

GET INVOLVED WITH EARLY WORDS

Early Words/Premiers mots provides healthcare professionals with resources, training and books so they can deliver early literacy support to families with babies and young children.

This simple but effective program is easily integrated into the way healthcare professionals already interact with families. We are able to offer this program thanks to funders who share our vision for a more literate Canada.



Why?

Evidence shows that children whose families receive early literacy guidance as part of well-child healthcare visits are **2.5 times as likely** to be read to frequently. And this is important because kids who are exposed to lots of words from loving adults in the years before age five are more likely to arrive at school ready to learn to read themselves.

Our Goal:

To make early literacy guidance as routine at healthcare visits as weighing and measuring babies and young children.

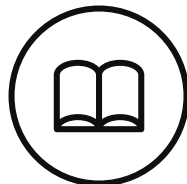
Who can apply to participate in Early Words?

We want to hear from **health clinics and hospitals** from across Canada. Do the families you see routinely and consistently have children from newborn to age five who face barriers to learning? This might include families where the parents struggle with literacy. Or families that can't easily access children's books or early childhood programs. Maybe they are new to Canada, or experiencing economic hardship or other challenges.

WHAT WE PROVIDE



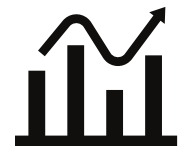
Evidence-based **training** to guide healthcare practitioners on how to talk to families about early literacy development



High-quality culturally and age-appropriate **children's books** for families to take home (we will cover the cost of books for a two-year period)



Resources for healthcare providers, families and clinics



Tools to track your clinic or hospital's progress and impact

WHAT'S NEXT?

**September 14
6:00PM EST**

Info session with opportunity to ask questions. (Optional, but highly recommended). Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/early-words-info-session-tickets-164904801701>

**October 1
Midnight (your
local time zone)**

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**October to
December 2021**

Shortlisted applicants participate in readiness assessment with *Early Words* staff

January 2022

Partners selected and invited to become *Early Words* sites

**February &
March 2022**

New *Early Words* clinics participate in healthcare provider training

March 2022

New *Early Words* clinics begin offering early literacy support and resources to their patient families

October 2022

Early Words team gathers clinic feedback and interest in continuing as *Early Words* sites

Fill out an Expression of Interest here: <https://zfrmz.com/NRruEkrA7ovEuqamGZRx>

Questions?

Contact the *Early Words* team at earlywords@childrensliteracy.ca

Want to learn more about *Early Words*?

Visit our website
<https://childrensliteracy.ca/Programs/Early-Words>

