



EVERY DAY!

WTK Learning Through Play Series
April 2022 Vol 2, Issue 2

DEAR KINDERGARTEN FAMILY,

We are delighted that you will receive a Welcome to Kindergarten™ bag of resources to use at home this year.

We hope that our WTK Learning Through Play series will provide you with ideas on how to use these resources to talk, read, create and play with your child every day!



The WTK Team at The Learning Partnership
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TALKING AND SINGING BUILD:

- relationships
- memory
- rhythm & rhyme
- belonging
- enjoyment of music
- listening & speaking skills
- an appreciation for cultural stories & oral traditions



READING BUILDS:

- vocabulary
- a sense of story
- knowledge
- print, letter & number awareness



CREATING BUILDS:

- problem-solving skills
- imagination & personal expression
- small & large muscle control and coordination
- measurement, geometry & spatial sense



PLAYING BUILDS:

- self-awareness & regulation
- math concepts & vocabulary
- confidence & well-being
- empathy & understanding
- decision-making skills
- cooperation
- physical skills
- curiosity

YOU ARE YOUR CHILD'S FIRST AND BEST TEACHER!

- Follow your child's lead as you play and discover together
- Talk and read with your child in your first language
- Help your child to share and take turns
- Encourage your child to make choices and decisions
- Celebrate your child's learning



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PLAYING OUTDOORS TOGETHER



WHY IT MATTERS

Fresh air and movement supports problem-solving, independence, creativity, and physical development.

MUD PIES

- Add some water to dirt to make your own mud
- Explore the mud with your hands – mould and shape it
- Find some treasures to add to your mud pie!

There are many ways to explore and create outside!



SCISSOR EXPLORATION



Children often start to show an interest in using scissors when they are 3 or 4 years old.

Safety scissors are a great tool for developing fine motor skills required for cutting. They strengthen hands and fingers, and increase hand-eye coordination.

It takes time for these skills to develop, and children need practice to cut accurately.

Children should be supervised by a responsible adult at all times when using scissors.

Some safe and fun scissor activities are:

- Create a craft basket with a variety of materials your child can explore with scissors
- Take your WTK safety scissors outside and explore what soft material your child can cut through, e.g., grass, leaves, etc.
- Using playdough, explore what your scissors can do, e.g., make shapes, cut pieces etc.

TREE EXPLORATION

- Find a special tree in your neighbourhood
- Encourage your child to draw and describe what they feel, smell, see and hear.
- Visit your tree through spring, summer, fall and winter to observe what stays the same and what changes.



FINDING LETTERS & NUMBERS IN NATURE!



Letters and numbers can be found everywhere in the world around you. You can also use everyday objects to recreate letters and tell stories.

- Walk around your community and point out all the letters and numbers you can see
- Use sticks, leaves, petals, etc. to form different numbers, letters and words (e.g., your child's name)
- Draw or take pictures of the letters and numbers you find or make

Check out [this video](#) for more ideas on sharing the world of letters and numbers with your child.



WE'RE GOING ON A PICNIC!

Word games help build your child's attention, memory and vocabulary.

- Start this game by saying "We're going on a picnic and I will bring..." hummus.
- The next person will start the same way and add their own item, e.g. "We're going on a picnic and I will bring hummus and pita bread."
- Continue on until it gets too hard to remember the list. Seven or eight items is a good goal.
- Use the WTK Cookbook for fun ingredient lists you can use in this activity.



MORE RESOURCES TO EXPLORE

[7 Fun & Simple Outdoor Activities for Kids](#)

[Why Outdoor Play is Essential for Healthy Development](#)

[What is Risky Play?](#)

[Indigenous Games for Children](#)

[Indigenous LEAP Activity Cards](#)

HUMMUS

Hummus is a delicious, plant-based option for a snack on pita bread or as a dip with vegetables.

It is a healthy fat, filled with plenty of slow-burning carbohydrates, nutrients and antioxidants. Hummus is an excellent source of protein for vegans and vegetarians.

You can experiment with different flavours of hummus by adding ingredients such as pumpkin puree for a fall-themed hummus or roasted red peppers for a boost in flavour.



Ingredients:

1 can (19 oz/540 mL) chick peas, drained and rinsed
2 cloves garlic or 5 mL (1 tsp) minced garlic
60 mL (¼ cup) plain, low-fat yogurt
125mL (½ cup) of olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

Mash ingredients by hand or in a blender until smooth.

*Yield: 24 servings (2 tbsp serving)
Preparation Time: 5 minutes*



You're receiving this e-mail because your child's school participates in The Learning Partnership's Welcome to Kindergarten program.

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The Learning Partnership is a registered Canadian charity that brings together business, educators and partners to design and deliver inclusive innovation education programs focused on K-8 students in publicly-funded schools across Canada. Our programs build the essential skills and competencies needed in tomorrow's leaders, innovators and problem solvers. They enhance provincial curricula, are aligned with Canada's innovation agenda, and are made available to students, parents and educators through the generous support of our education sector partners and funding from corporate, government, foundation and private donors.

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