

# Family Literacy Week Planning Guide

Week of January 27



## Preschool



- Literacy Activities
- Supporting Events
- Resources/Contacts

**An initiative of the Early Literacy Sub-Committee - Kingston and Area Early Years Coalition:**

**Ontario Early Years Centres:** Hastings-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington; Kingston and the Islands

**Public Libraries:** Kingston Frontenac; Lennox and Addington

**School Boards:** Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District; Limestone District

**Ontario Early Years Literacy:** Hastings-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington; Kingston and the Islands

**Kingston Literacy**

**Lennox and Addington Resources for Children**

**Community Members**

**Family Literacy Day** takes place every January 27 and was originally created by ABC Canada. Typically, it is a one-day event to encourage family participation in literacy activities (e.g., Family Story Times, Storytelling Programs, Read-a-thons, Family Literacy Nights, Book Fairs, Special Visits to the Public Library).

This year, consider planning a ‘Family Literacy Week’ for the children in your program or class. This guide outlines a wide variety of activities, events and resources to support your efforts.

Please refer parents to the Family Literacy Week Calendar.

### **Content prepared by:**

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## Guide to Celebrating Literacy Week for Children, Ages 0-3 Years

Please help us continue to make this guide a valuable resource for schools and teachers please go to this link to fill out our short survey:  
<http://www.questionpro.com/akira/TakeSurvey?id=484597>

0-3 Yrs	Literacy Activities	Supporting Event	Resources/Contacts
<b>Listening</b>	<p><b>Music Mania:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play Sound Games: Close your eyes. Can you guess the sound?</li> <li>• Use Music Circle with songs &amp; finger plays</li> <li>• Encourage parents to sing along with their children to tapes or CDs at home and in the car</li> <li>• Show parents the <b>Clap Snap Tap</b> Weekend activity on Family Literacy Week Calendar</li> </ul>	<p><b>Host a Musical Event:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a variety of musical styles, languages and instruments Include familiar and new music</li> </ul> <p><b>Attend Baby Time Programs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public libraries, Ontario Early Years Centres, Family Literacy or Music/Movement programs (see Culture, Parks &amp; Recreation programs) have information on programs and resources (e.g., Kindermusik of Kingston)</li> <li>• Local libraries have audio resources available for loan</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Introducing Mother Goose:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on rhymes, involvement of parents, books for babies</li> <li>• Emphasize interactive story times with toddlers</li> <li>• Show parents the <b>Book Look</b> Thursday activity on Family Literacy Week Calendar</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mother Goose Visits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize a visit by someone dressed as Mother Goose to share favourites (include rhymes &amp; songs from other cultures as well)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Books:</b></p> <p><i>The Lucy Cousins Book of Nursery Rhymes</i> by Lucy Cousins  <i>Mother Goose a Canadian Sampler</i> by Celia Lotteridge  <i>My First Mother Goose</i> by Iona Opie</p>
	<p><b>Toys &amp; Noise:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce parents to toys that make gentle noises and encourage children to play, explore, discover and learn</li> <li>• Inform them that noisy toys, if too loud or used too much, may cause hearing loss in children</li> </ul>	<p><b>Toy or Book Fair:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize a toy/book fair by a company that specializes in toys and books for babies and toddlers:</li> </ul> <p>-Jocus Toys            -Discovery Toys            -Usborne Books            -Pig Tales Books</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloth and sound books by Lamaze and Manhattan Baby are available at book and toy stores</li> <li>• Contact Ontario Preschool Speech and Languages programs:  <a href="http://www.children.gov.on.ca">www.children.gov.on.ca</a>                ↳ Click: Beststart; Helping your Preschooler Develop Language                ↳ Click: Preschool Speech and Language Program Locations</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Touchy Feely:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have children explore what's inside a container without looking and describe what is felt</li> <li>• Provide books that have sensory qualities to infants and toddlers</li> </ul>	<p><b>Touch and Feel Bookmaking:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.kingstonliteracy.com">www.kingstonliteracy.com</a>            ↳ Click: For Sale            ↳ Scroll to: Family Literacy Bookmaking Club            ↳ Download sample (PDF)</p>	<p><b>Books:</b></p> <p><i>Dinosaur's Binket</i> by Sandra Boynton  <i>That's Not My Bear</i> by Fiona Watt</p>

0-3 Yrs	Literacy Activities	Supporting Event	Resources/Contacts
	<p><b>Read Me a Book</b> by Barbara Reid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read this book to a group of parents</li> <li>• Encourage parents to borrow it from the library</li> </ul>	<p><b>Host a Baby and Toddler Book &amp; Blanket Event</b></p>	<p><b>Books:</b>  <i>All Fall Down</i> by Helen Oxenbury  <i>Counting Kisses</i> by Karen Katz  <i>Read A Loud Rhymes for the Very Young</i> by Jack Prelutsky</p>
<p><b>Listening</b></p>	<p><b>Talk for Tots:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children learn to speak and develop good language skills by being spoken to and by hearing interesting vocabulary which describes the things in the world that interest them</li> <li>• Introduce parents to the notion of sportscasting their activities as they perform routine tasks (e.g. talk through the steps of dressing or going to bed)</li> <li>• Show parents <b>Sh, Sh, Sh</b> Friday activity on Family Literacy Week Calendar</li> <li>• “Sh, Sh, Sh” is a chant from <i>All Together Now: 200 of Sonja Dunn’s Best Chants</i> © 1999 Pembroke Publishers.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Speech and Language Workshop:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer a January workshop on early speech and language development through the preschool speech and language program in your area</li> <li>• Have handouts available about how to speak effectively with young children so that they develop language skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Preschool Speech and Language programs in Ontario can be found at:  <a href="http://www.children.gov.on.ca">www.children.gov.on.ca</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ Click: Beststart</li> <li>↳ Click: Helping your Preschooler Develop Language</li> <li>↳ Click: Preschool Speech and Language Program Locations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sonja Dunn is an educator, storyteller, performer, and much more. Sonja may be contacted for appearances through:  mary@pembrokepublishers.com</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reading &amp; Writing</b></p>	<p><b>Book Wall:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start a chart/bulletin board display of favourite children’s book titles so that parents can find out about good children’s books</li> </ul>	<p><b>Favourites:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite parents and children to bring their favourite children’s book from home and read it at circle time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact your local library about posting parent book and music reviews</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Where’s Spot?</b> by Eric Hill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a story time and activities for toddlers emphasizing lift-the-flap books</li> <li>• Use paw print pathways to lead to each new “Find Where Spot Is” activity</li> <li>• Use stuffed animals and 3-D props to play hide-and-seek Spot</li> </ul>	<p><b>Spot the Dog:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create your own Spot-the-Dog Special Event with readings from Spot books combined with a special appearance by someone dressed as Spot</li> </ul>	<p><b>Books:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality lift-the-flaps books:  <i>Peek-A-Boo!</i> by Jan Ormerod  <i>Dear Zoo</i> by Rod Campbell  <i>Where’s Baby’s Belly Button</i> by K. Katz  <i>Peek-a-Zoo!</i> by M. Torres Cimarusti</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Write On!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage parents to write in front of their children so that children see that writing is an important task, whether it’s leaving messages, taking phone messages, writing lists or sending notes</li> <li>• Make writing information handouts available for parents (e.g. <i>Shapes Make Letters</i>)</li> <li>• Show parents <b>Say Cheese</b> Wednesday activity on Family Literacy Week Calendar</li> </ul>	<p><b>Writing Fun:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create Literacy Day cards for parents and children to write and draw for someone special</li> </ul> <p><b>Label the Centre:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give parents and children a few index cards and writing materials; ask them to label objects in the room</li> <li>• Suggest labeling some objects at home as well</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The handout <i>Shapes Make Letters</i>, is available in PDF format at:  <a href="http://www.familyliteracyexpertise.org">www.familyliteracyexpertise.org</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↳ Click: Resources</li> <li>↳ Click Family Literacy Week (Day)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>