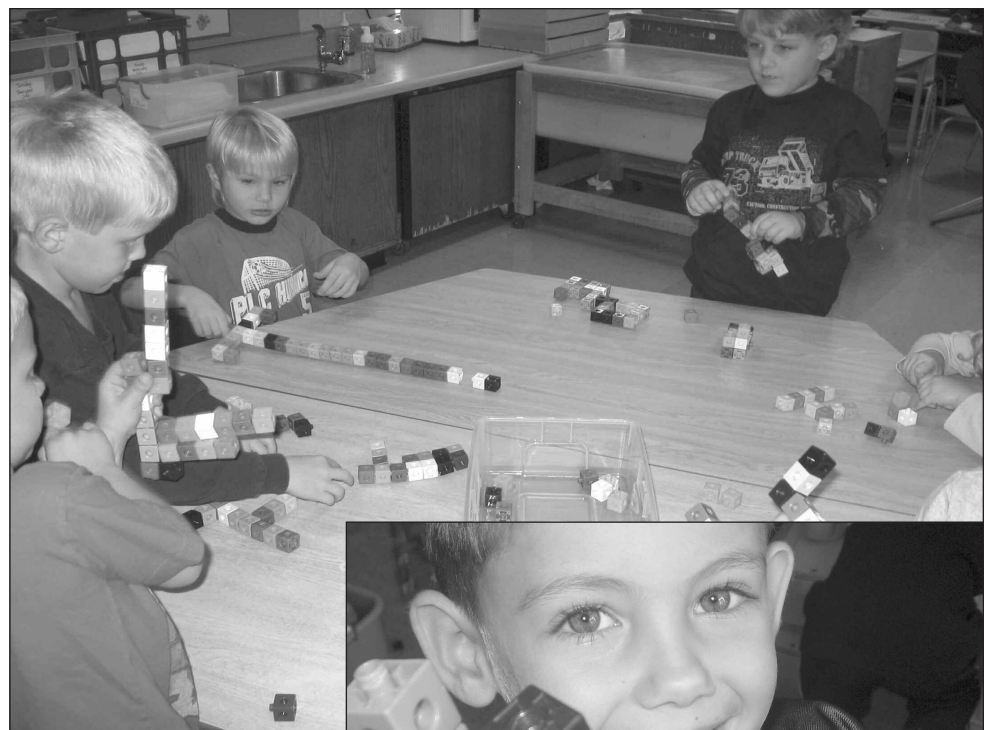


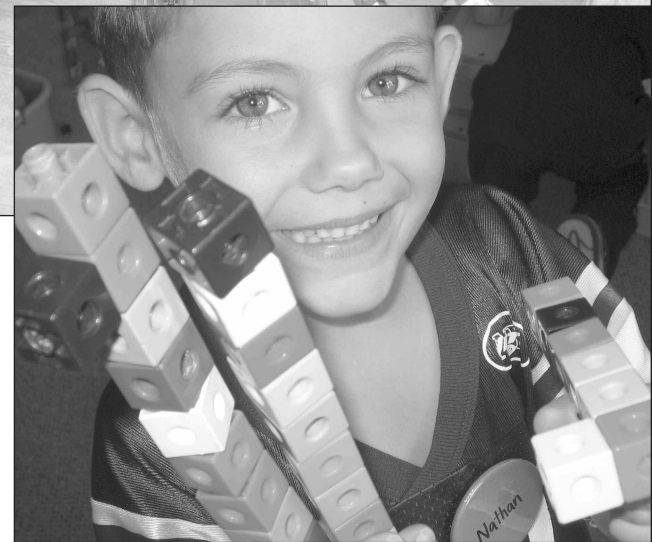


Free Press / Kyle Walker

ARRIVING HOME – Vince Hunter (right) steps off a bus with fellow Grade 9s after the group of 177 students arrived back at Essex District High School from a trip to the Pearce-Williams Centre in St. Thomas Sept. 21. The students, accompanied by teachers and a Grade 12 leadership class, spent the full-day retreat playing games at the centre and interacting with each other.



JUST PLAYING – The kindergarten students in Miss Cassel's class at Sun Parlor Jr. School were building more than friendships their first week of school. Shown here, Pearson Bodi-Boose, Brandon Cowell, Taden Drake and Jacob Regier are busy building with unifix cubes. Inset, Nathan Little loads up with cube structures.



Just Playing

(author unknown)

When I'm building in the block room
Please don't say I'm "Just Playing".
For you see, I'm learning as I play,
About balance and shapes.
Who knows, I may be an architect someday.

When I'm getting all dressed up,
Setting the table, caring for the babies,
Don't get the idea I'm "Just Playing".
For you see, I'm learning as I play.
I may be a mother or father someday.

When you see me up to my elbows in paint,
Or standing at an easel, or molding and shaping clay,
Please don't let me hear you say, "He is Just Playing".
For you see, I'm learning as I play.
I may be a teacher someday.

When you see me engrossed in a puzzle or some "plaything"
at my school,
Please don't feel the time is wasted in "Play".
For you see, I'm learning as I play.
I'm learning to solve problems and concentrate.
I may be in business someday.

When you see me learning to skip, hop, run and move my
body,
Please don't say I'm "Just Playing".
For you see, I'm learning as I play.
I'm learning how my body works.
I may be a doctor, nurse or athlete someday.

When you ask me what I've
done at school today,
And I say, "I Just Played".
Please don't misunderstand
me.
For you see, I'm learning as
I play.
I'm learning to enjoy and be
successful in my work.
I'm preparing for tomorrow.
Today, I am a child and my
work is play.

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- **ESSEX** along Talbot
- **HARROW** along King
- **KINGSVILLE** along Main & Division
- **LEAMINGTON** along Erie & Talbot
- **TECUMSEH** along Lesperance & Tecumseh
- **WINDSOR** along Ouellette at Wyandotte, Giles & Tecumseh and along Tecumseh between Kildare & Byng

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