Fall 2025

GROWING TOGETHER

Cultivating connection, culture, and community





Welcome! Our goal of this resource is to share ideas, resources, and practices that support the creation of Early Years spaces where every child and family feels a sense of belonging.

This resource will focus on cultivating programs and environments that are culturally appropriate, welcoming, and respectful of Indigenous perspectives.

By sharing knowledge, showcasing community supports, and learning from one another, we can continue to grow inclusive spaces rooted in respect, connection, and care.

Read Along For:

- Monthly Themes
- Special Days of Significance
- Culturally Relevant Events
- Program and Activity Ideas
- Book Recommendation
- Resources and Supports
- And more!

This resources was developed by educators at Middlesex EarlyON (Middlesex County Library) in partnership with members of the Aboriginal Babies and Beyond Coalition.

myabbc.ca

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EarlyON Child and Family Centre

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SEPTEMBER

2025

Did You Know?

In many Indigenous cultures, they refer to the months with different names than Western cultures. For example, most Anishinaabe communities located in the Great Lakes Watershed use moon names for each month, which reflect the environment and activities of this part of the world.

Anishinaabe Moons in September

Corn Moon (Mdaamiini Giizis)

Lunaape Moons in September

Hunting Moon (Ehalawiit Niipaahum)

Oneida Months in September

Someone Harvests (Yeyʌthókwas)





September 30 | National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

This day, commemorated annually, honours the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.

September 30 | Orange Shirt Day

This day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of “Every Child Matters”.

The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom, and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

How to Show Your Support?

- On September 30, all Canadians are encouraged to wear orange to honour the thousands of Survivors of residential schools.
- Story and Knowledge Sharing: Choose books and stories by Indigenous authors; introduce treaties through simple, land-based storytelling contextualized for young children.
- Land-based Play: Include nature walks that acknowledge treaty lands and reflect Two-Eyed Seeing.
- At Home Reflections: Encourage families to create simple rituals of remembrance and talk about truth and respect in age appropriate ways.

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PROGRAMMING & ACTIVITY IDEAS

The following resources are available through Middlesex EarlyON.

earlyon@middlesex.ca

519-666-6227

www.middlesex.ca/earlyon

September | Back to School

September means back to school for your little ones, a time of new beginnings, change and adjustment. In your Early Years spaces, we recommend supporting a strong start to the school year with culturally grounded, play-based learning activities designed to encourage the development of skills crucial for school, as well as promote Indigenous language practices, identities and knowledge systems.

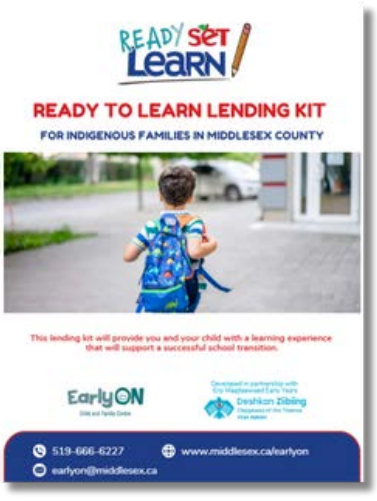
Ready Set Learn | Tuff Tray Lending Kit

Try putting out tuff tray activities that encourage the development of skills crucial for beginning kindergarten!

Middlesex EarlyON in partnership with educators from Enji Maajtaawaad, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, developed a Ready Set Learn Tuff Tray Lending Kit that assists educators and caregivers in offering engaging ways for hildren to explore colours, numbers, letters, shapes, and more while building early literacy skills. Each activity invites children to touch, sort and discover while being immersed in **Anishinaabemowin** and **Lunaape** language practice.



Educators: The final page includes a **QR code** that provides access to the electronic version of the workbook, which contains classroom activity ideas. If you have any questions, please contact us at earlyon@middlesex.ca.



At Home Learning | Ready to Learn Family Lending Kit

Would you like to assist your families in a successful transition to school beyond your early years spaces? Middlesex EarlyON in partnership with educators from Enji Maajtaawaad, COTTFN developed a two-part Ready to Learn Kit, with one kit focusing on physical, cognitive, and sensory development, while the second supports social-emotional learning. These activities are grounded in Indigenous teachings and use Anishinaabemowin throughout, aimed at supporting a successful school transition.

Families can contact Middlesex EarlyON to lend the kit for 7-days:

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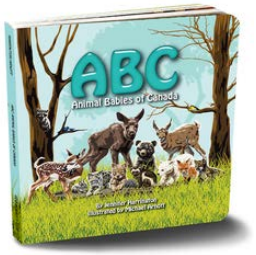
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The following books are available in the Middlesex County Library Book Collection. Visit library.middlesex.ca and browse the book collection and place a hold.

SEPTEMBER

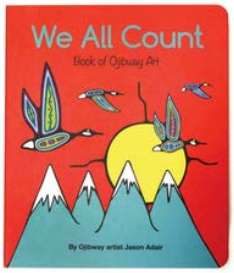
BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Board Books for Birth to Age 2

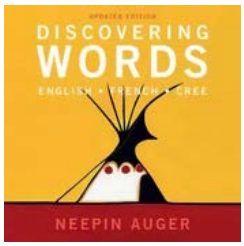


A beautifully illustrated A to Z board book featuring Canadian animals.





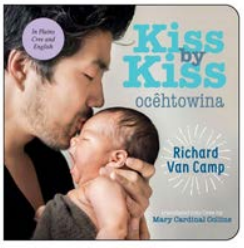
Count along with Ojibway artist Jason Adair. This book features stunning illustrations alongside translated animal names. Children will learn number recognition through observation and in context learning.



Bightly coloured images and early education level concepts familiar to everyone. Playful and bold, this dynamic series will educate and entertain preschoolers, parents, and teachers alike. In addition to the English words presented, the French and Cree equivalents are also given



Bightly coloured images and early education level concepts familiar to everyone. Playful and bold, this dynamic series will educate and entertain preschoolers, parents, and teachers alike. In addition to the English words presented, the French and Cree equivalents are also given



From bestselling author Richard Van Camp comes a delightful counting book that honors families and can be used to praise your little ones as they learn to count. Ten kisses from your sweet baby might not be enough to get you through this adorable book, so you'll just have to read it over and over!

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PROGRAMMING & ACTIVITY IDEAS

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Eye Spy With my Little Eye

With this fun and convenient Indigenous I Spy Tuff Tray Kit, educators and caregivers can invite children to explore colours and every day objects through play-based learning. With polaroid-style pictures with prompts in both Anishinaabemowin and Lunaape, children can be immersed in Indigenous language practice!

This open-ended kit can be quickly set up, and easily refreshed with seasonal or themed objects that can be rotated in at any time, making it a versatile and reusable resource.

This kit includes an envelope that contains an instruction sheet, polaroid prompts, and a detective checklist that children can cross off as they find each item on the tuff tray that matches each colour.

Utilizing any miscellaneous objects you have on hand, or swapping out for themed or seasonal items, this tuff tray kit is convenient, versatile, and engaging! The following pages are a few setup ideas to try for yourself.

This Indigenous I Spy Tuff Tray Lending Kit was made in partnership with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation. The activities included within this kit were developed in consultation with educators from Enji Maajtaawaad Early Years, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation (COTTFN).

Educators: The final page includes a **QR code** that provides access to the electronic version of the workbook, which contains classroom activity ideas. If you have any questions, please contact us at earlyon@middlesex.ca.



This Eye Spy colour recognition kit could be used through September for both Back to School and Orange Shirt Day.



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SEPTEMBER

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

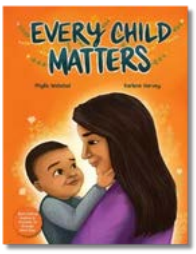
Wondering what kind of Indigenous books you should read during story time this month? Or what books you can recommend to your early years' families during September?

Below are three picture books by **Phyllis Webstad**, **Founder of Orange Shirt Day,** and who is Northern Secwpemc (Shuswap) from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation (Canoe Creek Indian Band). Each of these books are centred around Truth and Reconciliation, and the lessons we can learn from the past.

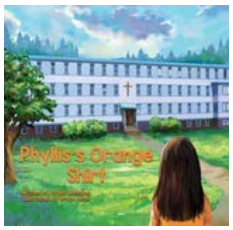




"Every child matters, including you and me. With our orange hearts, we walk in harmony." As a young child, your little world can be full of big emotions. In this book, Phyllis Webstad shows that sharing her story with the world helped her to process her feelings. Her true orange shirt story encourages young children to open their hearts and listen as others share their feelings, and to be more comfortable sharing their own feelings too. Listening is a first step towards reconciliation. It's never too early to start.



Learn the meaning behind the phrase, "Every Child Matters." This story honours the history and resiliency of Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island and moves us all forward on a path toward Truth and Reconciliation. If you're a residential School Survivor or an Intergenerational Survivor, you matter. The child inside every one of us matters. Every Child Matters.



On her first day at residential school, Phyllis Webstad was forced to take off her shiny orange shirt. The shirt was taken away and never returned.

Here is another excellent book in the collection.



A beautifully illustrated book that gently explores the complicated feelings a young girl experiences as she learns about tragedy and injustice. Written by, Wanda John-Kehewin

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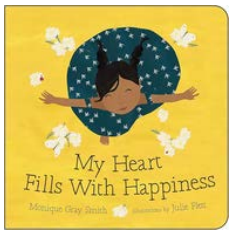
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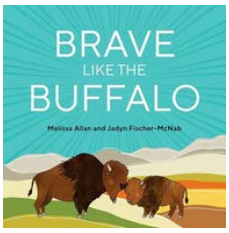
SEPTEMBER

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Indigenous books that celebrate diversity, love & self-love, bravery and resilience



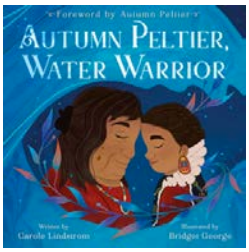
The sun on your face. The smell of warm bannock baking in the oven. Holding the hand of someone you love. What fills your heart with happiness? Through its illustrations, Plains Cree translation and overall theme, Monique Gray Smith hopes My Heart Fills with Happiness prompts further discussion around the importance of preserving and promoting Indigenous languages and culture, especially here in Canada.



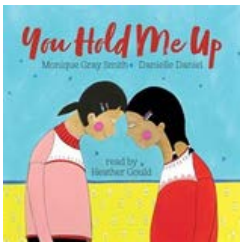
Written by Melissa Allan and illustrated by Jadyn Fischer-McNab, this story uses a powerful animal, the buffalo, as a symbolic message and connection to Indigenous ways of knowing and being that helps to create a wonderful narrative rich with Indigenous ties and a heartwarming message around facing adversity.



A picture book that celebrates self-love, care, and resilience with one of the most widespread plants—the dandelion. Both a love letter to the dandelion and a call to love ourselves in a difficult world, Âmî Osâwâpikones reminds us that we are not defined as others see us. Following our young protagonist and the dandelions through the seasons, we are reminded that we are resilient, we are healers, we are funny, and we are loved.



From New York Times bestselling author Carole Lindstrom and illustrator Bridget George comes a must-read companion to the powerful, award-winning picture book We Are Water Protectors. Telling the story of reall-ife water protectors, Autumn Peltier, Water Warrior celebrates Autumn Peltier and her great-aunt Josephine Mandamin, two Indigenous Rights Activists inspiring a tidal wave of change.



Encourage children to show love and support for each other and to consider each other's well-being in their everyday actions. Consultant, international speaker and award-winning author Monique Gray Smith wrote “You Hold Me Up” to prompt a dialogue among young people, their care providers and educators about reconciliation and the importance of the connections children make with others.

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OCTOBER

2025

Did You Know?

Anishinaabe Moons in October

Leaves Falling Moon (Binaakwe Giizis)

Lunaape Moons in October

Falling Leaf Moon (Punihle Wanipakw Niipaahum)

Oneida Months in October

Someone Stores Food (Yutékhwayʌhę̲')

October 4 | National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQ+

Also known as Sisters in Spirit Day, it serves as a national call to action to address the systemic violence, discrimination, and neglect that disproportionately affect Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQ+. This day is marked by vigils, marches and community gatherings across the country to remember those lost, support survivors, and demand justice and systemic change.

October 17-22 | Secret Path Week

Secret Path Week is a national movement commemorating the legacies of Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack. October 17th and 22nd respectively mark the dates that Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack joined the spirit world.

October 22 | Jordan River Anderson's Birthday

First Nations children have not always had the same access to services, such as health care, as other Canadian children. This is because different levels of government fund different services for First Nations children, especially those living on-reserve. This has led to disputes between governments about who should pay which services.

Jordan River Anderson from Norway House Cree Nation in Manitoba, was born with multiple disabilities and got caught in one of these payment disputes. As a result, he didn't get the recommended home-based care he needed.

In 2007, the House of Commons passed Jordan's Principle in memory of Jordan. It was a commitment that First Nation's children would get the services and supports they need, when they need them. Payments would be worked out later. Today, Jordan's Principle is a legal obligation with no end date.

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OCTOBER

PROGRAMMING & ACTIVITY IDEAS



Honour Jordan River Anderson's birthday with your early years families by:

- Encourage children to bring a teddy bear to your early years spaces to honour Spirit Bear and Jordan's legacy
- Host a Teddy Bear Tea Party with snacks and crafts
- Create a reflection space with children's books about fairness, kindness, and inclusion
- Watch or read "Spirit Bear and Children Make History"
- Share resources from the First Nations Child & Family Caring

October 4 | National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S+)

Looking to offer a few ways that you can honour this important day in a way that is respectful, age-appropriate, and community informed in your early years spaces?

The following ideas are grounded in care, connection, and reflection.

Wear red on October 4

- This helps to show your love and solidarity; your early years' families can be invited to also dress in red.

Display red paper or fabric dress in windows or shared spaces

- Lay out craft materials in your early years spaces where children can decorate paper dresses with support and simple messages of care.

Create a quiet reflection area

- This space can include red fabric, feathers, flowers or children's artwork.

Read alouds by Indigenous authors

- These stories centre love, identity and belonging:
  - *We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom
  - *When We Were Alone* by David A. Robertson

Use gentle messaging with children

- For example: "We wear red to remember people who are special and loved."

Share family-friendly resources to support learning and conversation at home

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NOVEMBER

Did You Know?

Anishinaabe Moons in November

Freezing Moon (Bashkakodini Giizis)

Lunaape Moons in November

First Snow Moon (Shayeewi Koon Niipaahum)

Oneida Months in November

They Give Thanks (Tehutʌnuhela:túhę')

November 8 | Indigenous Veteran's Day

First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in Canada have a long and proud tradition of military service to our country. This day honours these Veterans who volunteered, fought for freedom and for many, lost their lives during war. It also serves to educate the public about the inequitable veteran benefits and rights of returning Indigenous service men and women.

November 9-15 | Rock Your Mocs

This is a worldwide Native American & Indigenous Peoples social media unity even held annually during National Native American Heritage Month in the U. S. A. People wear their moccasins wherever their day takes them and many share a photo or video to their social media with the hashtag #rockyourmocs.

November 2-8 | Treaties Recognition Week

In 2016, Ontario passed the first legislation of its kind in Canada, declaring the first full week of November as Treaties Recognition Week. This annual commemoration honours the importance of Treaties and helps people of Ontario learn more about Treaty rights and relationships. By learning more about our collective treaty rights and obligations, we can create greater understanding and nurture relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

SCAN ME

For videos of Indigenous voices speaking on treaties, scan the QR code.

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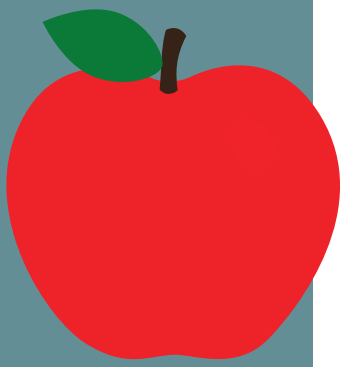
NOVEMBER

PROGRAMMING & ACTIVITY IDEAS

November | Rock your Moc

Rock Your Moc is all about celebrating cultural identity, and what better way to honour heritage than through food? Just like moccasins carry the stories of the people who wear them, traditional dishes carry the stories of generations before us. From frybread to bannock, from family recipes to new twists, food connects us, nourishes us, and reminds us who we are.

At Home Learning | Indigenous Food Literacy Family Lending Kit



This Indigenous Food Literacy Family Lending Kit, will assist caregivers and educators in offering an engaging way for early years to learn about healthy eating and Indigenous food practices at home.

This lending kit includes interactive toys, engaging activities, games, and songs, as well as books that explore traditional Indigenous knowledge about food practices.

It also includes additional resources for Indigenous families as well as cultural recipes to cook together at home!

This kit is intended to immerse children in Anishinaabemowin and Lunaape language practice while developing a foundation of food literacy skills.

This Indigenous Food Literacy Family Lending Kit was made in partnership with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation. The activities included within this kit were developed in consultation with educators from Enji Maajtaawaad Early Years, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation (COTTFN).

Families can contact Middlesex EarlyON to lend the kit for 7-days:

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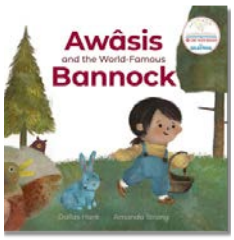
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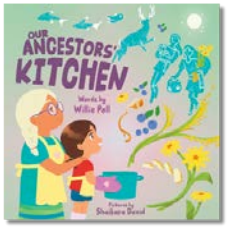
NOVEMBER

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

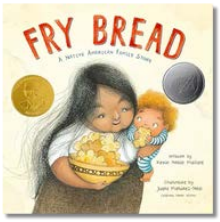
The following books are available in the Food Literacy Kit and available in the Middlesex County Library Book Collection. Visit library.middlesex.ca and browse the book collection and place a hold.



As young Awâsis searches for the ingredients to make Kohkum's world-famous bannock recipe, they run into a variety of other-than-human relatives that help them along in their journey. Includes a pronunciation guide and Kohkum's world-famous bannock recipe at the back of the book



A poignant and poetic picture book celebrating traditional Indigenous harvesting, foods, and the connections that these build for all our relations. Featuring an author's note on traditional harvesting practices and a recipe for Nuwish, Our Ancestors' Kitchen is a joyous exploration of love, food, and culture.



Fry bread is food. It is warm and delicious, piled high on a plate. Fry bread is time. It brings families together for meals and new memories. Fry bread is nation .It is shared by many, from coast to coast and beyond. Fry bread is us. It is a celebration of old and new, traditional and modern, similarity and difference.



As a young Tlingit girl collects wild berries over the seasons, she sings with her Grandmother as she learns to speak to the land and listen when the land speaks back.



Clarence and his grandmother spend the day picking wild blueberries. Meet ant, spider, and fox in a beautiful woodland landscape. This book is written in both English and Cree.



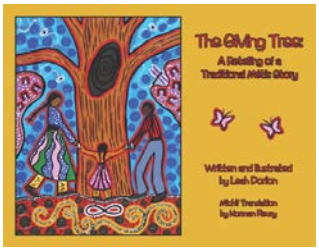
In this bilingual book, an Anishinaabe child explores the story of a precious mnoomin seed and the circle of life mnoomin sustains. Written in Anishinaabemowin and English, the story opens at harvest time. This book reveals the cultural and ecological importance of mnoomin

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PROGRAMMING & ACTIVITY IDEAS



This charming story, richly steeped in Métis culture, focuses on the boyhood reminisces of Moushoom as he describes finding the "great giving tree" with his mother and father. This vibrantly illustrated children's book is a beautiful retelling of a traditional Métis story. Scan the QR code to hear the read-aloud.

SCAN ME

BANNOCK ACTIVITY IDEAS

Below are some classroom activity ideas from the **Metis Nation of Ontario Early Learning & Child Care "The Giving Tree" Story Bag**. The ideas selected celebrate cultural identity through the cultural food Bannock.

- **Bannock Baking** Bake Bannock together. See the recipe on the next page.
- **Bannock & Tea Picnic** Enjoy the Bannock you baked together. Tells stories and sing songs.
- **Create a Family Recipe Book** Ask families to send in their favourite family recipe or something they enjoy making together at home (handwritten if they can!). Compile the recipes into a Recipe Book. Read a recipe a day at circle time, try making some of the recipes from the book, or add to your class library or dramatic play area.
- **Messy Play with Bannock Ingredients** Offer homemade playdough in a sensory table. Add bowl, bread pans, measuring cups, spoons etc.

Parent Notice for Early Years if using flour
Today's sensory bin will include flour as part of our play and exploration. Please be aware in case of allergies and sensitivities. We have alternative activities available.



SCAN ME

For more information on "The Giving Tree" Story Kit Bag and how & where you can purchase, scan the QR code on the left.

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NOVEMBER

PROGRAMMING & ACTIVITY IDEAS



Both recipes are from the **Metis Nation of Ontario Early Learning & Child Care "The Giving Tree" Story Bag**.

BANNOCK RECIPE

Ingredients

- 3 cups of all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons of baking powder
- ½ cup of vegetable oil
- 1 ½ cups of water
- 1 pinch of salt

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C)
2. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, baking powder, salt, water and oil.
3. Kneed on a lightly floured surface for 10 minutes.
4. Let is rest for a minute, then spread out onto a cookie sheet to 1-inch thickness.
5. Poke holes in the dough using a fork.
6. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes in the preheated oven, until the bottom is golden when you lift up the bread to take a peek.

HOMEMADE PLAYDOUGH RECIPE

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup salt
- 4 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 2 cups lukewarm water
- 2 Tablespoons of vegetable oil

Directions

1. Stir together the flour, salt and cream of tartar in a large pot. Next add the water and oil.
2. Cook over medium heat, stirring.
3. Continue stirring until the mixture is thickened and begins to gather around the spoon.
4. Remove the dough onto wax paper or a plate to cool.

How to Make No-Flour Playdough

SCAN ME

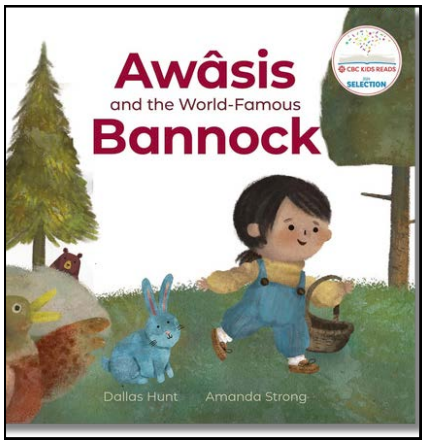
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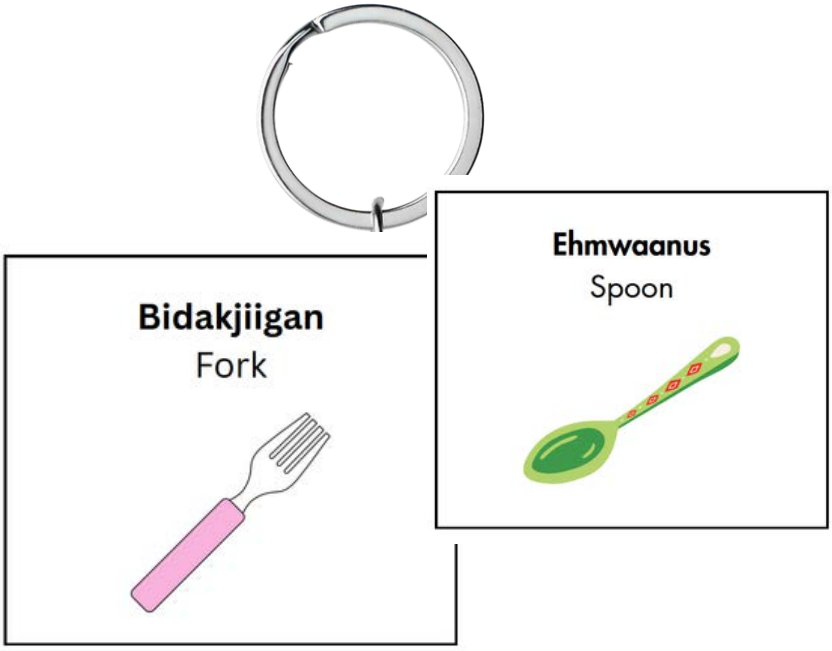
PROGRAMMING & ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Bannock is a staple for Metis family meals and brings communities together. Bannock is traditionally baked - a scone is traditionally fried.
- Metis people could add extra ingredients if they wished. Our ancestors used what was in season or whatever they had on hand (berries, minced dried meats, herbs).
- Bannock does not have a long shelf life - so traditionally you would only make it as you need, carrying the ingredients with you in your travels.
- It can be cooked in the oven, but it can also be cooked over the camp fire.



Available in the Middlesex County Library Book Collection. Visit library.middlesex.ca and browse the book collection and place a hold.

TRANSLATED KEY RING CARDS



Encourage the use of Anishinaabemowin and Lunaape by weaving language learning into everyday food play. Print and laminate translated key ring cards featuring common kitchen supplies and equipment, and place them in your imagination centre. As children explore, they will be engaged with and exposed to the languages in meaningful ways.

Educators: The final page includes a **QR code** that provides access to the electronic version of the Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe) and Lunaape key kind card translations. If you have any questions, please contact us at earlyon@middlesex.ca.

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The following books are available in the Middlesex County Library Book Collection. Visit library.middlesex.ca and browse the book collection and place a hold.

NOVEMEBER

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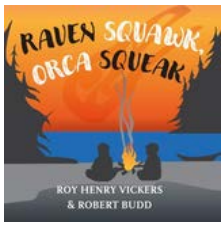
BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Indigenous books that celebrate cultural pride, identity, and heritage, and the importance of family and nature.

Board Books for Birth to Age 2



Photographs show Native American babies--chiefly Shoshone Bannock, but including Iroquois, Lakota Sioux, Navajo, and Potawotamie--interacting with their loving parents, siblings, and other family members.

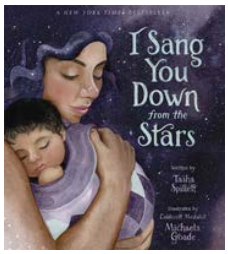


A sturdy board book that introduces babies and toddlers to the sounds of the West Coast.

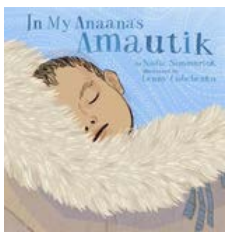


Celebrates every child and the joy babies bring to the world. Gentle rhyming text captures the wonder new parents feel as they welcome baby into the world. A celebration of the bond between parent and child.

Picture Books for Birth to Age 2



A Native American woman describes how she loved her child before it was born and, throughout her pregnancy, gathered a bundle of gifts to welcome the newborn.



An infant feels safe, warm and loved as his mother carries him on her back in an amautik (a pouch in the back of a parka).

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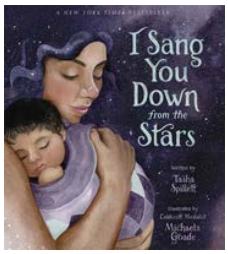
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BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Picture Books for Birth to Age 2



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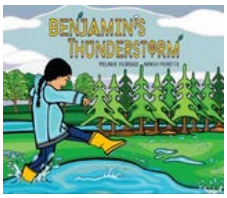


Dream a little, Kulu, this world now sings a most beautiful song of you." This beautiful bedtime poem, written by acclaimed Inuit throat singer Celina Kalluk, describes the gifts given to a newborn baby by all the animals of the Arctic. Lyrically and tenderly told by a mother speaking to her own little Kulu; an Inuktitut term of endearment often bestowed upon babies and young children, this visually stunning book is infused with the traditional Inuit values of love and respect for the land and its animal inhabitants.

Picture Books for Age 3-5 years



An Inuit little girl, Akilak, tries her best to travel a long distance to gather food with help from her grandmother's spirit.



Benjamin loves the rain. He loves splashing in puddles and kicking the droplets. And most of all, he loves the sound of thunder because it reminds him of the drum his grandfather plays at powwow. There's nothing better than being outside in the rain, enjoying all the colors and sounds of the storm, until the lightning comes. Benjamin doesn't like the lightning at all! But when he closes his eyes and listens to the sound of the thunder, he imagines himself as a powwow dancer, dancing in time to the beat of the drum, not scared of anything. Featuring Cree words interwoven into the story.



A young girl moves from her home by the sea, and she is lonely until she meets her neighbor, an elderly woman. As the seasons change and their friendship grows, the woman's health begins to fail.

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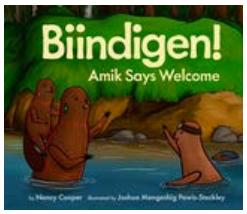
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BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Picture Books for Age 3-5 years



Busy beavers have a family reunion in this story that celebrates Indigenous perspectives. With the perfect blend of fact and fun, this salute to the industrious beaver is also an energetic celebration of Indigenous perspectives, languages, and diversity.



In magical scenes, Windy sees veterans in a Grand Entry, and a visiting drum group, and traditional dancers, grass dancers, and jingle-dress dancers–all with telltale ears and paws and tails. All celebrating in song and dance. All attesting to the wonder of the powwow. This playful story by Brenda Child is accompanied by a companion retelling in Ojibwe.



A colourful children's book written in a rhyming combination of English and Ojibwe. Its a Mitig! guides young readers through the forest while introducing them to Ojibwe words for nature. From sunup to sundown, encounter an amik playing with sticks and swimming in the river, a prickly gaag hiding in the bushes and a big, bark-covered mitig. Featuring vibrant and playful artwork, an illustrated Ojibwe-to-English glossary and a simple introduction to the double-vowel pronunciation system, plus accompanying online recordings.



The drum is a special symbol in many Indigenous cultures. In this rhyming picture book, young Ren is given a handmade drum by his mother that help to teach him many things about himself and his culture.



It's been said when teachings are passed down from one generation to the next, good things can happen. Language is learned, knowledge is shared and culture is practiced. In this story of language preservation, Juliana Armstrong illuminates a number of Anishnaabemowin words along with their cultural connections, passed down from her Ojibway ancestors.

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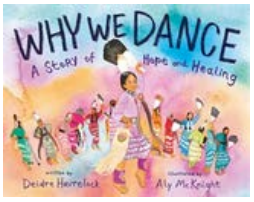
BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



We Are Water Protectors issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption-a bold and lyrical picture book written by Carole Lindstrom and vibrantly illustrated by Michaela Goade. Water is the first medicine. It affects and connects us all... When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth And poison her people's water, one young water protector Takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource



A young indigenous girl explores the ways she is connected to the Earth and to those who came before her.



From an Indigenous creative team comes a powerful and exuberant story about the heritage, joy, and healing power of the Jingle Dress Dance. Why We Dance is a joyous celebration of a proud Indigenous tradition that inspires hope, resilience, and unity

Giving Tree Outdoor Exploration

Adapted from **Metis Nation of Ontario Early Learning & Child Care "The Giving Tree" Story Bag**.

Giving Tree Walk. Go on a walk outside. Can you find trees similar to the Giving Tree?

What is in your giving tree? What would you need or hope to find in a giving tree?

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Anishinaabemowin

Songs and Stories

from the Indigenous Food Literacy Family Lending Kit

Gidibendaagozimin (Five Little Apples)

Anishinaabemowin Song

Bezhig, mishiimin, niizh miishiimin (One little, two little)

Niswi mishiiminag (Three little apples)

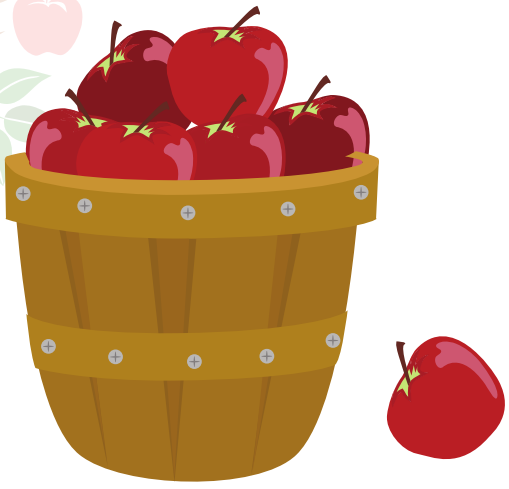
Niiwin mishiiminag, naanan mishiiminag (Four Little, five little)

Ngodaaswi mishiiminag (Six little apples)

Niizhaaswi mishiiminag, nishaaswi mishiiminag (Seven little, eight little)

Zhaangswi mishiiminag (Nine little apples)

Midaaswi mishiiminag gga miichimin! (We will eat 10 apples!)



EarlyON Child and Family Centre

Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

Lunaape

Songs and Stories

from the Indigenous Food Literacy Family Lending Kit

Ohpunushak (Little Potatoes)

Lunaape Song

Ngwuta, niisha, nxah ohpunushak

(One, two, three little potatoes)

Neewa, naalan, ngwutaash, ohpunushak

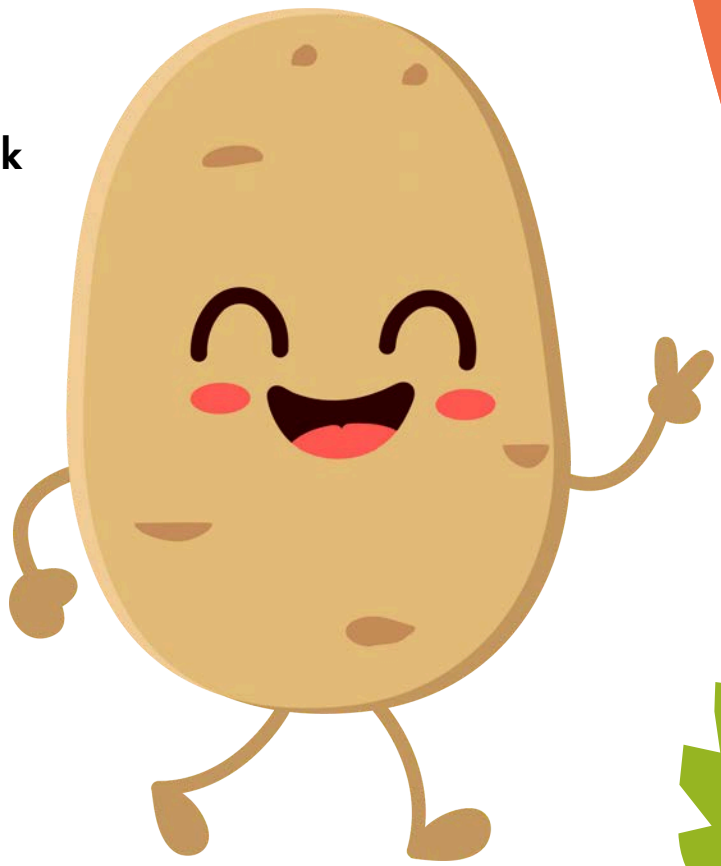
(Four, five, six little potatoes)

Niishaash, xaash, noolii ohpunushak

(Seven, eight, nine little potatoes)

Wiimbut ohpunushak

(Ten little potatoes)



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Deshkan Ziibiing
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

RESOURCES

Aboriginal Babies and Beyond Coalition provides culturally-based Indigenous Child and Family Services.

myabbc.ca @myabbc info@myabbc.ca @myabbc

Middlesex County Library is a system of 15 libraries that provide free access to quality materials and resources to all residents of Middlesex County. Our libraries are staffed by over 70 dedicated, friendly and helpful community members. **To search the book collection, scan the QR code to the right.**

SCAN HERE

Middlesex EarlyON programs are free for caregivers and children from birth to six-years-old. These programs are welcoming spaces that offer play-based learning opportunities that allow children to develop their social and emotional skills, reach developmental milestones and begin their journey of lifelong learning. **To search the collection of Tuff Tray, Family Lending Kits and Key Ring Cards mentioned in this resource, scan the QR code to the right.**

SCAN HERE

The mission of the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Early Learning and Child Care Program (ELCC) is to improve access to culturally grounded early learning opportunities for Métis individuals, families, and the Métis community as a whole. To learn more and to access information about the story bags and to access the Tiny Tribune newsletter, scan the QR code to the right.

SCAN HERE

LANGUAGE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We gratefully acknowledge **Jacquelyn Keep, Resource Consultant at Enji Maajtaawaad Early Years, COTTFN,** for her valuable contributions of Anishinaabemowin translations. We also thank **Ian McCallum of the Munsee-Delaware Nation** for the Lunaape translations.

All activities in this resource, in the tuff tray and family lending kits and key ring cards include the use of Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe) and Lunaape translations.

Please note that both languages have many regional dialects and variations in spelling, pronunciation, and vocabulary. The Anishinaabemowin and Lunaape translations reflect the languages spoken by the Anishinaabek and Munsee-Delaware Nation of Southern Ontario respectively.

We recognize and respect the unique language practices of these communities, and encourage families and educators to use these materials as a starting point for learning and sharing, while also valuing and preserving the local dialect.

Chi Miigwech (big thank you) for supporting the use and revitalization of Indigenous languages!