



Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | March to April 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 virtual feature-length 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.

Please note: Packages will not be available for *VIRTUAL Baby Bumblebees* and *VIRTUAL Twinkle Twinkle Dancing Toes*.

VIRTUAL Baby Bumblebees

Best enjoyed by parents with babies birth to age 1

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 session, parents will enjoy time connecting VIRTUALLY with other new parents.

Thursdays, March 10–April 21
12:30–1:15 p.m.
Class cancelled March 31

NEW! VIRTUAL Breakfast Bunch Story Time

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5

Breakfast, books, and time with your buddies make this virtual experience a wonderful way to start the day with a big smile! During this morning session, our happy little group will learn counting rhymes and fingerplays, play bingo, and dance to get energized for the day ahead. A complementary program package will

include breakfast-themed crafts and a few yummy surprises.

Thursdays, March 10–April 21
9:30–10 a.m.
Class cancelled March 31

NEW! VIRTUAL Going on a Picnic

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5

Here's to a virtual picnic playdate to celebrate the start of spring! This class is packed full of educational ideas and stories about tasty foods, kites, and little ants who'd love to join the picnic. Can you guess what's in the picnic basket each week?

Fridays, March 11–April 22
10:30–11 a.m.
Class cancelled April 1 & 15

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NEW! VIRTUAL Old MacDonald's Farmyard Friends

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5

Old MacDonald's farm is quite a busy place with cute barnyard friends wandering all over the place! On this virtual field trip, we will see colourful puppets, read books about animals and farm equipment, and play active games and activities! E-I-E-I, oh what fun we'll have in this program!

Tuesdays, March 8–April 19
9:30–10 a.m.

Class cancelled March 29

Wednesdays, March 9–April 20
6–6:30 p.m.

Class cancelled March 30

VIRTUAL Twinkle Twinkle Dancing Toes

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5

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.

Mondays, March 7–April 18
1:30–2 p.m.

Class cancelled March 28

VIRTUAL 1, 2, Buckle My Shoe

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Count on having a great time singing, rhyming, and hearing special stories with an early numeracy focus. Classes feature fun ways for children to incorporate counting into their lives and explore numbers through educational games and activities.

Mondays, March 7–April 18
12:30–1 p.m.

Class cancelled March 28

NEW! VIRTUAL Adventures in Art

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Kinder Links facilitators are excited to virtually guide your family through easy art projects and a draw-and-tell story time experience. Using recycled items from around the home and items from the complementary Kinder Links arts package, kids will create beautiful masterpieces they will be proud to sign and display!

Mondays, March 7–April 18
9:30–10 a.m.

Class cancelled March 28



NEW! VIRTUAL Alphabet Artists

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Through alphabet-inspired artwork, young participants will love learning their letters. This creative program showcases the alphabet through interactive stories, rhymes/fingerplays, movement activities, and amazing art projects.

Tuesdays, March 8–April 19
6–6:30 p.m.

Class cancelled March 29

Wednesdays, March 9–April 20
10:30–11 a.m.

Class cancelled March 30

NEW! VIRTUAL Construction Crew

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Join our crew as we learn more about big construction vehicles and the talented people who love to build, build, build! Children will enjoy stretching like a tall crane, singing about dump trucks and bulldozers, and playing a construction-themed bingo game.

Mondays, March 7–April 18
10:30–11 a.m.

Class cancelled March 28

Wednesdays, March 9–April 20
9:30–10 a.m.

Class cancelled March 30

VIRTUAL Cool Cats & Puppy Tales

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

A purr-fect class for pet lovers, this program features engaging rhymes/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!

New songs and stories will be introduced this session!

Fridays, March 12–April 22
12:30–1 p.m.

Class cancelled April 1 & 15

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VIRTUAL Growing Up Green

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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.

Tuesdays, March 8–April 19
10:30–11 a.m.

Class cancelled March 29

VIRTUAL Mr. Golden Sun!

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Bringing a bit of warmth to your wintry day, join us for “fun in the sun” as we sing songs and enjoy summer-inspired stories, games, and crafts to make at home. Feel free to dress for the tropics!

Fridays, March 11–April 22
9:30–10 a.m.

Class cancelled April 1 & 15

VIRTUAL Pirate & Princess Playtime

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Yo ho, yo ho! Join us for a royally wonderful class filled with songs, stories, counting games, and pirate- and princess-themed activities. Together we will play like pirates, waltz like princesses, and swing into action like a brave superhero. Participants are encouraged to dress up for this epic adventure!

Wednesdays, March 9–April 20
12:30–1 p.m.

Class cancelled March 30

VIRTUAL Spring Frogs & Polliwogs

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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

Thursdays, March 10–April 21
10:30–11 a.m.

Class cancelled March 31



VIRTUAL Stars & Spaceships

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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.

Tuesdays, March 8–April 19
12:30–1 p.m.

Class cancelled March 29



VIRTUAL SPECIAL EVENTS

VIRTUAL Little Leprechauns

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5

Enjoy stories about leprechauns and shamrocks while learning a few songs and fingerplays! Participants will have fun counting shamrocks, dancing an Irish jig, and playing lively games and activities. Registered families will be given the opportunity to pick up a special snack, craft, and activity package to enjoy after the event. Details on the drive-thru pickup dates will be provided upon registration. Remember to dress in green for this free special event!

Thursday, March 17
6–6:45 p.m.

VIRTUAL Bunny Tales Eggs-travaganza

Best enjoyed by children ages 18 months to 5

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 bunnies and colourful Easter eggs, play “What’s in the Basket?” and talk about interesting craft ideas to try at home. Registered families will be given the opportunity to pick up a special snack, craft, and activity package to enjoy after the event. Details on the drive-thru pickup dates will be provided upon registration.

Thursday, April 14
6–6:45 p.m.

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Kinder Links 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 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.

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/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.

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