



Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | April 2023

204.669.4043 • kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca • Supported by Child and Youth Services, Department of Families

Kinder Links @ Home is **FREE** programming for families with young children living in the River East Transcona community. Kinder Links @ Home features exciting ways to enjoy literacy and numeracy activities from the comfort and safety of your home. Get creative, playful, and passionate about early learning with our **FREE** parent-child programming!

Sign up for as many VIRTUAL programs and special events as your schedule allows. To ensure the best virtual experience, we encourage parents and children to participate in these program activities together. You'll enjoy this quality time learning, laughing, and making memories as a family. Get comfortable, cuddle up, and enjoy interesting literacy and numeracy activities with your Kinder Links facilitators.

VIRTUAL FEATURE-LENGTH PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL Once Upon a Rhyme

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Participants are sure to have fun singing traditional nursery rhymes. Together, we will clap, dance, march, and hop along to some favourite high-energy songs. Each class features an interactive story experience, including story circles, story vines, and more!

Mondays, April 10–May 15
10–10:30 a.m.

VIRTUAL Rise & Shine Storytime

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Get your morning off to a fantastic start with light stretches, interactive stories,



songs, rhymes, and finger plays. In addition to our weekly song repertoire, children will have the opportunity to request a few favourite songs that we will happily sing together.

Tuesdays, April 11–May 16
10–10:30 a.m.

VIRTUAL Cool Cats & Puppy Tales

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

A purr-fect class for pet lovers, this program features engaging rhymes and finger plays, cat-inspired stretches, and high-energy games that will leave you wagging your tail with delight! Listen to playful stories of famous furry friends like Pete the Cat and Clifford the Big Red Dog to name just a couple. Bring your favourite stuffed animal or pet to this virtual play date!

Wednesdays, April 12–May 17
10–10:30 a.m.



VIRTUAL Stars & Spaceships

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Zoom, zoom, zoom—we're going to the moon! Climb aboard a spaceship as we embark on a spectacular adventure to outer space. Through songs, stories, and space-themed games and activities, young astronauts will learn about twinkly stars, the Milky Way, and planets. At the end of each class mission, facilitators will share ideas for creating galaxy-inspired art to make at home.

Wednesdays, April 12–May 17
6–6:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL Growing Up Green

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

An environmentally themed program where preschoolers and their parents/caregivers will learn about the great outdoors in springtime! Through songs, books, and nature-based challenges, participants will gain an appreciation for the world around them.

Thursdays, April 13–May 18
10–10:30 a.m.

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VIRTUAL SPECIAL EVENTS

VIRTUAL Bunny Tales Extravaganza

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Hop into an egg-citing Easter adventure with your friends at Kinder Links! Bunnies, books, and bingo will be just a few highlights at this free virtual special event. Together, we'll sing about colourful Easter eggs, play "What's in the Basket?" and talk about interesting craft ideas to try at home.

Thursday, April 6

10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Celebrate your child's birthday with a special greeting from the Kinder Links team! In this 20-minute virtual session, a Kinder Links facilitator will sing the happy birthday song to your child, share a book, and play an educational game to help celebrate their big day. Appointments are available mornings, afternoons, and early evenings. VIRTUAL Birthday Greetings appointments are available for children six years and under, as availability permits, and must be booked in advance.



KINDER LINKS PEN PALS

Introduce your child—ages three to five—to the joys of reading and writing through RETSD's Kinder Links Pen Pals program. Our team of Kinder Links facilitators is looking forward to connecting with preschool families this year. As a Kinder Links Pen Pal, your child will receive a special package in the mail featuring a short letter, notes, songs and rhymes, a joke, stickers, and a seasonal activity to try.

The best part of being a pen pal is writing back! We can hardly wait to start receiving letters or drawings from your child(ren). For every letter sent to the Kinder Links office, we'll reply with a special package filled with fun activities for your child. This is an excellent way to get your child excited about literacy while having fun practising their printing, drawing, and numeracy skills.

Submissions can be mailed to:

Kelly Martino
Kinder Links Office
Maple Leaf School
251 McIvor Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R2G 0Z7

FREE BABY GIFT FOR NEW PARENTS

Did you just have a baby? River East Transcona School Division and the Early Childhood Matters Parent Child Coalitions in River East and Transcona would like to help you celebrate this wonderful event. We have a book, *I Love It When You*, which we'd love to give to you to keep and enjoy. To receive your **FREE** book, contact us at kmartino@retsd.mb.ca or 204.669.4043. Please leave us your mailing address, child's name, and date of birth.



KINDER LINKS ADVISORY GROUP

Are you interested in sharing your ideas to help shape Kinder Links parent-child programming? We are recruiting new members for our Kinder Links Advisory Group, which meets virtually to discuss and provide feedback on our free early-learning programs. Contact Kinder Links at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca or 204.669.4043 for more information.

THE EARLY LEARNING TEAM

We are pleased to provide early learning and family support to families living in River East Transcona. Feel free to contact us if you have questions about our preschool initiatives.

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Registration for Kinder Links programming begins immediately by online registration form (below), by email at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca, or by leaving a message at 204.669.4043. When registering, please provide the following information:

- Parent/caregiver name
- Names and ages of all children to attend the program
- Home/cellphone number
- Home address
- Email address where you wish to be contacted
- Program(s) you wish to register for (name of program, date, and time)

— Online Registration Form —