



Early Learning Initiatives 2016 – 2017 North Okanagan-Shuswap SD #83



StrongStart

StrongStart is a free school-based program that provides play-based early learning opportunities for children (0 to 5 years old) and their parents or caregivers. School District #83 is pleased to offer StrongStart Centres at nine different locations. Families are welcome to drop in for all or just part of the program on any day the program is running.

Community	Location	Hours	Contact
Salmon Arm	District Education Centre (DESC)	Monday: 12noon to 3:00pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00am to 12noon	Debbie Sprieszl 250-833-2095
Salmon Arm	South Broadview Elementary School	Monday to Friday: 9:00am to 12noon	Renee Satchell 250-832-2167
Sicamous	Parkview Elementary School	Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:15am to 11:15am Tuesday & Thursday: 12:30pm to 3:30pm	Cori Miller 250-836-2871
Enderby	M.V. Beattie Elementary School	Monday to Friday: 8:30am to 11:30am	Lisa Scott 250-838-6434
Armstrong	Highland Park Elementary School	Monday to Friday: 8:30am to 11:30am	Lynn Claeys 250-546-8723
Carlin/Tappen	Carlin Elementary/Middle School	Monday: 9:00am to 12noon	Kristen Buckler 250-835-4520
Sorrento	Sorrento Elementary School	Tuesday: 9:00am to 12noon	Kristen Buckler 250-675-2311
North Shuswap	North Shuswap Elementary School	Thursday: 9:00am to 12noon	Kristen Buckler 250-955-2214
Falkland	Falkland Elementary School	Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00am to 12noon	Michelle Russwurm 250-379-2320

Early Years Fairs

Early Years Fairs are held annually in Salmon Arm, Sicamous, Enderby, Armstrong and the South Shuswap area. In partnership with local Early Years Committees and community organizations, Early Years Fairs provide an opportunity for families with preschoolers to find out more about early learning programs and community services available to families. Free entertainment, snacks, and books are often provided and children have the chance to engage in fun play-based learning activities.

Event	Date & Time	Location
Sicamous/Malakwa Early Years Fair	Friday, October 14 th , 2016 9:30am to 11:30am	Parkview Elementary School
Enderby Early Years Fair	Thursday, October 4 th , 2016 10:00am to 12noon	MV Beattie Elementary School
Salmon Arm Early Years Fair	Monday, January 23 rd , 2017 5:00pm to 7:00pm	District Education Support Centre (DESC)
Armstrong Early Years Fair	TBA	Armstrong Elementary School
Sorrento Early Years Fair	TBA	Carlin Elementary School

Ready Set Learn

Ready Set Learn events will take place in every elementary school in the North Okanagan-Shuswap. These are free early learning events that are open to families and caregivers with children who are 3 and 4 years old. Families and their children who attend will engage in play-based early learning activities while finding out about the early learning programs and services offered by our school district and community organizations. Families will receive free books and a kit of materials and resources to help support their child's early learning experiences. Please contact your neighbourhood school for specific information on the date and time of the event.

Kindergarten Registration

A high quality, play-based Kindergarten program has long-term benefits for children's academic and social skills and helps them to succeed in school and in life. Full day kindergarten is another step towards building a strong foundation for lifelong learning, in a nurturing, play-based environment. Kindergarten registration will take place on Wednesday, April 5th, 2017. All families will receive a parent handbook called "Off To School" as well as a book for their child.

Kindergarten Orientation

In the spring before starting school, parents/caregivers and their children are invited to attend a Kindergarten Family Orientation at their neighbourhood school. Families meet school principals, kindergarten teachers, and school resource personnel and participate in a number of learning activities.

For more information about early learning programs, please contact:

Jennifer Findlay
Early Learning Coordinator
North Okanagan-Shuswap School District #83
250-833-2095
jfindlay@sd83.bc.ca

