



# Les Garderies K.I.D.S.

## THEMES 2024-2025

Welcome to the 2024-2025 academic year! We look forward to learning and exploring together. All year round the children will be learning about safety, hygiene, appropriate classroom behavior & good manners, numbers, letters, colours, shapes, discussion of the days of the week and the weather. Math concepts (ex. whole, half, quarter, more than, less than) are incorporated into meal and snack times. Special days, like Valentine's Day, are celebrated on the actual day or the day closest to it.

**French** is incorporated into the daily curriculum in the older two- and three-year-old classes through circle time activities such as stories, songs, calendar and discussions. The 4-K class features a **French immersion** curriculum. The **French** speaking educator addresses the children in **French** and a significant portion of the day is dedicated to only speaking in **French**. The children's **French** vocabulary will also increase through the use of concrete, everyday words at mealtime and during activities. Parents will be provided with vocabulary handouts so that they can reinforce at home what is being learned in class.

Our Science program includes learning about Canada's biomes. Canada has four main biomes: **tundra, desert, grassland, and forest**. As part of the monthly themes, such as "Hibernation and Migration", "Water Water Everywhere" and "Animals In The Wild" the children will be discussing the community of plants and animals in each biome.

Every month, from January through August, the children will also be learning about a different **inventor or scientist** and their inventions and discoveries.

**Living Values** is a key part of the K.I.D.S. educational program. The goal of **Living Values is to model and promote civility for the children**. As part of this program, the children will be discussing such topics as *respect, love and responsibility*. Community caring and sharing activities and programs can include: **a seasonal food drive, Valentine's Day cards for seniors, and ongoing can tab collection**.

Our **Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies** program focuses on different composers and genres of music. Children spend two months listening to the composer's music, reading stories about their lives and celebrating the composer's birthdays.

Our **Art Appreciation** program focuses on a different artist every two months. The children will be read stories inspired by the artist's life and discuss his or her paintings. They will also be introduced to a selection of art movements and styles (Cubism, Abstract)

**A daily exercise activity** is being incorporated into our morning Circle Time. In addition to story time and theme related discussions the children will be encouraged to stretch, jump, wiggle and shake.

**Weekly Parent Reflection Questions** will be posted in the daycare weekly and sent to the parents through Planitou. The purpose of these questions is to help the parents better know and understand their child and her/his development/behavior/childhood.

**Donations** of magazines with pictures, paper towel rolls, samples pieces (material, quartz counter pieces, carpet, wallpaper etc.) are always appreciated.

## SEPTEMBER: MY FAMILY, MY FRIENDS AND MY COMMUNITY

**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**

ME, MY FRIENDS AND MY FAMILY, COMMUNITY HELPERS, VISITS FROM LOCAL POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS, SAFETY IN THE HOME (EX. WHAT DO WE DO IN CASE OF A FIRE?), DIALING 911, SPECIAL BUILDINGS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD (EX. FIRE STATION, POLICE STATION, HOSPITAL, LIBRARY ETC.)

**Art Appreciation: Pablo Picasso/Cubism**

**Living Values: Responsibility & Respect:** Be responsible for yourself & your actions. Be respectful of yourself, others & your surroundings. Value yourself and others.

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Strauss.**

**Special days:**

Corn Roast (Date TBD)  
Mid-Autumn Festival – September 17th  
September 23rd – First day of Autumn



**Introduction of the K.I.D.S. LENDING LIBRARY.** The goal of this program is to promote literacy by encouraging children to select their own books to read at home. For that reason, **parent participation is required.**



**This year's in daycare Apple-Picking activity** (late September/early October). In-class orchards will recreate the experience of apple picking.

## OCTOBER: AUTUMN ON THE FARM/HALLOWEEN

**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**

THE HARVEST AND THANKSGIVING, AUTUMN LEAVES & THE FALL COLOURS, FARM ANIMALS, THINGS THAT GROW FROM SEEDS (ex: TREES, FLOWERS & VEGETABLES), TRANSPORTATION, MACHINERY & BUILDINGS ON THE FARM. **HALLOWEEN:** IMAGINARY CHARACTERS AND CREATURES, DRAMA & DRESS UP, WHAT IS REAL & WHAT IS MAKE BELIEVE.



**Art Appreciation: Pablo Picasso/Cubism**

**Living Values: Gratitude:** Appreciation, love & gratitude for family, friends & what we have.

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Strauss. Celebration of his birthday on October 25<sup>th</sup>.**



**Special days:**

Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>-4th "ROSH HASHANA" (Jewish New-Year)

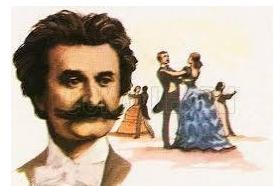
Week of October 6th-12th "FIRE PREVENTION WEEK"

Friday, October 11th "THANKSGIVING LUNCH"

Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – THANKSGIVING (daycare closed)

Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> "UNITED NATIONS' DAY"

Thursday, October 31st: "HALLOWEEN" (to be celebrated with an in class **costume party**).



Special events: Visits to the daycare by firefighters and police officers from the community, photo session with professional photographer, date to be announced (beginning of October).

Parents and extended family members or special family friends are invited to join and participate in a very special **Generations Activity**. The children will be creating portraits of a special person or they will be making a self portrait to share. They will then be incorporating these portraits into a piece of artwork.



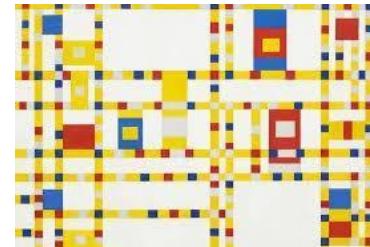
## NOVEMBER: HIBERNATION & MIGRATION

**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**



WHY DO ANIMALS HIBERNATE? HOW DO ANIMALS PREPARE TO HIBERNATE? WHICH ANIMALS HIBERNATE (ex. BADGERS, BATS, BEARS, CHIPMUNKS, GROUND SQUIRRELS), WHERE DO THEY HIBERNATE (EX. BURROWS, CAVES, DENS)? WHY DO ANIMALS MIGRATE (SURVIVAL, FOOD) MOST COMMON EXAMPLES OF MIGRATING ANIMALS (EX. BIRDS FLYING NORTH & SOUTH, BLUE WHALES MIGRATING TO COLDER, POLAR WATERS DURING FEEDING SEASON)

**Art Appreciation: Piet Mondrian/Abstract**



**Living Values: Peace & Friendship:** Getting along, “arms are for hugging, not pushing,” peace through conflict resolution.

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Beethoven**

**Special days:**

Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> DIWALI” Hindu festival of light

Monday, November 11th “REMEMBRANCE DAY” (daycare closed for professional development day)

Wednesday, November 20th “NATIONAL CHILD DAY”

## DECEMBER: HOLIDAY FESTIVALS



**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**

HOLIDAY AND NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.



**Living Values: Cooperation, Caring & Sharing:** Working together to bring happiness to others. Month long Food Drive. Fix and Donate Book Clinic: Please bring any used or slightly damaged books (no missing pages please) to the daycare. The children will be participating in a clinic to repair them and then donate them in early December

**Art Appreciation: Piet Mondrian/Abstract**

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Beethoven. Celebration of his birthday on December 16**

**Special days:**

December 16<sup>th</sup> -24th “LAS POSADAS” Mexican pre-Christmas Festival.

December 21<sup>st</sup> First day of winter

December 25<sup>th</sup> “CHRISTMAS”

December 25<sup>th</sup> -January 2nd “CHANUKKAH”

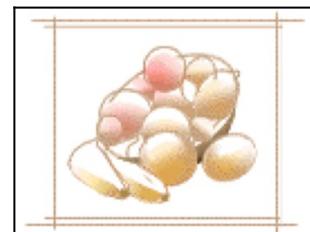
December 26th –January 1st “KWANZAA” African-American celebration of family and community life.

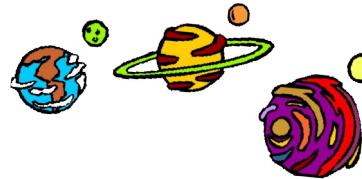
Monday, December 30th “NEW YEAR'S EVE” PARTY



**Special events: Season's Party!!!**

Set up an in-class post office for letters to Santa and holiday cards.





## JANUARY: WINTER/ADVENTURE IN SPACE

**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**

DISCUSSION OF WINTER (FUN IN THE SNOW, WINTER CLOTHES, WINTER SPORTS) **SPACE ASTRONAUTS & SPACE TRAVEL, THE SUN, THE MOON & THE STARS, OUR SOLAR SYSTEM/ VISITING ANOTHER PLANET**

**Living Values: Empathy & Respect:** Being polite (showing patience and displaying good manners)

**Art Appreciation: Vincent Van Gogh/ Post Impressionism**

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Mozart.** Celebration of his birthday on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Famous Inventors & Scientists: Galileo (telescope) & Canadian Astronaut Chris Hadfield**

**Special days:**



Friday, January 10th "MY BEST STUFFED BUDDY DAY" (**Pajama party & class picnic with basket, picnic blanket and decorations.** Bring in your favorite teddy bear or doll)

Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> Family Literacy Day (**Celebrated on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> with morning animated book readings in schools**) Dress up as your favorite character from a book.

Wednesday, January 25th Lunar New Year (**Year of the Snake, to be celebrated on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> with a parade**).

Friday, January 31st "Extra Terrestrial Day" (alien costumes, alien masks or face paint to be done in class)



TEEDY BEARS' PICNIC



**FEBRUARY: VISIT ANOTHER COUNTRY** - As part of this theme, the children will create "passports" and visit the exhibits of other countries(classes) in the daycare.

**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**

CULTURES & CUSTOMS, FOOD & DRESS, HOMES, BUILDINGS & LANDMARKS, TRANSPORTATION

**Living Values: Love & Tolerance:** Be accepting of others.

**Famous Inventors & Scientists: Leonardo DaVinci** (early self-propelled cart, flying machines)

**Art Appreciation: Vincent Van Gogh/ Post Impressionism**

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Mozart**

**Special days:**

Celebration of "Black History Month" throughout February

"TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK" Between Feb.3rd and 7th

Wednesday, Feb.14th "VALENTINE'S DAY" (To be celebrated with an in class party)

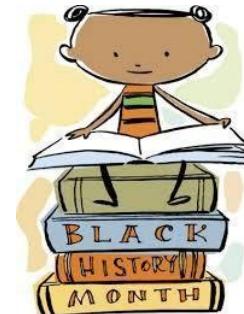
International Food Fair (date TBA)

Mini Winter Olympics (date TBA)

Wednesday, February 26th "PINK SHIRT DAY" Promoting kindness.

(wear something pink)

Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. Suess' Birthday (to be celebrated on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>)



## MARCH: OUR BODIES, NUTRITION & HEALTH

**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**

TAKING CARE OF OUR BODIES (including proper hand & face washing, dental hygiene & exercise), THE FOOD GROUPS, HEALTHY EATING and our Senses



**Living Values: Honesty:** Discussing truth vs. lies, keeping promises and trust.



**Art Appreciation: Frida Khalo/Surrealism, portraits, self-portraits**



**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Vivaldi. Celebration of his birthday on March 4<sup>th</sup>**



**Famous Inventors & Scientists: Dr. Theresa Tam**, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer. She reminds us all to wash our hands!

**Special days:**

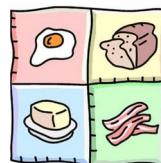
Friday February 28<sup>th</sup> or Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> "RAMADAN"

Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> "INTERNATIONAL WOMAN'S DAY (To be celebrated on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> with afternoon "High Tea")

Monday, March 17th "ST. PATRICK'S DAY (To be celebrated on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Please **dress in green**)

Thursday, March 20th "FIRST DAY OF SPRING" – Due to our local climate, discussion of Spring will begin in March and continue until May. Children will discuss the changes that they see and feel outdoors.

Thursday, March 20th "NOWRUZ" Persian New Year

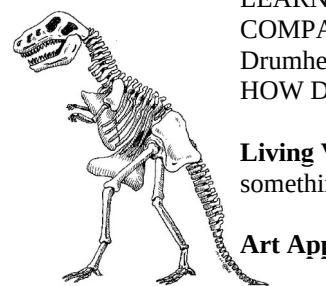
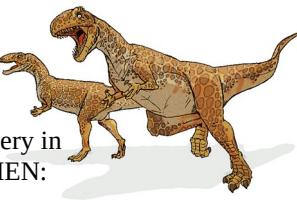


**Special Events:** Annual sugaring off experience (in-house)

## APRIL: PREHISTORIC TIMES

**Suggested topics include a selection from the following:**

LEARNING THE NAMES OF DINOSAURS, RECOGNIZING THEIR CHARACTERISTICS, COMPARING SIZES OF DINOSAURS, HERBIVORES & CARNIVORES, FOSSILS (Inc. Discovery in Drumheller, Alberta), WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DINOSAURS? PREHISTORIC MEN & WOMEN: HOW DID THEY LIVE



**Living Values: Respect, Gratitude & Humility:** Not showing off. It is okay to know that you're good at something without bragging about it. How to politely accept praise.



**Art Appreciation: Frida Khalo/Surrealism, portraits, self-portraits**

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Vivaldi.**

**Famous Inventors & Scientists: Mary Anning** (pioneering paleontologist and fossil collector)

**Special days:**

Monday, April 21st: "EASTER MONDAY"

Tuesday, April 1st "Be a Clown Day" (dress silly and face painting in class)

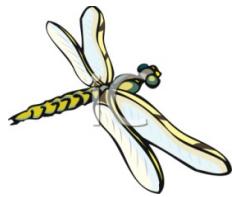
April 15th-21st – Canadian Children's Book Week –Daycare Read-A-Thon

Parents, older siblings & community volunteers are encouraged to participate. [www.bookweek.ca](http://www.bookweek.ca)

Tuesday April 22nd: EARTH DAY

**Spring Art Show (April/May)**





## MAY: Choice #1: FLOWERS, TREES & INSECTS

Suggested topics include a selection from the following:

FLOWERS BLOOMING, TREES BUDDING, CHARACTERISTICS OF INSECTS (ex. six legs) AND ARACHNIDS (ex. eight legs), METAMORPHOSIS (ex. caterpillar to butterfly)



## Choice #2: MUSIC & DANCE

Suggested topics include a selection from the following:

MUSIC & DANCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD, DIFFERENT TYPES OF MUSIC (CLASSICAL, JAZZ, FOLK, ROCK etc.), INTRODUCTION TO A SELECTION OF INSTRUMENTS



Living Values: Responsibility: Right & Wrong (making good choices vs. bad ones)



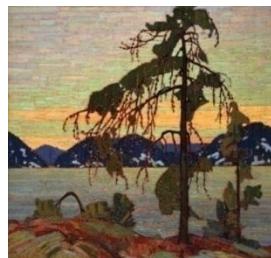
Art Appreciation: Mary Cassatt/ Modern Art

Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Tchaikovsky. Celebration of his birthday on May 7<sup>th</sup>

Famous Inventors & Scientists: Grace Hopper (Inventor of the code that tells computers, in words, what we want them to do. Came up with the expression “bug” to describe computer problems)

### Special days:

Sunday, May 11th “MOTHER’S DAY” – PREPARE GIFTS FOR MOTHER’S DAY  
Monday, May 19th – National Patriot’s Day (Daycare Closed)



## JUNE: CANADA, OUR COUNTRY, OUR HOME

Suggested topics include a selection from the following:



THE NATIONAL SYMBOLS OF CANADA (the maple leaf, the beaver) INTRODUCTION TO CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY, JOBS PEOPLE HAVE ACROSS CANADA, FOOD WE GET FROM THE PROVINCES (ex: fish from the Maritimes, wheat from the prairies etc.), FAMOUS CANADIAN HEROES (ex. Terry Fox, Chris Hadfield), ANIMALS IN THE CANADIAN WILDERNESS, CANADIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM.



Living Values: Happiness: What makes us happy? We spread happiness through our words and actions.

Art Appreciation: Tom Thomson/ Art Nouveau

Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Stravinsky. Celebration of his birthday on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Famous Inventors & Scientists: James Naismith (Canadian inventor of Basketball)



### Special days:

GRADUATION DAY & SONG FESTS (dates to be announced)  
Sunday, June 15th “FATHER’S DAY” – PREPARE GIFTS FOR FATHER’S DAY



Wednesday June 7th: Eid-al-Adha

Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>: la Fête nationale (Daycare Closed)

Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> “Mud Day” (to be celebrated on Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup> with in class activities ex. mud painting, mud themed books)

<http://www.worldforumfoundation.org/working-groups/nature/international-mud-day>





## JULY: WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

Suggested topics include a selection from the following:



WATER SAFETY (in preparation for outdoor pool and water play)  
IMPORTANCE OF WATER (incl. water conservation), FORMS OF WATER (solid, liquid & gas)  
BODIES OF WATER (oceans, lakes, rivers etc.)

**Living Values: Good Citizenship:** Working together for a good cause (fundraiser, showing empathy towards others. remembering how you felt when you were in a similar situation.



**Art Appreciation: Claude Monet/ Impressionism**

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Stravinsky**

**Famous Inventors & Scientists: Frank Epperson** (Invented the Popsicle at eleven years old)

**Benjamin Franklin** (Invented swimming flippers at eleven years old and continued inventing throughout his life)

**Special days:**

July 1<sup>st</sup> CANADA DAY (Daycare Closed)

Beach Party (date TBA)



**Special events:**

Activities incorporate language, math and social skills and a sense of community.

## AUGUST: ANIMALS IN THE WILD

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WILD AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS, ANIMALS IN THEIR NATIVE HABITATS, THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY LIVE (ex. Lions in Africa, crocodiles/pandas in Australia, tigers in India), PREDATORS, PREY AND THE FOOD CHAIN, REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS



**Art Appreciation: Claude Monet/ Impressionism**

**Music Appreciation/Sleep time Symphonies: Oscar Peterson. Celebration of his birthday on August 15th**

**Note:** Transition to new classes will be completed by the last week in August. Transitioning children will move to their new class with at least one friend.

