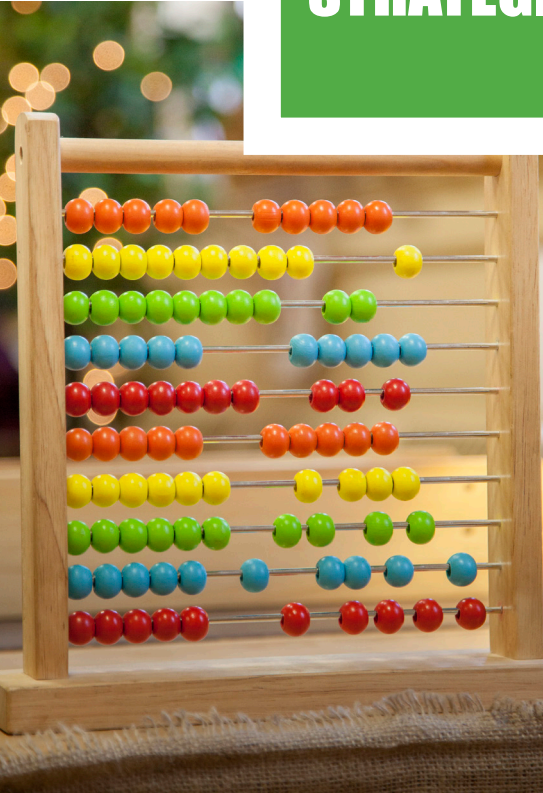




GRAND ERIE



Supporting Your Child at Home
STRATEGIES FOR LITERACY & NUMERACY
Elementary and Secondary



ELEMENTARY

LITERACY

Strategies	Activities
READING	
Read Everyday!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the environment around you. • Let your child hear and see you reading. • Listen to your child read. • Read anything in the environment: books, news titles, news articles, food boxes, street signs, store signs, advertisements, posters, grocery store signs etc. • Read aloud to your child in the language you speak at home – or any other language – and talk about what you are reading (FI/ELL). If you don't know any French, (or any other language), have your child read to you in the new language
Point to words as you read	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touch the words as you read so your child can see you read left-to-right, where words begin and end etc. • Have a “word” scavenger hunt in your home or
Ask questions about what you are reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask questions that make your child think and reflect: Examples of types of questions to ask: <i>Tell me more about... What did you notice...? What are you wondering about...? How can you find out about...? Who was ...? Why did...? Where did...? What do you think will happen next?</i>
Have your child EXPLAIN!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have them give reasons for their ideas (their reasons might come from something they have read, heard or from something they already know) • Have them explain WHY they think something happened...or HOW they think something came to be, WHO they think did it etc. • Play the “<i>WHY? Game</i>” – ask your child “Why?” 5 times in a row, no matter what their response is!
Build enthusiasm for reading!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read literature that is based on popular films (e.g., <i>Cat in the Hat, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Percy Jackson Series, Hunger Games, Disney movies</i>) • Begin a family book club • Read fiction/non-fiction materials connected to a family trip you are planning to take

Strategies	Activities
<p>Read culturally relevant material (local to your area)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play a variety of games that involve your child reading the instructions and/or game cards <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Use first language material, or books with multiple languages available</u> <p><i>Indigenous Cultures: Claire's Grandfather</i> teaches about the origin of names, pride in who you are as an Indigenous person, Indigenous contributions to Canadian Society in both French and English. http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1303145519542/1303145749835</p> 2. <u>Use cultural materials that students can connect to</u> <p><i>Indigenous Cultures:</i> have students connect to Traditions and multi-cultures (Sky Sisters: Culture and Traditions, Aurora Borealis) http://skysisters.weebly.com/</p> 3. <u>Share traditions and connections to your own culture</u> <p><i>Indigenous Cultures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving Thanks, by Jake Swamp connects/teaches about the Morning Address of the Haudenosaunee culture. https://www.leeandlow.com/books/2397/teachers_guide • Hiawatha and The Peacemaker, Robbie Robertson -teaches students about forgiveness, how the 5 Nations come together, the Peacemaker's Journey and the beginning of the Great Law and the Tree of Peace.



Strategies	Activities
WRITING	
<p>Make writing engaging and meaningful</p> <p>Keep supplies of paper, pens, pencils, markers and other writing tools within easy reach</p> <p>Write with your child in the language you speak at home, (or any other language)</p> <p>Talk about what YOU are writing</p> <p>Talk about what THEY are writing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When planning a family trip, have your child write lists or itineraries (e.g., what to pack, a day's agenda) • While on a trip have your child keep a journal of the events • Ask your child to write the captions about any photos (from a trip, birthday etc.) • Write grocery lists or "to do" lists • Send a Message - Frequently leave notes on pillows, desks, mirrors, etc. Have your child write you a note in return. • Use a family chalkboard or message board each day for a short message. • Make letter writing a habit for your child. Have your child write letters to family and friends. • "Year in Review" Notebook - Keep an ongoing record of your family's life. Every family member can add to your family's story. Include important events that happen during the year. On New Year's Eve, sit down and read through your "Year in Review". • For birthday presents or for other gifts, have your child write the card or note for the recipient. • Postcards - Have your child write and mail postcards on family vacations or special outings. • Make a Menu - Let your child design and write the menu for a family dinner. • Use Writing Prompts or Sentence Starters: (e.g. "Pretend you are the first person to create a flying car. Tell what the car would look like and how it would work" or "One day I saw this strange object as I was waiting for the bus...") • keep supplies of paper, pencils, markers, and other writing tools within easy reach.



Strategies	Activities
<p>ORAL COMMUNICATION</p>	
<p>TALK! TALK! TALK!</p> <p>Encourage your child to answer questions and express opinions about the world and explain the reasons behind them.</p> <p>Encourage your child to pay attention to and think about similarities and differences between different languages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about your day, an upcoming event, an event that just occurred (e.g. their soccer game, the class trip) • Have your child describe and explain: Who, What, Where, When, Why, How • Encourage your child to perform skits or puppet shows. Set aside time for other family members to see the performance. • Ask: “Tell me about what you are reading in French” (or any other language), (rather than “Can you translate this sentence for me?”). • Say words that they are learning over and over. • Allow your child to hear words spoken by the important people in their lives: Mom, Dad, siblings, grandparents, teachers. • Say words in meaningful contexts – during conversation at dinner, in the car, while playing and while reading. • Rephrase and extend your child’s words, ask a clarifying question (tell me more about the man you saw) • Use complex vocabulary or sentence structure
<p>Tell stories orally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell life stories, experiences and share your culture • Reinforce listening skills, speak with intonation in your voice • Use body language and facial expressions • Show your child how to sort and organize their ideas



Strategies	Activities
WORD WORK	
Learn about words through play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play TV, online and board games that allow your child to build words (e.g., matching and memory games, Scrabble, Wheel of Fortune, Boggle, etc.)
Practice making words from letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write words in shaving cream or pudding with your finger, create words on the fridge or a cookie sheet with magnetic letters
Have visuals with words posted in first and second languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Days of the week, calendars, objects in the home/classroom
Put words in a rhyme or rap or associate them with an action or a picture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new rhymes and raps from new vocabulary you are learning • Match words with pictures or actions

NUMERACY

Strategies	Activities
Estimate!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guess various things! (amounts and sizes of objects/liquids, distance, how far, how big etc).
Make math part of your child's day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point out the many times a day when you use math (sorting laundry, telling time, cooking, money, etc.) • Encourage your child to talk about their learning in math at school • Do puzzles together • Point out the variety of tools you use that are mathematical – rulers, measuring cups, calculator, etc.
Make math culturally relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point out and talk about math in nature, (e.g. patterning in corn, flowers) • Explain the math in cultural practices like beading, wampum etc.
Be positive about math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praise your child's efforts and celebrate when they understand something for the first time • Encourage your child to be persistent with a problem.







Strategies	Activities
Play games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play card games – Crazy Eights, Go Fish, Scopa, War, Uno • Play board games – Blokus, Yahtzee, Battleship, Connect 4, Mastermind, (http://www.setgame.com/set) • On-line games
Get kids to build	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play with Lego, Magna-tiles, blocks, Straws and Connectors/Play-Doh
Engage your child in “real world” math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bake/cook with your child • Go grocery shopping and look at labels, prices, etc. • Have your child pay for small purchases with cash and count the change • At restaurants find compare the prices. For fun, create the most expensive meal and least expensive meal. Find the difference in price
Ask your child to give explanations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask your child to share their thinking when solving problems or ask about the strategies they used • Have them explain HOW they worked through a problem • Prompt your child to think about other ways to solve problems, using different strategies
Create math problems where there are different ways to get a solution	<p><u>Sample Problem:</u> Max wants to build a fenced-in area for his dog. He wants the perimeter to be no bigger than 32m squared. What are the possible dimensions his fenced-in area could be?</p> <p><u>Children might:</u> draw a picture with labels, build a small model, tell or explain their ideas for a solution</p>
Include Measurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask your child to help you collect all the objects around your house that help you measure, (rulers, measuring cups, tape measures, thermometers, clocks, laundry soap scoops, and the container you use to measure dog food). • Talk about how each is used to help us measure something. • Sort the objects into things that measure liquids, things that measure length, and others. • Ask your child to use something other than a ruler to measure: “How many stuffed animals long is our kitchen table? How many stuffed animals does it take to measure our hallway?” • Shaped graham crackers, blocks, and dried pasta make other good non-standard measurement units. • Ask your child to use words such as taller, shorter, wide, small, large, lighter, heavier, hotter, colder, warm, and variations of the terms such as large, larger, largest, small, smaller, smallest. • Use measurement vocabulary words such as thermometer, calendar, ruler, meter stick, clock, and scale.

Strategies	Activities
Sharing Circles and Family Math Problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a mathematical problem for your family to solve, (perhaps a question about household budget).• Have a family math talk, allow everyone to talk about their ideas and solutions, question one another about different possibilities for a solution

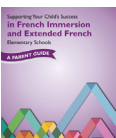


SECONDARY

Several studies have shown that student achievement increases when parents play an active role in their children’s education. Students are more likely to be motivated, to produce higher grades, to have better behaviour and social skills, and to continue their education to a higher level when their parents are actively engaged in supporting their success at school. Parent engagement goes hand-in-hand with effective communication with your child’s school and teacher.






MATH RESOURCES

Strategies	Activities
<p>“Inspiring Your Child to Learn and Love Math”</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a tool kit for parents. It provides modules with simple, but effective methods and materials for parents. This Parent Tool Kit was created specifically for parents of children in the elementary grades in Ontario (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8). The goal of this resource is to provide parents with the most significant research-based information to help them be the best, most knowledgeable and most confident supporters for their child’s mathematics education.
<p>Homework Help</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is your connection to some of the best educational resources on the web. Students in grades 7 to 10 can now access live, interactive online math tutoring by certified Ontario teachers. Students can login for individualized confidential math tutoring. There are discussion rooms for each grade where students can join and see questions other students are asking, watch the tutors draw on the whiteboard – and ask their own question for on-the-spot help. Other online math resources include math games and a virtual locker.
<p>Mathies</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a Ministry of Education website designed to help parents support their children in math. The site includes activities, learning tools and games for students in K - 12.
<p>EQAO - Grade 9 Math</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a site for parents to access resources to support their child in the EQAO assessment for Grade 9 Math. This site provides information and resources to help parents get familiar with what’s on the assessment and use the results to support their child’s learning.
<p>IXL</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a math skills practice site, organized by grade level JK - 12. There is complementary language site that allows students to partake in independent practice of literacy skills.
<p>Partnering with Your Teen Grades 7 - 12</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this online document found in edugains.ca provides information for parents, guardians, caregivers, and other family members on ways to support the development of their teen’s mathematical abilities. Additional resources can be found within this document.

LITERACY RESOURCES

Strategies	Activities
<p>Adolescent Literacy - A Brief Guide for Parents</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a guide for parents of students in grades 7 – 12 to assist them in understanding their son/daughter’s literacy development. It identifies the need with adolescent learners to go beyond just the basics of becoming more effective readers, writers and speakers. It outlines the literacy components and gives strategies that support students in their thinking, expressing and reflecting, regardless of the learning situation.
<p>Supporting your Child’s Success in French Immersion and Extended French, Kindergarten to Grade 8 – A Parent Guide</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides practical suggestions for simple, everyday things that you can do at home to enhance your child’s learning in both French Immersion and Extended French.
<p>Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> parent resources to support their students in preparing for the OSSLT. Resources include a Get Ready Guide; Planning and Prep Guide; and Questions and Answers for Parents which is available in 22 languages.
<p>This Is Literacy</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this website provides ideas on how you can make literacy a part of your teen’s everyday life. The Parent section offers practical tips, thought-provoking ideas, and other resources to support literacy with your teen. The Children and Teens pages provide reviews and resources to make school, and homework assignments a little easier and reading more engaging for your teen readers; these sections include free links to teen magazines.
<p>Rewordify</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a powerful, free, online reading comprehension software program. It helps students understand language that is difficult for them, and helps them learn vocabulary in new ways. Simply insert text into the box provided and it’s educational technology creates independent learners, by helping them to read, understand, and reflect on what they have read.

MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING RESOURCES

Strategies	Activities
<p>Grand Erie District School Board's Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's aim is to create a healthier environment for all students, staff and schools. Additional Resources can be found on the board website under the Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy.
<p>ABCs of Mental Health: Parent Resource</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ABCs of Mental Health website provides resources for parents in promoting the mental health of children and adolescents.
<p>RED CROSS: Violence, Bullying and Abuse Prevention Resources</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeping kids safe from bullying, cyberbullying, relationship violence and child abuse. The Red Cross has resources and information to help.
<p>The Parent Toolkit</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toolkit is produced by NBC news and Pearson. It will help navigate your child's journey from kindergarten through secondary school. It is designed to help you track and support progress at each stage in the journey.
<p>Parent Toolkit: What parents can do to help their child succeed in school</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This tool kit, produced by Council of Ontario Directors of Education, provides ideas for families to use as they support learning at school and at home. There is also a teen version of the tool kit and a toolkit for building healthy relationships.

LINKS TO FURTHER RESOURCES

Resource	Links
Reading and Writing with Your Child K to 6 – A Guide for Parents	http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideLitEn.pdf
Doing Mathematics with Your Child K to 6 – A Guide for Parents	http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideNumEn.pdf
Inspiring Your Child to Learn and Love Math	http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/parent_engagement-math/en/index.htm
Online At-Home Math Support (K-12)	http://www.mathies.ca/
ELL resources for parents in different languages	<p><i>Parent resources in different languages from the Ministry of Education</i> http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/multiLanguages.html</p> <p><i>Reading, Writing and Math</i> http://www.colorincolorado.org/learning-together-home http://www.colorincolorado.org/reading-tip-sheets-parents</p>
Integrating Aboriginal Teaching and Values into the Classroom	http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/Toulouse.pdf
Teaching Resources and Strategies for Elementary and Secondary Classroom: Aboriginal Perspectives, A Guide to the Teacher's Toolkit.	http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/aboriginal/Guide_Toolkit2009.pdf
Ontario Directors of Education	http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/parent_engagement-math/en/index.htm
Homework Help	https://homeworkhelp.ilc.org/
EQAO - Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics	http://www.eqao.com/en/assessments/grade-9-math/Pages/grade-9-math.aspx
IXL	https://ca.ixl.com/
Partnering with Your Teen in Mathematics	http://www.edugains.ca/resourcesMath/CE/HomeSupport/PartneringWithYourTeen.pdf
Grand Erie District School Board's Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy	http://www.granderie.ca/programsandservices/MentalHealthStrategy/Pages/default.aspx#.WRXUBFUrJEZ
The ABC's of Mental Health	http://www.hincksdellcrest.org/ABC/Parent-Resource/Welcome

LINKS TO FURTHER RESOURCES

Resource	Links
Canadian Red Cross - How we can help - Violence, Bullying and Abuse Prevention	http://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/violence--bullying-and-abuse-prevention/parents
The Parent Toolkit	http://www.parenttoolkit.com/
PARENT TOOL KIT: What parents can do to help their child succeed in school	http://www.ontariodirectors.ca/parent_engagement.html
Adolescent Literacy - A Brief Guide for Parents	http://www.edugains.ca/resourcesLIT/SchoolLeader/BuildingRelationships/ParentGuide_2014.pdf
Supporting your Child's Success in French Immersion and Extended French, Kindergarten to Grade 8 – A Parent Guide	http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideFrench.pdf
EQAO - Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)	http://www.eqao.com/en/assessments/OSSLT/parents/Pages/About.aspx
This Is Literacy	http://www.thisisliteracy.ca/
Rewordify	http://rewordify.com/



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