



Playful Learning in Kindergarten



Land Acknowledgement

We want to acknowledge that we are learning on the traditional territories of the **Wendat, Haudenosaunee** and the **Anishinaabe** peoples. We have a shared responsibility to this land. Together, we want to protect our shared resources and use them in a good way for the future generations of all communities.



I take care of the land.

Welcome

Dear families,

Welcome to Kindergarten in the York Region District School Board.

Starting Kindergarten is an exciting time! Kindergarten classrooms in YRDSB are warm, caring and inclusive places that strive to reflect students' interests, lived experiences and identities. We want every child to know they are an important part of the learning community and to develop a love of learning.

In Kindergarten, students learn through joyful play. They explore and discover the world around them, developing important skills that will set them up for success throughout their education and into the future.

We hope that you and your child enjoy reading this book together and learning about the many different ways your child will learn through play in Kindergarten.

You are your child's first and most important teacher. You know your child best, and we know that students are more likely to be successful when there is a strong partnership between educators and families. We place great value on building this relationship with you.

We look forward to working with you to help your child thrive.

Sincerely,

York Region District School Board

Welcome

مرحبا بكم

स्वस्वागतम्

환영합니다

جی آیاں نوں

Добро пожаловать

歡迎

நல்வரவு

Chào mừng

欢迎光临

خوش آمدید

ברוכים הבאים

ਮਰਹਾਬਾ

歡迎

Добро пожаловать

جی آیاں نوں

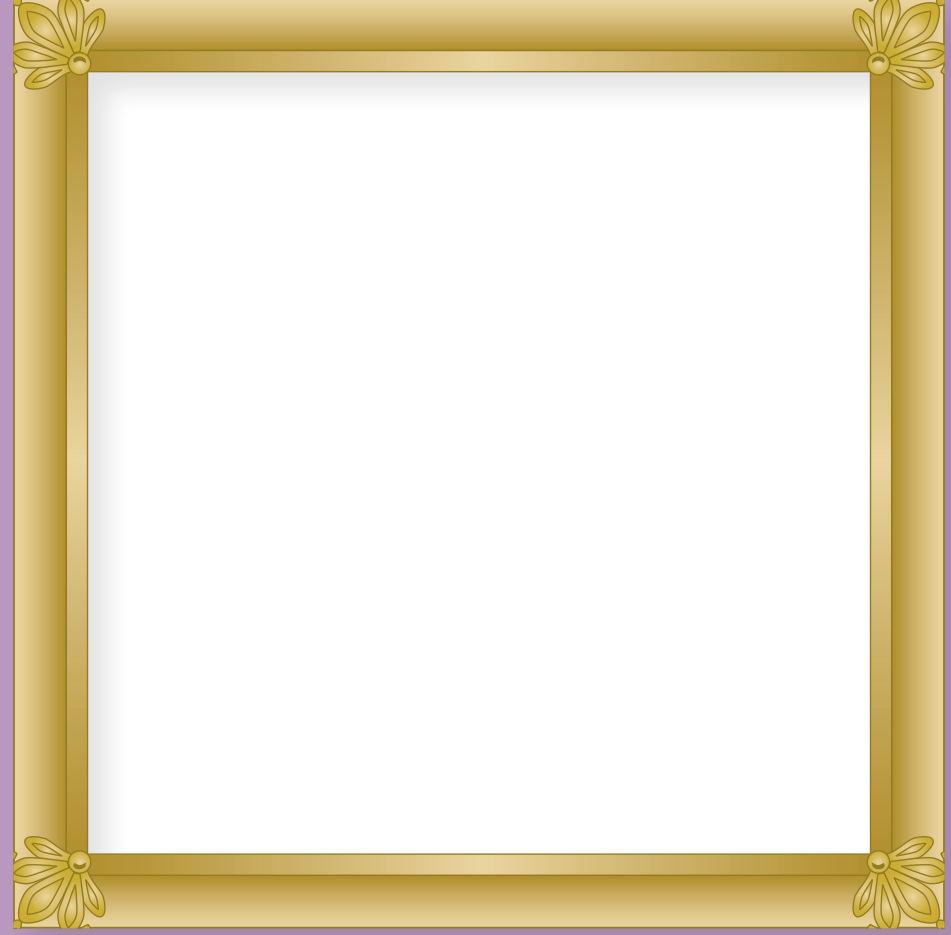
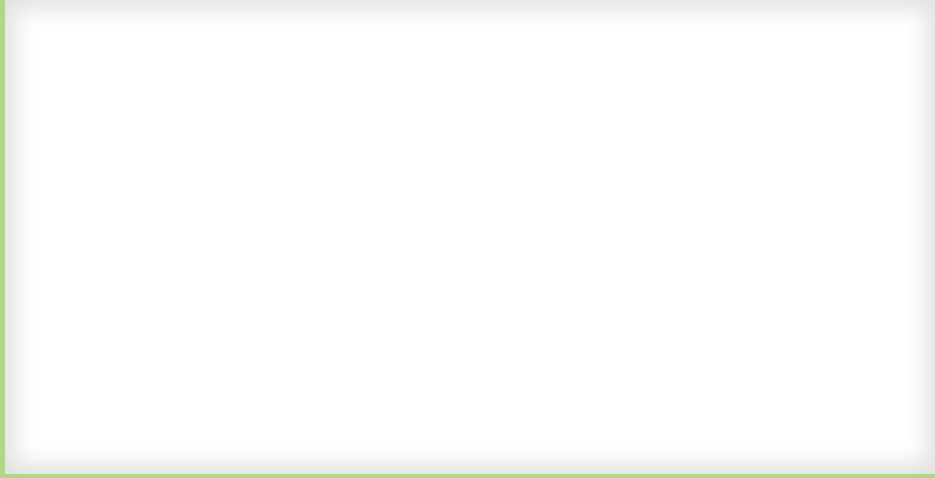
환영합니다

स्वस्वागतम्

مرحبا بكم

Welcome

This book belongs to



Draw a picture or put a photo in this space.

Добро пожаловать

خوش آمدید

欢迎光临

Chào mừng

ਮਰਹਾਬਾ

歡迎

Добро пожаловать

جی آیاں نوں

환영합니다

स्वस्वागतम्

مرحبا بكم

Welcome

We can make friends when we play.



DID YOU KNOW?

Children can develop positive relationships through play. During play, children learn how to recognize and manage their emotions, share and take turns while developing trust and empathy.



We can share
our ideas when
we play.



Did you know?

Children communicate through speech, gestures, signs and facial expressions to share their thoughts, feelings, interests and needs. Some children communicate during play by pointing to symbols or pictures and some children share ideas by using a variety of languages.

We can **explore**
when we play.



Did YOU KNOW?

Children explore, investigate and interact with their environment as they play. As children observe, discuss and share their discoveries, they deepen their understanding of the world around them.



Did you know?

During creative play, children have opportunities for risk-taking, self-expression and critical thinking. When children explore the arts (e.g., drawing, singing and dancing) through play, they investigate colour, rhythm and sound. This helps them develop new ways of expressing themselves.

We can **create**
when we play.



DID YOU KNOW?

During play, children can write in different ways to share an idea or a message, such as using a variety of words, pictures and/or symbols.

We can draw and write when we play.



We can read
when we play.



DID YOU KNOW?

Play provides children with opportunities to read pictures, words and symbols in meaningful ways. Children recognize that print in any format, including braille, represents a message. This helps children see themselves as readers.

Did you know?

During indoor and outdoor play, children develop a variety of movement and physical skills. These skills empower children to be active, safe and healthy.

We can **move** when we play.



We can **build**
when we play.

DID YOU KNOW?

Play helps develop mathematical thinking. When children build, they learn how to describe, sort, organize, match, compare and measure materials.



DID YOU KNOW?

Children are natural problem solvers and critical thinkers. During play, children identify problems, suggest new ideas and ask questions. Children develop persistence as they find solutions to the problems they experience during play.

We can
problem solve
when we play.



We can **imagine** when we play.

Did you know?

Engaging in imaginative play allows children to express their emotions and share their experiences and background with others. When children engage in play, they begin to see how their interests are reflected in their learning environment. They begin to understand how they can influence their own learning and support the learning of others.



Did YOU KNOW?

During play, children interact with familiar and unfamiliar materials and situations. This encourages them to discover and develop their interests. Play can help children learn how to make choices and how to respond and react to their environment.

We can **discover**
when we play.



When we **play**,
we...



share ideas

read



make
friends



build



discover



move



explore

imagine



draw and write



create



problem solve



When we **play**,
we **learn!**

Thank You

Thank you to all York Region District School Board staff and students who supported in the development of this book. We would like to specifically thank the children and educators from the following YRDSB schools for allowing us to capture the images that bring playful learning in Kindergarten to life:

Central Park Public School

Denne Public School

H.G. Bernard Public School

Herbert H. Carnegie Public School

James Robinson Public School

Phoebe Gilman Public School

William Berczy Public School

Information

For more information about Kindergarten and ideas for supporting your children at home, please visit:



www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten



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