



# Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Family Coalition Newsletter

## March 2025



### Great Start Family Coalition

*The Great Start Family Coalition (GSFC) is a team of parents and caregivers working to improve early childhood outcomes in our area. The GSFC supports the Great Start Collaborative by educating the community about the importance of a child's early years and ways to help kids thrive. We want all kids to get a great start in school and life! We invite you to our monthly meetings where we learn, support, and have fun together. Contact Laurie Mold or Monica Powell to RSVP or for more information about how you can get involved.*

**3/4 Schoolcraft Meeting 5:30 PM** at Lake Effect Community Arts Center, Manistique

**3/10 Delta Meeting 6 PM** at New Life Church, Escanaba



### Story Times

**Manistique School & Public Library**  
**3/5** Hula Hoop Science Family Night 5:30pm  
**3/21** Music & Movement at 10am

**Delta Animal Shelter**  
**3/1** at 10:30am

**Escanaba Public Library**  
**3/15** Great Start Storytime 10:30am  
**3/19** United Way Family Fun Night 5:30pm

### DELTA-SCHOOLCRAFT FAMILY COALITION HIGHLIGHTS



**Schoolcraft Coalition hosts Little Explorers at the First Baptist Church**

The Schoolcraft Family Coalition had an amazing time touring Public Safety in February. Be sure to check out the photos on our Facebook page. This month's Coalition meeting on March 4th will feature a carnival theme, offering fun for the entire family! It's a perfect opportunity to connect with other families. Additionally, we are excitedly preparing for our upcoming literacy event, which will resemble Delta's Children's Fun Fest. We enjoyed a great turnout last year, and we expect an even greater one this time. Mark your calendars for March 22nd at the First Baptist gym, for Read & Play Day where we'll have food, fun learning stations, and activities organized by local agencies, plus a free book for every child! While RSVPs aren't mandatory, they are appreciated to help us plan for food and materials. You can RSVP at <https://bit.ly/SCFF32225>. Monica will also be leading the Little Explorers, Music & Movement storytime and will be at Emerald's Literacy Night. Exciting opportunities abound for young children in Schoolcraft County—come and join us!

In February Delta County members learned about Help Me Grow, a service you can call, text, or visit their website for inquiries about available services or resources, as well as answers to any questions regarding your child. They offer support ranging from preschool information and playgroups to developmental questions and screenings. A real person will assist you throughout the process. The aim is to streamline and simplify how parents and caregivers access early childhood supports and services.

The group said they wanted to focus on self-care to ensure we are at our best for our children. So this month, we will host a brief demonstration of yoga and meditation. Never tried it? It's simple and soothing, helping you find tranquility amidst life's chaos. Last month, we enjoyed a travel-themed storytime led by the husband-and-wife dynamic duo, Eli Bender and Racheal Capon. Next month, we will focus on music! The United Way successfully hosted their inaugural storytime centered around Kindness and will return in April. Additionally, Family Fun Night is scheduled for March 19 at 4:30 PM with Youth Empowering Services, featuring Pete the Cat!



**United Way hosted a Family Fun Night about kindness at the Escanaba Public Library!**



[great-start.org](http://great-start.org)

### Contact Us:

Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Family Liaisons  
Laurie Mold, 906-786-9300 ext. 111, [lmold@dsisd.net](mailto:lmold@dsisd.net)  
Monica Powell, 574-274-1949, [mpowell@dsisd.net](mailto:mpowell@dsisd.net)



## March 2025 Community Events



### Delta County Events

Schoolcraft Events begin on Page 4



**3/1/25 Happy Tails Storytime** 10:30 am-11:15 am on the 1st Saturday of the month for ages 3-6 years. Enjoy animal-related stories, crafts, and meet animal guests. It is free. They ask participants to bring an item from the shelter's wish list to help the animals. [www.deltaanimal.org](http://www.deltaanimal.org)

**3/1/25 Rock Lions Soup or Chili Challenge** 12pm-3pm at Rock Lions Club 14454 M-35, Rock. Sample a variety of soups and chili, homemade bread, drinks, and cookies. Proceeds benefit Mid-Pen Robotics \$10/Adults/\$5 Kids 12 and under Call/text: Amy 906-280-1417 or Teresa 906-241-8566 for info or with questions.

**3/1 through 5/18/25 Free Family Winter Movie Series** at 2pm and 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays through May at Thomas Movie Theaters (Willow Creek Theater in Escanaba). March. 1 & 2 Kung Fu Panda, Mar. 8 & 9 Sing, Mar. 22 & 23 Despicable Me 2, Apr. 5 & 6 Migration. All ages FREE!!

**3/1, 3/5 through 3/8/25 Chicago!** 7:30 pm at the Bonifas Arts Center. Players de Noc brings Broadway's longest-running American musical. Chicago is a dazzling and satirical look at fame, justice, and the media machine. \$17 with a 1:30pm Sunday Matinee on 3/2 at 1:30 pm. Visit [playersdenoc.org](http://playersdenoc.org) for tickets.

**3/3 & 4/2/25 Safe Sitter Essentials** 11:30am to 5pm at the YMCA Delta Center 2000 North 30th Street, Escanaba. Prepares students in grades 6-8 to be safe when home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting—minimum age 11. Space is limited to the first 8 registered. \$85 members/\$125 non members. [nlymca.com](http://nlymca.com)

**3/3 through 3/28/25 Parent Tot Playtime** 9am to noon Monday through Friday at the Northern Lights YMCA. Playtime is open to ALL families with kids 5 and under looking to socialize and play! \$3 per family. Scholarships are available if you cannot afford the fee. Mention need when registering. Call 906-789-0005 to reserve a time or for more info.

**3/3/25 Cloth Connection Class: Learn How to Cloth Diaper!** 6pm-7:30pm at Kiddo's Korner Boutique, 1610 Ludington Ave, Escanaba. This hands-on class (with dolls) allows you to test the different types of cloth diapers to see which works best for you. Monthly 90-min classes are limited to 4 partners. \$30 per couple must be paid to reserve a spot. Contact [kushandpronkfarm@gmail.com](mailto:kushandpronkfarm@gmail.com) to enroll.

**3/4/25 Kids P.A.C.K: (Positive-Active-Compassionate-Kind)** 4:30pm-6pm at the Delta Animal Shelter. An educational club for children ages 6-8 years. Includes activities, games, crafts, guest speakers, animal education, making treats/toys, and animal interaction. Meets the first Tuesday of the month. Please call the shelter for more information. 906-789-0230.

**/6, 3/7, 3/8, 3/9/25 The Wizard of Oz** 7pm & 9pm at Forest Roberts Theater, Marquette. (Saturday 3/8 Theater For All performance/1pm matinee on 3/9) L. Frank Baum's timeless tale, The Wizard of Oz blends nostalgic magic with fresh, contemporary staging and all the beloved songs and moments fans have come to cherish. General Public \$17 advance/\$19 at the door. Students & Youth \$11/\$13. <https://nmu.universitytickets.com>

**3/6 & 4/4/25 Growing Families Group Connections** 9am-11am at the New Life Community Center, 2005 8th Ave South, Escanaba. Join Tiffany from Great Start's Growing Families Home Visiting Program for indoor fun in the Playzone. Free and open to all children 5 and under. (Mats and toys provided for the littlest guests.) Socks are required to use the Playzone. RSVP required - Space is limited. Please text or call Tiffany at 906-241-9020.

**3/6 through 3/27/25 Rapid River Area Playgroup** 9:30am on Thursdays. Location varies. Follow them on Facebook for details and to be aware of cancellations due to weather or sickness. You may also contact Amanda Nietling at 906-420-4572 for more info.

**3/7 through 3/21/25 Toddler Art at Bonifas Arts Center** Fridays 9:30am-10:30am. Ages walking through 4. \$5 per day/\$30 for the series per student. Nurtures imagination, problem-solving, and motor skills through art and dance. Register at [bonifasarts.org](http://bonifasarts.org) or call 906-786-3833 for more information.

**3/7 & 3/8 Spring Craft Show** at the Up State Fairgrounds. 3pm-7pm Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday. \$2 entry fee. kids under 10 years free.

**3/7/25 Child Find Developmental Screenings** A FREE and confidential service provided at the Delta-Schoolcraft ISD (DSISD). Screenings for children from birth to age 5 to identify children needing early intervention and/or special education services as early as possible. Call (906) 786-9300 ext. 201 with questions and to schedule an appointment.

**3/8/25 March Children's Painting** 10am-11:30am at the Bonifas Studio. Children ages 6-12 years will have a wonderful time creating fun acrylic paintings. \$25 M / \$35 NM Register at [bonifasarts.org](http://bonifasarts.org)

**3/8/25 Escanaba Library Lego Club** 1pm at Escanaba Public Library. Bring one container of Legos per child in attendance. Be entered into a prize drawing. The theme is Lucky Rainbows.

**3/8/25 Nerf Night!** 7pm-8:30pm for 3rd through 6th Graders. Wells Sports Complex, 6645 N.75 Drive. Bring your own NERF gear (guns, bullets, vest & goggles). All players should have at least one Nerf gun to use. Eye protection is required and limited supplies will be available. Limited Space. \$10 members/\$15 non-members. Visit [nlymca.com](http://nlymca.com) for details.

**3/10/25 Great Start Family Coalition** 6pm-7:30pm at New Life Church Community Room. A space for parents of young children to connect, learn, have their voices heard, and engage in fun activities in the community. This month adults are focusing on self-care with yoga with Erica Mead and Meditation 101 with Joseph Mold. Bring your own yoga mat or beach towel. FREE dinner and childcare are provided in the Playzone. Free to all parents and caregivers. Just RSVP to Laurie at 419-320-5542 with the number of adults and children attending.

**3/12/25 Escanaba Fan Club Burrito Dinner** 5pm to 7pm in the Escanaba High School Commons. Features big sour cream & cheese burritos, homemade nachos & homemade salsa. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased online at [www.eskymofanclub.org](http://www.eskymofanclub.org).

**3/14/24 Failte** 5pm-7pm at the Herford & Hops. Get in the festive mood for St. Patrick's Day with a free concert from Celtic and Folk Music performed by local band, Failte! Enjoy drinks, dinner and maybe a jig. Fun for all!

...Delta Continued from page 2

3/15/25 **Great Start Storytime: Let's Talk , Read & Sing About Music** 10:30am at the Escanaba Public Library. The Great Start Family Coalition presents a free storytime for ages 0-8 years old. There will be stories, movement activities, and social time! Each child will get a new book. FREE No registration is required. Contact [lmold@dsisd.net](mailto:lmold@dsisd.net) for more info.

3/15/25 **Jig & Jive at the Y! Sock Hop** 6pm to 8pm for kids Kindergarten through 3rd grade at NLYMCA in the big gym. It's a St. Patrick's Day themed dance for kiddos in Kindergarten through 3rd Grade. A magical time with games, activities, dancing, and a pizza dinner! All kids are encouraged to wear green & their most festive Irish socks! \$10 members/\$15 general public. Space is limited. Register at [www.nlymca.com](http://www.nlymca.com)

3/16/25 **St. Urho's Day Breakfast Buffet** 9am-noon at the Rock Lions Club 14454 M-35, Rock. Breakfast Buffet & Can Drive. Includes scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hashbrowns, biscuits & gravy, pancakes, french toast and a variety of desserts. Includes coffee, milk and juice. Adults \$12, Kids 6 - 12 \$9, Kids 5 and under Free.

3/17/25 **Lunchtime Live! St. Patrick's Day Edition** 11:30am-1pm Join Bay College for free traditional music with Celtic band, Failte' and plenty of shenanigans in the Cafe Bay - Escanaba Campus. The Cafe will be open for lunch. [www.bay.edu](http://www.bay.edu)

3/18/25 **Baby Cafe** 4pm-6pm at Pregnancy Services of Delta Co. A free drop-in support and information group for all expecting and breastfeeding mothers and their babies. Contact 906-786-7474 or with any questions.

3/19/25 **Feed America Food Truck** 10am at the Salvation Army 3001 5th Ave. S., Escanaba.

3/19/25 **Family Fun Night: Pete the Cat** 4:30pm at the Escanaba Public Library. You Empowering Services hosts a storytime with all things Pete the Cat! Kids 0-8 will enjoy stories, activities, a snack, and a free book! No registration is required.

3/19/25 **Connect Well 2025** 4pm-7pm in the Escanaba High School Commons. A wellness fair with food, family fun and childcare so caregivers can explore tools and connections that support student emotional well-being, academic success and personal growth. Free!

3/27/25 **Parents Like Me Support Group** 7pm-8:30pm at the Escanaba Early Childhood Center 1905 S. 21st St. For parents raising children with special needs. Snacks and beverages provided. No childcare. Contact Carrie at 906-786-7080 EXT 163 to RSVP.

3/31 through 4/4/25 **YMCA Spring Break Camp** 7:30am-5:30pm at the Wells Center. Kids grades K-5 enjoy activities, arts, crafts, and games. Please bring lunch, outdoor wear, and snacks. \$185 members /\$210 non-members. [www.nlymca.com](http://www.nlymca.com)



A free centralized access point for all children's needs from prenatal through age 5.

**844-464-0005**

**Connect with a local care coordinate today!**



[miearlychildhood.org](http://miearlychildhood.org)



## GREAT START STORYTIME

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH  
10:30 AM  
AT THE ESCANABA PUBLIC LIBRARY



Let's talk, read & sing about music with the Great Start Family Coalition! Free and open to all families with Kids 0-8 Enjoy stories & activities together. Plus, Each child receives a free book!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Laurie Mold at [lmold@dsisd.net](mailto:lmold@dsisd.net) or text/call 419-320-5542



## Family Fun Night

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19TH**  
**4:30 PM**  
**ESCANABA PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**(IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS)**

Join Youth Empowering Services (Y.E.S.) for an action-packed Pete the Cat storytime! Kids 0-8 will enjoy stories, a craft, snack, and free book! FREE!! No registration required.



CONTACT LAURIE MOLD WITH ANY QUESTIONS AT [LMOLD@DSISD.NET](mailto:LMOLD@DSISD.NET) OR 419-320-5542



## Schoolcraft County Events

3/1/25 Through 3/29/25 **Mueller Township Farmers Market** every Saturday from 10am-noon at the Old Green School. 1805 Quarry Rd, Gulliver. Something for everyone! Produce, baked goods, sweets, and craft items.

3/1/25 **ECA Family Night- RC Cars** 5pm-7pm Bring your family and favorite RC Cars to the Upper level of the Erickson Center and take a spin on the ECA Speedway. Free! All ages are welcome, children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult. no cars over 10 inches and no drones. N9224 Saw-Wa-Quato Curtis MI

3/1/25 **Kiwanis Mother & Son Bowling Fun** 2pm-5pm Ten Pin Alley, 1005 E Lake Shore Dr, Manistique, MI. Tickets include Wacky Bowling, Shoe Rental, Prize Bag, Pizza, Dessert, and Drinks. Tickets \$40 and \$10 for each additional son. Tickets on sale starting 2/7 at Putvin Healthmart, Manistique Computers and The Mill.

3/1/25 through 3/30/25 **Regular Open Skate** Fridays and Saturdays from 6pm-9pm and Sundays from 5pm-8pm. Cost of admission is \$5 per person. There will be no open skate on holidays. Little Bear West Arena. 180 N Maple St, Manistique

3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24 & 3/31 **Food and Clothing Pantry** 11am-1pm at the Christ Fellowship Church in Germfask. Weekly on Mondays. Free food and clothing for families in need. Closed on holidays. Contact Pastor Diana at 906-286-0591 for more information.

3/3/25 through 3/31/25 **Good News Club** 3:30pm at Garden Christian Fellowship Church. Free after-school program for all kids where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, and games. The club is held every Monday there is a full day of school. Garden Christian Fellowship Church, Garden, MI. Call Yvonne for more info at 906-286-3833

3/3, 3/5, 3/10, 3/12, 3/17 & 3/19/25 **Open Pool** 6pm-8pm Manistique Area Schools. \$3/person. Swimmers must provide their own suits and towels, swim caps are not required. \*Dates are subject to change due to school events. 100 N Cedar St, Manistique MI

3/3/25 through 3/27/25 **Free Open Skate** 2:30pm-4:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Little Bear West Arena. There will be no open skate on holidays. 180 N Maple St, Manistique MI

3/4/25 **Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Family Coalition Meeting** 5:30pm-7:00pm Carnival Family Fun Night at Lake Effect Community Arts Center. Bring the whole family for a night of carnival fun! There will be face painting and carnival games. Free Dinner and Childcare will be provided. Please RSVP to Monica Powell at 574-274-1949 or mpowell@dsisd.net with the ages and number of children attending.

3/4/25 through 3/25/25 **Good News Club** 3:30pm at Manistique Bible Church. Free after-school program for all kids where the Bible is taught with songs, stories, and games. The club is held every Tuesday and there is a full day of school. For more info contact Jean at 906-286-1610

3/5/25 **Hula Hoop Science Family Night** 5:30pm-7pm Free Family Night at the Manistique School & Public Library. Natalie will teach the science of Hula Hoops in an exciting way. Bring your family for music and fun! Check in at 5:15, pizza at 5:30 and the Hula hoop programs starts at 6. Please call 906-252-4316 to RSVP with who will be attending.

3/5 **Kids Drawing Class** 3:30pm-4:30pm Christine teaches kids aged 8-16 drawing using a variety of mediums. Each class is \$10. If School is canceled, class is canceled. Please register at LakeEffectArts.org. Lake Effect Community Arts Center 244 S. Cedar St. Manistique MI

3/6/25 **Literacy Night & Science Fair** 5:30pm-7pm This is a public event, and all are welcome to attend. There will be games, crafts, and a book walk. St. Francis de Sales School 210 Lake St Manistique MI

3/6, 3/13, & 3/20 **Winter Film Festival** Doors open at 6pm, Movies start at 6:30pm. Free! Bring your family and friends for three inspiring films. March 6th: Linking Land and Lakes, March 13: Magic of the Snowy Owl, and March 20th Hummingbirds: Magic in the air. Concessions available. Erickson Center Pine Performance Center N 9224 Saw-Wa Quato Curtis MI

3/7,3/14, 3/21, & 3/28 **Friday Fish Fry** 5pm - 8pm Public Welcome! Take out or inside Dining. Manistique Moose Lodge, M-149, Manistique.

3/7,3/14,3/21 & 3/28 **Elks Fish Fry** 4:30pm-7:30 Every Friday night Fish Fry. Take Out, Curbside Pick Up or Indoor Dining Available. All entrees \$18.00. Call 906-341-2536 with any questions. 213 Walnut St. Manistique

3/8/25 **Elks Chili Cookoff** Get your recipes ready for the Elks Chili Cook Off! Open to the public \$10 Entry, cooks get in for free. Public tasting after judging. Drop off between 2pm-3pm, judging at 3:15pm. Also 50/50, Silent Auction, and raffles. Bring your chili in a crock pot. Questions call 906-342-2536. 213 Walnut St. Manistique

3/8/, 3/13 & 3/15/25 **Kids Create** 11am-3pm Join in celebrating our local youth artists at the Children's Reception on 3/15 from 5pm-7pm all youth artists are invited to attend. The Art Center will be open for the public to view the children's art on 3/8 and 3/15 from 11am-3pm. Lake Effect Art Community Arts Center. 244 S Cedar St Manistique.

3/11/25 **Kindergarten Screening & Registration** 5pm-7pm Emerald Elementary. Join us for a night of food and fun! Please call 906-252-4332 to schedule a screening appointment to be completed at the event. 628 Oak St Manistique MI.

3/11/25 **Taco Tuesday** 11:00am - 4:00pm VFW Hall, N Maple St, Manistique. Public Welcome. Tacos Hard or Soft Shell - \$3 each or 2 for \$5. Chicken Quesadilla - \$8. Taco Salad - \$8. Nachos - \$6

3/12/25 **Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Little Explorers** 1pm-2pm at First Baptist Church, 319 Walnut St Manistique. A time for kids 0-5 years old with adult supervision to play and explore. No Reservation required. For more information contact Monica Powell at 574-274-1949 or mpowell@dsisd.net

3/13/25 & 3/27/25 **Please Touch & Play** 10:30am-11:30am an early childhood arts exploration and playgroup. Lake Effect Community Arts Center. 244 S Cedar St Manistique.

3/13/25 **Lego Building Session** 3:30pm-4:30pm Manistique School & Public Library 100 N Cedar St Manistique. Calling all K-8 youth in our community. Join us for a free Lego-building session! Kindergarteners are asked to bring an adult to work with them. Reserve your spot at <https://v2.4honline.com> Contact Jill at 906-286-3327 for any questions.

3/15/25 **ECA Family Fun Night Beach Party** 5pm-7pm Upper Level of the Erickson Center. Dance party with glow sticks, beach themed photo booth, refreshments, and more! Free and all ages are welcome! Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. N9224 Saw-Wa-Quato Curtis

3/15/25 **Live Music! Make-Believe Spurs** 5pm-8pm Head to Flat Iron Brewing for live music from the amazing Make-Believe Spurs. 375 Traders Point Dr. Manistique Mi.

3/19/25 **Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Stories & Crafts with Seniors & Tots** 10am-11:00am Join us at the Manistique Senior Center to celebrate Dr. Suess' Birthday. We will read Dr. Suess books, have a fun craft, and cupcakes. 101 Main Street, Manistique.

3/20/25 **Fantasy Fair** 4:30pm-6pm in the St. Francis gymnasium. This is an open house event for the 2025-2026 school year for Preschool and Kindergarten-aged children and their families. There will be fantasy dress up, castle building, dragon egg exploration, fairy gardens, crafts, and candlestick jumping. 210 Lake St Manistique MI.

3/21/25 **Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Music and Movement** 10am-11am at the Manistique School & Public Library. Join us for a morning of music, movement, and learning. Wiggle, shimmy, and shake to children's music. A free book and a light snack will be provided. This event is for children 0-5 with adult supervision, but all are welcome! 100 N Cedar St Manistique MI

3/22/25 **Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Children's Fun Fest -Read and Play Day** 11:30am-1:30pm at First Baptist Church in Manistique. A special day for kids 0-8 years and their caregivers to enjoy fun learning activities, free books, pizza, and more. Contact Ashley Aaron at aaron@dsisd.net or 906-553-5440 with questions. 319 Walnut St Manistique.

3/22 & 3/23/25 **Mite Melt Hockey** Come play some hockey at the Little Bear West Arena! \$300 per team, four games are guaranteed. Register at Manistiquehockeyassociation.com. N Maple St Manistique MI.

3/25/25 **Literacy Night** 5:30pm-7pm Come out to Emerald Elementary for a fun career themed literacy night. There will be fun literacy activities and games. 628 Oak St Manistique MI.



**MUSIC AND MOVEMENT**  
10AM-11AM  
MARCH 21 2025  
MANISTIQUE SCHOOL & PUBLIC LIBRARY  
100 N CEDAR ST. MANISTIQUE MI

COME JOIN US FOR A MORNING OF MUSIC, MOVEMENT, AND LEARNING. WIGGLE, SHIMMY, AND SHAKE TO CHILDREN'S MUSIC. A FREE BOOK AND A LIGHT SNACK ARE PROVIDED. THIS EVENT IS AIMED FOR CHILDREN 0-8 WITH ADULT SUPERVISION, BUT ALL ARE WELCOME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MONICA POWELL AT  
MPOWELL@DSISD.NET OR 574-274-1949

**Hats Off to Reading**  
Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!

Come celebrate reading month at the Manistique Senior Center by celebrating Dr. Suess' birthday! We will be reading Dr. Suess books, have a fun craft and cupcakes! All are welcome! Come and join the fun!

**Wednesday, March 19th 2025**  
10:00 am- 11:00 am  
Manistique Senior Center  
101 Main Street Manistique MI

For more information contact Monica Powell at mpowell@dsisd.net or 574-274-1949

# SCHOOLCRAFT CHILDREN'S FUN FEST 2025

## Read & Play Day

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025**

**11:30 AM-1:30 PM**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MANISTIQUE**

319 WALNUT ST., MANISTIQUE

**A special day for kids 0-8 years and their caregivers to enjoy fun learning activities, free books, pizza, and more!**



**Please RSVP to help us plan for food and materials to [bit.ly/SCFF32225](https://bit.ly/SCFF32225)**  
If you cannot RSVP you are still welcome to come!



## Delta County Great Start Family Coalition

A space for families with young kids to connect, learn and have fun.

**Monday March 10th**

**6pm-7:30pm**

at New Life Church

**Caring for Ourselves:**

**Yoga & Mindfulness 101**

with Erica Mead & Joseph Mold



This month we focus on our well-being so we are at our best for our children.

Bring a yoga mat or beach towel.

FREE dinner and childcare are provided in the Playzone!

RSVP to Laurie at 419-320-5542 with the number of adults and children attending.



*Save the Date*

Great Start  
Children's Fun Fest 2025

## Bloom & Grow

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025**

**10 AM TO 1 PM**

**NORTHERN LIGHTS YMCA**



**Contact Laurie Mold**  
**419-320-5542 with any questions**

## WINTER & SPRING Group Connections

All children 5 and under with a caregiver are welcome. Babies, too! We have playmats and toys for our littlest guests.

**Where:**

**New Life Community Center**  
2007 8th Avenue  
Escanaba, Michigan

The children's zone comprises a fully equipped, enclosed children's play area with seating and a restroom.



**RSVP is Required, at least one day before each event . Text Tiffany at 906-241-9020 with your name and age of the children attending.. SOCKS are Required.**

  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension  
**Free Online Parenting Classes**

**Early Childhood Online Extension Extra Parenting Hour**

A free online series of parenting workshops that guide parents of young children as they navigate the challenges, joys, and concerns of parenting. They run **Tuesdays** from **8pm-9:30pm**.

- 3/4/25: **Exploring Parenting Styles**
- 3/11/25: **Talking with Kids about Race**
- 3/18/25: **Parenting in the Digital Age**
- 3/25/25: **The Importance of Outdoor Play**

**Kinship Caregivers**

- 3/12/25 **Positive Discipline** 7pm to 8pm
- 3/21/25 **Helping Kids Manage Stress** 11:30am-1:00pm

**Class Series**

3/3-3/24 **Alternatives to Anger** is a four-part educational series designed to help adults, parents and caregivers increase their knowledge about anger issues and put anger management and healthy relationship skills into practice. 8:30am-9:30am

**Free Online Self-Paced Classes**

These classes can be completed at your own pace.

**Positive Discipline:** Adults learn how to create appropriate environments and experiences that help young children learn self-control.

**Infant Safety "Sleeping, Crying, Driving."** A three-part course covering infant safe sleep, how to handle extended infant crying and guidelines for transporting your child safely.

**MI Parenting Resource**

This program supports caregivers in strengthening their parent-child relationships and enhancing positive child behaviors.



**FREE Special Education Webinars for Families**

Visit [www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org) for registration & more special education information

3/3 **Crafting Your Parent Input Statement** 12:00pm-1:00pm

3/5 **Math for All: Supporting Your Child with Disabilities in Math** 12:00pm-1:00pm

3/5 **Due Process Complaint and Hearing** 4:30pm-6:00pm

3/6 **IEP: A Closer Look** 9:30am-11:00am

3/12 **Growing Up with Self-Determination** 6:30pm-8:00pm



# LITTLE EXPLORERS

At First Baptist Church in Manistique

COME AND JOIN US!

THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

1PM - 2PM

319 WALNUT STREET MANISTIQUE

FREE! NO RSVP REQUIRED

INSPIRES COLLABORATION, SOCIAL AND BODY AWARENESS AND A LOVE OF EXERCISE FOR 0-5 YEAR OLDS WITH ADULT SUPERVISION

For more information contact Monica Powell at [mpowell@dsdsd.net](mailto:mpowell@dsdsd.net) or 574-274-1949



## OPENING YOUR OWN IN-HOME CHILD CARE: Q&A SESSION

Have you ever considered owning your own business? Do you want to make a difference in the lives of the children and families of your community? Consider opening your own in-home licensed child care!

Join our virtual Q&A session to learn more!

Featuring

Child Care Licensing Consultants  
Licensed Home Child Care Providers  
Great Start to Quality Staff

**MONDAY, MARCH 10TH  
6:30- 8:00 PM ET**

**Register on Zoom for the Q&A session here!**

Or contact Angela Gagnon at  
[angelagagnon@4cofup.org](mailto:angelagagnon@4cofup.org) or  
(906) 399-0708

This flyer was developed under a grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential using Child Care Development Funds (CCDF)





## MDS CAA Early Childhood Program

"Serving Menominee, Delta & Schoolcraft Counties."

**Now is the time! Don't wait!**

Fall 2025 Registration is now open for the  
Head Start, Early Head Start & Great Start Readiness Programs!

### How to Apply

Stop by any of our following locations during Head Start Week to fill out an application for the 2025 program year.

(All applications for Delta County families will be taken at our Escanaba location.)

### Head Start Week!

March 3rd-March 7th

All locations are open 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM.

No appointment needed! Just stop by!

A free backpack will be given to anyone who completes an application during Head Start Week!

Escanaba Early Childhood Center - 1905 South 21st Street, Escanaba  
Manistique Early Childhood Center - 426 Chippewa Ave, Manistique  
Menominee Early Childhood Center - N1329 US Hwy 41, Menominee

**\*We encourage all families to apply regardless of income, as eligibility criteria has changed!** Please bring the child's birth certificate & proof of household income\*  
Transportation is available for those in need.



If you are unable to make it in person at the times/dates listed above, call 1-800-562-9131 or scan the QR code to access our online application to get the process started.



- Full-Day & Half-Day Classroom options for 3-5 years olds
- Home-Based option for 0-3 years olds (and expectant mothers!)
- Child Development Curriculum
- Kindergarten Readiness
- Monthly family activities
- Bussing with approved 5-point seats
- Potty training assistance (diapers/pull-ups provided!)
- Healthy meals and snacks
- Health Services

## Connect Well 2025

Our mission is to promote wellness, with a focus on mental health, social emotional learning and increase access to valuable community resources. We aim to provide tools and connections that support student emotional well-being, academic success, and personal growth.

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

4:00PM- 7:00PM

Escanaba Area High School Commons  
(West Parking Lot)

Free Admission

Free Food and Drink Tickets

Chances to Win Prizes

Free childcare for younger siblings

### What to Expect:

- ✓ Family fun for all with make and take activities for all ages!
- ✓ Ways to find help if you have questions or concerns.
- ✓ Tools and resources to support student well-being.

Sponsored By:



GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM

REGISTRATION BEGINS

**MARCH 1, 2025**



**All Michigan 4-year-olds  
can now qualify for  
FREE PreK**

Capacity varies by location, prioritizing those who need it most.

**PreK for All** provides access to free, high-quality PreK for all Michigan 4-year-olds. Your child can explore early math, science, and reading in a safe, nurturing place with caring adults.

### How Does Your Child Benefit?

Children who attend a PreK for All program:

- Enter kindergarten ready to succeed
- Learn how to share and get along with others
- Learn in a high-quality space that helps them thrive
- Work with teachers who care for their social, physical and learning needs
- Are more likely to graduate high school and go to college

Find a program near you and  
learn more at:

**dspschool.org**



## High Quality PreK

Great Start Readiness Program  
Head Start

**Manistique Early Childhood Center**  
906-341-6423

**Gladstone Early Childhood Center**  
906-428-4231

**Escanaba Early Childhood Center**  
906-789-0997

Federally funded program offering 2 options:

- Early Head Start (birth to 3)
- Head Start (3-5)

Support services for both programs include disabilities, mental health, education, nutrition, and family services.

www.mdscaa.org 906-786-7080

Angie Gardner  
MDSCAA Early Childhood  
Program Manager



Find a program near you and  
learn more at:

**dspschool.org**



**Bark River-Harris Preschool**  
906-466-5334 ext. 2136

**Big Bay de Noc Preschool**  
906-644-2773

**Country Schoolhouse**  
Danforth 906-233-9399  
Escanaba 906-789-9353  
Gladstone 906-428-3989

**Emerald Elementary Readiness Program**  
906-341-4332

**Mid Peninsula Preschool**  
906-359-4387

**Small Wonders Preschool**  
906-786-9300

**Rapid River GSRP Preschool (New)**  
906-474-6411

State funded preschool program  
for 4 year olds.

www.dsisd.net 906-786-9300

Mallory Clickner  
DSISD Early Childhood Contact



DELTA & SCHOOLCRAFT

# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2025

| District             | Dates                                         | Contact                   | Details                                                                                                               |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bark River           | 3/6 Open House 4-6pm<br>5/2 Screenings        | 906-466-5334<br>ext. 2111 | Open House for Readiness & Kindergarten tours & to meet staff. Screenings are by appt. only.                          |
| Big Bay              | February 28                                   | 906-252-4500<br>ext. 3101 | Call to make an appointment.                                                                                          |
| Escanaba             | Ongoing registration<br>6/10 & 6/11 Screening | 906-786-6118              | Bring original birth certificate to Webster school office 8:30am-4pm to fill out paperwork. Screenings by appt. only. |
| Gladstone            | Call now to schedule screening                | 906-428-2314              | Screenings will be held June 3rd through the 5th.                                                                     |
| Manistique           | March 11th<br>5pm-7pm                         | 906-252-4332              | Call to schedule a screening for March 11th.                                                                          |
| Mid-Peninsula        | March 6th<br>5pm-7pm                          | 906-359-4387              | GSRP & Kindergarten registration. Dinner provided-RSVP. Bring birth cert. & current immunization record.              |
| Rapid River          | April 24th                                    | 906-474-6411 ext.<br>6507 | Call March 10th through the 14th to schedule an appt.                                                                 |
| Nah Tah Wahsh        | May 2nd<br>8:30am-2:30pm                      | 906-466-2952<br>ext. 7778 | Call 906-466-2952 ext. 7778 to schedule an appt. or with with questions you might have.                               |
| Holy Name            | Ongoing registration                          | 906-786-7550<br>ext. 10   | Pick up a registration packet in the office or have one sent to you. Tours are available with the principal by appt.  |
| St. Francis de Sales | Ongoing Registration                          | 906-341-5512              | Call the office for more information on PreK & Kindergarten enrollment.                                               |

Preschool registration is open. Register early!  
Visit [dspreschool.org](https://dspreschool.org) to start an application.



March into Parenting & Reading!

March is all about flexing your parenting superpowers! It's Parenting Awareness Month, shining a spotlight on how to raise kiddos into healthy, independent, and caring humans. But wait, there's more! It's also National Reading Month, promoting the magic of books and literacy. And guess what? These two celebrations go hand in hand because parents are the ultimate first teachers! Studies show that kids with engaged parents are like academic ninjas—more likely to score higher grades, show up to school, and snag those diplomas. Some stats even say they're 40% more likely to be A-students when mom and dad are in the game!



Reading together isn't just a fun bedtime ritual; it's like rocket fuel for your child's brain! It boosts language skills, sparks their imagination, hones critical thinking, and builds empathy, all while strengthening that special parent-child bond. So, to cultivate a reading love affair, make it a daily delight, pick books that tickle their fancy, try out different character voices, chat about the tales, and let them pick their own page-turners. Happy reading and parenting!

~Tosha Mason is a Public Health Delta & Menominee Counties W.I.C. Employee, Delta-Schoolcraft Great Start Family Coalition member, and mother of five beautiful children.



Power Smoothie

A perfect St. Patrick's Day Treat!

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
- 1 orange
- 1 cup spinach
- 1 cup of frozen or fresh strawberries or mixed berries
- 1 small banana
- 1 tbsp. honey
- 1/2 cup milk (or water)

Directions

1. Scoop the yogurt and place it in the blender.
2. Peel orange and pull apart into two halves. Place in blender.
3. Add the spinach, strawberries or mixed berries, banana, and honey, and top it off with the milk.
4. Blend the ingredients together.
5. Serve in a glass.



Pro tips:

- You can add any additional fruits and vegetables to this smoothie, as well as additional liquid. If the smoothie is too thick or thin for your liking, feel free to experiment by adding more milk or your favorite 100% fruit juice.
- You cannot taste the spinach in the smoothie. Add more berries/less spinach if they do not like green drinks.