

Program of the Month - Emémel Spá:th (Little Bears)



TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

12:15-2:15

DROP-IN FOR AGES 0-6

SWEENEY NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

33355 BEVAN AVE, ABBOTSFORD BC

More info: earlyyears.abbschools.ca

Danielle Wall - Early Childhood Educator **Ten Broeck Elementary**

I am passionate about watching children learn, grow, and discover their potential. Throughout my 22-year career, spanning 16 years at Ten Broeck Elementary, I've had the privilege of guiding children from birth through grade 5. Witnessing the milestones of my students, from their first steps in preschool to their achievements in elementary school, is a constant reminder of the impact early education can have. One of my greatest joys is running into former students in the hallway, hearing them proudly say, "You were my preschool teacher," and asking, "Do you remember my name?" I am deeply grateful to be a small part of their educational journeys, helping to lay the foundation for their future success.

Margie Naslund - Administrative Assistant **Early Years Centre**

Margie Escalante-Naslund serves as the Administrative Assistant for the Early Years Department within the Abbotsford School District. With familial roots in El Salvador, she brings a deep appreciation for cultural diversity and a strong commitment to lifelong learning. Margie holds certificates in Reconciliation in Education and Autism & Neurodiversity in Early Childcare from the University of British Columbia. She is dedicated to furthering her education to enhance her ability to support families and make meaningful contributions to the community.

Event of the Month **Winter Jubilee - November 22nd, 2025**

Winter Jubilee is the annual holiday festival Downtown and is home to the only tree lighting event in Abbotsford! The celebration kicks off the holiday season in the community and features many festive activities for all ages to enjoy. The ADBA works closely with volunteers and community organizations to provide children's activities throughout the evening. Cookie decorating, face painting, and pictures with Santa are just a few of the free activities at the Winter Jubilee!

When: Saturday, November 22nd, 3:00 pm -8:00 pm

Where: Montrose/ Essendene

Partner of the Month **Downtown Abbotsford Business Association**

The Abbotsford Downtown Business Association (ADBA), established in 1989, plays a vital role in fostering a vibrant and inclusive downtown community. Located in the heart of Abbotsford, the ADBA supports local businesses through advocacy, promotion, and events that celebrate the area's unique character. It brings together property owners, merchants, and community leaders to enhance the economic and cultural vitality of the historic downtown core. With a focus on sustainability, diversity, and local independence, the ADBA helps create a welcoming destination for residents and visitors alike, while preserving the charm and heritage of the Rail District.

More info: <https://downtownabbotsford.ca/about/>

Parenting Tip of the Month Early Years Development Stages

Stages of Play

Ages 3-5 years

Understanding the Stages of Play - Children move through different stages of play as they grow. Each stage supports learning and development in its own way:

- **Parallel** – Playing beside other children without interaction.

Tip: Great for toddlers learning to be around peers.

- **Associative** – Playing near others with some interaction.

Tip: Encourage sharing and simple group activities.

- **Cooperative** – Playing together with shared goals.

Tip: Support teamwork through games and imaginative play.

These stages are part of healthy development, and children typically move through them at their own pace.



Craft

Edible Crafts for Kids



Marshmallow playdough (no-cook)

Ingredients:

- 12 large marshmallows, 2 teaspoons coconut oil, and 8 tablespoons cornstarch

Instructions:

- In a microwave-safe bowl, combine marshmallows and coconut oil.
- Microwave on high for about 30 seconds, or until the marshmallows puff up slightly.
- Add a few drops of food colouring and mix well.
- Stir in the cornstarch until a thick dough forms.
- Knead on a clean surface, adding more cornstarch if needed, until the dough is pliable but not sticky.

Télexw (to find something out, to learn) with the Sweeney Centre



Seasons of the Moon

Tempó:kw - October 26 - November 24 - Time to smoke Chehalis Spring Salmon

It's Fall in the Fraser Valley. Nighttime comes earlier than it did in the summer and rainwater replenishes our rivers, lakes, and streams. The rivers get stronger this time of year and the salmon begin swimming upriver. In Stó:lō Territory, this is the start of the Stó:lō New Year. Tempó:kw' means "time for Chehalis Spring Salmon"; **tem** means time or season and **po:kw'** means Chehalis River spring salmon. This type of salmon begins to run about October and is smoke dried in smokehouses during this month.

More Info: <https://indigenous.abbyschools.ca/node/54612>

Abbotsford Early Years Centre at The Sweeney Neighbourhood Centre

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 <https://earlyyears.abbyschools.ca>  **778.880.8554**  earlylearning@abbyschools.ca

Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Semá:th First Nation and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.