



# NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from Dek Noi Pattana Foundation

## A reflection from Khun Thanaporn Unphan Former Dek Noi Pattana Foundation project assistant

My journey as an ECD teacher started 5 years ago. I was recruited to work with Dek Noi Pattana Foundation (DNPF) right after my graduation from the Faculty of Education, Surindra Rajabhat University (SRRU). My experience at DNPF has been a most rewarding journey. The Foundation had a huge impact on my life and provided me with the skills and knowledge that I need to achieve my goal. I was finally able to pass the teacher civil service examination.

**Assistant Professor Dr. Kanoung Saikaew**, Chief technical advisor, DNPF, has always been a good role model for me. Through her leadership, I learned ways to work systematically and be meticulous in the planning process. Once she was invited to be the key resource person for a teacher training session at Ban Sawai ECD center on Early Childhood Education Curriculum 2017 and School Curriculum. I assisted her in the preparation of a power point presentation on the topic. I was very pleased with the time I invested in researching and finding information in preparing the presentation for Ajarn Kanoung. This is because on the day I took the teacher civil service examination, and going through the questions in the examination it was all about the presentation, I prepared for Ajarn Kanoung.



Coaching an ECD teacher on creative art

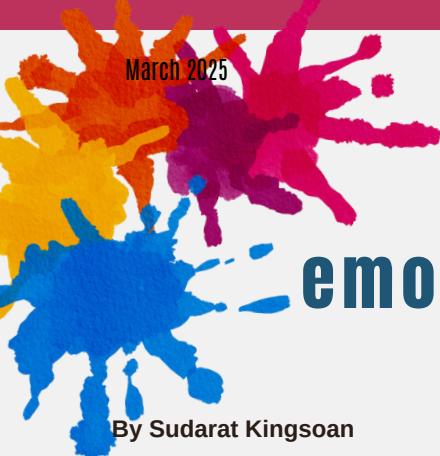
In addition to the written examination, I also took an interview and demonstrated a teaching session. I chose to demonstrate “Loose Parts Play in Preschool” an activity that I learned from coaching teachers at the model centers supported by DNPF. The examination committee was very impressed with my demonstration activity. They said it was very good creative play, materials can easily be found (wood, paper, leaves, twigs cardboard, water etc.), and children can freely combine and utilize the objects creatively to represent different things.

I would like to thank Dek Noi Pattana Foundation for allowing me to take the examination and DNPF team for all the support in assisting me in the designing of a classroom and creating an enabling environment at my new school “Samakkee Witthaya”. I would also like to thank Narong ECD center for their kind contributions in donating a mini puppet theatre and toys. The children were amazed and very excited about the changes in their classroom and a variety of toys.



### A statement from Ajarn Kanoung:

Khun Thanaporn has played a very important role in the Dek Noi Pattana Foundation. She is very responsible, a team player and takes her assignments seriously. A very capable member of staff.



# Collaborative Art promotes the emotional and mental development of early childhood

By Sudarat Kingsoan

Children are like seeds of thought, full of imagination and colors that reflect the feelings from their subconscious mind. Collaborative art can help children develop social emotional skills and creativity.

## Why is collaborative art important in preschool?

Collaborative art activities provide children with opportunities to develop essential skills such learning to work in groups, communication and problem-solving. Collaborative art activities can include painting, playing with different types of colors, tearing and cutting papers, patching, and craft work, etc. Art is like a tool that allows children to express their feelings directly without anything blocking them.

Art is important for early childhood and promotes emotional-mental development. It helps to strengthen good character in children. Children can explore, decorate and freely design with their friends with hands on activities. The important thing is that learning and exploring is fun and children express their feelings through creative art according to their imagination. As a result, children are proud of themselves and their artwork and see their own value.



When organizing art activities for children, it is important to consider activities that are flexible and suitable for children. When children are provided with collaborative art experience, it will enhance their emotional-psychological development. Collaborative art allows children to learn a variety of things from working together, such as learning to be a member of a group and knowing how to cooperate with friends for successful implementation of activities.

Expressiveness and creativity give children emotional stability, self-confidence, self-reliance, and adaptability. When children are engaged in art activities, it will help them develop their creativity and their thinking ability. They can vent their emotions through art by smearing paints with their fingers; using a fist to smash and crumple papers. Plasticine or clay is also a way to relax children's emotions and create an appreciation for beauty.

Therefore, organizing collaborative art activities for early childhood is important to promote the emotional and mental development of early childhood. It is an activity that provides opportunities for children to express their ideas through an atmosphere where children are happy and having fun. Choosing the right activities for children will not only help create imagination. It also helps teachers and parents to recognize the feelings and emotional states of each child and promotes the emotional-mental development of early childhood.



# The Role of Parent Participation in Early Childhood Development Centers



By Supatcharin Tumphat

Parents play an important role in strengthening children's development together with teachers at the ECD centers. To support the development of early childhood in all dimensions, involving parents in activities at the ECD centers is particularly important as this creates close collaboration between the home and the ECD centers.

Parent involvement refers to the process by which parents take on the role and responsibility of managing early childhood learning. The goal is to enable children to develop and learn appropriately according to their age and achieve their educational goals. The role of parental involvement in early childhood development centers is important to ensure holistic growth and development of children. Parents are the closest people to children and it is crucial to raise children to their full potential. Especially in the early stages of life, as this provides them with a foundation for a fulfilling life and allowing them to develop interests and talents to the fullest.

According to research related to early childhood development both domestically and internationally, it was found that when parents are involved in children's education, children tend to be less aggressive and children with behavior problems are likely to be solved at an early stage. This is deemed necessary and extremely important for early childhood development.



DNPF team interviewed parents at the ECD model centers in Surin and found that parents can be involved at the ECD centers through following areas:

## 1. Support learning activities:

Parents can support teachers in activities organized by the centers by sharing their knowledge and experience with the children. Sharing their journeys and stories will stimulate children's imagination and inspire them in the long run.

## 2. Monitoring children's performance:

Parents are involved in monitoring children's performance together with teachers. Communication between parents and teachers is important so that parents can receive information about their children's skills development in all aspects including physical, social emotional and cognitive developments. Furthermore, parents should observe their children's behavior at home and relay their observations to the teachers.

## 3. Participation in the improvement of the environment:

Creating a warm and safe environment in the home, such as organizing a learning corner for children. Storytelling, reading together, and teaching age-appropriate life skills will help promote continuous learning that is appropriate for children's development.

## 4. Support teachers in various activities:

Support teachers in developing learning materials, providing information on children's development and participating as speakers/resource persons in activities organized by the ECD centers.

## 5. Participation in planning and evaluation process:

Parents can participate in activities, meetings, and help plan, and evaluate the results of projects and activities organized by the ECD centers. They can make suggestions and present appropriate guidelines for the development of the centers to meet the needs of the children.

## 6. Being a good role model:

Children often learn from the behavior of adults. Parents should be good role models in terms of ethics, moral conduct, using polite words and showing kindness.

Parents have expressed their satisfaction in working with DNPF and the ECD centers and observed that their children can help themselves better and learn important life skills.

DNPF emphasizes the role of parental involvement in the ECD centers because working with parents, guardians, and the community is the key to building a strong society and affecting the quality of life of children. It helps encourage children to grow into quality individuals who are ready to face the future in a challenging world.

# Monitoring visit to Surin and Roi-et

Anuje Sirikit

Dek Noi Pattana Foundation (DNPF) management team took a monitoring visit to Surin and Roi-et during the first quarter of 2025. In Surin, and in addition to visiting ECD centers and meeting with colleagues at Surindra Rajabhat University (SRRU), the team joined a meeting on ECD chaired by the new Governor of Surin.

## Meeting with the Governor of Surin:

The Governor who recently started his term of office in Surin chaired a meeting with DNPF, SRRU and Chiefs of the seventeen districts in Surin to discuss the scaling up plan in Surin, building up of potential coaches and expansion of ECD model centers.

During the discussion **Khun Kanyapak, Chief of Prasat district**, suggested that there should be an induction meeting with all the Chief executives of sub-district administrative organizations (SAO) emphasizing the importance of early childhood education. The Chief of Samrongtab district requested that criteria for the selection of the new model centers should be provided to all the chiefs of the seventeen districts to ensure a better screening process. Criteria for a selection process of potential coaches should also be made available to all the SAOs to ensure that suitable personnel will be selected for the training program.

At the end of the meeting, it was decided that DNPF and SRRU will set up a google form for the criteria in the selection process of both the expansion of model centers and the selection of potential coaches. **Khun Ian Porter, Chair of DNPF**, informed the meeting that a northeastern regional ECD experience sharing event is expected to be held in Korat later in the year and that Surin will have the opportunity to share their best practices on high quality ECD.



Mr. Chamnan Chuenta, Governor of Surin

## Roi-et:

DNPF management team visit to Roi-et was an extremely rewarding event. A lot of progress has been made since the last visit. Roi-et is a particularly good example of collaborative efforts of stakeholders' engagement on quality ECD. **Khun Preecha, chief administrator of Noan-sa-nga SAO**, Roi-et, brought his experience and lessons learned from working with DNPF in Surin to start a high quality ECD initiative in Roi-et by creating a shared understanding of the importance of early childhood development among stakeholders with a strong support from the chief executive of Noan-sa-nga SAO. Feedback from parents about their children's development was very encouraging. Roi-et Rajabhat University (RERU) faculty members with the support from DNPF technical team have been coaching the teachers and caretakers in the two ECD centers in Noan-sa-nga SAO and will also be monitoring children's skills development soon.

