



## **Cuyahoga County Early Literacy Consortium**

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### **Resource Guide**

CCELC is an umbrella organization for early literacy. Our mission has two parts: (1) facilitating coordination among the many groups now working to further early childhood literacy in the County; and (2) delivering to the community a consistent, high-visibility message about the importance of early literacy development.

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**Please note:**

Not all literacy agencies are featured in this guide. This is just a listing of some of the literacy programs that are offered throughout Cuyahoga County.

If you have concerns about your child's development, there are services to help you. Ask your pediatrician, or call:

Help Me Grow at 216-736-4300

Starting Point at 216-575-0061

United Way's First Call for Help at 211

**Every Child Should**

- Connect books with love of parents and other caring adults
- Express his or her feelings
- Explore letter names and their sounds
- Enjoy rhyming and word games
- Have the opportunity to listen to stories
- Explore telling and writing stories in their own words



**A Cultural Exchange**  
12624 Larchmere Blvd  
Cleveland, Ohio 44120  
www.aculturalexchange.org  
Contact: Deborah McHamm  
aculturalexchange@sbcglobal.net

216-229-8300  
fax 216-795-5302

Free or low cost  
Serves Northeast Ohio

- Read, Baby, Read! Book Club-multicultural book club for children
- 100 Men Reading
  - African-American males read to children
  - Books donated to preschools
- Busy Bookmobile
  - Multicultural books sold at low cost
  - Visual and performing arts activities
- Parent/Teacher Resource Center
  - More than 7,000 books and resources
  - Training and development opportunities



Multicultural Fun  
for Everyone

**Cleveland Public Library**  
325 Superior Ave  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114  
www.cpl.org  
Contact: Youth Service Department  
Vicki Beggiani 216-623-2834  
victoria.beggiani@cpl.org

216-623-2800  
216-623-2978  
fax 216-623-2978

All programs are FREE  
Serves all ages

- Library programs for parents, caregivers, and children
  - Play and Learn
  - Lapsits
  - Toddler time
  - Preschool story time
- Workshops on family and early childhood development
- Children’s books, video, DVD’s, software, and music for loan
- Computer Specialists available at branches
- Youth Services Department trains and assists with computer learning



Libraries are FREE

**Cuyahoga County Early Literacy Consortium**

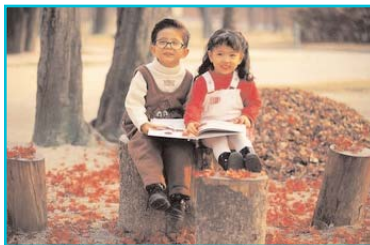
**Cleveland Reads**

1331 Euclid Ave  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
www.clevelandreads.org  
Contact: Catherine Thomas, Director  
cthomas@uws.org

216-436-2222  
fax 216-436-2261

All programs are FREE  
Serves Northeast Ohio literacy service providers, volunteer tutors, learners, and parents

- Literacy Hotline– 216-436-2222  
–For learners, volunteer tutors, and the community
- Directory of Literacy Services for Greater Cleveland
- Community Literacy Council (CLC)-literacy service provider group
- Raising Real Readers (3Rs)  
–Workshop for parents to learn how to help children build literacy skills  
–Free books provided
- Tutor training workshops
- “Lit Kits for Kids” tutoring tool kits
- Quarterly newsletter



**Cuyahoga County Early Literacy Consortium**

**Cleveland Sight Center**

1909 East 101st Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44118  
Contact: Sharon Bowen  
sbowen@clevelandsightcenter.org

216-791-8118 x 309  
fax 216-795-5132

Free or low cost  
Serves the blind and visually impaired in Cuyahoga County

- Early Intervention  
–Onsite program for ages 0-3  
–Home visits
- Bright Futures Preschool



Services for the visually impaired

**Cleveland State University**  
2121 Euclid Ave  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
www.csuohio.edu  
Contact: Dr. Judy Ausherman  
jausherman@csuohio.edu

216-687-4884  
fax 216-687-5410

- Early Childhood Education-Learning  
–Students participate in service learning:
- Students read to children in doctors office waiting rooms
- Learn about health literacy
- Select picture books with health-related themes:  
<http://www.lib.muohio.edu/pictbks>



Reading with children

**National Cued Speech Association** 216-292-6213  
23970 Hermitage Road  
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44112  
Contact: Pam Beck  
www.cuedspeech.org

All Programs are FREE  
Serves anyone with hearing, speech, and language needs

- Educational services with “cued speech” for persons with hearing, speech, and language needs
- Provides instruction
- Creates educational materials
- Assist with lip reading and use of simple hand movements



Information and educational services on “cued speech”

Cuyahoga County Board of MR/DD fax 216-736-3393  
Early Childhood Program  
2421 Community College Ave  
Cleveland, Ohio 44140  
www.ccbmrdd.org  
Contact: Ronnie Jeter  
216-736-2681  
jeter@ccbmrdd.org

Dr. Christine Cook  
216-736-4334  
cook@ccbmrdd.org

All Programs are FREE, but there are eligibility criteria  
Serves families with children ages 0-5 with developmental  
delays and disabilities

- Home visits focused on parent/child education
- Parent-child playgroups  
–Music, swimming, movement, literacy activities
- Toddler classrooms  
–4- ½ days focus on many types of intervention and prevention
- Preschool classrooms
- Literacy activities, lending libraries, and giveaways



Parent-child playgroups

Cuyahoga County Public Library 216-749-9354  
2111 Snow Road  
Parma, Ohio 44134  
www.cuyahogalibrary.org  
Contact: Youth Services Department  
Sue Kirschner  
skirschner@lib.oh.us

All programs are FREE  
Serves all ages

- Project LEAP-Preschool kits available for loan  
–Kits contain books, music, recordings, toys and activities
- Toy Library
- Puppet Center
- Branch Programs for parents and children
- Children’s books, videos, DVDs, music, and toys available for loan
- Workshops for adults
- Play, learn, and grow programs
- Free access to computers



Libraries have free books for all ages

**Cuyahoga Special Education Service Center**

5983 W 54th Street 440-885-2685  
Parma, Ohio 44129 fax 440-885-1853  
www.csesc.org  
Contact: Linda Koren, Early Childhood Services  
linda.koren@lnoca.org

All Programs are FREE  
Target population: Cuyahoga County

- Distribute documents and publications from the Ohio Department of Education regarding early learning content standards, early literacy assessments, instruction and strategies to promote the success of all children
- Provide professional learning opportunities and training to educators, parents, and agency staff regarding federal and state regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- Provide individual and group consultation in school districts upon request to improve the academic, behavior, and social skills of children and youth with disabilities
- Offer a variety of books, videos, assistive technology and guidance to access resources regarding students' and families' needs through our Media Information Services

**Daily Dose of Reading**

2226 Warrensville Center Road 216-291-9424 x 151  
University Heights, Ohio 44118 fax 216-291-9422  
www.dailydoseofreading.org  
Contact: Susie Bauer, Executive Director  
info@dailydoseofreading.org

All Programs are FREE  
Serves pediatricians and nurses, families with children age birth-14

- Materials for pediatric offices
  - In-service training
  - Books and educational materials
- Newsletter
  - Tips on reading, book suggestions, and activities
- Website- www.dailydoseofreading.org
  - Access to program
  - Access to book lists on different topics
- Speakers available



**Family Life Education**  
1332 W 28th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2602  
Contact: Dr. Dorothy H. Sterling  
sterlingdo@cmsdnet.net

216-696-2677  
fax 216-623-3768

All Programs are FREE  
Serves parents, programs, caregivers, schools, and  
community members

- Family Literacy
  - Literacy programs
  - Adult book clubs
  - Health literacy
  - Parent/child books
- Parenting
  - Help Me Grow
  - Balancing home and work
  - Career and life transition
  - Parent projects



**HealthSpace Cleveland**  
Read to Me  
8911 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106  
www.healthspacecleveland.org

216-231-5010  
Contact: Education Dept  
216-231-6900

Free to Minimal cost for admission  
Target population: children age 3-6 with parents or day care  
and preschool groups

- Read to Me @ HealthSpace
  - Learn about your body and how to keep healthy  
through stories, crafts, and activities
  - Hands on exhibits about health and the human body
- Health on Wheels @ your place
  - Read to me
    - Learn about your body and how to keep healthy  
through stories, crafts, and activities
  - Stuffee and Me
    - Find out the five keys to health through music,  
stories, and activities



**Heights Parent Center**  
In Millikin Early Childhood Center  
1700 Crest Road  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121  
www.heightsparentcenter.org  
Contact: Louise S. Oliver  
loliver@heightsparentcenter.org

216-321-0079  
fax 216-321-7056

Free or low cost  
Serves parents with young children

- Even Start (Noble Road Presbyterian Church)  
Family Literacy Program
  - Adult basic education
    - GED
    - ESOL
  - Early childhood education
  - Parenting education
    - Parent and child time together
- Little Heights-Family Literacy Playroom (Cleveland/University Heights Library)
- Drop in Play and Learn (Millikin Early ChildhoodCenter)
  - Informal play setting
  - Build literacy skills
  - Parent resource library
  - Toy lending library-more than 800 toys
  - Information on community resources



Drop in play  
and learn

Heights Parent Center

**Help Me Grow**  
2421 Community College Ave  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
www.helpmegrow.org

216-736-4300  
fax 216-391-3437  
Contact: Cheryl Selak  
Family Support Manager  
cselak@helpmegrow.org

All programs are FREE  
Serves families with children birth-5 in Cuyahoga County

- On-going home visits-Prenatal to age three
  - Provide information on child development and growth
  - Help develop and reach family goals
  - Offer parenting tips and early literacy ideas
  - Link parents to resources
- Other services
  - Help for developmental concerns:
  - Developmental evaluation
  - Family support groups and activities
  - Assistance in transitions to preschool and other programs
- Family Support Services
- Literacy Programs
  - Community and agency literacy programs
  - ELOA-Early learning literacy specialists will be trained in early literacy– to assist families and children
  - Lending library with a variety of books and articles



Help Me Grow

**ideastream**

WVIZ/PBS Ready to Learn  
Early Childhood Service  
4300 Brookpark Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44134  
www.wviz.org

216-739-3846  
fax 216-749-2560

Contact: Courtney Longhino  
clonghino@wviz.org

Free or low cost  
Serves adults, caregivers, service providers



- Ready to Learn
  - Adults learn to get the most out of watching quality TV with children
- Ohio Ready to Learn Series
  - Workshop series focusing on the Ohio Department of Education’s Early Learning content Standards for math, science, social studies, and english language arts
- First Book-Partner with local organizations and schools to promote literacy by building a home library for children birth-8 years old
- Early Childhood Workshops
- Online Educational Resources  
wviz.org, pbskids.org, pbsparents.org  
pbs.org/teacherssource/prek2

**ideastream**



Learn good TV viewing habits

**City of Lakewood Family Room**

216-529-5018  
(Dept of Human Services/Early Childhood) fax 216-521-0276  
1700 Northwood Ave  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
Contact: Tony Gelsomino  
antoinette.gelsomino@lakewoodoh.net

All Programs are FREE  
Serves Lakewood residents

- Family Room Drop-Inn Programs
  - Activity center and project area for children and parents
- Ohio’s Ready to Learn-for providers
  - Materials are provided by WVIZ
  - Five part program that covers brain development, communications, challenging behavior, relationships, and environment

**Lakewood Family Room**

Family child interaction



**LEAPS Literacy Enrichment and Achievement  
For Pre-School Success** 216-802-3333

Cleveland State University  
2121 Euclid Avenue  
Keith Building Room 2150  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
Contact: Patricia Carter

All Programs are FREE  
Serves families with children 3-5 in Cuyahoga County Head Start Program

- **Parent Family Literacy**
  - Train parents to help increase child’s literacy and love of reading
  - Meet one time a month to learn about literacy activities and literacy events in the home
- **Professional development and assessment**
  - Assist pre-school trainers with lesson plans and activities around early learning and literacy
- **Family Fun Days**
- **Field Trips**



**Parent-Child Home Program** 216-961-1190  
(St. Ignatius) fax 216-281-1620

1911 West 30th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113  
www.parent-child.org  
Contact: Vicky Polito  
vickpolito@hotmail.com

All Programs are FREE  
Serves Cuyahoga County residents

- Home visits to build language and literacy skills
  - One-half hour visit every two weeks
  - 23 weeks over 2 years



Home visits to promote language/literacy success

**Reach out and Read of Greater Cleveland**

www.reachoutandread.org 440-734-3448  
Contact Dr. Needlman  
robert.needlman@case.edu

All Programs are FREE  
Serves parents or caregivers and children visiting doctor offices

- Work through pediatricians' offices (see list below)
- Provides each child with an appropriate book for free at each doctor visit
- Volunteers look at books with the children in the waiting room

**Reach out and Read Sites of Greater Cleveland**

Asia Plaza Health Center  
 Broadway Health Center  
 Buckeye-116 Health Center  
 Clement Center  
 Cleveland Clinic  
 Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for Rehabilitation  
 J . Glenn smith Health Center  
 Lee- Harvard Medical Center  
 McCafferty Health Center  
 MetroHealth Medical Center  
 Neighborhood Family Practice  
 Otis Moss-University Health Center  
 Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital

**Shaker Family Center**

19824 Sussex Road 216-921-2023  
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122 fax 216-283-3580  
www.shakerfamilycenter.org  
Contact: Joanne Federman  
sfc01@sbcglobal.net

All programs are Free  
Serves adults or child care centers with children age 0-5

- Play and Learn Station at the Shaker Heights Library
  - For adults and children
  - For daycare home providers
- Road to Reading at Shaker Family Center
  - Literacy for non-English speaking families
    - English as Second Language (ESL) adult class
    - Child-only group programming
    - Home visits every 2 weeks



Drop in activities can put a smile on any child's face

## Cuyahoga County Early Literacy Consortium

### Starting Point

2000 E. 9th Street, Suite 1500  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

[www.starting-point.org](http://www.starting-point.org)

Contact: Billie Osborne-Fears, Executive Director  
Jane Pernicone, Staff Development/Training Specialist

216-575-0061

fax 216-575-0102

All programs are Free or at low cost

Serves child care providers in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga,  
Geauga, and Lake Counties

- Lending Library
- Library of resources for community use
  - Curriculum and activity materials for child caregivers
- Super Saturday-literacy workshops offered in partnership with Cuyahoga Community College and Employment and Family Services
- Quarterly training calendar-includes trainings offered by various agencies
- Starting Point Training-for providers

## Cuyahoga County Early Literacy Consortium

### Tremont Advocates for School Kids

(TASK), Merrick House

1050 Starkweather

Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Contact: Molly Brudnick  
[mobrud@n2net.net](mailto:mobrud@n2net.net)

216-771-5077

fax 216-771-8030

All programs are FREE

Serves Tremont students PreK-6th Grade

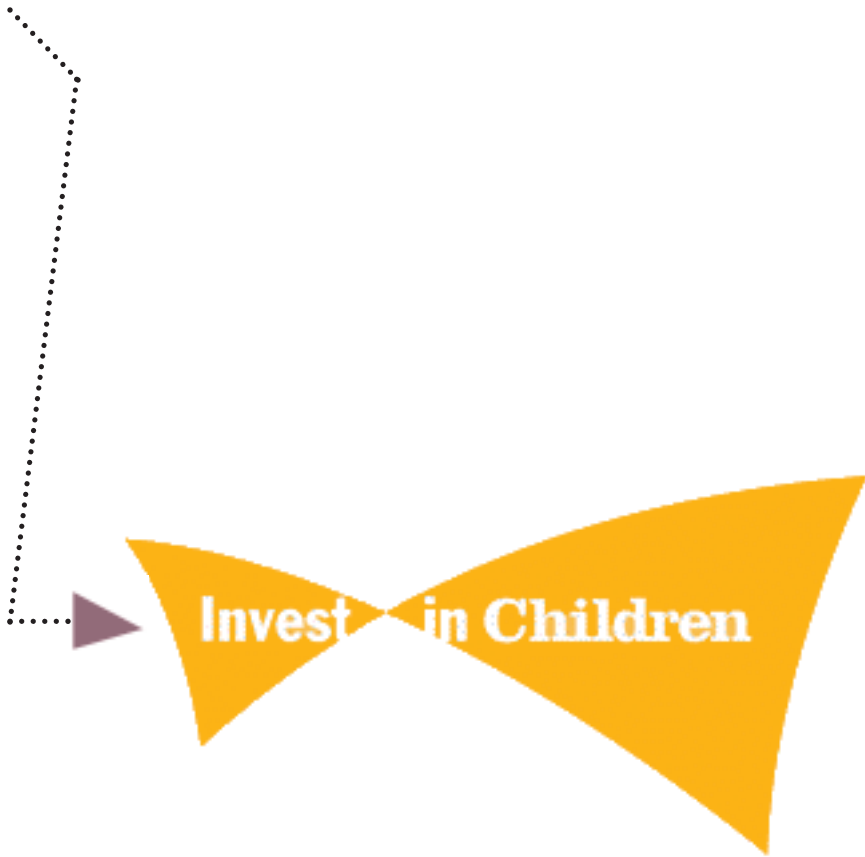
- Read-ins
  - Professionals, business people and parents go into classrooms to read
- Scholastic Book Fair
  - Fundraiser to buy books for students' home libraries
- Book distribution for home libraries
- Advocate for education and literacy issues



Create your own  
library at home

**Notes**

**Notes**



**Invest in Children**  
**310 W. Lakeside, Suite 750**  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44113**

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**Phone: 216-698-2215**  
**Fax: 216-443-7575**

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**Invest in Children is a public-private partnership administered by the Board of County Commissioners and committed to establishing a community ethic that embraces our youngest children.**