

# The Future's So Bright



## Niagara Region Children's Services

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## Mission:

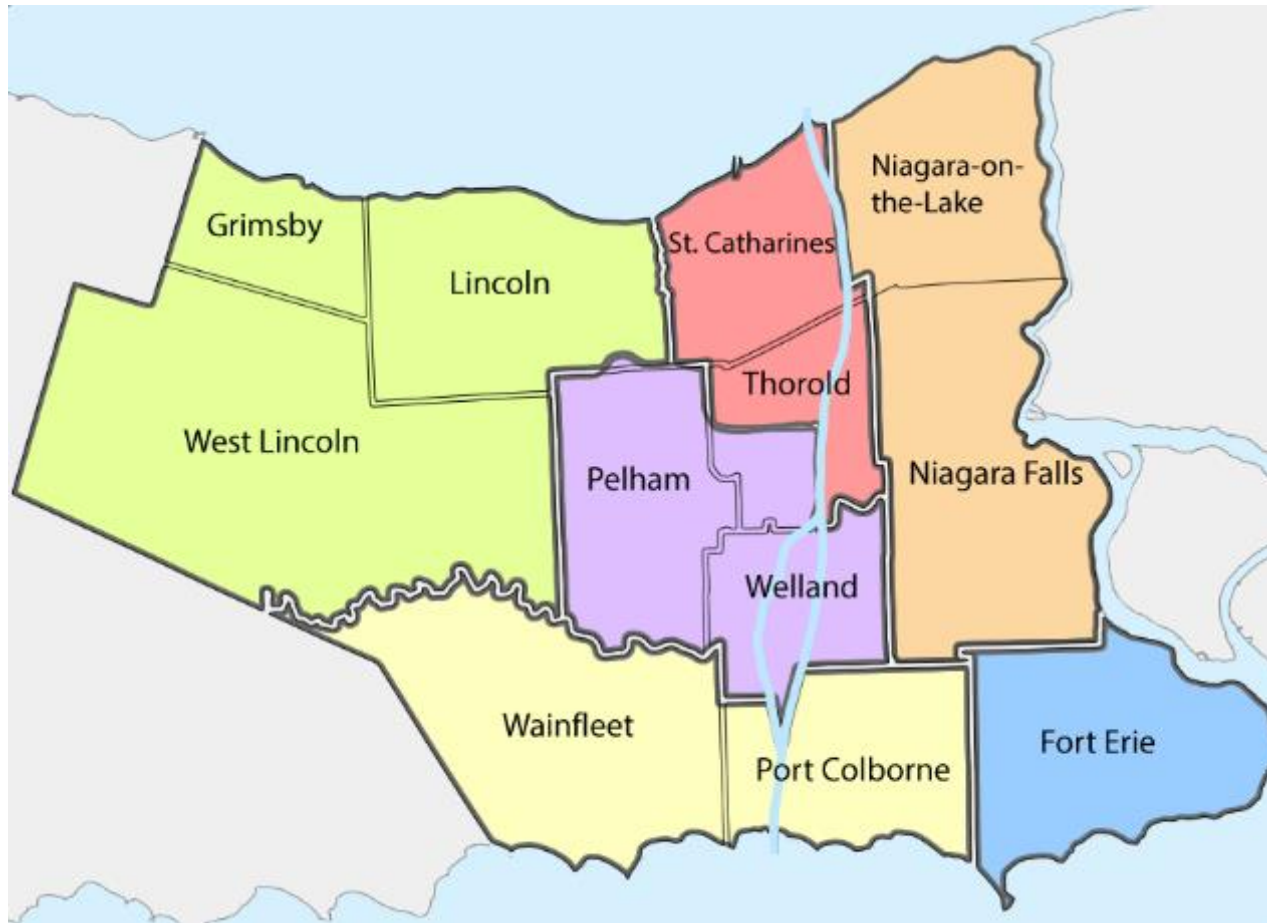
To ensure access to a coordinated diverse range of affordable quality services and supports for young children and families residing in Niagara.

## Services we offer to young children and families:

- Children's Services is the Systems Manager for Early Years Services
- Provide financial assistance for eligible families
- Offer online registration for child care fee subsidy and resource teacher supports
- Support for children who may be at risk of a developmental delay or have diagnosed special needs

# Niagara Region Children's Services

Children's Services funds child care  
for the Niagara Region



There are  
180  
licensed  
child care  
centres in  
Niagara  
Region

In Niagara, there are 11,500 child care spaces for children birth to four (all day) & before and after school for children 4-12 years of age



Child Care must be licensed by the provincial government if there are more than 5 children being cared for



# Niagara Region Children's Services provides:

## Financial assistance for eligible families

- Child care subsidy covers all or part of the costs of child care for children up to 12 years of age in licensed programs.
- The amount of subsidy is based on income level and confirmation of the reason for care.

We provide financial help to eligible families to assist with the costs of:

- Licensed child care
- Seasonal camps
- Sports and culture programs (ProKids)
- Resource consultants to support healthy child development
- Behaviour consultant supports



# Financial Assistance Eligibility Requirements

- Be a resident of Niagara
- Have a child 12 years old or younger
- Provide the most recent Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment or Canada Child Benefit and Ontario Child Benefit notice.

Eligibility will be determined at an interview that includes an income test. If eligible for financial help, a placement plan for the child's care will be developed.





Niagara Region Children's Services is also a licensed agency with contracts with Home Child Care providers across Niagara for children from birth-12 years of age.





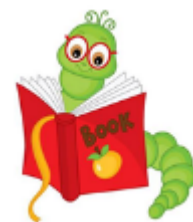


EarlyON Child and Family Centres provide free, high-quality drop-in programs for children from birth to six years of age, their parents and caregivers.

Our centres are family-focused and offer a welcoming and fun space for Niagara's children to learn, play, and connect with others.

Parents and caregivers stay with their child(ren) and together experience the many benefits these centres provide.

Programs and services are free and open to all families.





## Child Care / Assistance

[Child Care Centres](#)

[Home Child Care](#)

[Child Care Registry](#)

[Financial Assistance](#)

[Service Providers](#)

[EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

## Children's Services

### Don't Fall Behind

Keep your College of Early Childhood  
Educators Continuous Professional Learning  
Portfolio Cycle on track

[Create your learning plan](#)



#### [Regional Child Care](#)

Licensed child care centres,  
recreation programs



#### [Home Child Care](#)

Find home child care, become a  
home child care provider



#### [Financial Assistance](#)

Financial help for child care,  
camps and programs



#### [Child Care Registry](#)

Register for licensed child care,  
and before-and-after school  
programs



#### [Service Providers](#)

Wage enhancement, policies,  
reporting, and operator  
information



#### [EarlyON Child and Family Centres](#)

Information, locations and hours  
for centres in Niagara



## Incorporating Books – Encouraging Connections



<https://firstbookcanada.org/>

To register: <https://bit.ly/2Ve6P6H>

\*must indicate that minimum 70% of the books will  
Be given to low income families





# Incorporating Books – Encouraging Connections



- Fee Subsidy Intake Appointment
- Public Health Vaccination Clinics
- Mobile Dental Bus
- Public Health – Healthy Babies Home Visiting Nurses
- Regional Child Care Centres
- Home Child Care



# FREE MONEY FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION... YES REALLY!

Learn about  
the Federal  
Government's  
**CANADA  
LEARNING BOND.**

Every eligible child  
receives at least

## \$500

and could  
receive up to

## \$2,000!



The Canada Learning Bond (CLB) is money that the Government of Canada deposits directly into a child's Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) account to help parents get a head start on saving for their child's education after high school.

<https://www.smartsaver.org/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/learning-bond.html>





# SEESAW

Supporting, Encouraging & Engaging  
children in Safe & Active Wellbeing

- Phase One = Healthy Eating
- Phase Two = Physical Literacy
- Phase Three = Emotional Wellbeing of Children
- Phase Four = Emotional Wellbeing of Staff





<http://niagaracommunitygardens.ca/>



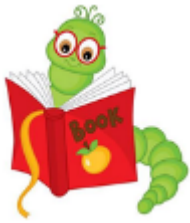




PJ's, Books, Shopping and Food  
= providing new PJs and books  
to over 500 vulnerable children







**NIAGARA  
CHILDREN'S  
PLANNING COUNCIL**

Evolution of the original Early Years / Best Start Planning  
Table serving organizations working with children  
from birth to age 6

sudburyfamilies.ca



Children and Youth  
Planning Table  
of Waterloo Region



 **Hamilton**

LIVING IN SIMCOE

**Living In**  
City services and programs for residents.

**Doing Business**  
Start, grow and operate your business here.

**Discovering Hamilton**  
Explore the best the City has to offer to visitors and newcomers.

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**EARLY YEARS AND CHILD CARE SERVICES**

 **Early Years and Child Care Services**  
Home Visitation Services • Early Years and Child Care Services

[Find child care](#)

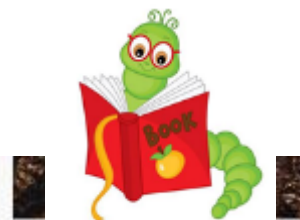




**StoryWalk®**  
NIAGARA







### StoryWalk® Resources

[Storywalk® handbook - English](#)

[Storywalk® borrower survey - English](#)

[Storywalk® visitor survey - English](#)

### Niagara StoryWalk® Library Partners

StoryWalk® Kits booked through Niagara Falls Public Library can be picked up and dropped off at any of our Niagara Region StoryWalk® Library Partners.

[Fort Erie Public Library](#)

[Grimsby Public Library](#)

[Lincoln Public Library](#)

[Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library](#)

[Pelham Public Library](#)

[Port Colborne Public Library](#)

[St. Catharines Public Library](#)

[Thorold Public Library](#)

[Wainfleet Public Library](#)

[Welland Public Library](#)

[West Lincoln Public Library](#)

### StoryWalk® Kits:

[Ask Me by Bernard Weber and Suzy Lee \(English\)](#)

[Avec un Grain D'Amitié by Kadir Nelson \(Français\)](#)

[Forever Friends by Carin Berger \(English\)](#)

[Grumpy Bird by Jeremy Tankard \(English\)](#)

[Gros Grognon par Jeremy Tankard \(Français\)](#)

[Hiawatha and the Peacemaker by Robbie Robertson and David Shannon \(English\)](#)

[If You Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson \(English\)](#)

[Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert \(English\)](#)

[Leaves by David Ezra Stein \(English\)](#)

[The Listening Walk by Paul Showers \(English\)](#)

[The Perfect Nest by Catherine Friend \(English\)](#)

[Picture a Tree by Barbara Reid \(English\)](#)

[Imagine un Arbre par Barbara Reid \(Français\)](#)

[Some Bugs by Angela DiTerlizzi and Brendan Wenzel \(English\)](#)

[Stella Fairy of the Forest by Marie-Louise Gay \(English\)](#)

[Stella fée des forêts par Marie-Louise Gay \(Français\)](#)

[Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature by Joyce Sidman and Beth Krommes \(English\)](#)

[We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen \(English\)](#)

[La Chasse à L'ours by Michael Rosen \(Français\)](#)



## Collective Impact: A Model for Change

### Community Goal:

By **2025**, the number of emotionally vulnerable children, birth to age 12 will be **reduced by 15%** in Niagara



#### Training and Education:

Providing knowledge, skills and training to equip children and youth, professionals, educators, and families to improve emotional well-being.



#### Marketing and Communication:

Raising awareness of the emotional well-being of children and youth, why it matters and how you can help to improve it in Niagara.



#### Advocate for Policy Changes:

Promote policies that positively impact the emotional well-being of children and youth.



#### Identify and Address Programming Gaps and Opportunities:

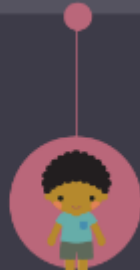
Pilot new to Niagara programs to improve emotional well-being and address identified programming gaps and opportunities.



#### Community Linkages:

Identify community partners also working with children and youth to build strong linkages and work collaboratively to strengthen our collective impact.

**Who will benefit:** Educators and Professionals | Children and Youth | Parents and Guardians





EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT



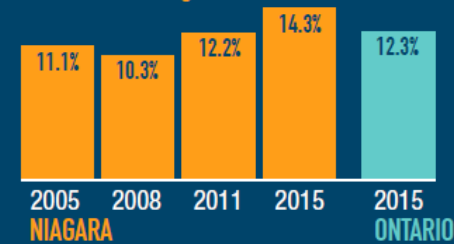
<https://offordcentre.com/>

Contact Your local Children's Services  
Systems Manager for results specific  
to your area

#### What is Emotional Maturity?

Emotional Maturity is the domain of child development that encompasses children's emotional state, skills and responses. Children who are vulnerable in this domain are more likely to have difficulties later in life.

#### Percent of kindergarten children vulnerable in Niagara



#### Emotional Maturity includes four subdomains

##### Prosocial and Helping Behaviour

- Comforts a friend who is crying or upset
- Offers to help others
- Will try stop quarrels

##### Anxious and Fearful Behaviour

- Cries a lot
- Incapable of making decisions
- Unhappy/sad/depressed
- Appears anxious or fearful

##### Hyperactive and Inattentive Behaviour

- Has trouble sticking to any activity
- Is impulsive/acts without thinking
- Has difficulty awaiting their turn in a game

##### Aggressive Behaviour

- Bullies or is mean to others
- Kicks/bites/hits
- Laughs at the discomfort of other children

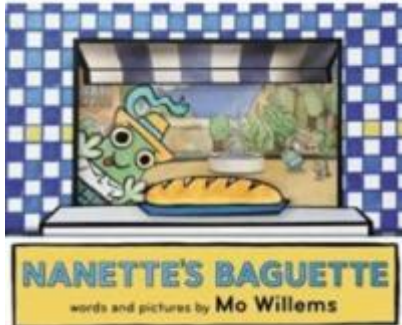
# Innoweave Launch Grant – Book Bag Project

Mindfully selected items to help positively impact social emotional behaviours in the home

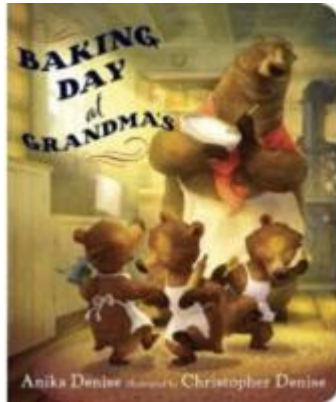


Eco-Chic  
3R's Boutique

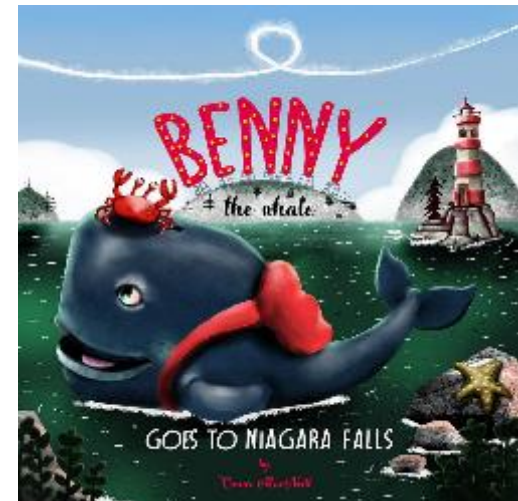
<https://iglecochic.org/>



Nanette's Baguette follows the relationship we all develop of food to development and emotional satisfaction



Baking Day illustrates to children the importance of the extended family unit and the carryover of traditions and morals that influence the development of life.



# The Future's So Bright



Questions? Contact Karen Schmidt [karen.schmidt@niagararegion.ca](mailto:karen.schmidt@niagararegion.ca)