

Welcome to Kindergarten™

Welcome to Kindergarten™ (WTK) supports schools in warmly welcoming families and promoting play-based early learning through activities that families can do at home and in their community.

Being part of WTK includes:

Family Orientation session(s) in school before children start kindergarten.

- Several play centres are set up for children and families.
- Centre activities focus on talking, reading, creating, and playing together.
- Families receive a WTK Kit of high-quality early learning resources. A French Immersion kit is also available.

*Note: Retail value of kit contents is approximately \$60.

Materials to support educators in planning and delivery of orientation sessions (Other resources to support classroom use are available on WTK Dashboard).

Eight (8) issues of *Learning Through Play*, a newsletter for families that offers additional activities to do at home, including links to ongoing WTK Blog content.

All of the activities and resources are based on current research and align with provincial curricula and effective practice (e.g., local community involvement, family engagement etc.).

"Love the fact that it is done before the new school year begins, it gives a good overview as to what to expect for our little ones with the various interactive sessions."

Montreal, Quebec

"This was a great activity to get my child excited for Kindergarten."

Pembina Trails, Manitoba

"This was a wonderful session and really provided us with the comfort and confidence in choosing our elementary school."



Since **2004**, WTK has impacted **1.3 million families and children across Canada**

Welcome to Kindergarten[™] aligns with key messages in Canadian curricula and frameworks

"When we recognize and build on the strengths of families and the love they have for their children, everyone benefits." Ontario. How does learning happen? (2014)

We recognize that parents play an important role in shaping the way their children view learning. As a parent, you understand more than anyone else how your child learns and processes information.

Alberta. My Child's Learning: A Parent Resource (2023).

"Starting Kindergarten is one of the most important moves a child will make... How you and your community partners handle the transition process lays the foundation and sets the tone for future expectations and experiences.

Manitoba. A Time for Learning,
A Time for Joy (2015)

"Play and have fun with your child!
Play is one of the best ways to support
all learning and development and it
should continue to provide joy
throughout everyone's life."
BC. Play Today: A Guide
for Families (2020)



Here's what Educators say about WTK

Bringing families together in the school before their children start in the fall is a great way to get everyone comfortable with the big school. Small groups work well and allow for good engagement between families, children and staff."

Vancouver School Board, BC

"We love the WTK bags and the supplies that students can explore over the summer. The centres suggested give a really good idea to families what kindergarten involves. Having community partners join showcases the supports for families."

> Waterloo Region District School Board, Ontario

"The strengths of WTK are the stations, the bag coming ready to go, the messaging, the website, where all the materials are in one place."

> Lord Selkirk School Division, Manitoba

Interested to join Welcome to Kindergarten™?

- Call us
- Email us
- Visit our website

1-877-942-5179

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