Series 2026 | Issue 5

LEARNING THROUGH PLAY



Welcome to Kindergarten™
CANADIAN EDUCATION WAREHOUSE

Dear Kindergarten Families

Every day is an opportunity to learn through play! In this fifth issue, you'll find simple, fun activities that help your child build early literacy, math, creativity, movement, and problem-solving skills. Spend time reading, exploring, creating, and playing together—these shared moments help your child grow in confidence while making wonderful family memories.

Send us a photo of you trying out one of these activities or playing with items from your WTK kit. You could win one of our WTK books! We will draw with every newsletter! (Send photos to: **info@welcome-to-kindergarten.ca**)

Most importantly, have fun learning together!

Warm wishes,
From the WTK Team





Table of Contents:

- **First, Next, Last**
- **Go on a shape hunt!**
- **Animal Movement**
- **Sleeping Bunnies**
- **Will It Roll?**
- **Nature Creations**
- **Drawing Together!**

First, Next, Last

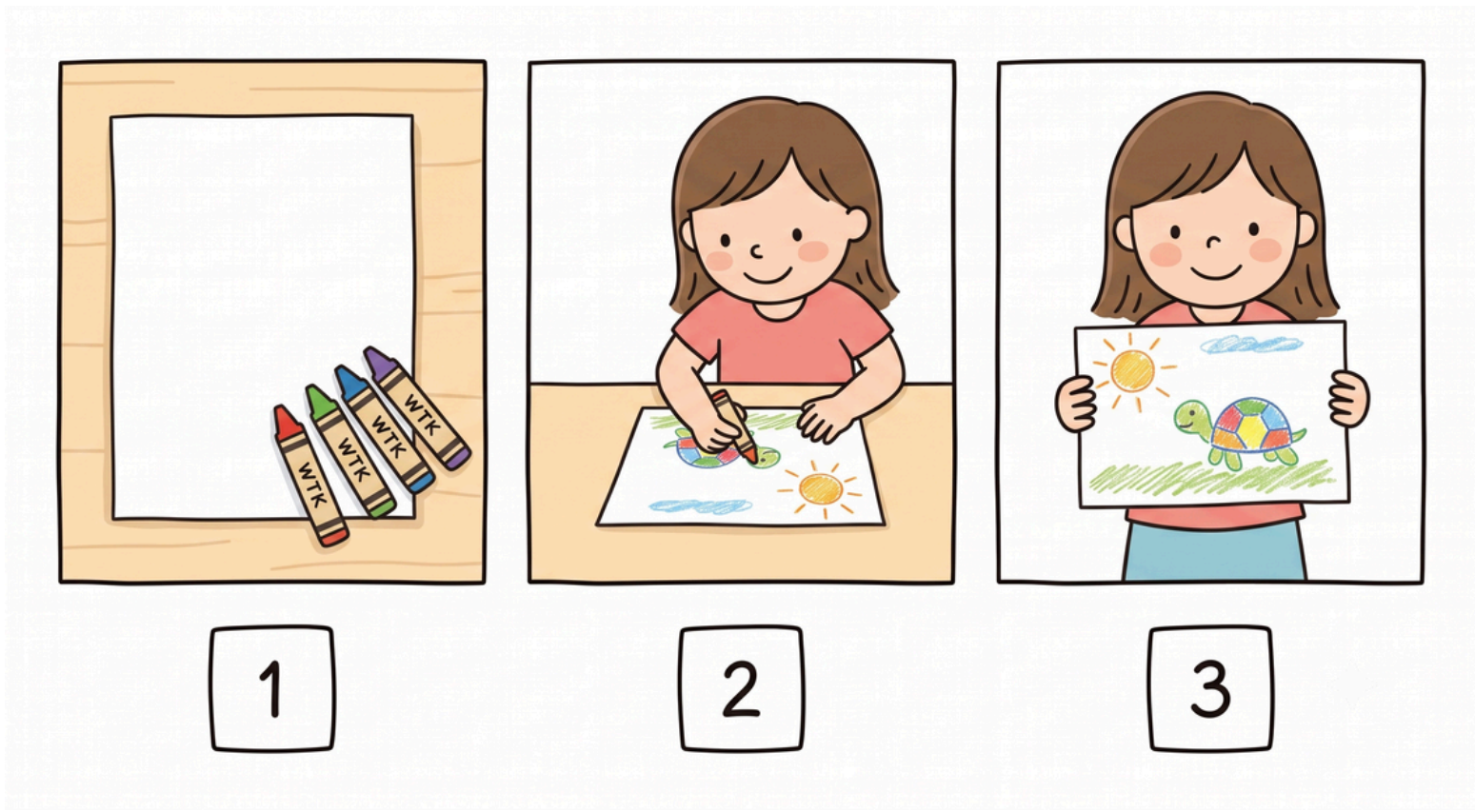


Have fun building early literacy skills with your child by sequencing pictures. Have your child choose the picture that comes first, next and last as they tell you the story.

For more practice:

- Create sequence pictures for daily routines for children, such as brushing teeth, getting dressed or making their bed.

- Create images based on a favourite family story so your child can retell the story with the pictures.



Go on a shape hunt!



When you are outside on a walk, in a garden, forest or your neighbourhood, go on a shape-finding adventure!

- Look closely, there are so many shapes in our everyday environment! (e.g., signs, sidewalks, buildings, leaves, rocks etc.).
- Can you and your child find and name common shapes like circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, hearts and more?
- Try making shapes with stones and other items from nature.
- Encourage children to talk about the shapes they see at home and outside.
- You will be surprised at how many shapes are in the world once you start looking!







Visit the local library and ask a librarian to help locate books about shapes.



Animal Movement



Get ready to use your imagination and your big muscles in this fun activity!

Place your WTK animal picture cards in your WTK pocket dice. Take turns rolling the dice. Everyone moves like the animal in the picture that is rolled. How big can you make your movements? Can you include the animal sound? What would the animal be doing as they move?





This is a great way to burn some energy and spark some sillies!

*if you don’t have the WTK pocket dice or animal pictures, have one person call out an animal. Take turns coming up with an animal.



Sleeping Bunnies
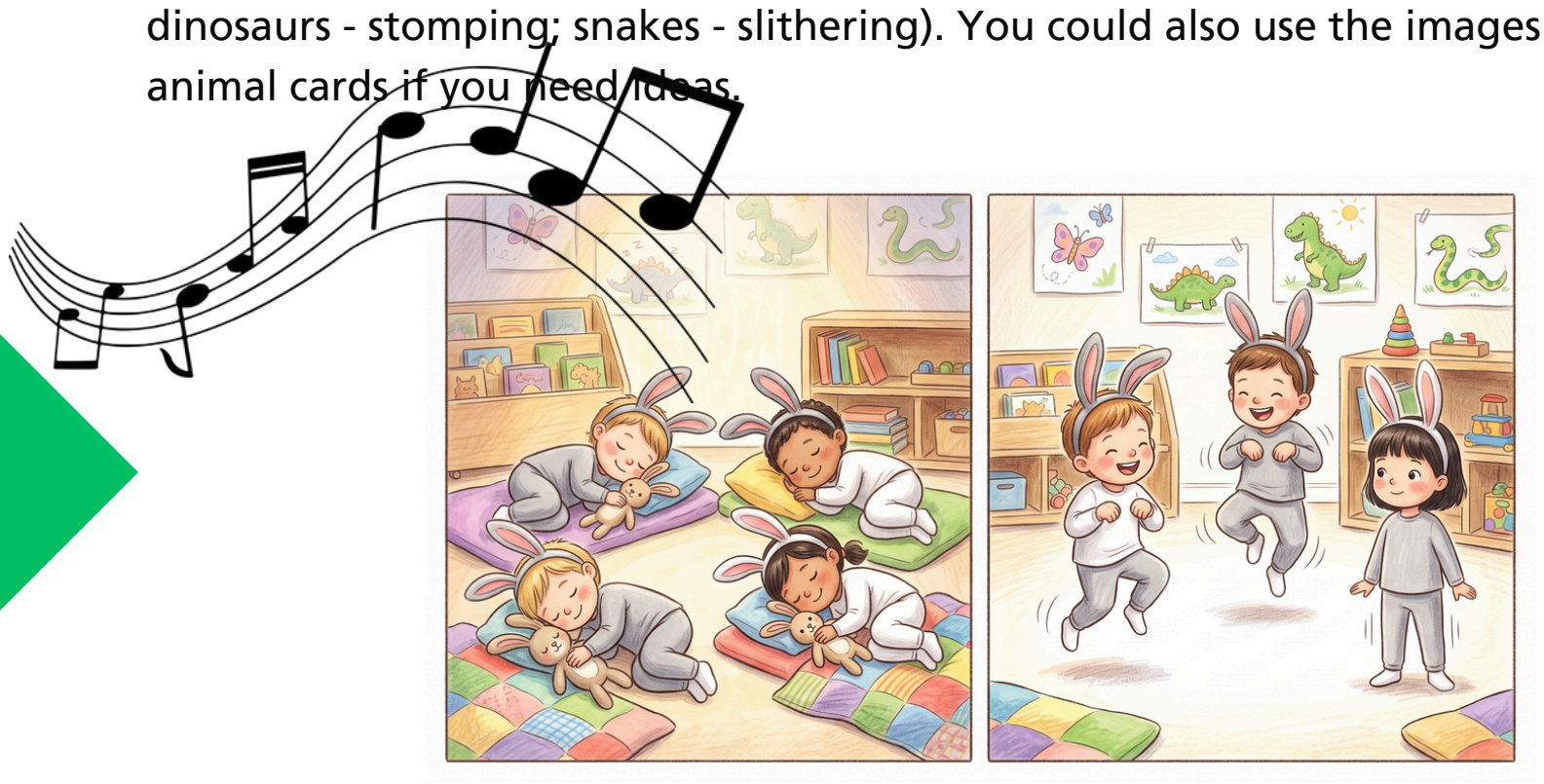


Invite your child into a playful routine where your voice becomes their cue.

Say or Sing:

See the bunnies sleeping 'til it's nearly noon (children pretend to be sleeping)
Shall we wake them with a merry tune?
They're so still, are they ill?
No! Wake up, bunnies! (children get up and begin to hop around like bunnies)
Hop little bunnies, hop, hop, hop
Hop little bunnies, hop, hop, hop
Hop little bunnies, hop, hop, hop
Hop little bunnies, then you stop. (children freeze)

When they hear you begin to say the words again they return to their cozy “bed”

You can replace bunnies and hopping for any fun idea (e.g., butterflies - fluttering; dinosaurs - stomping; snakes - slithering). You could also use the images from your WTK animal cards if you need ideas.



Listen to Jump Up, Jump Down Here.
Have fun moving together!

Listen our
WTK Music collection.

Why it matters

This simple game helps your child practice listening skills, following instructions, and regulating their body movements—all through imaginative play.

Will It Roll?



This activity invites your child to explore how everyday objects move. Using a simple ramp made from a cutting board or piece of cardboard, your child can test which items roll, slide, or stay still—and make predictions along the way.

What to Do

1. Set up a ramp using a cutting board or cardboard and a few books.
2. Gather a mix of household items—some round, some flat, some irregular.
3. Ask your child to predict what will happen when each item is placed at the top of the ramp.
4. Let the item go and observe together: Did it roll, slide, or stay in place?
5. Sort the items into two groups: things that roll and things that don't.



Talk About It

After trying all the items, look at the ones that rolled. What do they have in common? What makes them different from the ones that didn't roll?

Try a New Way

Raise or lower the ramp. Does changing the height make a difference in how the items move?

Nature Creations



Families are encouraged to step outside, explore their surroundings, and gather natural treasures—leaves, twigs, stones, pinecones, petals, anything that sparks curiosity.

What to Do

- Collect natural materials: Take a walk in your yard, a park, or along a trail and gather interesting items.
- Create a masterpiece: Use your natural materials to build something imaginative—a spaceship, an animal, a portrait, or anything your creativity inspires. This can be done on any surface including on a piece of paper. Use your WTK crayons to add to the creation if you can.
- Celebrate creativity: Snap a photo of your creation and share it with friends.







A simple walk can turn into an afternoon of discovery and artistic expression. Have fun creating something wonderful together!



Drawing Together!



Here are some things that can help your child learn to draw:

- Use WTK crayons or other drawing tools that are easy for your child to hold.
- Show your child how to draw simple shapes like lines, circles, squares and triangles. (Draw slowly and encourage your child to watch and try to mimic your actions.)
- Let your child draw what they want - even if it doesn't look like anything recognizable! This helps them express their creativity and gain confidence.
- Praise your child's efforts. Spend time drawing together.
- Display your child's artwork (this boosts confidence and pride).





Helping your child learn to draw can be a fun learning experience. Young children are still developing their small muscles and hand-eye coordination.

Enjoy drawing and exploring together!

About us

Welcome to Kindergarten™

- Supports new Kindergarten children and families, in warmly welcoming them to school.
- Offers high quality early learning materials and family support.
- All *Welcome to Kindergarten™* activities and resources are based on current research and effective practice in early learning, transition to school, family engagement and community involvement.

WTK Contest



Send us a photo of you trying out one of these activities or playing with items from your **WTK kit**.

You could win one of our WTK books!
We will draw with every newsletter!

Send photos to
info@welcome-to-kindergarten.ca

