

Uplands Elementary/Uplands Montessori

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School Website: <https://uplands.sd35.bc.ca/>

Principal: Ryan Neufeld Admin Assistant: Deanna Halldorson
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Family Fridge Memo Sept 20, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On Thursday, we are hosting our Meet the Teacher Event (Sept 26). We look forward to seeing families out for this event. The PAC is aligning a BBQ with this event and there will also be a school scavenger hunt to participate in as well.

I recognize there are classrooms affected by the teacher shortage. If your child's classroom is still without a consistent teacher, please understand that we will provide a separate opportunity to "meet the teacher" once a permanent teacher has been found, but we still encourage you to take part in the PAC BBQ and School Scavenger Hunt.

Ryan Neufeld,

Action Required:

- ☐ Lunch Lady - We are happy to share the good news that **we will be expanding our school meal program by offering an optional, weekly hot lunch program delivered by the Lunch Lady.** Please see the separate email that I sent out earlier today.

The Lunch Lady is now ready to take your order!

Please see attached letter and HOW TO ORDER document from the LUNCH LADY
[Lunch Lady Letter SY 2024_2025.pdf](#)

Your first delivery is: Tuesday, September 24th.

This week only the deadline for ordering for Tuesday is Monday Sept 23rd @ 10:00 am

Please note this is separate from the PAC Hot Lunches.

- ☐ **School Supplies** - School Supplies are here and packed individually for each child. Don't forget to **purchase through School Cash Online. Payment Now DUE.**
<https://www.schoolcashonline.com/>



- ❑ **Student Forms:** You should have received a brown envelope addressed to you, the package contains: Student Information Verification Form (Blue), Medical Form (Purple), NEW Student Reunification Release Form (White). **All forms need to be returned to the School by Sept 20th.**

Reunification Forms are for extreme emergencies (Ex: earthquake) Contacts outside of the lower mainland are recommended. See notice coming home for more information.

- ❑ **The following forms was sent home to parents via a secure email link this week from the Langley School District.** Media Release Consent, PAC Contact Information Consent, Information Technology User Agreement, Walking Field Trip Consent. (See below message from the district)

Parent Consent Request

Each year, Langley Schools asks families to complete a set of parent consent forms for their child. These consent forms are required by our schools to ensure the health, safety, and security of all students. Langley Schools uses a secure web form to collect this information. Beginning mid-September, please watch for an email request (subject Parent Consent Request) that contains one link for you to submit consents for all children in your family attending any Langley School. If your email address or contact information has changed, please call your school to correct it in our files. If you have not received an email regarding Parent Consent Request by the end of the month or have any questions/concerns, please contact your school administrator.

- ❑ **Busters Bistro** - Buster Bistro is a daily breakfast/lunch program that Uplands Staff will run. The goal of the program is to make sure all Uplands students have the nutrition needed to do their best learning. **Food will be distributed via the gym doors on the basketball court from 8:20am-8:35 am each day.**



- ❑ Students, or other persons in the school setting who are exhibiting symptoms of illness, such as respiratory illness, **should stay home until they are well enough to participate in regular activities or otherwise advised by a healthcare provider.** Those experiencing certain illnesses, such as gastrointestinal illness caused by norovirus, may be advised to stay home for longer. Children or other persons can attend school if their symptoms are consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition (e.g., seasonal allergies) or symptoms have improved, and they feel well enough to return to regular activities or otherwise advised by a healthcare provider. If you are unsure or concerned about your symptoms, contact your healthcare provider or call 8-1-1.

Please visit the Fraser Health website for more information about School Health.

<https://www.fraserhealth.ca/schoolhealth>

- ☐ Thank you for continuing to inform the office when your child is going to be absent, arriving late, away or leaving early due to an appointment.

Please call the School before 9:00 am 604-533-1285 press option 1 to leave voice mail message regarding an absence.

If you have any questions about attendance/absence procedures, contact the school office.



- ☐ **Meet the Teacher Night Grade 1 – 5**
Sept 26, 2024 @ 5:00 to 6:00
A - L 5:00 to 5:30
M - Z 5:30 to 6:00

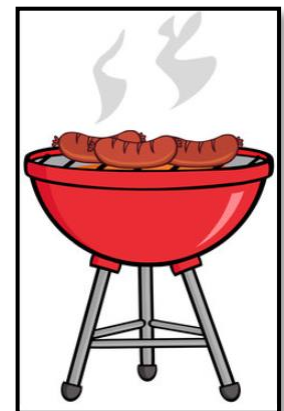
There will be a short scavenger hunt for families to take part in during this evening. Please obtain an Open House Passport checklist from your child's classroom. When you complete the Open House Passport, drop it off in the draw box by 7pm (located near the front doors) to be entered in a draw for some prizes.



- ☐ Welcome Back BBQ hosted by the PAC from 4:30 to 5:30
Please click the link below and pre-order your dinner.
Order DEADLINE Sunday Sept 22nd

"Hey Uplands Families!

We're excited to invite you to our annual Meet Your Teacher BBQ! Join us for a fun-filled evening where you can enjoy delicious food and drinks and meet your child's teacher and classmates



Date: September 26, 2024, Time: 4:30pm

Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to connect with our amazing school community.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/7c40efa1-31a0-4543-a38c-10e7114bd052>

- **Montessori Kindergarten Registration for the 2025 - 2026** begins online **Monday Oct 7, 2024**, at Noon – Please click the link below to get directed to the Choice Program Registration page.

<https://www.sd35.bc.ca/programs-initiatives/programs-of-choice/>



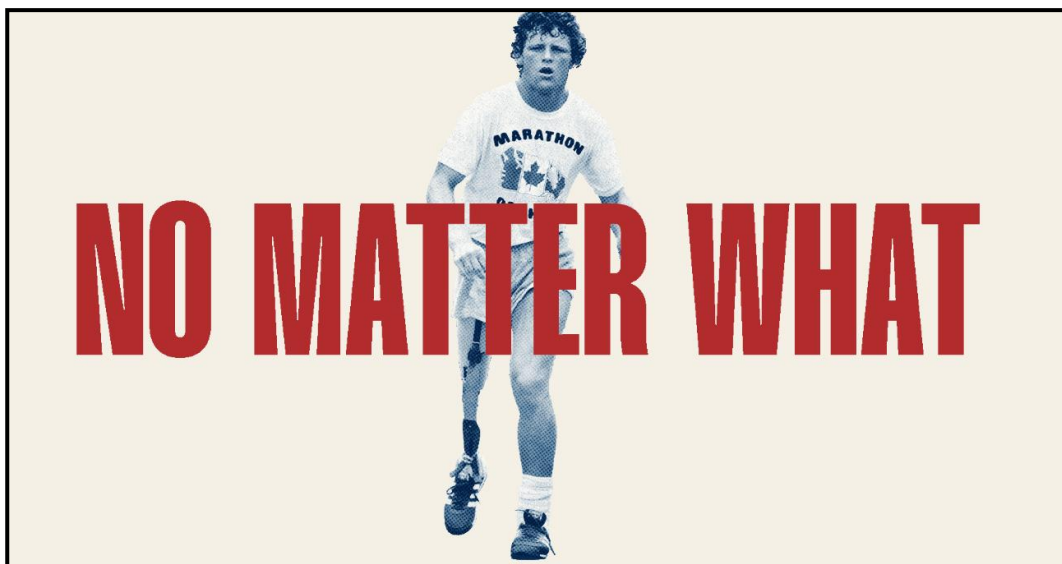
- Terry Fox said, "**Anything is possible if you try.**" Inspired by his amazing example, our school is proudly taking part in this year's **Terry Fox School Run**. Please consider supporting us in our **try** and help us raise much-needed funds for cancer research.

This year the Terry Fox Run will be done outside with the whole school participating Monday September 23, 2024, from 1:30 – 2:00.

We shall run around the school yard following the trail into the woods in a counterclockwise direction.

Please help show your support by donating to: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/73338>

This year there are many ways to donate, pledge sheets came home this week. bring a **Toonie (\$2.00) for Terry now through Monday Sept 23rd**, online through the link above.



From the PAC:

- ☐ Neufeld orders Due by Sept 25 – Please note the **NEW Pick Update Monday Oct 7th**
- ☐ **Hot Lunch Orders Close Sunday @ 11:59 pm – Pizza Day**
- ☐ Reminder to preorder your dinner for the Welcome Back BBQ

Important Dates:

- ☐ Sept 23 - Terry Fox Run @ 1:30
- ☐ Sept 24 - Fire Drill
- ☐ Sept 24 - Lunch Lady Hot Lunch
- ☐ Sept 26 - Meet the Teacher Night: Grades 1 – 5 @ 5:00 – 6:00
Welcome Back BBQ hosted by the PAC 4:30 – 5:30
- ☐ Sept 27 - Recognize Truth and Reconciliation Assembly (Orange Shirt Day)
- ☐ Sept 27 - PAC Hot Lunch
- ☐ Sept 30 - **Truth and Reconciliation Day – School Not In Session**
- ☐ Oct 3 - Earthquake Drill
- ☐ Oct 4 - **School Improvement Day – Students Not In Session**
- ☐ Oct 11 - Lockdown Drill
- ☐ Oct 14 - **Thanksgiving – School Closed**
- ☐ Oct 18 - Hot Lunch
- ☐ Oct 21 - Fall Book Fair Oct 21 – 24
- ☐ Oct 24 - PAC Halloween Dance
- ☐ Oct 25 - **Professional Development Day – Students Not In Session**
- ☐ Oct 28 - Photo Retake Day

From the District

□ **Student Safety in Schools (Elementary Schools)**

The Langley School District is committed to fostering safe and caring schools that promote mutual respect, cooperation, and social responsibility, and support optimal learning. Trauma Informed Practices and Procedures promote the creation and maintenance of safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and nurturing school environments. The District expects all students to follow the Student Code of Conduct **AP 350**.

The District is sharing a reminder that no one can have “any weapon for any purpose” on school property. This means that weapons are not allowed to be used as part of an educational project, drama production, or themed costume. Examples of weapons include but are not limited to knives, bb guns, and toy guns. Failure to follow these expectations may result in confiscation, intervention, and consequences.

□ **New to District Fall Registration**

Do you know a family with children in the K-12 school system that is moving to Langley in fall 2024? Please assist the District in sharing this information with any of your friends and family. The District is encouraging families moving to Langley from another jurisdiction to register their child for school as soon as possible. With high enrolment in some schools, the District is working to facilitate student placement for September entry and support a smooth transition for these new families. For more information on the registration process and required documents, visit the webpage [here](#).

□ **Communicating With Your School**

Schools and families continue to work together to ensure success for students. If you have an issue or concern but don't know who to speak with, the District encourages you to read these helpful Communicating with your School guidelines for parents/guardians found on our District website [here](#). As an additional reference, review this one-page resource [here](#).

□ **Accidents happen:** Historically, families have been able to **purchase additional accident insurance** for their kids each year through a flyer sent home in the first week. This year, the District is offering two options for a voluntary student accident insurance plan that replaces the family accident reimbursement plan offered last year. Please see below.

Please note, enrolment in the program can be done online only, through one of the following options:

Insure My Kids

OR

Study Insured

Corresponding digital support materials for above service providers can be accessed via following links:

Insure My Kids:

Insure My Kids - Support Material

Study Insured:

Study Insured - Support Material

□ **New K to 12 Ministry Literacy Supports and Learning Disabilities website**

As part of the new provincial initiative that was **announced earlier this year**, the Ministry of Education and Child Care has launched a **K-12 Literacy Supports web page**. The web page offers information for school and district staff about the K-12 Literacy Supports initiative, and links to BC Learning Pathways literacy and numeracy resources.

You will also find a new “**All About Early Literacy**” brochure below for parents and caregivers that includes strategies they can use to support learning at home, what to look for, and who to speak to if they have questions or need support.

- **Online Family Support Sessions on Navigating Digital World – Hosted by Safer Schools Together** - The Ministry of Education has once again contracted Safer Schools Together to offer complimentary Family Sessions, designed to support families and caregivers navigate the digital world. There is one session per month. Families can participate in as many as they wish. Sessions can be found at the link below:

[erase Registration \(saferchoolstogether.com\)](https://saferchoolstogether.com)

Families will learn:

- Digital media habits, oversharing, and digital addiction
- The permanence of online posts/activity
- The significance of your digital tattoo in how others perceive you (e.g., sports teams, college admissions, and potential employers)
- The importance of caring for peers both online and offline
- Geo-locational settings and the dangers of social media and cell phone misuse
- The social and legal consequences of cyberbullying behaviour as well as possession and distribution of intimate images (sexting and sextortion)
- An anonymous student reporting tool that can help you and your friends stay safe both online and offline

View our Gourmet Foods by scanning the QR code below
All of your favorites are just a click away...

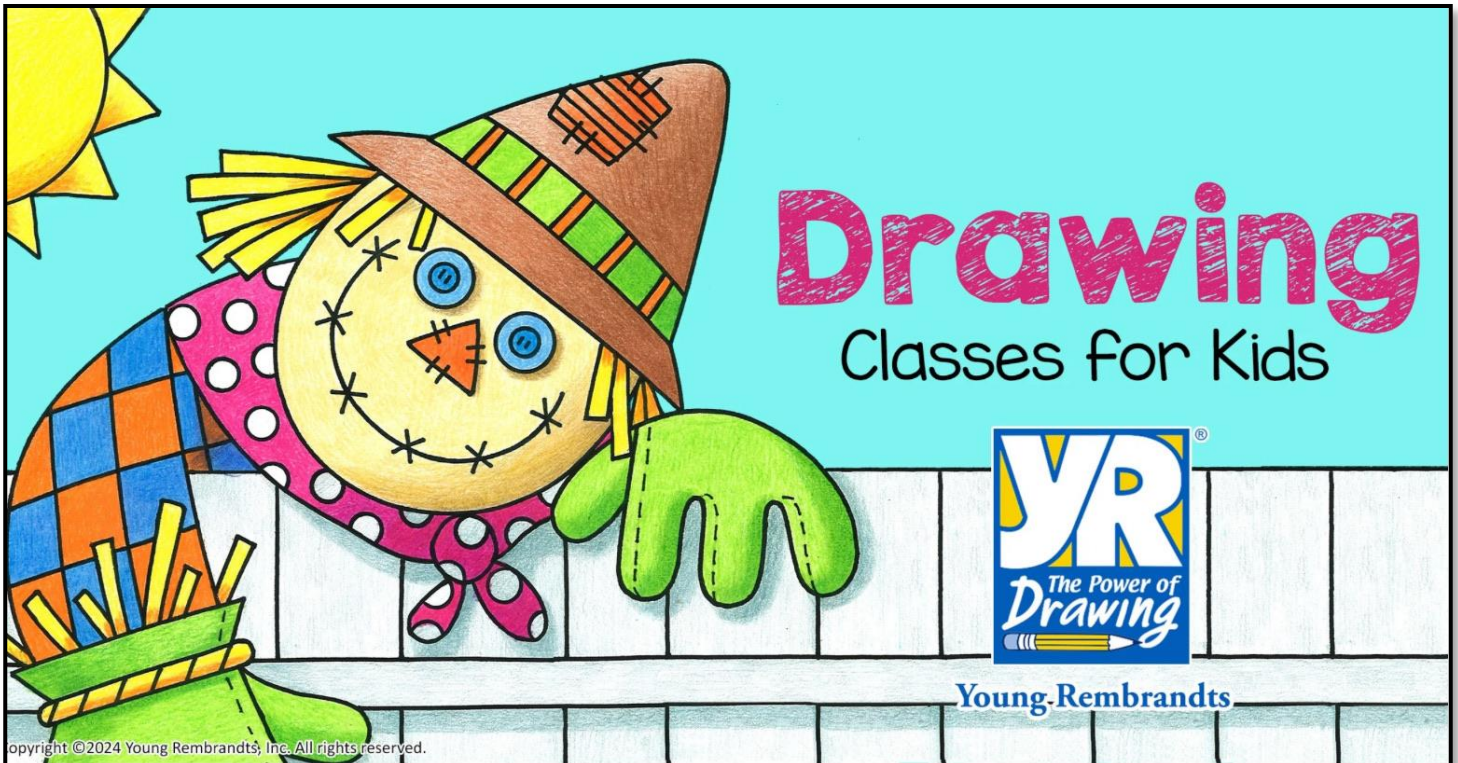


**Uplands Elementary
NEUFELD FARMS FUNDRAISER**

Orders In By: September 25 2024, end of day
Pick up: October 4th 2024, 2:30 pm



<https://app.neufeldfarms.ca/fundraising/2024-uplands-elementary-eef8e52d6c>



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AFTERSCHOOL CLASSES AT: UPLANDS ELEM.

Young Rembrandts teaches drawing, the fundamental skill of visual arts, to children. We intentionally offer child-friendly and relevant subject matter to spark children's interest and increase knowledge retention. Our classes are fun, engaging and offer children a safe, comfortable place to talk about art, learn drawing skills and have fun while surrounded by creativity and encouragement.

CLASS Dates: Sept.25-Dec. 18/24



DAY:WEDNSDAYS

TIME: 2:35 - 3:35 PM

Room: Library

\$260 for 12 weeks

*Excluded Days posted online



ENROLLMENT

Visit our website :

www.youngrembrandts.com/lowermainland



Pro D Day Camps In Fort Langley

Oct. 4/24 Safari Camp w/Urban Safari
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Cost:\$65

Oct.25/24 Magical Halloween
Featuring " Gary The Magic Guy
9:00 Am - 3:00 PM Cost:\$65

Register Online

WE ARE HIRING...EMAIL OR TEXT FOR MORE INFO

Young Rembrandts Lower Mainland
Is proud to be a locally owned &
operated company!



604-724-7919

www.youngrembrandts.com/lowermainland

artsbc@youngrembrandts.com

All about early literacy



When we talk about early literacy, we're talking about what children learn about reading and writing *before* they can fully read and write. Before starting school, your child begins to build their first literacy skills that are essential for their success in school and beyond. In the early grades (Kindergarten to Grade 3), your child will continue to develop these skills and become readers and writers. You can support this development at home and help reinforce their learning at school.

This brief guide will provide you with:

- Helpful tips to build your child's early literacy skills at home;
- An explanation of how teachers will support your child's early literacy in school; and
- Steps you can take if you think your child needs extra support.

Ideas to try at home:

- **Talk to your child** – right from birth, have conversations and ask them questions.
- **Read to your child** – bedtime stories count!
- **Have books and audiobooks in your home** – the public library is a great resource for free books and audiobooks.
- **Ask your child questions about the books they are reading or listening to** – this builds their understanding.
- **Encourage your child to tell you stories** – spoken language is the start of learning to read and write.
- **Play together** – play is how kids explore new ideas and learn. Find ideas and activities in the [Let's Play: Activities for Families](#), [Play Today](#), and [When I Go to Kindergarten](#) guides.
- **Have letter and number toys and games at home** – puzzles, magnets, and board games are fun ways to expose kids to letters, words, and numbers.
- **Play with rhymes** – rhyming books and games help kids learn the sounds of language.
- **Sing together** – songs are a fun way to learn language.
- **Have your child draw, craft, or play with playdough** – before your child can form letters, their hands need to be strong and these activities can help!
- **Point out words in their environment** – on signs, packages, clothing, or toys.
- **Label items at home** – the more words kids see, the stronger their vocabulary becomes.
- **Share new words** – it's not just big—it's also huge, giant, or massive!
- **Attend a class** – Find a [StrongStart](#) near you or check out your local community center or [public library](#) for free early learning activities.

Information for Parents and Caregivers



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care

How can I help my child develop early literacy skills at home?

Talking and storytelling are where literacy skills begin. Ask your child questions and share stories with them, including personal stories and stories in your preferred language. Reading with your child every day is also one of the best ways to help them build their early literacy skills. Remember, all reading is valuable—whether it's reading a recipe while you cook together or reading the game cards from a board game. When it's time for your child to read on their own, choose books that interest them as well as some early reader books that they can start to try to read with your help. Teachers may send home books for this purpose. Make sure to ask your child questions about the story, invite them to make guesses about what might happen next, and discuss any new words they come across.

Encourage your child to draw and write regularly. This can include making lists, writing letters, or keeping a journal. Where possible, provide them with fun writing materials like colorful pens, paper, and notebooks. Provide time for your child to express their ideas freely through drawing and writing. Making marks and shapes on paper is the start of writing. Later you can help them practice forming letters correctly.

If you have questions about your child's literacy skills, you can ask your child's teacher or care provider. They can work with you to support your child at home and in school or care.

What can I do to support my child if English or French is not their first language?

You can support your child's early literacy and reading development by reading in both languages. Continue to speak to your child in your preferred language. This will build their ability to speak multiple languages and connect them to their family and cultural backgrounds. If possible, encourage storytelling, play word games, label items, and sing songs in all languages to make learning fun and meaningful.

Early Literacy Resources for Families:

- Your [public library](#) may offer early literacy programs, including story times for you and your child.
- You can also use the [public library](#) to borrow books and sometimes games, toys, and other literacy resources for your whole family.
- Your whole family can build their literacy skills with a free family literacy program through the [Community Adult Literacy Program \(CALP\)](#).
- If you have a baby or toddler, there are many services you can use to [check and support their development](#).
- You may have a free [StrongStart BC](#) program run through your public school to attend with your child.
- You can also visit your local [Child Care Resource and Referral's](#) lending library to borrow free books, toys, games, and literacy kits.
- If your child is school-aged, their school is already monitoring their early literacy development.
- Your child's teacher may also be using the [Learning in the Primary Years](#) to support your child's learning.
- Your child's child care provider or primary teacher may be guiding their learning using the Early Learning Framework. Learn more in the [Early Learning Framework A Guide for Families](#).



Information for Parents and Caregivers



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care

How can I build my literacy skills if English isn't my first language?

As a parent or caregiver, there are many free ways to improve your literacy skills.

School districts offer adult education courses for free for adult students. Many [public colleges and universities](#) also offer free adult education and English Language Learning programs. Contact your local college, university, or [school district](#) to learn more about eligibility, available courses, and start dates.

The Community Adult Literacy Program (CALP) offers free adult, family, and Indigenous literacy classes and programs across British Columbia. The adult classes are designed for you, while the family literacy classes improve the reading and writing skills of the whole family. These programs can help you support your child's learning while also improving your own literacy and numeracy skills. [Contact the program](#) closest to you for more information.



What early literacy skills might I notice my child developing?

From infants to primary school students, you may start to notice some wonderful early literacy skills developing in your child. Here are a few you might notice:

- **Interest in Books:** Your child may begin grabbing books and bringing them to you, showing an interest in reading together. They might even start to tell their own stories based on the pictures, demonstrating their understanding of how stories work.
- **Vocabulary:** As they learn to speak more, their vocabulary will grow. The more words they know, the better they will be able to understand now what they will read later.
- **Storytelling:** As their imagination grows, your child may enjoy telling their own stories, which is a great foundation for writing, later on.
- **Letter and Number Recognition:** You may notice your child pointing out letters and numbers in their environment, such as on signs, packages, and toys.
- **Letter Sounds:** Your child may become curious about letters and the sounds they make. They may start recognizing that different letters make different sounds, which is an important skill for reading.
- **Written Words:** Your child may start to recognize parts of words, helping them sound out new words. They might also begin to recognize whole words they see frequently, building their confidence.
- **Sentences:** Over time, your child may use their understanding of words to make sense of sentences. This skill can grow, allowing them to understand full paragraphs and eventually entire books.



Information for Parents and Caregivers



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care

How will my child's teacher support their early literacy development in school?

If your child is in school, their teachers will use a variety of strategies to support early literacy development. They will teach your child the basics, like the alphabet, sight words, and how letters and sounds work together (known as phonics), so they can sound out words, spell, recognize, and understand what they see (and later) read. Teachers will also help grow a love of language by reading aloud to your child and asking questions to help your child increase their understanding (or comprehension skills). The classroom will have many books for your child to explore – on their own, with peers, and with their teacher. Your child's teacher will provide opportunities for your child to tell stories and to write in the classroom, helping them learn to form shapes, letters, and later write, as well as express themselves clearly and creatively.

Teachers regularly assess your child's early literacy with different tools to understand how they are progressing in their learning. They can then work with your child to build any skills that may need further support.

What should I do if my child needs extra support in school?

If you or your child's teacher have concerns about your child's reading or writing, the first step is to work together. Your child's teacher may reach out to you if they notice a concern at school, and you can talk to your child's teacher if you notice any concerns at home. Together, you can develop a plan to support your child. You can be part of your child's learning every step of the way.

Your child's teacher will assess all children in their class, including your child. They will use this information to identify any areas your child may need extra support with. They may try new strategies in the classroom to help build your child's skills.

If the classroom teacher feels they need more information, they may talk to you and then ask the inclusive education teacher for help. The inclusive education teacher may also assess your child and may suggest strategies for use in the classroom or decide to work with your child one-on-one or in a small group to support their learning.

If more information is still needed, the inclusive education teacher might talk to you and then refer your child to the school psychologist to gather more information. The school psychologist can give your child's teacher(s) strategies to try at school and can also give you ideas, tools, and games to support your child at home.



Watching your child's early literacy skills develop can seem magical, but it really begins with home, child care, and/or school working together. When your child receives a blend of support and encouragement while their early literacy develops, it can foster a love for reading and writing that can last a lifetime.