



EVERY DAY!

WTK Learning Through Play Series
January 2022 Vol 1, Issue 4

DEAR KINDERGARTEN FAMILY,

Welcome to the fourth and final issue of the 2021 WTK Learning Through Play series!

We hope these newsletters and your Welcome to Kindergarten™ resource bag have provided you with ideas on how you can talk, read, create and play every day with your child.

This issue will recap the concepts we've explored together over the last three months and offer you new ideas and activities to bring your learnings together.

We wish you all the best in the remainder of the school year!

The WTK Team at The Learning Partnership
wtk@thelearningpartnership.ca

WANT TO WIN A SET OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS?

We'd love your feedback on the WTK Learning Through Play series!

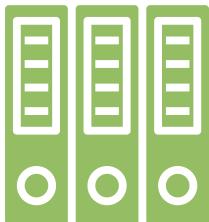
Complete this short wrap-up survey and your name will be entered in a draw for one of two book hampers. (Value \$75)

Winners will be contacted early in 2022.

 [TAKE THE SURVEY NOW](#)



Missed an issue? We've got you covered:



[Issue 1 \(September\)](#)

[Issue 2 \(October\)](#)

[Issue 3 \(November\)](#)

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TALKING AND READING TOGETHER

WHY IT MATTERS: A RECAP

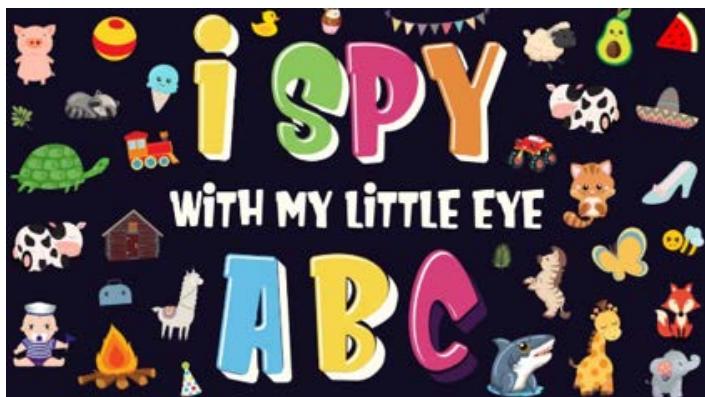
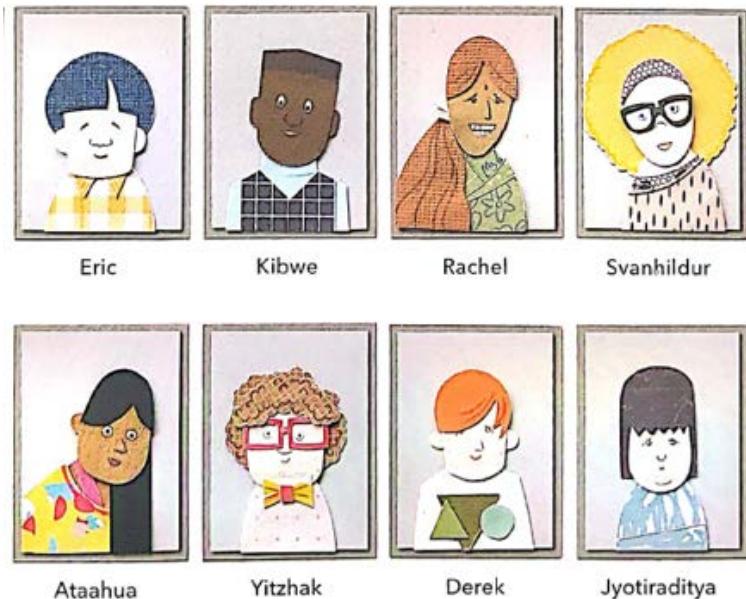


1. Reading provides children with a wide range of ideas, views and experiences.
2. Children connect with others and share their culture and heritage through listening, speaking and singing.
3. Curiosity and wonder lead children to new discoveries.

NAME SCRAMBLE

Children learn a lot about letters by using their own name as well as the names of those important to them.

- Help your child pick out the letters that spell their name. Always start with an uppercase letter (e.g., T) and follow with lowercase letters (e.g., h, a, o) spelling out Thao
- Scramble the letters and ask them to unscramble the letters to recreate their name.
- Repeat this with other names that are familiar to your child, for example, siblings, caregivers, pets, etc.



I SPY...

Play a game of 'I Spy', asking your child to 'spy' objects that start with a certain letter.

Be sure to use things that your child is familiar with, for example: "I spy something that begins with the letter B" (bananas).

EXPLORING MATH TOGETHER

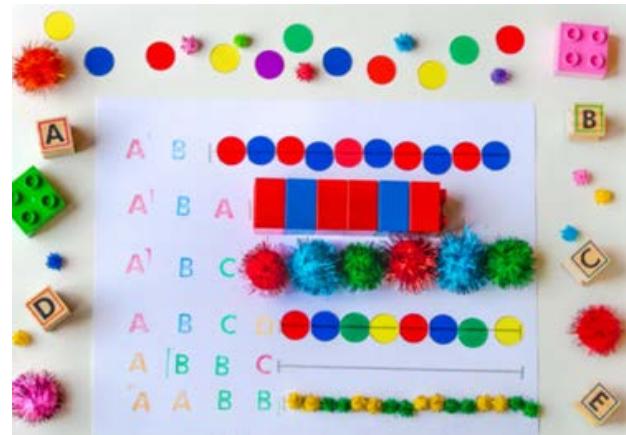
WHY IT MATTERS: A RECAP



1. Children build science and math skills when they sort, compare, measure, describe and predict.
2. Children build reasoning, spatial understanding, and problem-solving skills through math exploration.
3. Math helps children build confidence and make sense of the world around them.

PATTERNING

- Look for collections of objects in your house, for example: rocks/gems, clothespins, blocks, cars/trucks, beads, buttons, animal figures, etc..
- Create patterns using these items. For example, make a patterned necklace using beads and string: red bead, blue bead, yellow bead, red bead,
- Look for patterns in nature, in the community, and in books. There are patterns in leaves/plants, animal markings, fence designs, windows in buildings, etc.



THE NUMBER MARCH

Combining music and movement is a fun way to learn and to get some exercise. Enjoy singing and moving to songs like The Number March in the WTK music folder.

- How many ways can you and your child find to move along to music?



Download "The Number March" and other songs from the WTK Songbook



[LYRICS](#)
[ACTIVITIES](#)
[MUSIC](#)

CREATIVE EXPLORATION TOGETHER

WHY IT MATTERS: A RECAP



1. Children develop independence, problem-solving and thinking skills through creative exploration.
2. Children develop and express their unique personalities through art and movement opportunities.
3. Daily physical activity and creative exploration helps children develop muscle control and coordination.

SNOW PLAY

There are many ways to explore and create outdoors during winter. Some ideas:

- Use food colouring to paint on the snow and make patterns.
- Explore the snow with your hands by molding and shaping it.
- Observe snowflakes and then create your own using paper and scissors.



TORN PAPER COLLAGE

Collage is a fun art experience using various types of materials such as newspaper, magazines and recycled materials.

- With your child, rip or cut pieces from pictures in magazines and flyers. Put similar colours together.
- Encourage your child to create art by gluing smaller pieces of torn paper onto a larger piece.
- Use your imaginations and have fun creating original art together!

EXPLORING FEELINGS TOGETHER

WHY IT MATTERS: A RECAP



1. Children learn to understand and manage their feelings, which helps them feel and show empathy for others, and resolve conflict.
2. Children feel a sense of well-being and belonging through healthy relationships, and a positive personal and cultural identity.
3. Nurturing a sense of well-being supports children as they learn about the world around them.

CARING COMMUNITY

- Talk about the different ways we care for one another in our family and community.
- Ask your child about some of the nice things they can do at home (for example, by setting the table, making their bed, sharing with their sibling, etc.).
- Praise your child when they care for others (e.g. greeting neighbours, picking up litter, etc.) and encourage them to continue.



ANIMAL SHELTERS

- Talk and read about your child's favourite animal. Where do they live? What do they eat? How do they sleep? etc.
- Use scissors, glue, crayons, and a variety of recycled materials to create your own animal shelter.

MORE RESOURCES TO EXPLORE:

[32 Fun Snow Activities for Kids this Winter, Hands on as We Grow](#)
[Indigenous Games for Children, Parks and Recreation Ontario](#)
[18 Simple Movement Activities for Preschoolers, Empowered Parents](#)

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 size) chick peas, drained and rinsed
2 cloves garlic or 5 mL (1 tsp) minced garlic
60 mL ($\frac{1}{4}$ cup) plain, low-fat yogurt
125mL ($\frac{1}{2}$ 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 each serving)
Preparation Time: 5 minutes*

TALKING AND SINGING BUILD:

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

TALK

READING BUILDS:

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

CREATE

CREATING BUILDS:

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

PLAY

PLAYING BUILDS:

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



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

ABOUT THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

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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