



# KINDERLINKS Indoors

## Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | January to March 2024

204.669.4043 • [kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca](mailto: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., unless otherwise noted. 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 help prepare them for the adventure of school!

### Baby Bumblebees

*Best enjoyed by children 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.

### Saturdays, Jan. 6–Feb. 3

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Bernie Wolfe School

### Tuesdays, Jan. 23–March 12

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Maple Leaf School

### Wednesdays, Feb. 21–March 20

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, Jan. 23–March 12

9:45–11 a.m.  
Maple Leaf School

### Wednesdays, Feb. 21–March 20

9:45–11 a.m.  
Bernie Wolfe School

### I'm a Little Yogi

*Best enjoyed by children ages 7 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.

### Saturdays, Jan. 6–Feb. 3

Bernie Wolfe School

### TOTS CLASS (ages 7 to 20 months)

9:30–10:15 a.m.

### TYKES CLASS (ages 21 months to 5 years)

10:30–11:15 a.m.

## Your River East Transcona School Division Trustees

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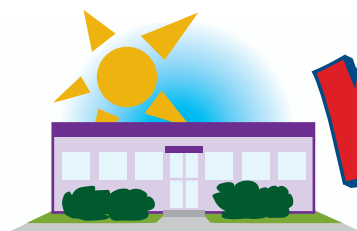
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Scroll down to *What it means to be a trustee* to watch an informative video



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### 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, Jan. 19–March 8

9:45–11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

*Class cancelled Feb. 2*

#### Fridays, Feb. 23–March 22

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

*Class cancelled March 15*

### NEW PROGRAM! 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, Feb. 24–March 16

10–11:30 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

### Hey Diddle Diddle

*Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years*

Traditional nursery rhymes and stories come alive at *Hey Diddle Diddle!* Get ready for rhyme favourites, including Itsy-Bitsy Spider, Humpty Dumpty, Mary Had a Little Lamb, and Jack and Jill, to name just a few. A variety of colourful puppet friends will join us as we play educational games and activities. Kids will really enjoy making nursery-rhyme-inspired crafts to take home.

#### Mondays, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

#### Thursdays, Feb. 22–March 21

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe 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.

#### Mondays, Jan. 22–March 18

5:15–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

#### Tuesdays, Feb. 20–March 19

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

#### Sundays, Jan. 14–March 10

10:45 a.m.–12 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

### 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* this fall. Children will love playing with toys and visiting with our puppet friend, Snowy the Owl, who flies in during our lively rhyme circle.

#### Fridays, Jan. 12–Feb. 2

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

#### Fridays, Feb. 9–March 15

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

### Once Upon a Rhyme

*Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 3 years*

Busy toddlers are sure to have a great time at *Once Upon a Rhyme!* This fast-paced program features favourite movement-based activities, songs, and felt-board fun. Young participants will also meet colourful puppets who will make storytime even more interesting! Each class features the chance to play, build, and make artwork.

#### Mondays, Feb. 26–March 18

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe 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.

#### Thursdays, Feb. 29–March 21

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

### Let It Snow

*Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5 years*

From the warmth of our classroom, we'll celebrate the magic of winter with songs, rhymes, and stories about snow! During our time together, participants will learn cool facts about snowflakes, penguins, and polar bears, and even try a few experiments with snow. Cool winter-themed crafts are sure to be a highlight each class.

#### Thursdays, Jan. 25–Feb. 22

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

#### Monday to Friday, Feb. 5–9

10–11:15 a.m.

Access Transcona

845 Regent Ave. W.





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### 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, 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!

**Mondays, Feb. 26–March 18**

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

### Bookworms

*Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years*

If you love to dive into a good book and read-read-read, *Bookworms* is definitely the program for you! Together, we'll enjoy stories written by notable children's authors through educational games, activities, and artwork. Along with an amazing selection of songs, rhymes, and finger plays, circle time will feature two special stories from the "author of the day."

**Wednesdays, Jan. 24–March 13**

10–11:15 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

*Class cancelled Feb. 14*

### Painter's Playhouse

*Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5*

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

**Saturdays, Jan. 13–March 16**

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

**Tuesdays, Feb. 20–March 19**

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School



### Shake, Rattle & Rhyme

*Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months 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!

**Thursdays, Feb. 22–March 21**

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

**Sundays, Jan. 14–March 10**

11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

### 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. Young astronauts will learn about twinkly stars, the Milky Way, and planets through songs, stories, and space-themed games and activities. At the end of each class mission, facilitators will share ideas for creating galaxy-inspired art to make at home.

**Thursdays, Jan. 11–Feb. 1**

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School



### NEW PROGRAM!

#### A-B-C, Dance With Me

*Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5 years*

Let's get active and dance our way through the alphabet this winter! Together, we'll tap our toes, move our feet, listen to alphabet-inspired music, and dance to Kinder Links favourites, like the Dinosaur and Goldfish songs! Participants will enjoy alphabet poses and stretches and use colourful juggling scarves and ribbons to create letters in the air. Class ends with a few great stories.

**Tuesdays, Jan. 9–30**

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

**Saturdays, Jan. 13–March 16**

10:45–11:30 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

**Sundays, Jan. 14–March 10**

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

### 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, Jan. 17–March 13**

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

*Class cancelled Feb. 14*



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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, Jan. 14–March 10**

9:30–10:45 a.m.

### 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, Jan. 13–March 16**

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

**Sundays, Jan. 14–March 10**

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Maple Leaf School

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### NEW PROGRAM!

#### I Love To Read! Celebrations

*Best enjoyed by children 1 to 5 years*

Did you know that February is I Love to Read Month? Reading is such an enjoyable way to spend your time, use your imagination, and expand your world. Join us on a special reading journey as we explore amazing books and sing favourite nursery rhymes and songs. This special event will feature guest readers, colourful puppets, felt-board activities, and an art experience.

**Saturday, Feb. 3**

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Transcona Library

1 Transcona Blvd.

**Tuesday, Feb. 13**

10–11 a.m.

River East Personal Care Home

1375 Molson St.

**Friday, Feb. 16**

10–11 a.m.

River East Personal Care Home

1375 Molson St.

**Saturday, Feb. 17**

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Transcona Library

1 Transcona Blvd.

#### NEW PROGRAM!

#### Be My Valentine Storytime

*Best enjoyed by children 1 to 5 years*

With sweet stories about hearts and hugs, families are sure to feel the LOVE at *Be My Valentine Storytime*! It'll be fun to learn a few special songs and counting rhymes to celebrate Valentine's Day. This storytime event will also include an art experience, interesting games, and a few special surprises!

**Saturday, Feb. 10**

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Transcona Library

1 Transcona Blvd.

**Monday, Feb. 12**

10:30–11:30 a.m.

Transcona Library

1 Transcona Blvd.

**Tuesday, Feb. 13**

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

**Wednesday, Feb. 14**

9:45–11 a.m.

11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

5:45–6:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

#### NEW PROGRAM! Little Leprechauns

*Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5 years*

In this large, station-based event held in the school gym, families will have fun finding large green shamrocks, making gold and rainbow crafts, reading stories about leprechauns, and getting active with fun games and activities. These events end with a lively circle time where we'll do an Irish jig and learn a few new songs and fingerplays. Remember to wear green!

**Sunday, March 17**

10:30–11:45 a.m.

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

### DROP-IN SESSIONS

(no registration required)

#### Wee Play & Learn—Drop-In Group

*Best enjoyed by children ages 1 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.

**Monday–Friday, Jan. 15–31**

9:45–11 a.m.

Bernie Wolfe School

**Thursdays, Jan. 25–March 21**

12:30–1:45 p.m.

Maple Leaf School

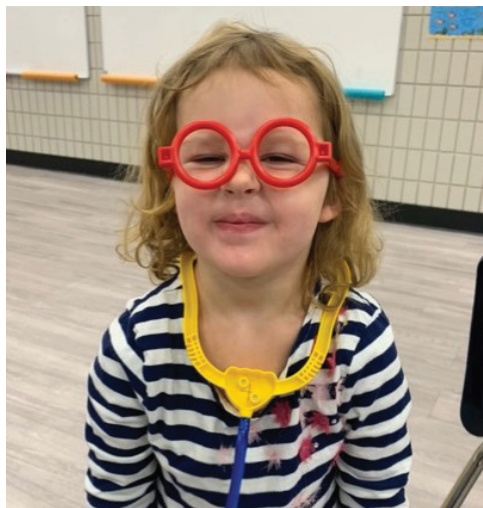




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Registration begins immediately by completing the [Online Form](#), emailing us at [kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca), or leaving a message at 204.669.4043. When registering, please provide the following information:

- 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)

### COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Starting kindergarten is a major milestone in your child's educational journey. As you are preparing for the first day of school, know that your child's school and teacher are preparing to meet both you and your child. In River East Transcona School Division, we strive to make our classrooms safe, caring places of learning, where students feel included, respected, secure, and valued. Your child will grow as a learner through activities that encourage inquiry, discovery, imagination, creativity, and problem-solving. Our staff recognizes that you are your child's first teacher, and we look forward to collaborating with you to make kindergarten both a time for learning and a time for joy.

### Registering for Kindergarten

Registration begins on **Friday, March 1, 2024**. At your appointment, please provide proof of age documentation for your child (e.g., birth certificate, baptismal certificate, passport, Manitoba Health Card, INAC status card, birth registration signed by the director of Vital Statistics). You will also be asked for two pieces of identification for proof of residency (e.g., driver's licence, Manitoba Health Card, tenancy agreement, offer to purchase documents, utility bill).

Registration packages are available at all schools and on their websites at Documents & Forms > Registration. Contact your child's designated school or visit their website for information about their registration process.

Information about our FREE Countdown to Kindergarten programs will be available in late spring. For updates on these programs, join the Kinder Links mailing list by contacting us at [kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca](mailto:kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca) or 204.669.4043.

### 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 for your child. This is an excellent way to get them 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](mailto: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](mailto: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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