



The Centre for Family Literacy Centre Page

Links Fore Literacy Golf Tournament

Ninety-four hardy folks braved a very cool and windy day to compete in the first annual Links Fore Literacy Golf Tournament at Coloniale Golf Club in Beaumont Alberta.



The tournament raised \$23,000 for the Classroom on Wheels (C.O.W.) Bus and introduced the work of the Centre to many new friends. The C.O.W. Bus was parked outside the clubhouse and many of the players took the time to drop in and learn a little more about the program.

In addition to paying their registration fee, players also helped raise money by purchasing 50/50 tickets, entering the putting contest, and paying to try and beat the Golf Pro on a par three hole. Many players elected to purchase string for \$10 a foot

or 3 feet and 2 mulligans for \$30 which allowed them to improve their lie without taking a stroke.

Our Mission Statement:

The Centre for Family Literacy builds, develops and improves literacy with families and communities.

Eric Newell, Honorary Chair of the Centre, was unable to play in the tournament but he was out on the course in a short-sleeved shirt thanking all of the players. Apparently all those years at Syncrude in Fort McMurray made him immune to the cold.

At the lunch the usual prizes were awarded and there was a draw for an e-reader for all of the players that filled out the on course quiz. The Centre had placed "Did You Know" literacy facts on many of the tee boxes and the quiz was based on this information. The last question on the quiz asked,

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Creating a Home That Supports Early Literacy

Research has shown that parents have a profound influence on their child's early literacy. Parents who talk with and read to their children from birth provide them with the solid foundation in language and early literacy that is so essential to children's success in daily activities, in new environments and in the formal school setting.

We know that the environmental factors in the early years between birth and age five have a lasting effect on a child's literacy development. To learn to read, children need to first experience language. There are many activities parents can do to provide a rich home setting that nurtures all aspects of language and literacy.

Early participation in activities such as shared book reading, storytelling, teaching letters and numbers, and visits to libraries provide children with a foundation for early learning and emergent literacy.

In particular, shared book reading and shared storytelling expand children's vocabulary and print knowledge and build positive attitudes toward literacy.

Studies have also shown that the quality of parent-child interactions play a significant role in children's early learning. The style of language



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Contact us

11642 142 Street NW Edmonton, AB T5M 1V4 **T** 780.421.READ (7323) **Toll free** 1.866.421.7323
F 780.421.7324 **E** info@famlit.ca **W** www.famlit.ca

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Links Fore Literacy Golf Tournament

Continued



Brad Kennedy, Brinsmead Kennedy Architecture

“what surprised you the most about what you learned today?” Many answered that they were surprised by the financial impact of low literacy on business and the economy and the number of Canadians who struggle with literacy.

There were also some humorous answers referring to the cold weather and the golfing ability of members of their foursome. One player wrote, “I am surprised that I could have so much fun on such a cold day.”

The Centre would like to thank our sponsors, who helped to make the tournament a success:

Eagle Sponsor:	Brinsmead Kennedy Architecture
Birdie Sponsor:	WorleyParsonsCord
Flag Sponsor:	Dialog
Par Sponsor:	Ernst & Young Hemisphere Engineering
Caddy Sponsor:	Protostatix Engineering Consultants
Hole Sponsors:	My Armadillo Pillow Gold Vault Metals Jaffer Melcor Developments World Financial Group
Hole In One Sponsors:	Union Securities Ltd. Weber Motors

The Centre would also like to thank all of the businesses and individuals who provided prizes and gifts for the tournament.

This was a great first tournament and we look forward to hosting another one next year.

Creating a Home That Supports Early Literacy

Continued

and the amount of language that parents use when speaking with their children is a strong predictor of children’s early language and learning development. Parents should encourage children to talk about what they see, what they are doing or about their favourite book. Also, parents who respond to children’s questions and comments encourage ongoing conversations that will foster vocabulary and language development.

The availability of age-appropriate learning materials in the home, including books, toys and games provides parents with a variety of resources to encourage children’s learning. Most parents understand the importance of shared book reading, but are often unaware of the importance of toys, games and play in fostering learning. These activities foster children’s curiosity, exploration, and self-discovery, which provide the skills they need for early school achievement.

There are several resources on the Centre’s website that provide practical information for parents including Literacy and Language Tips Sheets, book lists, and party activities. Also available on the website on the Alberta Prairie C.O.W. project page are copies of newsletters containing activities for the family. These are all free to download and share.

Parents are their children’s first teachers and it is important to support their efforts in creating a home environment that encourages children’s early literacy.

Call for Nominations

The Centre for Family Literacy is accepting nominations for the Lois Hole Community Leadership Award that recognizes an outstanding individual, business or group whose efforts demonstrate an ongoing commitment to family literacy in Alberta. Eligibility criteria and nomination forms are available on our website at www.familit.ca. The nomination deadline is Friday, November 4, 2011.

Centre Launches New Literacy Program

Isaac Asimov said, "It is change, continuing change, inevitable change that is the dominant factor in society today." Recognizing that family literacy programming needed to adapt to the changing needs of our community partners and their families, the Centre developed a new program – Literacy Links.

In consultation with community organizations, the Literacy Links Coordinator develops and delivers a program that best supports their specific needs. The customized program is based on current literacy programs offered by the Centre.

Literacy Links also focuses on building awareness of the importance of family literacy and the positive effect that parents and caregivers can have on the literacy development of children. To this end, the program provides training to organizations working in or related to the early childhood field.

The program also wants to build awareness of family literacy through presentations to a broader sector including service organizations, associations and the business community.

The goal of the Literacy Links program is to deliver family literacy training, programs and presentations in a format that meets the needs of the community. By adapting and customizing our current programs, it is felt we can reach more people with the message that literacy develops in families first and support more families on their literacy journey.

New Certificate in Family Literacy Offered On-Line

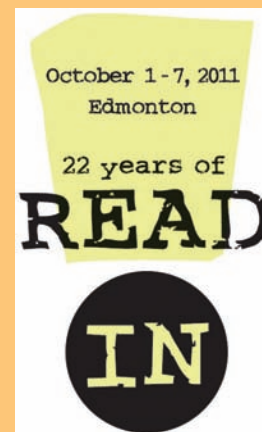
In an exciting partnership the Centre for Family Literacy, Vancouver Community College and Conestoga College are currently offering an on-line learning opportunity for gaining a Certificate in Family Literacy.

Unique across Canada, this credentialed program was developed for all levels of leadership, from executive directors and board members, to frontline supervisors and facilitators. It is designed for those who currently work or wish to work in the family literacy community, as well as those working in related fields such as health, social services, child care family resource programs and schools. In addition to the full certificate program, one or two courses can be taken that are specific to particular fields of practice.

The curriculum is based on Foundations in Family Literacy (Centre for Family Literacy, 2009) and has been developed by leaders in the field. It reflects the very best in contemporary theory and practice.

“The curriculum was excellent, practical and immediately useful in my work,” said one participant.

Courses are designed to provide knowledge and expertise in multifaceted areas that are key to designing, developing, and offering quality programs for both children and adults.



*All Ages,
All Stages*

Saturday, Oct. 1

11:30am - 1:30pm

McIntyre Park (Gazebo Park)
Old Strathcona

Join authors, book publishers, entertainers and fellow readers in celebrating the 22nd annual READ IN Week kick off!



Online donations to the Centre can be made through CanadaHelps.org



The Centre for Family Literacy gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the following:



Government of Alberta



Fall Programs Announced

Relax & Write

Schedule: Thursdays 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Start and Finish Date: Sept 22 to Dec 8

Location: Stanley Milner Library

This program is for adults who are beginner writers.

Books for Babies

This 4 week program encourages parents of infants between birth and 12 months to share books with their babies. Each family is provided with a book bag, books and support material.

Schedule: Wednesdays 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Start Date: September 21

Location: Penny McKee Library

Register: Call 780.496.7839

Schedule: Thursdays 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Start Date: November 3

Location: Woodcroft Library

Register: Call 780.496.1830

Classroom on Wheels (C.O.W.) Family Literacy Program

The Classroom on Wheels is a free drop-in family literacy program for parents and their children from birth to 6 years old that helps support learning.

Schedule and Location:

Start and Finish Date: Sept 13 – June 15

Tuesdays 8:30 am – 10:00 a.m.

Youngstown Community

Tuesdays 10:30 am – noon

La Perle Community

Tuesdays 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Athlone Community

Wednesdays 10:30 am – noon

Sakaw Community

Wednesdays 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Richfield Community

Thursdays 9:30 am – 11 am

Edmonton Garrison

Thursdays 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Bannerman Community

Thursdays 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Norwood Community (starts Oct 6)

Fridays 8:15 am – 10:00 am

Caernarvon Community

Fridays 10:30 am – noon

Dickensfield Community

Rhymes that Bind

This ten week drop in program encourages parents to enjoy rhymes, songs and stories with their infants and toddlers to promote oral language development.

Schedule: Mondays 10 am – 1:00 am

Start Date: September 12

Location: Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Schedule: Wednesdays 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Start Date: September 14

Location: Calder Library

Schedule: Mondays 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Start Date: September 12

Location: Penny McKee Library

For more information on these programs, check our website at www.famlit.ca or call the Centre at 780.421.7323

If you would prefer to receive our newsletter via email rather than by mail, please send us an email at info@famlit.ca and reference Centre Page in the subject line.

Literacy Develops in Families First

The Centre for Family Literacy is dedicated to helping Alberta grow and prosper. Our innovative programs, training and research help Alberta families achieve what they imagine—improved education, jobs and health.

Privacy Policy

If you do not wish to receive Centre Page or information about the Centre for Family Literacy, you may call, write or e-mail us. A copy of our privacy policy can be found on our website at www.famlit.ca

