

Programming for Preschoolers & Their Parents | May & June 2021

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



Kinder Links @ Home

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.

VIRTUAL PARENT-CHILD PROGRAMMING

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.

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.

Tuesdays, May 11–June 8

11:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

VIRTUAL ABCs & 123s

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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 and a craft idea to try at home.

Mondays, May 10–June 7

6:15–6:45 p.m.

Class cancelled May 24

VIRTUAL Animal Crackers

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Animal Crackers is an exciting program where families learn about animals big and small. Through interactive stories, activities and crafts, participants will meet a different animal each class!

Thursdays, May 13–June 10

11:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Your River East Transcona School Division Trustees

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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.

Mondays, May 10–June 7

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Class cancelled May 24

Wednesdays, May 12–June 9

12:30–1:15 p.m.

VIRTUAL Bookworms

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Together, we will explore fantastic stories written by notable children’s authors, learn new songs and fingerplays, and play educational games. At the end of class, your facilitators will share a craft idea to try at home.

Wednesdays, May 12–June 9

11:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

VIRTUAL All Aboard the Friend Ship

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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.

Tuesdays, May 11–June 8

10:30–11 a.m.

Wednesdays, May 12–June 9

6:15–6:45 p.m.

VIRTUAL Mr. Golden Sun!

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Bringing a bit of warmth to your 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!

Wednesdays, May 12–June 9

10:30–11 a.m.

Fridays, May 14–June 11

9:30–10 a.m.

VIRTUAL Night Owls

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5

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

Tuesdays, May 11–June 8

6:15–6:45 p.m.

VIRTUAL Oodles of Doodles

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Kinder Links facilitators are excited to virtually guide your family through easy art experiences perfect for preschool children. Using recycled items from around the home, together we’ll create beautiful masterpieces! Participants will receive a short supply list for this program.

Should you require any crafting supplies, items can be picked up at the Kinder Links office by appointment only. Details on the drive-thru supply pickup dates will be provided upon registration.

Mondays, May 10–June 7

9:30–10:15 a.m.

Wednesdays, May 12–June 9

9:30–10:15 a.m.

VIRTUAL Purple Stew Storytime

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

Serving up a fun way to learn about nutritious food and healthy eating, Purple Stew offers a tasty selection of stories, rhymes, fingerplays, and educational activities. Each class we will chat about healthy eating and share ideas for nutritious snacks.

Mondays, May 10–June 7

11:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Thursdays, May 13–June 10

10:30–11 a.m.



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VIRTUAL Diggin' with the Dinos

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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 rhymes, books, and games.

Fridays, May 14–June 11

10:30–11 a.m.

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, May 11–June 8

9:30–10 a.m.

Thursdays, May 13–June 10

9:30–10 a.m.



VIRTUAL Hey Diddle Diddle

Best enjoyed by children 1 to 5

Traditional nursery rhymes and stories come alive at *Hey Diddle Diddle!* Get ready to rhyme favourites including the 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. Each class ends with a special nursery-rhyme-inspired craft idea to try at home.

Fridays, May 14–June 11

9:30–10 a.m.

VIRTUAL Once Upon a Rhyme

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5

Participants are sure to have fun singing traditional nursery rhymes. Together, we will clap, dance, march, and hop along to high energy favourite songs. Each class features an interactive story experience, including story circles, story vines, and more!

Tuesdays, May 11–June 8

10:30–11 a.m.

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!

Fridays, May 14–June 11

11:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

VIRTUAL Rise & Shine Storytime

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5

Get your morning off to a fantastic start with light stretches, interactive stories and songs, rhymes and finger plays. In addition to our weekly song repertoire, children will have the opportunity to request a few favourite songs which we will happily sing together.

Thursdays, May 13–June 10

9:30–10 a.m.

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.

Sundays, May 9–June 6

10–10:30 a.m.

Cancelled May 23

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.

Mondays, May 10–June 7

10:30–11 a.m.

Class cancelled May 24

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VIRTUAL The More We Get Together

Best enjoyed by children ages 1 to 5

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

Mondays, May 10–June 7

9:30–10 a.m.

Class cancelled May 24

Wednesdays, May 12–June 9

10:30–11 a.m.

Thursdays, May 13–June 10

6:15–6:45 p.m.

VIRTUAL Whale Tales

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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 learn interesting underwater craft ideas to try after class.

Thursdays, May 13–June 10

10:30–11 a.m.

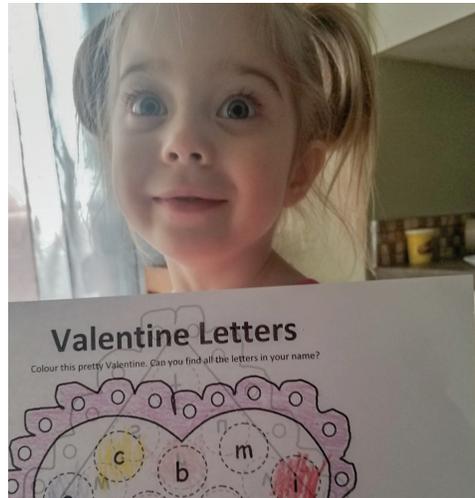
VIRTUAL Wheels on the Bus

Best enjoyed by children ages 2 to 5

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, Kinder Links facilitators will give participants an interesting idea for a creative art experience that can be made at home.

Wednesdays, May 12–June 9

9:30–10 a.m.



Family Fun Afternoons with ToyBox Manitoba

A \$25 prize draw will be generously offered each class by ToyBox Manitoba.

ToyBox Manitoba is excited to share literacy, numeracy and wellness tips with Kinder Links families! ToyBox Manitoba team members will lead families VIRTUALLY in active, educational games and activities that promote conversation and connection and encourage a passion for learning! No materials necessary to participate, just get ready to have fun together as a family. As each session will feature different activities, sign up for as many sessions as you can fit into your schedule.

Tuesdays, May 4–June 8

12:30–1 p.m.

VIRTUAL SPECIAL EVENTS

Be Our Guest—Virtual Storytime

Kinder Links is excited to welcome special guest readers to join in the virtual fun this spring! During each class, we will sing favourite songs/rhymes, play active games and learn about community resources and services to support families with young children.

Each event will feature a different guest reader and stories. Feel free to sign up for as many as you can fit into your schedule.

Monday, May 3

10–10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, May 4

10–10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 5

11–11:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 6

10–10:30 a.m.

12:30–1 p.m.

Friday, May 7

10–10:30 a.m.



Twinkle, Twinkle, Dancing Toes

Tap your toes and move those feet as trained dance instructor Miss Laura teaches 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. Wear comfy clothes for this free special event!

Wednesday, May 5

10–10:30 a.m. or 6–6:30 p.m.

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Virtual Mother's Day Tea Party

Join us for a virtual celebration of mothers, grandmothers and those important ladies in our lives! Cuddle up with mom (or someone special) to enjoy songs and stories all about Mother's Day. Together we'll make a beautiful craft that can be given as a gift to show how much you love her. Registered families will be given the opportunity to pick up the supplies needed to make this Mother's Day craft, as well as a few extra surprises! Details on the drive-thru pickup dates will be provided upon registration.

Saturday, May 8

9–9:45 a.m.

10–10:45 a.m.

VIRTUAL Plants & Seeds with Bird's Hill Provincial Park

Have you ever planted a seed and watched it grow? Join Lindsey Mitton, senior park interpreter from Birds Hill Provincial Park, for songs and stories as we learn how seeds grow and how insects help to pollinate the flowers to grow the fruits and vegetables we love to eat.

Wednesday, May 26

6 p.m.

Thursday, May 27

10 a.m.



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

Please note: The pen pals program will finish in mid-June. Thanks to our pen pals for sharing wonderful letters and drawings this year. We've loved receiving your mail.

Kinder Links Arts & Craft Packages

Discover your child's inner artist with our **FREE** arts and craft packages. Kinder Links will host a monthly "drive-thru" arts and craft package distribution where your child will receive five prepared crafts to make at home. Pickup dates and location will be sent to registered families.

Please note: Kinder Links arts and craft packages need to be picked up by participants. Delivery and/or mail service is not available for this program.

Kinder Links VIRTUAL Birthday Greetings

Celebrate your child's birthday with a special greeting from the Kinder Links team! In this 15-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.

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 address
- Home/cellphone number
- Email address where you wish to be contacted/sent link to VIRTUAL programming
- Program(s) you wish to register for (name of program, date, location and time)



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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.

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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Kelly Martino

Community Programming Co-ordinator—
Preschool
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COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Registering for Kindergarten

Kindergarten registration is underway at all early years schools in RETSD. To register for kindergarten, contact your child's school to make an appointment. You will also be asked for two pieces of identification and for proof of residency (e.g. driver's licence, Manitoba Health Card, tenancy agreement, offer to purchase documents, utility bill). For your convenience, registration forms can be found at www.retsd.mb.ca > Schools > (click on designated school your child will attend) > Documents & Forms > Registration.

Countdown to Kindergarten Issue of Kinder Links

The Countdown to Kindergarten issue of Kinder Links is now available! This special issue provides tips for helping your child get excited for school and details on **FREE** summer programming for children entering kindergarten in fall 2021. A printed copy of this Kinder Links newsletter will be provided to families as part of their kindergarten registration paperwork. Visit the RETSD website at www.retsd.mb.ca or request a copy by contacting the Kinder Links office—kinderlinks@retsd.mb.ca or leave a message at 204.669.4043.

