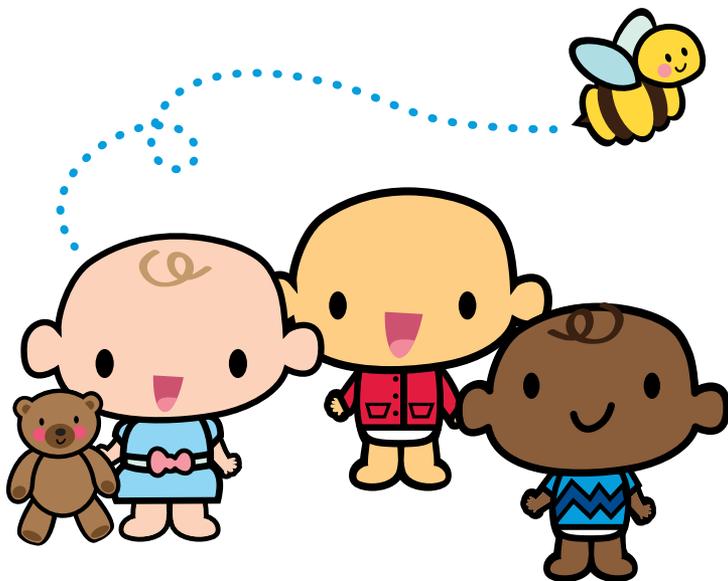


QUICK START GUIDE

***Prepare Your Child For
A Lifetime of Learning.***



Books, classes, digital content and educational tools for young children.

Research on infant brain development shows us that a child's experience in the early years **directly impacts later development and learning**. That's why it's never too early to think about literacy.

You are your child's first and best teacher and EPL is here to provide support. We have great tools and resources to help you develop your child's early literacy skills, including:

Welcome Baby Package



Available at your baby's two-month immunization, this FREE package includes a board book, music CD, tote bag and early literacy information and book suggestions.

You'll also receive a second free board book and an illustrated songs and rhymes booklet when you sign up your child 36 months of age or younger for a FREE library card.

How to Get Started: You'll receive the package when you visit an Edmonton Public Health Centre for your child's two-month immunization. Didn't get it? Next time you're in, just ask your nurse for one.

To get your child a library card, visit any EPL branch or sign up online at epl.ca/Membership.

Books and More for Kids 0-5



Visiting the Library is a fun trip you can make with your child. All EPL branches have dedicated spaces where children can read, play and discover all year round.

Our children's collection includes physical and digital items such as board books, concept books, picture books, movies and music. You can even place holds online and have items delivered to your home branch.

Allowing your child to choose books encourages independence and lets them follow their interests so be sure to get your child a FREE library card.

How to Get Started: Browse our collection at epl.ca/KidsCollection.

Classes and Events



Enjoy delightful stories, songs, rhymes, puppets, games and more at any of our library locations. All of our classes are suitable for a range of abilities and developmental stages, from infants to preschoolers.

How to Get Started: View all classes offered at epl.ca/KidsClasses.

Recommended Reading



Prepare your child for reading with great recommendations for babies, toddlers and preschoolers from our expert staff.

How to Get Started: Check out our recommended reads at epl.ca/KidsLists.

Online Rhyme and Song Videos



Bring a small piece of the Library's storytimes to your home or mobile device with Storytime Station. These online videos feature EPL staff performing entertaining rhyme and song videos such as *Five Little Monkeys* and other favourites.

How to Get Started: View our storytime videos at epl.ca/StorytimeStation.

Online Resources



Enjoy our amazing online resources from a computer or mobile device, including eBooks that you can read, listen to, or interact with alongside your child. You can also stream or download movies and music. Don't have a computer at home? Use ours for free.

How to Get Started: See what's available at epl.ca/KidsOnline.

Library cards are **FREE** for kids and adults.
To sign up, visit any branch or epl.ca/Membership.

MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE IS FUN AND EASY

You have the most important job in the world and simply by spending time with your child, you are already doing it well.

There are five simple and powerful activities that stimulate brain and cognitive development and help children gain strong early literacy skills. Whether you have a brand new baby, a toddler who can't sit still or a five-year-old getting ready for Kindergarten, it's never too late to add these into your everyday routine:



Shared reading is the single most effective way to help children become proficient readers. Also, it's fun!



Give your child lots of opportunities to talk and respond to their ideas. Share new words about topics that interest them.



Play is one of the primary ways children learn how to express themselves, navigate the world and understand the meaning of words.



Not only is singing soothing to children, it also helps them hear the smaller sounds in language.



Children explore shapes with their mouths, eyes and hands before they even learn to pick up a crayon. Create and draw together!

Find more tips and free resources at
epl.ca/EarlyLiteracy