



Great Beginnings

Ensuring a Great Start for all Hillsdale County Kids!

January/February 2017

Brought to you by
Great Start in partnership
with:



Hillsdale County Great Start

www.greatstarhillsdale.com

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Hillsdale, MI 49242

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~Upcoming Events~

Great Families Coalition
Parent Meeting
"What you need to Know about
Human Trafficking"
HCISD, Hayes Building
310 W Bacon Rd
Hillsdale, MI
January 20th, 2017
12pm-2pm

Great Start Collaborative
Meeting
HCISD, Hayes Building
310 W Bacon Rd
Hillsdale, MI
January, 23rd, 2017
February 27th, 2017
9am-11am

Check the Great Start
Facebook page
for more community events!

Inexpensive things to do with your kids this winter

With all the snow days, winter can be hard especially when the kids need to burn some energy. Here are some ideas to try when cabin fever strikes. **Source:** <https://www.rightathome.com/en-us/home-and-family/family-activities/21-things-to-do-with-your-kids-this-winter>

Build a snowman or snow castle

Sometimes you just need to go outside and have some fun. Dress warm and build your best snowman. Don't forget to dress up the snowman.



Camp In

Set up tents and sleeping bags in the living room, or just make forts and sleep there overnight.

Piece it Together

As a family try to do a puzzle. It is so rewarding seeing the finished product. The Dollar Tree sells puzzles for \$1.00.

Get in on the Game

Charades, board games, you name it. Declare a no-screen day and spend some time together. Let the kids take turns picking the games. My all time favorite is Yahtzee.

Have an all-new weekend

Make a game of trying something new every weekend, with no repeats! Eat new foods, learn something new as a family, or go places you've never been before.



Relive old memories

Break out the family pictures or old family movies.

The great bake off

Look up a new recipe, such as cookies, cakes or brownies. Give each of the kids a job so everyone can help in his or her own way.

Sort and Donate

Get everyone together and have them sort through their toys and clothes. Make a pile of things that no longer fit or are used. Then you can donate to a local charity or to a family in need.

Snuggle,
Read,
Repeat

beat
the
winter
blues

Take advantage of the cozy factor and snuggle up and read a good book. Take turns reading out loud to the family. You can even act out the stories.

Let's Dance

Put on some great music and dance. You'll have a blast introducing your kids to your favorite

moves and they can show you theirs.

Host a film festival

Introduce your kids to classic movies or choose a genre like comedy. Extend the theme by cooking meals that fit into the films.

Put on a Play

Have the kids and their pals work together to make up a story, create costumes and design a set. If you can, capture the play on video.

Pamper and Primp

Have a beauty parlor day. Style hair, paint nails, put on dress-up clothes and dance.

Get Crafty

Get creative with items that can be repurposed. Let your kids create recycled art. Look online for free art ideas for kids.

Concoct a Concert

Do you have some instruments around that you could create a band? Better yet make your own instruments with pots and pans or a container filled with beans.



January

Sun 1	Mon 2	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thu 5	Fri 6	Sat 7
	Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a Story Time 10:30a-11:30a	Story Time 6p-7p	Lego Club 4-5p WIC & (8a-4p) Immunization Yoga Tots 4:30p	WIC & Rd 8a-4p Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a	Story Time 10:30a	
8	Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a Story Time 10:30a-11:30a WIC 8a-4p	P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p	WIC 11a-7p Immunizations 10am-6p Yoga Tots 4:30p	WIC 8a-4p Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a	Story Time 10:30a	14
15	Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a Story Time 10:30a-11:30a	WIC 8a-4p P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p	WIC & (8a-4p) Immunization Yoga Tots 4:30p	WIC & Rd 8a-4p Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a	Story Time 10:30a Great Families Coalition Meeting @ Hayes 12-2p What you need to know about Human Trafficking	
22	Great Start Collaborative @ the Hayes 9-11a Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a Story Time 10:30a-11:30a WIC 10a-4p	P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p	WIC 8a-4p Yoga Tots 4:30p	Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a	Story Time 10:30a	28
29	Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a Story Time 10:30a-11:30a WIC 10a-6p	P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p				WIC, 20 Care Drive Hillsdale 49242 517-437-7395 ext. 117 or 120 Immunizations ext. 136 STD/HIV ext. 121
Great Start/HISD Events 437-0990	Jonesville Library 849-9701	Camden Library 368-5554	Community Health Agency 437-7395	Hillsdale Library 437-6473	Other Agencies	

Events are listed by color-please match color to find a phone number for more information
 Further details are provided on our website: www.greatstarthillsdale.com

February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 WIC 8a-4p Yoga Tots 4:30p Lego Club 4-5p	2 Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a  WIC & Rd 8a-4p	3 Story Time 10:30a	4
5	6 Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a Story Time 10:30a-11:30a WIC 8a-4p	7 P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p	8 Yoga Tots 4:30p WIC 11a-7p Immunizations 10a-6p	9 Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a WIC 8a-4p	10 Story Time 10:30a	11 
12	13 Story Time 10:30a-11:30a Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a WIC 8a-4p	14  P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p	15 Yoga Tots 4:30p WIC & Immunizations 10a-4p	16 Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a WIC & Rd 8a-4p	17 Story Time 10:30a	18
19 	20 Story Time 10:30a-11:30a Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a	21 P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p	22 Yoga Tots 4:30p WIC (10a-6p) Immunization (9a-5p)	23 Toddler & Baby Story Time 10:30a WIC 8a-4p	24 Story Time 10:30a	25
26 	27 Great Start Collaborative @ Hayes 9-11a Braden's Book Buddies 10:30a Story Time 10:30a-11:30a WIC 8a-6p	28 P.L.A.Y. 4:30p-6:30p @ Greenfield Story Time 6p-7p				
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Great Start Collaborative Members:

The following Hillsdale County Agencies have joined the Great Start Collaborative to help give all young children in our county a GREAT START.

- Alpha-Omega Women's Center
- BHSJ Community Health Agency/Safe Kids
- CAPA (Child Abuse Prevention)
- Center for Family Health
- Child Care Network/Regional Resource Center
- Community Action Agency/Head Start/Early Head Start
- Community Grandparents & Parents
- Domestic Harmony
- Highfields
- Hillsdale Community Library
- Hillsdale Community Schools/GSRP
- Hillsdale County Department of Health & Human Services
- Hillsdale County ISD
- HUB Church
- Integro LLC
- Jonesville Community Schools/GSRP
- Karan Jenkins Co-op Preschool
- La Leche League
- Lifeways
- Litchfield Schools/GSRP
- Mary Randall Preschool
- MSU Extension
- North Adams-Jerome Schools/GSRP
- Pittsford Schools/GSRP
- Reading Community Schools/GSRP
- Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- Waldron Schools/GSRP

Great Families Coalition

12:00-2:00p

Come and gather with other parents in our county for networking, training, and support.

September 23rd, 2016
November 11th, 2016
January 20th, 2017
March 10th, 2017
May 12th, 2017

Lunch and childcare will be provided.

HCISD Hayes Bldg | 310 W Bacon St
Hillsdale, MI 49242

RSVP to Gina Fosdick,
Parent Liaison,
616-254-7067 or by email
gina.fosdick@hillsdale-isd.org

The Great Start Collaborative in Hillsdale County zeros in on 5 points of the star while working together to improve services for children birth-3rd Grade:

Pediatric &
Family Health

Child Care & Early
Education



Family Support

Social &
Emotional Health

Growing Safe
Kids

Early On

Come and Join us!

(Free to parents and children birth-5 yrs)

Wednesdays @ 4:30pm-5:30pm
Yoga Tots (see calendar)
@ Comm. Action Agency



(builds self-control, balance, social support, confidence, and is so fun!) Call Rhonda for more information 517-439-9357

~*~ Resource Library ~*~

We have resources available for you!

*Activity Kits *Books *CDs *DVDs

The library includes items friendly for both providers and families.

If you would like to check out an item(s), please contact:

Kristy Storm, *Child Care Network*

517-437-0990 x239

To learn more about the Great Families Coalition visit us on Facebook at Hillsdale County Great Start or visit our website at www.greatstarthillsdale.com