

# SEY2KT School District Sooke #62



**Visual Territory Acknowledgement  
Artist Connie Watts, Nuu-chah-nulth**

# How can we make sure we are able to create a smooth transition from Early Years to Kindergarten for all families and students?

## Guiding Principles

- Inclusive of all families/learners- (Equity and Access) Our belief that no matter where students come in to K they are able to feel a sense of belonging and that they are successful. With Story Workshop they can be confident in themselves.
- First People's Principles of Learning –learning takes patience and time, not traditional blocks of learning, exploring who we are and where we live, oral story telling. Learning can't be separate from place. It is part of our identity-who we are and where we are, nature was the first classroom- what can we bring in from the world around us.

# What most resonated with us?

How can we reduce barriers?

**Location**

**Personal School Experiences**

**COVID**

# Our shift from Kickstart to Kindergarten to Story Workshops

**KICKSTART TO KINDERGARTEN SERIES**

Give-aways at each event for all children who attend!

**Pizza and Play**  
Wednesday Feb 26th 5:30PM-6:30PM  
meet in the John Muir gym

**Friendly Forest Walk and Explore**  
Thursday April 23rd 1:30PM-2:30PM  
meet at the top field

**Berry Picnic and Playground Play**  
Tuesday June 16th 6:00PM-7:00PM  
at John Muir Elementary Garden

Watch for more information on the following events:  
Sooke Resource Fair-April 6th 2020  
&  
Welcome To Kindergarten Orientation-May 2020

Kickstart to kindergarten is an invitation to all 2020/2021 kindergarten

**Sooke Early Years Resource Fair**  
Saseenos Elementary  
Mon. April 6th 5:00pm-6:00pm

GIVEAWAYS & Door Prize!

Many community and school services will be available at this event with information. Meet teachers and speak to community service agencies. Get connected and find out what Sooke has to offer!

Connecting families to Community Services

\*Parents/caregivers and their children ages 0-5 (who have not yet entered kindergarten) are welcome to stay after for the FREE Ready Set Read event 6pm-7pm\*



# Story Workshops Goals

- Create trusting relationships with all families coming to Kindergarten
  - Welcome video, bags, virtual meetings, online survey and email communication

Connecting with community providers and families to create continuity with shared language, learning opportunities and familiar resources (story workshops/books)

- Story workshop complete bins for Community Providers, Families at home and John Muir classrooms.
- Professional Books-school staff and community program staff
- Mentor Texts (Picture Books/Early Readers)- Home, Community, School (Books that represent West Coast, First Nations and all learners)
- Supplies/manipulatives/loose parts

## Next Steps...

- Creating accessible guides for families to support their child's learning through play and story workshops at home.
- Collaborating with community partners and modeling how to engage children with Storywork experiences to increase their oral language and understanding of story.
- Hosting family events that focus on building relationships and connections to the school and deepening their understanding of how to nurture their child's positive school experience.