

CONTINUUM OF CONNECTION

Paddling Together As an Early Years Community



PRENATAL CLASSES

Expecting a new baby? Learn about the stages of pregnancy and labour, comfort and pain management and caring for the baby after delivery. Tour the hospital, meet other new parents and ask questions. Each family receives a children's book and information on how to talk, sing, read and play with the baby.



S.P.A.R.K.! 'SUPPORTING PARENTS ALONG THE ROAD TO KINDERGARTEN'

Parents and caregivers of children newborn to age 5 on the Sunshine Coast can attend a new 90-minute SPARK! session every Fall, Winter & Spring. Sessions focus on ways to support holistic learning & spark curiosity. Parents receive free information & toys at every session. Sessions are offered both in-person (with childminding available) and virtually. Supported by the Ministry of Education & Child Care's 'Ready, Set, Learn' initiative.



DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Families receive an age-appropriate, quality children's picture book every month mailed right to their home address until their child's fifth birthday. SPARK! is the official registration site, offering strategies for successful read-aloud experiences at each age and stage. The Sunshine Coast Lions Club and private donors partner with the district to support this program.



PARENTING & CHILD DEVELOPMENT CLASSES

Parents & caregivers are invited to participate in the following 6-week parenting classes:

- The Circle of Security® Parenting™ Program: Based on decades of research focused on supporting secure relationships and an awareness of children's need for both playful exploration & a secure 'base'.
- Positive Discipline Program: Offering parents long-term parenting skills that will encourage their children to think for themselves, become more responsible and have greater respect for themselves and others.
- One-Hour Parenting Solutions: These classes have a specific focus each week, designed to support families in navigating things such as sleep, feeding and behaviour.



STRONGSTART

Families drop into StrongStart Centres and meet with other parents and community supports while playing and learning together. Gym, library and Song & Rhyme Times are offered. StrongStart programs are open three hours/day on days when school is in session in the following locations: Gibsons Elementary, Roberts Creek Elementary, Sechelt Early Years Centre, Halfmoon Bay Elementary and Madeira Park Elementary. StrongStart is offered on Saturdays in the Sechelt Early Years Centre.



KINDERSPARK!

Welcoming Families to Kindergarten – Families attend a 90-minute session once a week for 4 weeks in the Spring before Kindergarten entry. Each week we highlight the "WonderFull Me" of the children in the program and share this with school staff! In partnership with Community Schools, programs are held in the Kindergarten classrooms in all of our elementary schools.



WONDERWHEELS

Nature-based StrongStart Outreach programming is offered through the 'Tales & Trails Program using the 'WonderWheels' Bus. The bus has a weekly schedule of visits up and down the coast – offering programming in the Gibsons, Sechelt & Pender Harbour Areas, Visit TinyTown in the Sechelt Early Years Centre 10:00 – 11:30 am Monday – Saturday.



EARLY YEARS FAIR

Every Spring, families have the opportunity to talk to community experts and receive information on developmental screening, programs, supports in the community, and Kindergarten transitioning.



See our website for more information and to register: <https://early-learning.sd46.bc.ca/>
or phone 604-885-6787

Questions? Contact Kirsten Deasey District Principal Learning, Innovation & Child Care
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