

Our Free to Read Program is available to everyone!

Books for babies, toddlers and preschoolers are available in the **Free to Read zone** at each PSL location of Grandview Children's Centre. There is no cost or due date to return books. Books are free for families to keep as long as they wish!

The program also offers helpful resources to support early reading, writing and math development.

Help yourself to books and help your child build a lifelong love of reading.

We also accept donations of new and previously loved preschool books, in good condition, at our Oshawa location.

Free to Read



The Free to Read Program is here to help you take books home for **FREE --**

*to **share** and **learn** and **love** with glee!*

For further information or feedback, contact:
Sabrina Bellows, SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist
905-728-1673 x 2267

grandviewkids.ca



Free to Read Program





Free to Read

At Grandview Children's Centre, we know that having positive early literacy experiences with your baby, toddler and preschooler is an important step to your child's future success in school and learning through life.

The **Free to Read Program** was developed by Grandview's Preschool Speech and Language (PSL) Program to support literacy awareness and development in our preschool clients.

The program aims to reduce obstacles such as cost and access to make it easier for all of our families to enjoy more books at home.

10 Tips to help your child develop a love for reading



Incorporating books into your child's daily routine is the first step to building a foundation of early literacy development. By having fun with books, we can create a love for reading and develop a rich imagination that will help your child to have academic success.

1. Fostering positive experiences with books starts from birth. Having fun together with books will lead to you child wanting more of these experiences.
2. Help your baby touch, feel, and explore books. Your baby will respond to animation in your voice and pointing and labeling pictures will help foster understanding.
3. To help build attention for sitting down and reading together, choose books that include your toddler's favorite things (e.g. favorite character, animal, or activity).
4. When reading to your toddler, pause every now and then to let your child respond to a question or comment on a picture. Sometimes they might be interested in unexpected things.
5. Act out part of the story with your child. It will add more meaning and fun to make pretend play an extension to reading a book.
6. Help your child understand what is read by making comments and talking about the story and pictures (e.g. "he looks scared!") and ask an occasional question (e.g. "what happened?").
7. Get involved. The regional library services and the *Ontario Early Years Centres* offer great opportunities in the community for literacy resources.
8. Go beyond the books. In daily life there are many opportunities to recognize letters, words, sounds and numbers. From food packaging to street signs, there is a ton to be read in the real world.
9. When reading books to your kindergartener, talk about the characters' feelings and why they did the things they did. Talk about what might happen next.
10. Relate the story to personal experiences. Make the connections between what happens in a story and what has happened in your child's life and his or her own experiences.

