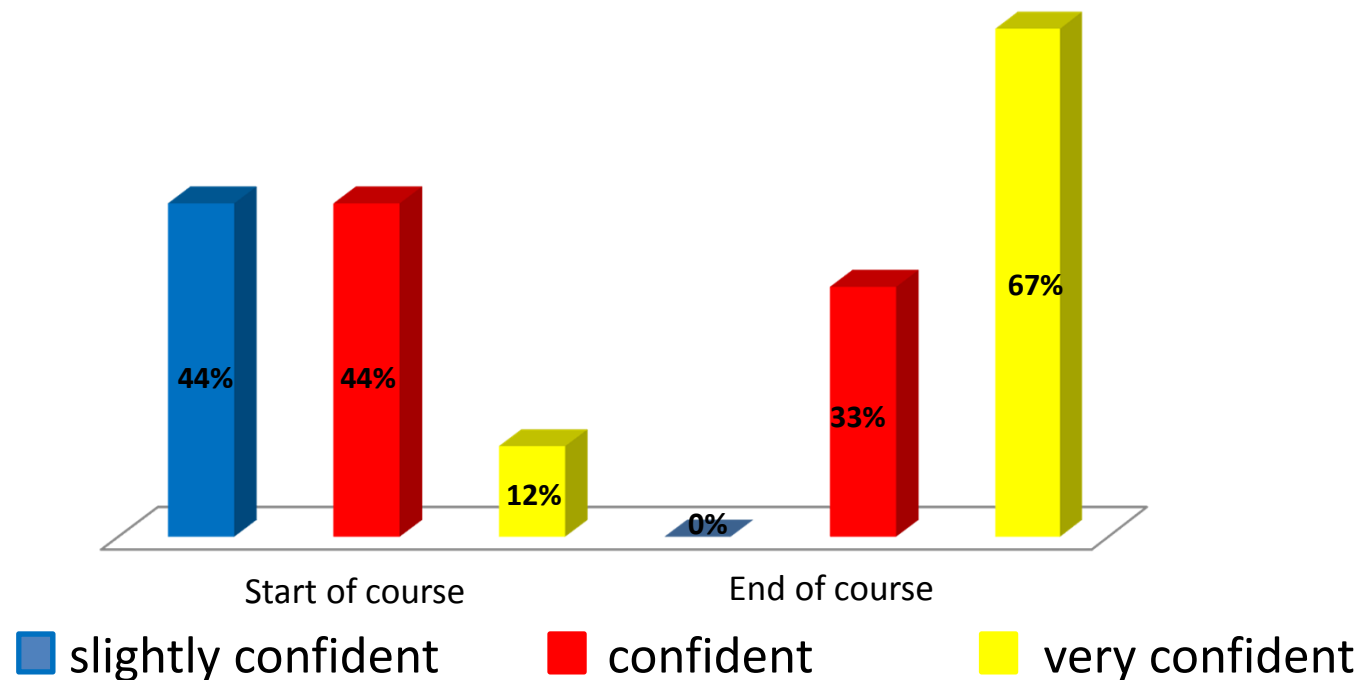
Talking about 'bumpy' words with him has really helped so much. He's much better now and his dad and I are a lot less stressed and upset.

We made another playmat at home for his cars – we put in a garage, bridge and petrol station.

Evaluation Methods

- **Baseline Evaluation**

- Interaction with children
- Knowledge of how children learn
- Confidence in knowing how to support child to learn



Outcomes

- Working as a childminder
- Four mums used skills gained to plan structured activities in a local mother & toddler group and one member of LWF joined the group
- Initially volunteered with local project, consequently gaining full time paid employment
- Completed HNC in Childcare and working in school nursery
- Gran joined kinship carer group

Developments

- Delivered in community settings in other SIMD areas of city and one block in partnership with OPFS
- Delivered as part of nursery transition in local school
- Developed Books for Bairns as an offshoot from the project with funding from Big Lottery, delivered in community and nursery settings

Developments

- LWF rolled out in Falkirk and Levenmouth
- Experiential learning used as a tool in delivery of a variety of family literacies programmes
- Experiential learning workshops delivered to Education Department ASNAs, practitioners across Tayside and Fife

Research

- Longitudinal research over 5 years around concept of parents being first educators of their children and the difference a programme of support can make to parents who have difficulty identifying with this concept
- Working in two local primary schools to build parents' capacity at different stages in early literacies and child development from 2 year old provision to P2
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