KINDERGARTEN IN ECSD - OCTOBER 2026



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TAKEAWAYS

1. Have you followed the instructions to complete your Allergy Aware Training? All staff need to know how to recognize severe allergic reactions and administer an Epi-Pen. Certification is done every year.

2. Educational Assistants in Edmonton Catholic Schools have access to professional learning 4 times per year. Pass this on to anyone at your site who might be interested.



3. October is Hispanic Canadian Heritage Month. Check out the Sharepoint resources available!



SLP CONNECTION

Join the SLP Team and Kindergarten Consultants online from 2:30 - 3:30 on Thursday, October 29 to learn about Story Champs. We will discuss the basics of the program, how it's connected to the curriculum, and discuss ways to integrate the resource into daily Kindergarten life.

Story CHAMPS
A Multi-tiered Language Intervention Curriculum

QUOTE CORNER

"The first six weeks of school are so tough because kids are testing you and you need to remain consistent in each and every interaction. Being consistent is one of the most difficult aspects of teaching. Note there is a vast space between consistency and rigidity. Consistency fosters independence, while rigidity fosters compliance" (p. 24 - 25).

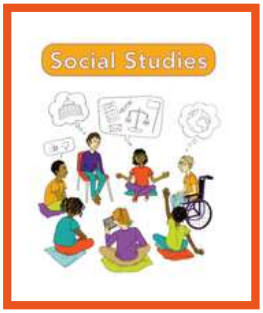


-Echternacht, H. & Murray, A. The Kinderchat Guide to the Classroom (2022). Routeledge.

NEW

KINDERGARTEN SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHERS' PLANNING GUIDE

Are you looking for the Kindergarten Social Studies Curriculum Crates? We've recycled most of their content into this incredible new Kindergarten Social Studies Teachers' Planning Guide. It gives you a month-by-month progression of Social Studies over the school year with meaningful learning experiences capture through classroom photos. It includes links to resources, slide decks, and printables. Each school received a paper copy in September. If you didn't receive ours, let us know.



UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN KINDERGARTEN

DOCUMENTATION OF LEARNING

Each Kindergarten program is required to have portfolios for all children. Learn about SpacesEDU, paper portfolios, hybrid models, or pizza boxes to document evidence of learning with young children.

Thursday, October 8, 2026

1:15 – 3:30 at Monsignor William Irwin School

REGISTER NOW

DIVISON FOCUSED PD

Mark your calendars for our first afternoon together of our Calling All Kindergarten Captains group! We are going to be exploring Advent.

Thursday, October 22, 2026

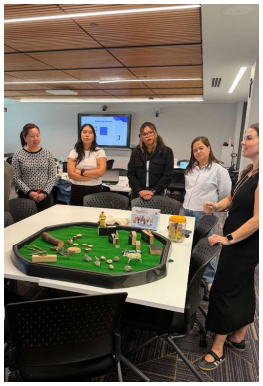
1:15 – 3:30 in Room 3A/B at Lumen Christi

REGISTER NOW

We are elated to see you when you all walk through the door for PD, but please register a minimum 72 hours before the session! Signing up last minute isn't enough time for us to make sure we have everything ready for you. Thank you!

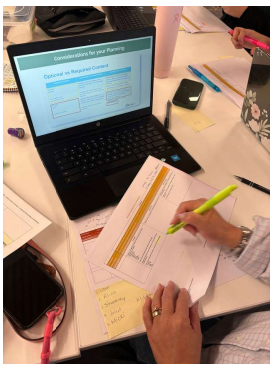
PAST PD – NEW TO KINDERGARTEN

We loved meeting so many of our new Kindergarten teachers last month! We gathered at Lumen Christi on Wednesday, September 16 to learn all about the world of Kindergarten. Teachers went through rhythms of the day, played Sharepoint Bingo, browsed the pacing guides and year plans, visited some example centres, discussed visual supports, learned about TouchChat and Chat Editor, learned how to log on to New Learn Alberta, looked at classroom and centre design, and so much more!





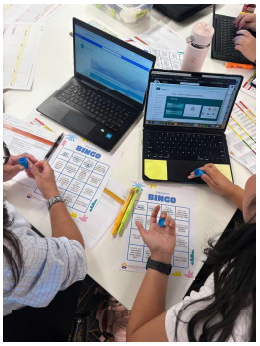












MULTI-SENSORY PRE-PRINTING

Thank you to Cynthia Jalbert from École Frère Antoine for sharing this first week of school centre. Children used these mini black handwriting set pieces as guides to trace patterns and then trace the same pattern in the sand inside a shallow cookie sheet. This allows teachers to observe and consider the Development Stages of Writing during centre time. For more ideas about foundational mark making, check out the Summer Summit 2025 session!

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERATURE:

Learning Outcome: Children experiment with written expression of ideas and information.

- Express ideas and information in a variety of creative ways

FRENCH IMMERSION LANGUAGE ARTS & LITERATURE:

Résultat d'apprentissage: Les enfants représentent et partagent leurs idées de diverses façons.

- S'exercer à représenter des idées individuellement et collectivement.





PLACES IN COMMUNITIES ON THE TUFF TRAY

Thank you to Carrie McPherson from École St. John XXIII School for showing how children can share places that have personal, family, or group meaning using small world play on the tuff tray. White electrical tape, opaque paint, or chalk markers can be used to create roads and parking stalls on the tuff tray. Listen for children discussing places they visit with their family and friends and offering details about familiar community buildings and landmarks. Visit the Kindergarten Social Studies page for more ideas.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

Learning Outcome: Children examine places in communities.

- Share places that have personal, family, or group meaning.

SCISSOR FUN

It doesn't say anywhere in the curriculum "Children investigate scissor skills," but it sure is an ability they need to build proficiency in. Rather than focusing on scissor skills as a lesson, allow the children to explore cutting a variety of material in a sensory bin. Thicker materials like cardboard, cardstock, construction paper, plastic straws, and paint chips allow children with weaker muscle tone to be more successful with cutting. It also allows children to stand to cut which promotes better task posture. Download the 6 Star Cutting Visual (English, French, Spanish) to help guide your observations and read up on the Low Incidence Team's Sharepoint page for more in depth information.

MATH:

Competency Progression: Personal Growth and Well-being

- I participate in new learning situations.



