



Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | September to December 2026

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



Kinder Links provides preschool families in the River East Transcona community 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, 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!

All Kinder Links programs are offered at Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave., Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave., or Westview School, 600 Hoka St. Registration is required for these FREE parent-child classes, unless otherwise noted.

DROP-IN SESSIONS

No registration required

Rhyme Time in the Park

Best enjoyed by babies and children birth to age 5

Sunshine, songs, and stories are a great way to meet new friends and enjoy the fresh, fall air! During our time at the park, we'll dance, play with the parachute, enjoy group games, and try out the play structure and swings.

Watch for colourful puppets who will join these rhyme time sessions to teach us new songs about autumn.

Participants are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair for circle time activities. Remember to dress for the weather. In the event of rain, class will be cancelled.

Saturdays, Sept. 12–19

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Maple Leaf School (by the play structure)

Sundays, Sept. 13–20

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Westview School (by the play structure)

Mondays, Sept. 14–Oct. 5

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Bunn's Creek Park, 365 Mclvor Ave.
(by the play structure)

Tuesdays, Sept. 15–Oct. 6

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Victoria Jason Park, 255 Redonda St.
(by play structure)

Tuesdays, Sept. 15–22

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.
(by play structure)

Wednesdays, Sept. 16–Oct. 7

10:30–11:30 a.m.

McLeod Park
Cancelled Sept. 30

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.

EMERSON SCHOOL, 323 EMERSON AVE.

Please enter the building through the front doors of the school. Kinder Links Classroom (Room 6)

Monday–Friday, Sept. 14–25

10–11:30 a.m.

Mondays, Sept. 14–Dec. 14

10–11:30 a.m.

Cancelled Oct. 12

Fridays, Sept. 18–Dec. 18

10–11:30 a.m.

Cancelled Oct. 23 & Nov. 27

Monday–Friday, Nov. 30–Dec. 18

10–11:30 a.m.

WESTVIEW SCHOOL, 600 HOKA ST.

Please enter the building using the Ravelston Ave. W. entrance doors. Kinder Links Classroom (Room 26)

Monday–Friday, Sept. 14–25

10–11:30 a.m.

Mondays, Sept. 14–Dec. 14

10–11:30 a.m.

Cancelled Oct. 12

Fridays, Sept. 18–Dec. 18

10–11:30 a.m.

Cancelled Oct. 23 & Nov. 27

Sundays, Sept. 27–Nov. 22

10–11:30 a.m.

Cancelled Oct. 11

Monday–Friday, Nov. 30–Dec. 18

10–11:30 a.m.

Gallop & Go Gym Drop-In

Best enjoyed by children ages 6 months to 5 years

Just imagine all the fun your family will have during these open-format gym mornings! Enjoy the freedom to run, jump, and create your own games while playing with ride-on toys and other gym equipment. Each open gym session will end with a short circle time filled with favourite songs, dancing with scarves, and parachute playtime.

Saturdays, Sept. 26–Nov. 21

10:45 a.m.–12 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St. — Please enter the building using the Ravelston Ave. W. entrance doors. Cancelled Oct. 31

Sundays, Sept. 27–Nov. 22

11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave. — Please enter the building using the double doors off the school parking lot. Cancelled Oct. 11



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REGISTERED PROGRAMS

New to Kinder Links?

For families new to Kinder Links programming, you are welcome to sign up for a special introductory session to meet our facilitators, see the classroom, sing along to favourite songs and rhymes, and make a craft!

Sunday, Sept. 13

10–11:30 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Thursday, Sept. 17

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Saturday, Sept. 19

10–11:30 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

FEATURE-LENGTH PROGRAMS

Baby Bumblebees

Best enjoyed by children birth to nearly walking

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 connecting and chatting with other new parents. Interesting parenting resources and tip sheets will be provided to participants.

Mondays, Sept. 28–Nov. 23

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 12

Tuesdays, Sept. 29–Nov. 24

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Thursdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 26

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

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!

Wednesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 25

10–11:15 a.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 28 & Nov. 11

Weekend Free Play

Best enjoyed by children ages 6 months to 5 years

Join us for a relaxing, loosely structured 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 weekend morning with your friends!

Saturdays, Sept. 26–Nov. 21

10–11:30 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 31

NEW! 1-2-3, Play with Me — Gym adventures

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

A high-energy gym experience, this new class allows young participants to explore and learn more about numbers through group games, books, scavenger hunts and counting songs. Our class time includes opportunities to play with musical instruments, toys, and the parachute.

Sundays, Sept. 27–Nov. 22

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 11

Hop, Skip & Jump!

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

This exciting program features active play group activities and free play in the school gym.

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.

Wednesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 25

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 28 & Nov. 11

Fridays, Sept. 25–Nov. 13

5:45–7 p.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Saturdays, Sept. 26–Nov. 21

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 31

Jungle Gym

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Step inside the school gymnasium to take a fast-paced jungle journey with your friends at Kinder Links! Through stories, fingerplays, and art, we'll meet majestic animals like lions, gorillas, and hippos. Each class features free play with gym equipment and jungle-inspired group games and activities.

Saturdays, Sept. 26–Nov. 21

9:30–10:45 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 Mclvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 31

Night Owls

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Have a hoot playing games, singing songs, and listening to bedtime stories and lullabies at Night Owls. Children will love playing with toys and visiting with our friend and puppet, Snowy the Owl, who flies in during our lively rhyme circle.

Mondays, Sept. 28–Nov. 23

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 12





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Oodles of Doodles

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Get ready for messy, creative fun at Oodles of Doodles! Each class, little artists will have the opportunity to make 2–3 crafts and collage activities 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 book sharing.

Tuesdays, Sept. 29–Nov. 24

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Thursdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 26

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Saturdays, Sept. 26–Nov. 21

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 31

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.

Tuesdays, Sept. 29–Nov. 24

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Shake, Rattle & Rhyme

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

We've got the beat! During this musically themed class, participants will play a variety of instruments, like maracas, cymbals, drums, and tambourines. Imagine how much fun we'll have singing, dancing, and getting active using colourful scarves and ribbons!

Wednesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 25

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Cancelled Oct. 28 & Nov. 11

Thursdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 26

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson St.

Purple Stew

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Through books, rhymes, and conversation, this program serves up a fun way for young participants to learn about food, nutrition, and a healthy lifestyle. At Purple Stew, the weekly art experience will be inspired by the kitchen, the garden, and even the grocery store, and kids will make a special placemat to use at home. Enjoy playing with the toy kitchen in the Kinder Links classroom and lots of other exciting toys, too!

Thursdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 26

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Whale Tales

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Journey under the sea for an adventure where we will play, learn, and laugh. Together, we'll dive into fantastic books, games, and math activities celebrating our friends who live in the deep blue sea. Enjoy participating in a seaside serenade and making an underwater craft.

Sundays, Sept. 27–Nov. 22

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 11

Wheels on the Bus

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months 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.

Tuesdays, Sept. 29–Nov. 24

10–11:15 a.m.

Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

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 focusing 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.

Thursdays, Oct. 1–Nov. 26

10–11:15 a.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Diggin' with the Dinos

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Be prepared to have a "ROARing" good time as we bravely explore the world of dinosaurs both large and small. On this journey, participants will learn about the T-Rex, Stegosaurus, and other interesting dinosaur friends through songs, books, puzzles, active games, and creative art experiences

Wednesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 25

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Cancelled Oct. 28 & Nov. 11





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Painter's Playhouse

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Create some beautiful painted masterpieces! Using fingers and feet, paintbrushes, and interesting household items to create unique art, young artists will explore different textures and rich colours in their painting projects. The program features a circle time filled with rhymes, stories, colours and shapes, and interactive games.

Mondays, Sept. 28–Nov. 23

5:45–6:45 p.m.
Westview School, 600 Hoka St.
Cancelled Oct. 12

Tuesdays, Sept. 29–Nov. 24

10–11:15 a.m.
Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Wednesdays, Oct. 7–Nov. 25

12:30–1:45 p.m.
Westview School
Cancelled Oct. 28 & Nov. 11

Soccer Stars Storytime

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 ½ to 5 years

Soccer enthusiasts are sure to get a “kick” out of this high-energy class! Each session starts with warm-up 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 favourite Kinder Links songs and stories.

Sundays, Sept. 27–Nov. 22

9:30–10:30 a.m.
Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.
Cancelled Oct. 11



Dancing Feet

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years

Tap your toes and move those feet as the Kinder Links team teaches some groovy moves! Enjoy lively music and rhythms as you express yourself creatively. As we dance and move, we’ll explore shapes, colours, numbers, and animals. Wear comfy clothes and bring indoor shoes and a water bottle for this free dance program!

Saturdays, Sept. 26–Nov. 21

11–11:45 a.m.
Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.
Cancelled Oct. 31

Sundays, Sept. 27–Nov. 22

11:15 a.m.–12 p.m.
Westview School, 600 Hoka St.
Cancelled Oct. 11

SPECIAL EVENTS — SMALL GROUP SESSIONS

Follow the Leafer Storytime

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Together, we’ll explore the beautiful sights, sounds, and animals of autumn through interactive stories and poems. Young participants will enjoy expressing their creativity with fall-inspired crafts and learning new songs about colourful leaves.

Monday, Sept. 21

5:45–6:45 p.m.
Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

12:30–1:45 p.m.
Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

5:45–6:45 p.m.
Emerson School, 323 Emerson Ave.

Thursday, Sept. 24

12:30–1:45 p.m.
Westview School, 600 Hoka St.

SPECIAL EVENTS — LARGE GROUP SESSIONS

These large-group, station-based events take place in the school gymnasium

Halloween ‘Mask’arade

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Grab your favourite costume and join the Kinder Links team for FREE Halloween fun! Stroll from station to station to find pumpkins and spiders, listen to stories of Halloween adventures, create special artwork, and play active games like bowling and ring toss. Our Halloween event winds up with a group sing along.

Saturday, Oct. 31

10–11:15 a.m.
Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

Jingle Bells Holiday Extravaganza

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years

Get ready to jingle and mingle holiday-style with your friends at Kinder Links! Highlights of this extravaganza include decorating a delicious gingerbread cookie, making seasonal crafts, and playing exciting games like bingo and “What’s in the stocking?” Be sure to check out the reindeer training camp. Together, we’ll spread holiday cheer as we wrap up this party with festive songs about green trees, silver bells, red reindeer noses, and colourful candy treats.

Saturday, Dec. 5

10–11:15 a.m.
Maple Leaf School, 251 McIvor Ave.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Registration begins immediately by completing the fillable online registration form [Kinder Links Fall Registration 2026](#), emailing us at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca, or leaving us a message at 204.669.4043.

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.



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VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years

Sign up for as many VIRTUAL programs and special events as your schedule allows. To ensure the best 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 Rise & Shine Storytime

Get your morning off to a fantastic start with light stretches, interesting books, and big happy smiles. Our group of friends will enjoy dancing, counting games, and learning how to get ready for a busy day! Each week we'll sing, share, and shine together!

Mondays, Oct. 19–Nov. 23
10–10:30 a.m.

VIRTUAL Animal Crackers

Together we are going to take a virtual trip to the zoo to learn about cool animals, big and small! Through interactive stories, activities, and movement games, participants will meet a different animal each class! Get ready to walk like an elephant, swing like a monkey, waddle like a penguin and roar like a lion!

Tuesdays, Oct. 13–Nov. 24
10–10:30 a.m.



VIRTUAL Fall at the Farmyard

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.

Wednesdays, Oct. 14–Nov. 25
10–10:30 a.m.
Cancelled Nov. 11

VIRTUAL Aboard the Friend Ship

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.

Thursdays, Oct. 15–Nov. 26
10–10:30 a.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS VIRTUAL

VIRTUAL Sleeping Bunnies Pajama Party

At Kinder Links, we just LOVE to sing the Sleeping Bunnies song! What could be more fun than devoting a whole evening class to a Sleeping Bunnies pajama party featuring cool bedtime stories, lullabies, and counting games with twinkling stars? Dress in your coziest pajamas and grab your favourite stuffies for this online event!

Thursday, Oct. 22
6–6:45 p.m.

VIRTUAL Halloween Storytime

Join us for a 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. 30
10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL Twinkle Twinkle Christmas Lights

Twinkling lights and festive glitter make this season pop with so much colour! Together, we'll spread holiday cheer as we sing and read about green trees, silver bells, red reindeer noses, and colourful candy treats. Get ready for a fun, colour-themed scavenger hunt around your home.

Tuesday, Dec. 1
10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL Sleighbells Storytime

Cozy up and experience wonderful holiday books featuring some of your favourite storybook characters. We'll have a jolly good time playing holiday bingo, guessing "what's in the stocking," and getting active with a scavenger hunt and other energetic games.

Wednesday, Dec. 16
10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Registration begins immediately by completing the fillable online form [Kinder Links @ Home Fall Registration 2026](#), emailing us at kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca, or leaving us a message at 204.669.4043.

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



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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 kinderlinks@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 the Kinder Links Pen Pals Program! Our team of Kinder Links facilitators is looking forward to receiving letters. As a pen pal, your child will receive a special package in the mail

featuring a short letter, songs or rhymes, a joke, stickers, and a seasonal activity. Every letter sent to the Kinder Links office will receive a fun-filled reply. Kinder Links Pen Pals 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 McIvor Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R2G 0Z7

To sign up for the Kinder Links Pen Pals program, please complete the fillable online registration form: [Kinder Links Pen Pal Program 2026-27](#).

THE EARLY LEARNING TEAM

We're 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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The Board of Trustees meets the first and third Tuesday of each month. You are welcome to attend, either in person or online.
For more information about the Board of Trustees, visit: www.retsd.mb.ca > Your RETSD > Board of Trustees