



Give your Preschooler a Strong Start!

StrongStart Early Learning Centres provide a free drop-in program for children 5 and under and their parent, grandparent or caregiver. School District 68 introduced three new StrongStart Early Learning Centres in September 2009. The new centres will be located at Bayview Elementary, McGirr Elementary and Rutherford Elementary:

- **Bayview Elementary School** - Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12 noon
- **Fairview Community School** - Monday to Friday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.
- **Georgia Avenue Community School** - Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12 noon
- **Ladysmith Primary School** - Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12 noon
- **McGirr Elementary School** - Monday to Friday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.
- **Quarterway Elementary School** - Monday to Friday 12 noon to 3 p.m.
- **Rutherford Elementary School** - Monday to Friday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.
- **Woodbank Primary School** - Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

You and your child will:

- Explore with sand and water
- Explore art through a variety of activities
- Develop all the senses
- Learn songs, enjoy music
- Learn fingerplays
- Listen to stories
- Play dress-up
- Climb and slide
- Build with blocks
- Pretend play with toy animals, puppets, trucks, and dolls
- Play with natural and real materials



This program is designed to work in partnership with parents, their children, an Early Childhood Educator, and community partners. The provincial government says that play based learning to promote language, physical and social-emotional development of children is the central focus of the StrongStart centres. Families and caregivers who attend these centres will be supported to interact with their children to support early learning.

- StrongStart is intended for parents and their children - parents must remain with their child during the session.
- Parents and caregivers (grandparents, aunts, uncles and adult age siblings) may attend with the children in their care.
- If you are a paid child care provider, you are welcome to attend but we ask that you bring no more than two children.

Thanks to the financial support from the Ministry of Education, School District 68 is supporting families to become involved in early learning and providing opportunities where they can spend time learning through play with their children.