



KINDERLINKS Indoors



Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | April to June 2024

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



All Kinder Links programs are offered at Bernie Wolfe School, 95 Bournais Dr., and Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave. Registration is required for these FREE classes, with the exception of the Wee Play & Learn—Drop-In Group.

Kinder Links programs provide young families—with children birth to age five—with the opportunity to play, learn, and connect with each other. These FREE parent-child programs feature fun, educational ways to explore literacy, numeracy, physical health and well-being, and creativity through art experiences, rhymes, stories, activities, and games. Kinder Links programs are an excellent way for young children to develop a lifelong passion for learning, develop their skills and self-confidence, and prepare for the adventure of school!

DROP-IN SESSIONS

No registration required

Wee Play & Learn—Drop-In Group

Best enjoyed by children ages 6 months to 5 years

Let's shake out those wiggles and share some giggles as we play, learn, and enjoy each other's company. This relaxed drop-in program features free play with toys, puzzles, and Play-Doh, and the opportunity to make a craft. Our time together ends with a lively circle time filled with favourite songs and stories.

Saturdays, April 6—May 11

10:30 a.m.—12 p.m. (Pool Room)
Bernie Wolfe School

Mondays, April 8—May 13

5–6 p.m. (Gymnasium)
6–7 p.m. (Room 17)
Maple Leaf School

Tuesdays, April 9—June 4

9:45–11 a.m. (Pool Room)
Bernie Wolfe School

Wednesdays, April 10—May 15

12:30–1:45 p.m. (Room 17)
Maple Leaf School

Thursdays, April 11—May 16

12:30–1:45 p.m. (Room 17)
Maple Leaf School

Fridays, April 12—May 31

9:45–11 a.m. (Pool Room)
Bernie Wolfe School

Mondays—Thursdays, May 21—June 6

9:45–11 a.m. (Pool Room)
Bernie Wolfe School

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Scroll down to *What it means to be a trustee* to watch an informative video



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REGISTERED SESSIONS

Baby Bumblebees

Best enjoyed by babies birth to crawling

Introduce your baby to the joy of songs, rhymes, and finger plays! Sing along to your favourites while learning new lap songs, diapering songs, and lullabies that are sure to delight and stimulate your little one. Each week, parents will enjoy time to connect and chat with other new parents. Interesting parenting resources and tip sheets will be provided.

Tuesdays, April 9–May 14

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

Wednesdays, April 10–May 15

1–2 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

Itsy Bitsy Playtime

Best enjoyed by children ages 6 to 23 months

Itsy Bitsy Playtime is a relaxed toddler program featuring free play with toys and lots of time to move, explore, and create. This class is ideal for busy babies and toddlers to shake out their wiggles and share some giggles as we play, learn, and enjoy each other's company. Each class ends with a group circle time experience and a special board book.

Tuesdays, April 9–May 14

9:45–11 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

Free Play Fridays

Best enjoyed by children ages 9 months to 5 years

With a focus on friendly conversations and free play with toys, participants are sure to have a fantastic time making new friends and having fun! Together, we will play to learn and learn to play co-operatively, through songs, stories, creative art, and opportunities to use our imagination.

Fridays, April 12–May 17

9:45–11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

Weekend Free Play

Best enjoyed by children ages 9 months to 5 years

Join us for a relaxing, loosely structured weekend session where children get to play, create, build, and craft together. Each week, there will be time for stories, songs, and sharing. What a fun way to spend a Saturday morning with your friends!

Saturdays, April 6–May 11

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

Hop, Skip & Jump Into Play!

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

This exciting program features active play in the school gym and free play in the Kinder Links classroom. Our time together will also include getting creative with Play-Doh, making the "craft of the day," and a circle time filled with puppets, books, songs, and rhymes.

Saturdays, April 6–May 11

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

Thursdays, April 11–May 16

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

The More We Get Together

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 3 ½ years

The more we get together, the happier we'll be! Songs, stories, games, art experiences, and great conversation will be sure to put a big smile on your face. Get ready to clap, dance, march, and hop along to your favourite high-energy songs, and bring an item each week to "show and share" with your Kinder Links friends.

Mondays, April 8–May 13

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

Class cancelled April 22

Animal Crackers

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Animal Crackers is an exciting program where families learn about animals large and small! Through interactive group stories, activities, and crafts, participants will meet a different animal each week. Be on the lookout for monkeys, lions, giraffes, elephants, and other animals that live in the zoo.

Wednesdays, April 10–May 15

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

Cool Cats & Puppy Tales

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months 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.

Mondays, April 8–May 13

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

Class cancelled April 22



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Mr. Golden Sun!

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Join us for “fun in the sun” as we sing songs about ice cream, the waves at the beach, and swimming! We’ve selected some “sunsational” stories about summer adventures, as well as educational games and crafts. Feel free to dress for the tropics!

Sundays, April 7–May 12

10:30–11:45 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

Wednesdays, April 10–May 15

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

Pyjama Band

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Putting the “jam” into pyjamas, these musical evenings will feature a variety of instruments, like maracas, cymbals, drums, and tambourines. Get ready to join a marching band as we travel the hallways playing marvellous melodies. Together, we’ll enjoy stories, play with toys and puzzles, and make some art. Don’t forget to wear your PJs!

Fridays, April 5–May 3

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

Spring Frogs & Polliwogs

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Stories, crafts, and games will keep participants hopping at this celebration of spring. Together, families will enjoy a high-energy sing-along featuring green frogs, brown bunnies, yellow ducks, red ladybugs, and brilliantly coloured butterflies.

Wednesdays, April 10–May 15

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

Class cancelled April 24

Thursdays, April 11–May 16

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School



I’m a Little Yogi

Best enjoyed by children ages 21 months to 5 years

I’m a Little Yogi is a fun-loving, supportive parent-child program designed to playfully teach yoga to young children. They will learn interesting yoga poses, including crane, tree, and downward dog. *I’m a Little Yogi* builds the parent-child bond and helps children feel happier and more confident while honouring their explorative and physical nature. Participants are asked to dress comfortably and bring their own yoga mat or blanket.

Sundays, April 7–May 12

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

1, 2, Buckle My Shoe

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Count on having a great time at 1, 2, *Buckle My Shoe!* Families will enjoy songs and books that focus on counting and early math. Classes feature easy ways for children to incorporate counting into their lives, exploring numbers through crafts, educational games, and activities

Tuesdays, April 9–May 14

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

Oodles of Doodles

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Get ready for messy, creative fun at *Oodles of Doodles!* Each class, little artists will have the opportunity to make 2–3 crafts, such as collages, using paint, chalk, markers, pom poms, and more! Our time together includes a parent-child circle time featuring favourite songs and rhymes, group stories, and lively conversation.

Sundays, April 7–May 12

10:15–11:30 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

SPRING into Dance!

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Let’s get active and dance our way into the beauty of springtime! Together, we’ll tap our toes, move our feet, and listen to music featuring the special colours and creatures of spring. Get ready to fly like birds, flutter like butterflies, hop like bunnies, and leap like frogs. Dancers will enjoy getting creative with colourful juggling scarves and ribbons while grooving to favourite preschool songs. Class ends with a few great spring-themed stories and poems.

Saturdays, April 6–May 11

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

Sundays, April 7–May 12

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

Wheels on the Bus

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Drivers, start your engines and join us for a fast-paced, action-packed literacy program! Together, we’ll explore the world of cars, trucks, buses, and construction vehicles with songs, stories, and interactive games. Before the checkered flag signals the end of class, participants will enjoy a creative art experience with a transportation theme.

Thursdays, April 11–May 16

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School



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Tiny Tumblers

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 ½ to 5 years

Introducing a literacy-based gymnastics program designed to keep little ones moving and having fun while developing their gross motor skills. During this active parent-child session, we'll warm up and learn the pizza, butterfly, and fishing stretches, as well as the mountain and motorcycle poses. Our tiny tumblers will get to use scarves and practise basic balancing activities and somersaults. The gym portion of this class is 45 minutes, followed by 30 minutes of free play, crafts, and stories.

Sundays, April 7–May 12

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

Soccer Stars Storytime

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 ½ to 5 years

Soccer fans are sure to get a kick out of this high-energy class! Each session starts with warmup activities and stretching our bodies. We'll have fun working as a team, practising skills, like dribbling, passing, shooting, and cheering on our new friends. Circle time will feature a variety of our favourite Kinder Links songs and stories.

Saturdays, April 6–May 11

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

All Aboard the Friend Ship

Best enjoyed by children ages 3 to 5 years

Join the crew as we set sail on an interesting voyage filled with songs, books, puppets, and games. On the "Friend Ship," participants will have fun learning about being a good friend, taking turns, understanding and managing their emotions, and developing problem-solving skills.

Mondays, April 8–May 13

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

Class cancelled April 22

LOWER-SENSORY PROGRAMMING

If your family may benefit from a lower-sensory experience, please contact the Kinder Links office for more information on programming times.

Registration begins immediately by completing the [Online Form](#), emailing us at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca, or 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)

Upon registration, you'll receive a confirmation email that your request has been processed. Before the start of each program, participants will receive a reminder email and phone call.

FREE BABY GIFT FOR NEW PARENTS

Did you just have a baby? RETSD 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 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. The best part of being a pen pal is writing back!

We can hardly wait to start receiving letters and drawings from your child. For every letter sent to the Kinder Links office, we'll reply with a special package filled with fun activities. This is an excellent way to get your child excited about literacy while they have fun practising their printing, drawing, and numeracy skills. Submissions can be mailed to:

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

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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