



Junior Kindergarten

Toileting Information for Teachers

Government of
Northwest Territories



As with all aspects of child development, toilet training with every child is different. Some children are ready as young as 18 months, but most start between 2 and 4 years of age. It usually takes 3-6 months to learn to use the toilet and to stay dry and not soiled during the day. It usually takes 6-12 months to make it through the night without accidents. The Canadian Paediatric Society suggests that a doctor is consulted if a child is not using the toilet by their fourth birthday, or was using the toilet for a good amount of time and seems to be slipping back.

All children turning 4 years old on or before December 31 will be eligible to enter Junior Kindergarten (JK). If a child is not toilet trained when they enter school, ask parents about their experiences, challenges, plans for toilet training, and ask how the school can support the process. It's important that everyone is working together.

Accidents are a normal part of early childhood and development; especially when a child does not want to interrupt play or come in from outside to use the washroom. Accidents may be more frequent during times of change and stress, such as starting a new school or daily routine.



Tips for Teachers

- Talk with families about their children's washroom habits and needs.
- Ask parents to send in two extra pairs of underwear and pants, and keep them labeled in a reachable place for children in the classroom. If stored in a large resealable bag, wet clothes can be returned home in the bag.
- Develop a classroom routine for students to visit the washroom on a regular basis. Encourage student to 'try' rather than waiting until they urgently need to go.
- Ensure children know where the washroom is located and encourage regular visits to become comfortable with toilet flushing and hand washing.
- Develop a plan with families about what will happen if there are any toileting challenges.



More Information

Canadian Paediatric Society

<http://www.cps.ca/documents/position/toilet-learning>

http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/toilet_learning

The Hospital for Sick Children (About Kids Health)

<http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/En/HealthAZ/HealthandWellness/Elimination/Pages/Toilettraining.aspx>

Mayo Clinic

<http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/infant-and-toddler-health/in-depth/potty-training/art-20045230?pg=2>

Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Schools (Kindergarten Orientation FAQs - Suggestions)

<https://www.hwcdsb.ca/learn/kindergarten/?fileID=203668>

Zero to Three

<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/266-potty-training-learning-to-the-use-the-toilet#chapter-201>

Books

A Potty for Me! – Karen Katz

Dinosaur VS. The Potty – Bob Shea

I Use the Potty – Maria van Lieshout

I Want My Potty – Tony Ross

Potty – Leslie Patricelli

Potty Time – David Bedford

TiME to PEE! – Mo Willems

Who's in the Loo? – Jeanne Willis



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