





A knowledge translation and mobilization initiative started at Red River College in partnership with the U of T aimed at making current research available to anyone interested in the profound impact of the early years on lifelong health and well-being.











# What you need to know about early human development

- Scientific evidence is clear that that the period from conception through the first 3 years of life is critically important for development of the brain and other biological systems.
- The quality of a child's environment, the nurturing, and the responsiveness of adults is vitally important for shaping brain architecture setting the foundation for later development and health.



#### SECD - an introduction





If you have enjoyed this video and would like to learn more about SECD's online living textbooks, click here.

If you'd like to order an SECD resource, click here.







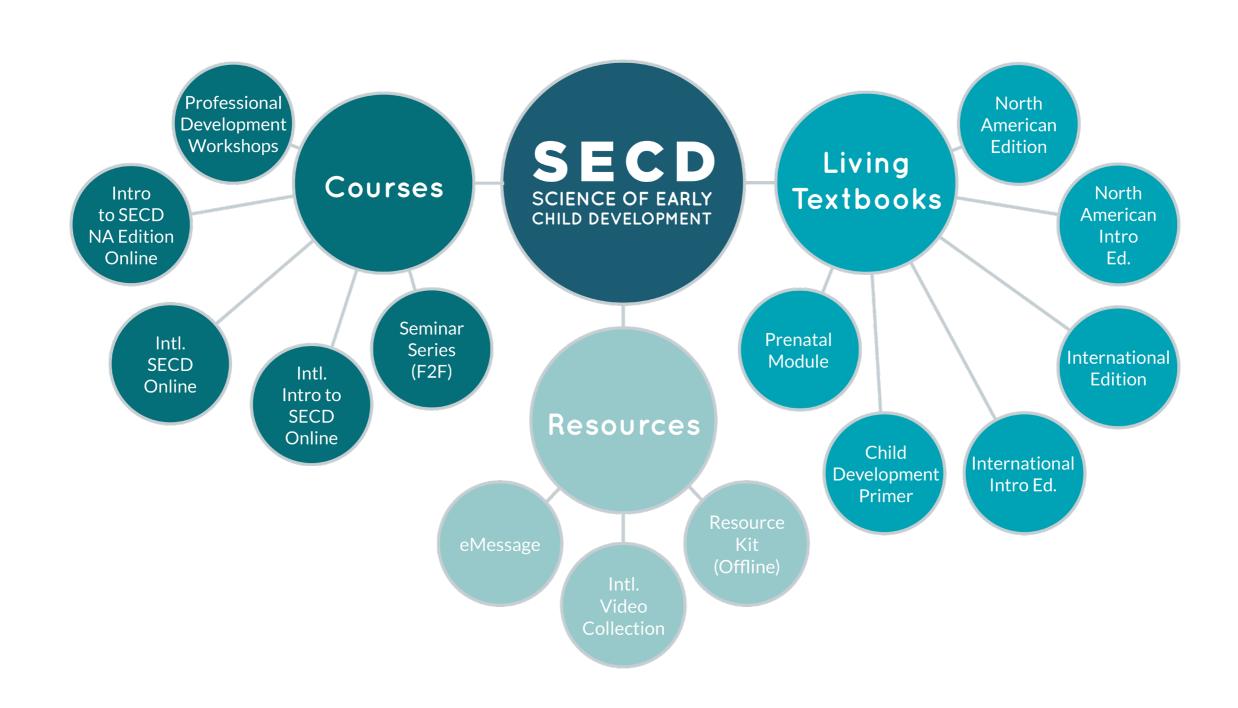




















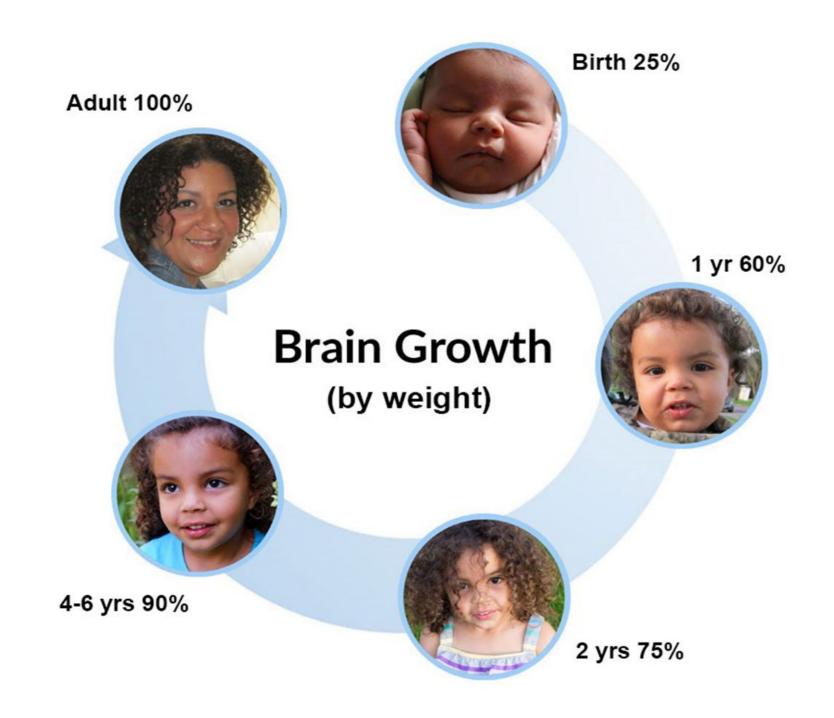












Oakes, L.M., & Rakison, D.H. (forthcoming). Developmental Cascades. Oxford University Press







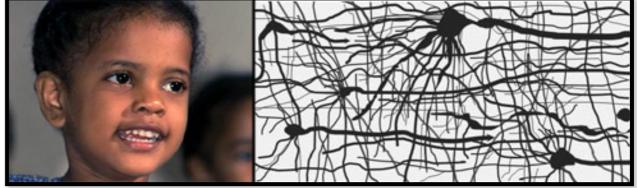


# Synaptic density





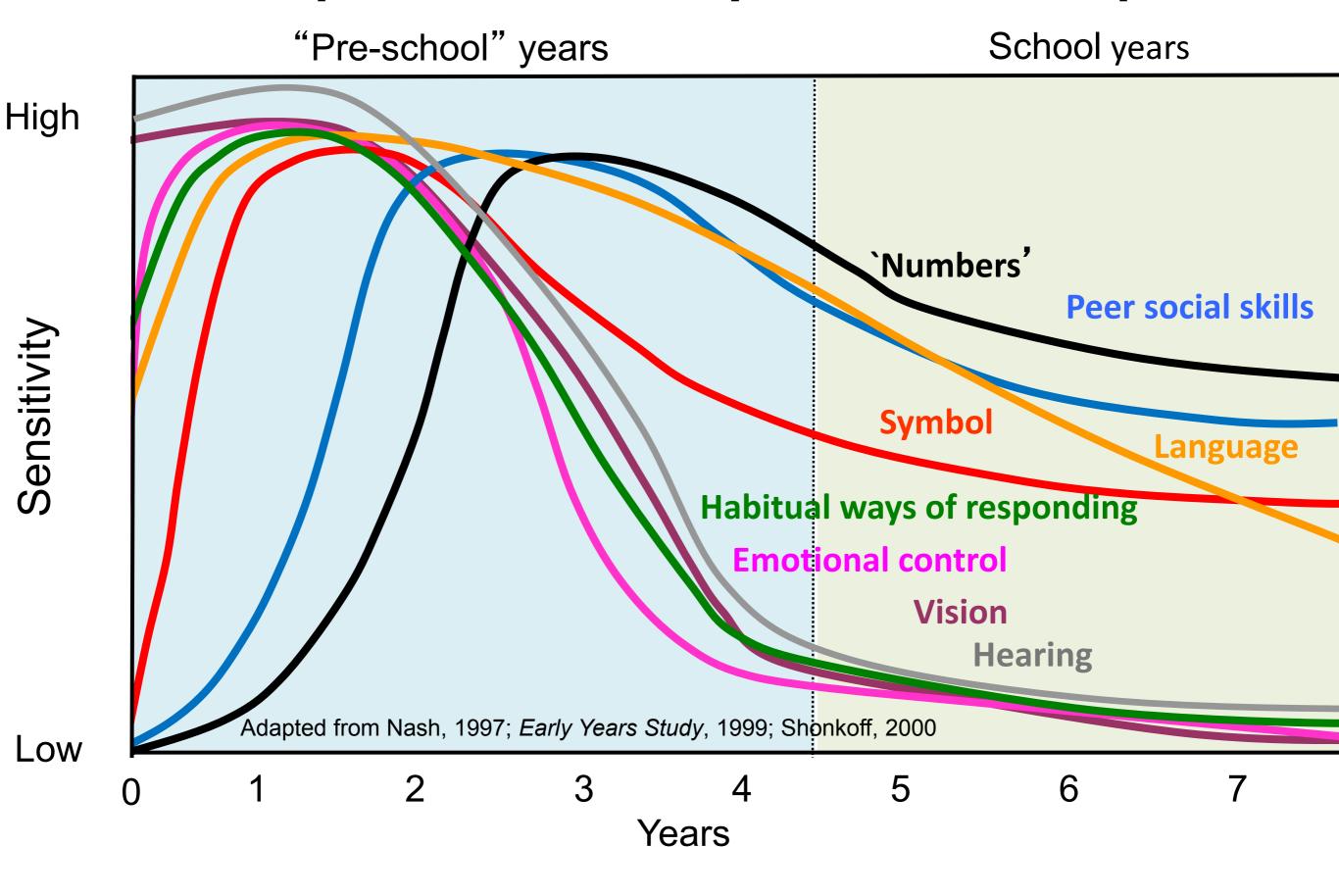








## `Sensitive periods' in early brain development











### Peek-a-boo and the brain

Back and forth interactions, in which an adult notices and responds to a child's signals to play, build brain architecture.

The universal game of peeka-boo is a good example.







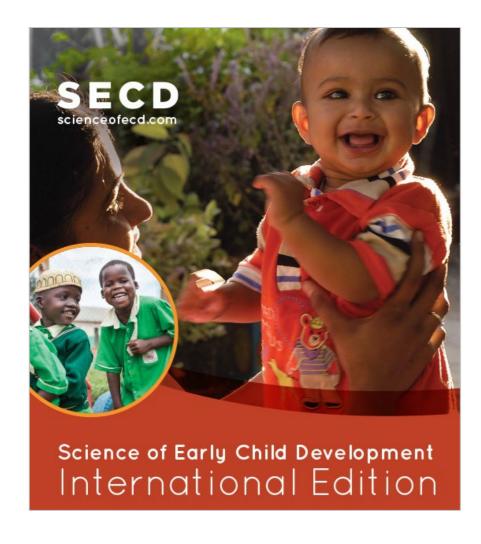








# Phase 1 – Build and pilot the International SECD version and course



Collaboration

Contextualize

Filming

Instructor Development



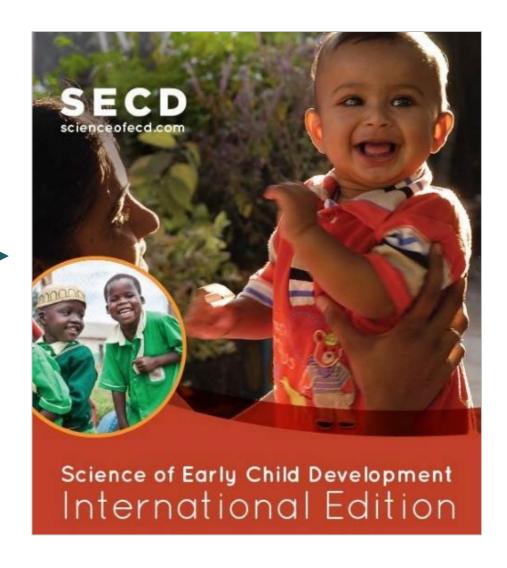






# Contextualizing for relevance to the majority world























### Phase 2



Collaboration

Continued Phase 1 activities

New online & offline resources

New filming + overview video

New intro online course

**SECD and MECP** 

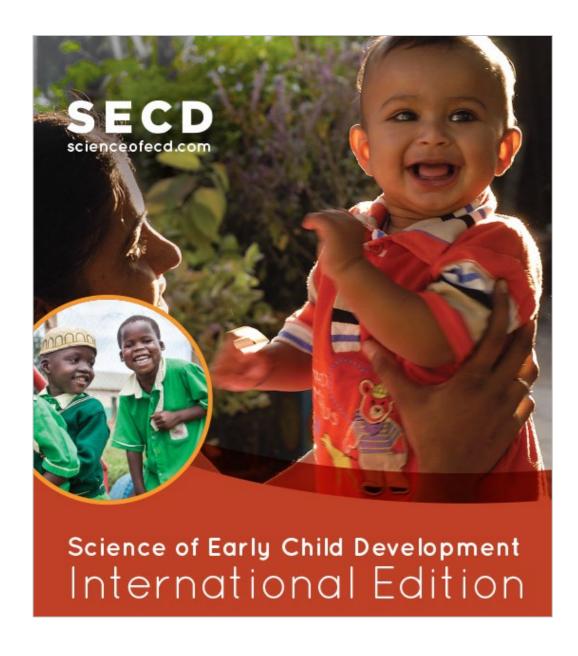




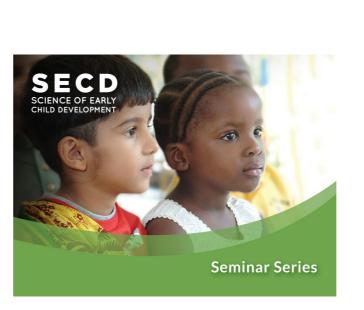


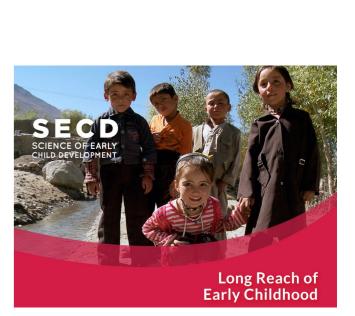


**Resource Kit** 

















# Translations (done or underway)

- Burmese
- Chinese
- Portuguese
- French
- Tajik
- Kiswahili
- Russian
- Arabic
- Myanmar



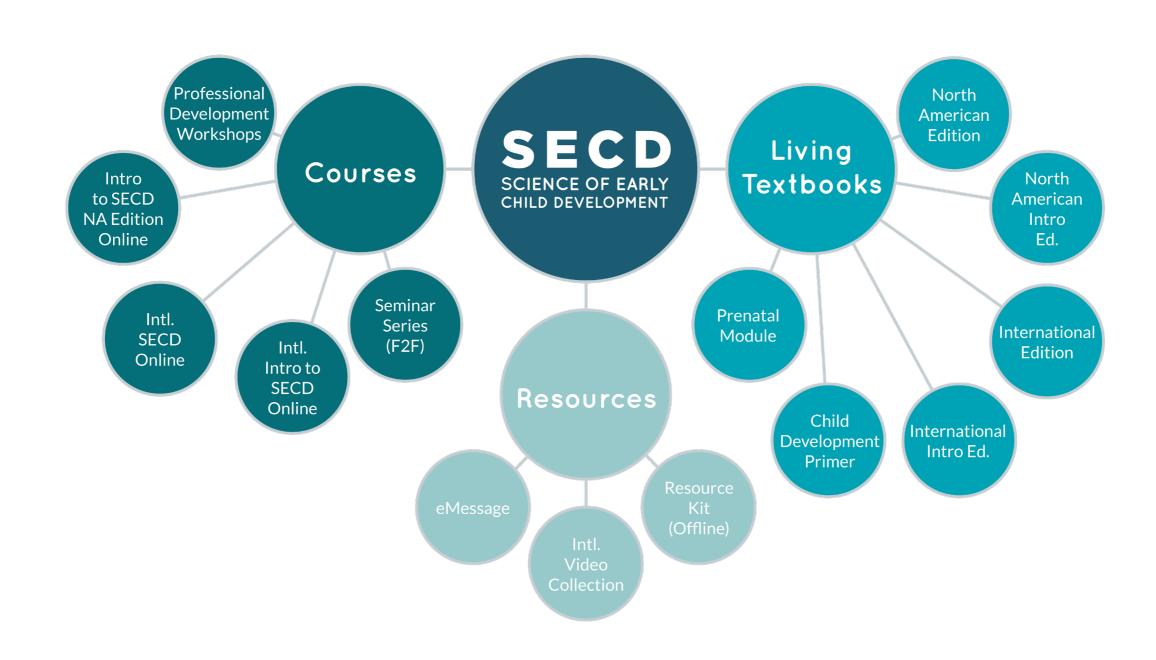






















### Specialized courses:

- World Forum Foundation Global Leaders for Young Children
- World Bank African Early Years Fellowship (AKU-IHD)
- Aga Khan Foundation Canada
- Yangon University of Education Myanmar

#### **Enhancing interventions:**

- UNICEF China/ China National Children's Center
- China Development Research Foundation
- Crianze Feliz, Brazil









## Closer to Home

- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission Recommendation 12
- The Martin Family Foundation Early Years Initiative
- Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre
- Indigenous content and involvement









# Research Agenda

- Social Services and Humanities Research Council grants:
  - Lord Selkirk Park Abecedarian Project
  - Science to Practice to Play









# Staying Current – Our Commitment

- "Living textbooks"
- Emerging research
- Emerging policy perspectives
- Tailoring and curating to meet community and organizational needs









## Lessons Learned and Learning

- Engage your own content experts and give them freedom to imagine a new way;
- Provide professional development;
- Reduce or remove other responsibilities;
- Attention to detail...the right video clip, carefully edited can illuminate complex scientific concepts;
- Engage external experts and champions and keep them on board;









# Lessons Learned and Learning (cont'd)

- Look for mutual benefits eg researchers have an obligation to mobilize their research;
- International partnerships: Play the "long game" and be willing to compromise for the sake of the longer relationship;
- Establish legal frameworks/contracts etc, but leave some wiggle room for opportunity;
- Expect and embrace continuous learning.









# **Open Access**

#### **British Columbia**

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