

Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | September to November 2022

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 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.

Arts and crafts packages will be available for pickup as a complement to programming. Packages will feature art experiences shown at the end of class for participants to make at home. Information on package pickup will be shared upon registration.

VIRTUAL ABCs & 123s

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Explore numbers and letters with engaging rhymes, fingerplays, stories, and movement games. Classes feature fun ways for children to incorporate literacy and numeracy into their day. At the end of each session, your facilitators will share an activity challenge to try at home.

Mondays, Oct. 17–Nov. 21

9–9:30 a.m.



NEW! VIRTUAL Fall at the Farmyard

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Autumn is a busy and exciting time on the farm! Leaves are changing colour and it's time for harvest. Let's learn about delicious fall foods like apples and pumpkins, read books about barnyard animals and scarecrows, and celebrate the beautiful sights and sounds of autumn with fun educational activities.

Tuesdays, Oct. 11–Nov. 15

10:30–11 a.m.

6–6:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL Twinkle Twinkle Dancing Toes

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Tap your toes and move those feet as trained dance instructor Miss Laura and her friends teach us some groovy moves! Enjoy lively music and rhythms as you express yourself creatively. As we dance and move together, we'll explore shapes, colours, numbers, and animals.

Thursdays, Oct. 13–Nov. 17

12:30–1 p.m.

Your River East Transcona School Division Trustees

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NEW! VIRTUAL Up, Up, and Away!

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Time is sure to FLY as we are having fun at this new VIRTUAL experience! Through songs and stories, young aviators will embark on an exciting adventure featuring planes, helicopters, kites, balloons, and other interesting things that soar through the skies. This high-energy program is filled with your favourite Kinder Links songs, active games, and a flight-themed craft to complete after each class.

Thursdays, Oct. 13–Nov. 17
10:30–11 a.m.

VIRTUAL SPECIAL EVENTS

VIRTUAL Halloween Story Time

Join us for a VIRTUAL Halloween adventure as we read stories and sing seasonal songs about spiders, black cats, and pumpkins! Participants will also have fun dancing and playing Halloween games and activities. Remember to dress in your favourite Halloween costume for this free virtual special event!

Friday, Oct. 28
10–10:45 a.m.
6–6:45 p.m.

VIRTUAL Parenting Workshop—Claim Your Child's Canada Learning Bond

Community Financial Counselling Services—in partnership with Youth Employment Services Manitoba and SEED Winnipeg—has launched Phase II of the Canada Learning Bond (CLB) project. The CLB deposits up to \$2,000 from the government into an RESP to be used toward any post-secondary-education-related costs. Their goal is to provide information and offer supported enrolment to families by supplying no-cost birth certificates, Social Insurance Numbers, and tax filing, as well as assisting with each step in the application process to claim the CLB.

Thursday, Sept. 29
6:30–7 p.m.

VIRTUAL Parenting Workshop—Building Resiliency Post-Covid

This free parenting workshop, led by Bookmates Inc., will focus on providing early literacy resources, tools, and strategies that support building a positive emotional foundation and enhancing resiliency. Participants will learn more about:

- What neuroscience says about early childhood brain development and resiliency

- Emotional health and well-being challenges in our preschool-age population—with a particular focus on supporting our children's recovery from times of potential stress, such as what they recently experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic
- A gathering of strategies designed to enhance mental wellness and resiliency in an early learning environment—for example, building language to express emotional needs, using stories to provide context, addressing all learning styles, using a child-led philosophy, etc.

Monday, Sept. 26
1–2:30 p.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. Please note: VIRTUAL Birthday Greetings appointments are available for children six years and under, as availability permits, and must be booked in advance.



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The best part of being a pen pal is writing back! We can hardly wait to start receiving letters/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
Joseph Teres School
131 Sanford Fleming Rd.
Winnipeg, MB R2C 5B8

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 should you have questions regarding our preschool initiatives.

Jason Drysdale

Assistant Superintendent of Schools
204.667.7130, ext. 2233
jdrysdale@retsd.mb.ca

Kim Campbell

Manager of Community Initiatives
204.669.9412, ext. 2941
kcampbell@retsd.mb.ca

Kelly Martino

Community Programming Co-ordinator—
Preschool
204.669.4043
kmartino@retsd.mb.ca

Registration for Kinder Links programming begins immediately by email at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca or leave 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)

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/rhymes, a joke, stickers, and a seasonal activity to try.