

TIS Digital Backpack
February 13, 2023



Photo courtesy of M. Lachut

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE:

Parent/Guardian Teacher Conferences

Parent/Guardian Teacher conferences will be held on the afternoons of March 2nd and March 3rd. This year our conferences will again be held virtually or in-person. We will reach out to families to schedule a conference for select students. Parents/guardians will have the ability to sign up for a conference via the SignUp Genius website. A link will soon be provided.

Directions will be provided for any parent/guardian not receiving communication from the school to schedule a conference. Parents/guardians will have the ability to sign up for a conference with any member of a teaching staff such as UA teachers, members of our intervention or special services team. If a virtual option is chosen links will be provided allowing parents/guardians to join their scheduled conference.

Thank you to our PTO for organizing the Kindness Sign initiative and thanks to all those that participated.







Kindness Week at T.I.S



During Kindness Week students will focus on how they can show kindness to themselves and others!

Monday, February 13 Shout Out Day

Notice a kind Hawk and give them a message or shout out!

Tuesday, February 14 Heart Day

Wear hearts or the color red or pink to show kindness is everywhere at TIS!

Wednesday, February 15 Community Kindness

Thank someone that has helped you in our school community.

Thursday, February 16 Be Kind to Yourself

Remember it is important to be kind to you too! Students will do a classroom activity focusing on self care.

Friday, February 17 Random Act of Kindness Day

Surprise someone with a random act of kindness.



For Questions reach out to Mrs. Bishopric!
abishopric@tolland.k12.ct.us

One School One Team TIS

TIS CALENDAR



FEBRUARY

1 Kindness Month Begins

8 Early Dismissal, 12:40

10 Sports Team Day

20-21-22 February Break, NO SCHOOL



February Reading Thoughts from the TIS Reading Department

7 Reasons Why You MUST Read Aloud To Your Kids At All Ages

[Katherine Stone](#)



I believe the fact that I read aloud to my children is the single most important contributing factor to their success in school.

Just reading. Out loud. Every night.

And here's what I want you to know: You should definitely, absolutely, without any question read aloud to your kids. All the time. And not just when they're little.

We are so obsessed with reading in my house that when we went on a Spring Break trip to New York City a couple of years ago we made sure to visit the [Scholastic store](#) in addition to the Statue of Liberty. I might as well have [Random House Children's Books](#) on speed dial. [Barnes & Noble](#) is among the three stores I frequent more than any other, and the vast majority of the money I spend there is on children's books. In fact, I am so in love with reading that I want to make sure other children have things to read, too. Whenever we're done with kids' books at my house we either donate them to the local library or to my children's school's library. At our neighborhood-wide garage sale a few weeks ago, my kids handed out a free children's book to every family that came by with kids.

I have read aloud to my children since they were little, and I continue to do so. I think that's vitally important. I continue to read aloud with my 11-year-old when he's not still buried under homework at bedtime. I won't ever stop reading to him until he says he doesn't want to anymore, and even then I'll probably beg him to let me keep doing it anyway. We read books. We read magazines like [Spider](#) and [National Geographic Kids](#) for my daughter and [National Geographic](#), the grownup version, for my son. They read on their iPads.

Also, every night I have my daughter read aloud to me for 15 minutes or so before I read to her. She's seven years old, just finishing up first grade, and when she was tested a couple of weeks ago her reading level was at 5th grade. I'm convinced, beyond a doubt, that it's because we make sure that reading is a focus at home and we don't just leave it to the school to make it a priority. All it takes is a few minutes of a parent's time to make a huge difference.

Reading to your kids is about so much more than simply teaching them to read in kindergarten or first grade. Here are seven great reasons why you should be obsessed with reading aloud daily to your children, no matter their age:

1. It's time spent together. Reading time is time when you're focusing on no one else and nothing else but them. It's impossible to read to your kid and look at your smartphone or watch TV at the same time. I read to each of my children separately before bed. This lets me spend quality time with them individually. It makes for a longer bedtime ritual, but I don't care because I love it.

2. It's a conversation starter. Books always give us a reason to talk with each other, even if we don't feel like we have anything to talk about. It keeps communication open.

3. It's a great way to talk about emotional health. We talk about the things that happen in the stories, how we would feel if they happened to us, and how we might deal with such events the same or differently. Books have helped me broach topics that I might not have thought to raise if it weren't for the subject matter in the story.

4. It's a great way to honor the individuality in your children. I read different things to my daughter than I do to my son. We go to the bookstore and they pick out books about topics about which they are interested. Through paying attention to what they want to read, I can learn more about what their likes and dislikes are, including what they might want to be when they grow up.

5. You can open up new worlds for your kids. Reading allows you to introduce your kids to things that their school curriculum just doesn't have the time or perhaps even the interest to cover. My 6th grader has recently expressed an interest in industrial design, so I'm on a hunt for cool books about the design of cars and about architecture. *Dear publishers: Please publish more books for young readers about these things!! We don't just need stories about zombies and vampires.*

6. You get a wealth of information on where your children might need help. Through reading aloud to my children I've been able to teach them the meaning of words they still didn't understand. They have better vocabularies. They have better comprehension skills and understanding of abstract concepts. And reading allows them to excel not just in language arts, but in all of their subjects. I've been able to see when my daughter was ready to read on her own — she started pushing me out of the way and reading the words herself — and also to see if and when she needs help.

7. It can lead to a lifelong love of reading in your kids. If you do it right, by reading like you mean it — which means getting into the story, changing your voice to reflect what is happening and not droning on like you hate what you're reading — your children will learn to love reading on their own. My 11-year-old has now read more than 25,000 pages in his lifetime. How do I know this? For fun, together we created an Excel spreadsheet (OCD, anyone?) where we record the books he has read and how many pages were in them. He loves that little sheet, because it gives him a sense of accomplishment and he can look back on all that he has read and remember his favorites.

Reading is awesome, and even better, it's accessible to all through our country's public [library system](#). So please, get out there and read to your babies and, most importantly, don't quit.

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.

Give blood.



**American
Red Cross**



Tolland Recreation Dept. Blood Drive

104 Old Post Road, Tolland, CT 06084

Room Name: Gym - Basketball Court

**Wednesday, February 22, 2023
11:00 AM - 04:00 PM**

+

Contact information: 860-871-3610; tollandrec@tollandct.gov

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

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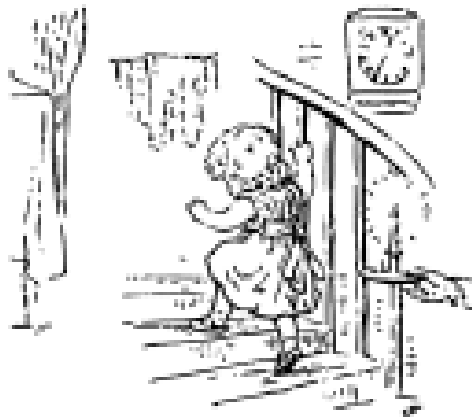
**2023 Spring Registration
NOW OPEN!**

Girls & Boys grades K - 8

No experience necessary!
Come play the fastest sport on grass!

Don't wait: Early bird discount through 1/17/23
Registration closes 2/17/23

For more information and to register go to:
www.TollandLacrosse.org



Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8 Band Step Up Concert Thursday, March 9

Location: Tolland Middle School Auditorium

Arrive: 6:30 p.m.

Grade 5 band members report to room 120 with Mrs. Marchesani

Grade 6, 7, 8 band members report to the band room with Ms. Titus.

Attire: casual ☺

Schedule:

6:30 p.m. Students arrive to warm up.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Students perform music.

8:00-8:15 p.m. Clear stage, move equipment back to the band room. Miss Titus and Mrs. Marchesani will be available to answer questions at this time. Please consider volunteering at the end of the concert to help clear the stage. We will move all chairs, music stands and percussion equipment to the band room.

If your child needs special accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Miss Titus at htitus@tolland.k12.ct.us

Set List:

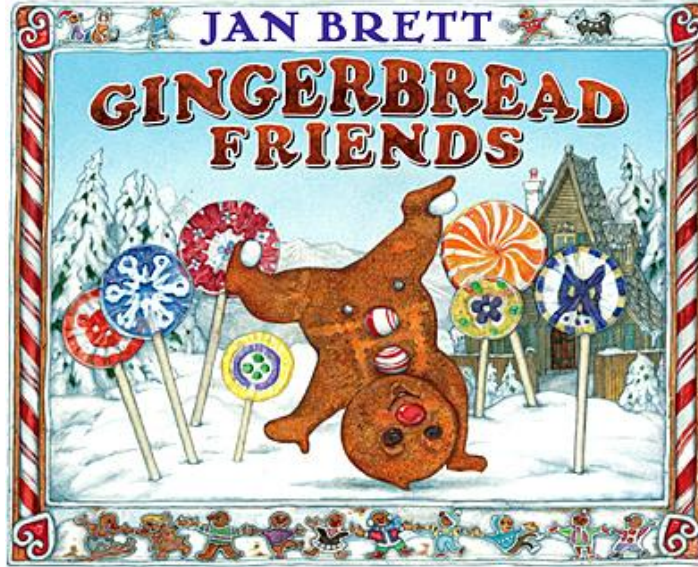
1.) Grade 5 Band
Popcorn Prelude
This Old Man
This Old Dude

2.) Grade 5 & 6 Bands Combined
Regal March

3.) Grades 6, 7 & 8 Bands Combined
Trumpet Voluntary
Rockin' Rondoau
Rock Island Express
Mercy, Mercy, Mercy

4.) Grades 7 & 8 Bands Combined
Cissy Strut
Sing, Sing, Sing

ITEMS FROM LAST WEEK'S DIGITAL BACKPACK:



The Tolland Family Resource Center Presents
Gingerbread Friends Night
Friday, February 17, 2023
(Snow date 2/24/2023)
6:00-7:30pm

Held at Birch Grove Primary School's Cafeteria, 247 Rhodes Rd., Tolland, CT 06084

Pre-Registration is required. Space is limited!

Join us for a fun filled family evening. We will provide an assortment of delicious supplies and directions to make graham cracker friendship houses. You just need to bring your imagination and teamwork to build your own unique friendship house. The cost is \$5.00 per house. Pre-registration by Friday, February 10 is required.

Please return the bottom of this form by February 10, 2023, with a check made payable to Tolland Board of Education. Forms may be mailed to Tolland Family Resource Center, 247 Rhodes Rd., Tolland, CT 06084 or returned to your child's school in an envelope marked FRC.

Family Name: _____

Email: _____

Number of children _____ Number of adults _____

Number of friendship house kits ____ (\$5.00 each; 1 recommended per child)

Tolland Family Resource Center

School Age Care Program 2023-2024

Dear Families,

It is a pleasure to have you join us at the Tolland Family Resource Center School Age Care Program (FRC SAC). The FRC staff members are CPR and first aid trained as well as medication certified. The program provides before and after school care at both Birch Grove Primary School and Tolland Intermediate School for children in kindergarten through grade six. Families that have children at both schools may choose to have their children attend the Tolland Intermediate School site in the morning and the Birch Grove site in the afternoon. Site location is determined by bussing availability. Children in 6th grade will be bussed to Tolland Intermediate School.

Policies and Procedures

Registration is not complete until the FRC receives the completed forms, registration fee and security deposit. You may email your completed registration forms to tollandfrc@tolland.k12.ct.us.

It is **especially important** for the FRC staff to know when your child will be absent from the School Age Care Program on a scheduled day. If you call or send a note to your child's teacher to report his/her absence or early dismissal from school, **you must also notify the Family Resource Center by phone or email.**

- a) Birch Grove Primary School site: 860-870-6750 x 5
- b) Tolland Intermediate School site: 860-870-6885 x 3
- c) Email: tollandfrc@tolland.k12.ct.us

- * The hours of the Before School Program are 7:00 a.m. until the start of the school day.
- * The hours of the After School Program are from the end of the school day until 6:00 p.m. A late fee will be charged after 6:00 p.m.
- * **Monthly charges will be placed on your account in the accounting software system on the 15th of each month for the following month. All monthly invoices will be emailed on the first of the month. Please notify us if your email address changes.**
- * Tuition payments are due by the 1st of the month. A late fee of \$15.00 will be charged if paid after the 5th of the month.
- * Parents may verify their email address with our online software payment program for the option of paying online by credit card, debit card or ACH. If you pay with a credit or debit card there will be a convenience fee charged to your account. Parents choosing to pay us directly by check should place the check in the payment box located at each site or mail it to the Family Resource Center, 247 Rhodes Road, Tolland. Please make checks payable to the **Tolland Board of Education**.
- * The center will be open during in-service/conference days and mid-winter/spring breaks. Advance registration is required for non-school days. Registration will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. Additional fees will be charged for these days. We must have 15 children enrolled to open.
- * The program closes for all public school holidays, the winter break in December, and any closings due to inclement weather.
- * **Should your childcare needs change and you would like to add additional days you must complete a Change in Registration Form. (Found on the website) Approval will be based on enrollment.**
- If you need to withdraw your child from the program or decrease the number of days your child attends, one-month notice is required. Please complete the Change in Registration Form.**
- * If you have any questions, please email Carol Hiller, Tolland Family Resource Center Coordinator at chiller@tolland.k12.ct.us or Kim Evans, Tolland Family Resource Center Program Manager at kevans@tolland.k12.ct.us.

MONTHLY TUITION FEES

Before School Care

Days each week	Yearly rate	Rate per month
5 Days	\$1950.00	\$195.00
4 Days	\$1550.00	\$155.00
3 Days	\$1170.00	\$117.00
2 Days	\$780.00	\$78.00

After School Care

Days each week	Yearly rate	Rate per month
5 Days	\$3030.00	\$303.00
4 Days	\$2430.00	\$243.00
3 Days	\$1830.00	\$183.00
2 Days	\$1240.00	\$124.00

If your child attends on Early Release Days an additional \$10.00 will be added to your next invoice.

Registration Fee: \$50.00 per child/ \$75.00 per family.

Tuition Rates are based on the 10-month school year. The yearly tuition is divided into 10 equal monthly payments for the school year. *Please note that these fees may be subject to an increase.

All vacations, teacher in-service/ conference days, and early release days are additional and are not included in your monthly charge.

Security Deposit:

50% of your **last month's tuition** must be submitted with the registration as a security deposit.

If you decide to remove your child prior to the start of the program, you need to withdraw by August 1 in order to receive a full refund of your security deposit. If this notice is not given, the deposit will be forfeited.

Sibling Discount:

FRC offers a 5% sibling discount. The sibling discount does NOT apply if the family is receiving financial assistance.

Late Pick-Up Fee:

There is a \$1.00 charge per minute per child for late arriving parents.

Three late pick-ups from the program may result in dismissal.

Late Payment Fee:

A \$15.00 charge will be assessed to your account if payment is not received by the 5th of the month.

Return Check Fee:

A \$20.00 charge will be assessed to your account for checks returned for nonsufficient funds, "NSF".

Financial Assistance:

Assistance with childcare fees may be available to qualifying families. Please contact Carol Hiller at chiller@tolland.k12.ct.us for more information.

Tolland Family Resource Center

School Age Care Program Registration 2023-2024

Registrations must be submitted with the registration fee and security deposit to be complete.

CHILD/FAMILY INFORMATION: Please print clearly

Child's Name:	D.O.B:	Age:
Gender:	Grade in Sept. 2023:	
Home Address:	Town:	State/Zip Code:
In case of emergency, which parent/guardian listed below should we contact first?		

Parent/Guardian Name:	Relationship to Child:
Home Address:	Town: State/Zip Code:
Home #:	Work #: Cell #:
Employer:	Email Address:

Parent/Guardian Name:	Relationship to Child:
Home Address:	Town: State/Zip Code:
Home #:	Work #: Cell #:
Employer:	Email Address:

Unless informed otherwise, the Tolland Family Resource Center assumes both parents listed above may pick up the child. If a parent may not pick up the child, legal documentation of that fact is required. **It is your responsibility to let us know of changes in health, residency, billing, custody, & contact information.**

SCHEDULE

Parents: Please **circle** the class and days for which you are enrolling your child:

Before School Care: Mon. Tue. Wed. Thu. Fri.

After School Care: Mon. Tue. Wed. Thu. Fri.
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Site Attending: Birch Grove <input type="checkbox"/> Tolland Intermediate School <input type="checkbox"/>
--

Start date: -----

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

In case of emergency, and if the Tolland Family Resource Center staff **is unable to reach the parents/guardians**, the following individuals have permission to make decisions regarding the care of my child, including permission to pick up my child from the FRC in case of emergency or early dismissal from the FRC.

Name:		Relationship to child:
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:
Name:		Relationship to child:
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:

CHILD PICK UP AUTHORIZATION

I give permission for my child to be released from the Family Resource Center program to the people listed below at any time. I understand that FRC staff require these people to furnish Photo Identification before releasing my child.

Name:		Relationship to child:
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:
Name:		Relationship to child:
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:
Name:		Relationship to child:
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/>
Race: (please select one or more of the following): American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian/Pacific Isl. <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/>
With whom does the child primarily reside? Both <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Split Custody <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
If other is selected for primary residence, please explain:
Parent/Guardian Responsible for billing: Both <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
If other selected for billing responsibility, please explain:
Languages spoken at home:
Siblings Names & D.O.B.:

HEALTH INFORMATION – Check boxes where they apply and explain as necessary in the space provided below.

Physical: Vision <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Seizures <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Premature Birth: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Psychological: ADD/ADHD <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Illness <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Allergies: Foods <input type="checkbox"/> Medications <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify:

Additional Health Information (Special circumstances, sun sensitivity, emotional sensitivity, etc.)

Is this child currently taking prescribed or over-the-counter medication? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are you covered by any hospitalization/medical care policy? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Please list a preferred hospital:

Name of Insurance Company:	Phone #:	
Address:	City:	State/Zip:
Policy Holder's Name:	Policy Number:	
Physician:	Phone #:	
Special Services: Special Education B-3 <input type="checkbox"/> 504 <input type="checkbox"/> IEP <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1 Aide <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/>		

Does your child have special needs that require a one-on-one aid? (Yes or No)
Enrollment may be delayed from the date of acceptance into the program to hire appropriate staff.

Does your child require medication while in the program? (Yes or No)
If your child does require medication, it must be provided in the original container to the attending staff and be accompanied by a completed Authorization of the Administration of Medication by your physician.

Families enrolling children in School Age Care for the first time must provide the FRC with a copy of their child's health form and immunization record.

Please review the information you have provided on this registration form to ensure accuracy.

**Carefully review the disclaimer and waiver provided on the next page.
Sign and date below.**

Thank you for choosing the Tolland Family Resource Center.

The preceding information is correct, and the child herein described has permission to engage in all activities and field trips except as noted by me. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the director of the program or designee to secure emergency medical services, including transportation and a physician. I also give permission to the attending physician to order injection, anesthesia, or surgery for my child as named above. I hereby release the Tolland Family Resource Center and the Tolland Board of Education from any claim arising out of the doctor's/hospital's actions. All medical expenses shall be the parent's responsibility.

I have read the Tolland Family Resource Center Tuition Policies and agree to abide by those policies. I understand that in the event of continued past due payment, late pick up of my child, or for any other compelling cause, the Tolland Family Resource Center reserves the right to remove my child from the program. I understand that if the FRC program is terminated because enrollment is not sufficient or for any other reason given by the Tolland Board of Education, all money paid by me for the period after termination will be refunded to me.

____ I do / ____ do not give permission for my child to be photographed for use by the FRC Programs (i.e., display boards, photo album, scrapbook) while attending the FRC SAC Program.

____ I do / ____ do not give permission for my child to be photographed for use by the FRC marketing purposes such as the FRC web site, email, newsletter, and press releases to newspapers.

____ I do / ____ do not give permission for my child to view G or PG movies occasionally.

____ I do / ____ do not give permission for my child to apply sunscreen and insect repellent, as needed.

Signature _____ Date Signed _____

Office Use Only

Date Received _____ Registration Fee Paid? Y N amount _____

Last Month's Tuition Paid? Y N amount _____

Total Fee Paid: **Total** _____ Check # _____

FOOD ALLERGY ALERT (FRC)

Child's Full Name

Allergic to:

Place recent photo here

Ingestion: YES NO UNKNOWN
Contact: YES NO UNKNOWN
Inhalation: YES NO UNKNOWN

Describe type of reaction:

Medication(s) Prescribed:



Tolland Family Resource Center
247 Rhodes Rd.
Tolland, CT 06084

The Tolland Family Resource Center's goal is to offer programming to all families regardless of financial status. Those families of school age children that require financial assistance may be eligible for tuition discounts based on the family eligibility for free or reduced meal benefits. The free and reduced meal benefit application is submitted to the Director of Food & Nutrition Services for students that have access to the school lunch program. Your benefit information can be shared with FRC or other programs **only** with your written permission by submitting a "sharing of information" form directly to the food service office. Free and reduced-price meal applications can be found on the food services page of the Tolland Board of Education webpage, [http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/departments_new/food_services/free_and_reduced price meals](http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/departments_new/food_services/free_and_reduced_price_meals) or are available in your school office or by contacting Food & Nutrition Services at 860-870-6854.

Preschool and other families that do not have access to school lunch, may fill out the FRC Financial Assistance Form to determine eligibility.

Sincerely,

Carol Hiller
FRC Coordinator

Thomas Swanson
Principal/FRC Director

FROM THE TOLLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Our library has some super exciting upcoming events and programs for kids, pre-teens, and teens. Please see the flyer below:



**VALENTINE'S DAY
COOKIE DECORATION**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
4:00 - 4:45 PM**

Decorate delicious cookies for your loved ones!

PRE-TEENS & TEENS
REGISTRATION REQUIRED | FREE

TOLLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
21 TOLLAND GREEN - TOLLAND, CT - 06084
WWW.TOLLANDCT.GOV/LIBRARY



Spring Registration is OPEN

Tolland Little League has opened registration for this spring for both baseball and softball.

Registration closes earlier this year to begin a new program of indoor baseball and softball activities that will allow a proper evaluation of all players and get a head start on the season.

T-Ball and Instructional Softball closes [February 18th.](#)

Minors and Majors Baseball (ages 7-12) closes [January 21st](#)

Farm, Minors and Majors Softball closes [February 4th.](#)

Any registrations after closing dates are pending availability and will be assessed a \$15 late registration fee.

Please register today!! [REGISTER HERE](#)

New this year

Multiple registrants from the same family will have a \$20 deduction on 2nd and all subsequent registrations. Please register all players at the same time for the discount to apply.

If you need assistance to cover registration fees

The T-Mobile Little League Call Up Grant offers a simple-to-use application to assist families in need with registration fees. Our goal is to provide resources to get and keep children on the field. Families interested in applying for a grant should click the image below.



EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

LITTLE BY LITTLE WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.

The Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

LOOK
FOR THE
LABEL:



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.

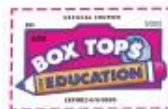


EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated online.

SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES ONLINE?

You can still earn Box Tops for your school with your e-receipt!
See how at [BTFE.com/emailgroceryreceipts](https://www.btfec.com/emailgroceryreceipts)



BOX TOPS CLIPS

You may occasionally find an old Box Tops clip on packages in stores. **You can still clip them and send them to school**, as long as each clip has a valid expiration date.

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](https://www.btfec.com)

© General Mills

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS
APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:





The End

