Revelstoke Literacy Directory
Learning opportunities for everyone
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**Some Handy Phone Numbers:**
- Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy… 837-6669
- Okanagan College ……………………… 837-4235
- Okanagan Regional Library............... 837-5095
- Revelstoke Child Care Society .......... 837-6669
- Community Connections……………… 837-2920
- Revelstoke Senior’s Association……….. 837-9456
- School District #19…………………… 837-2101
Revelstoke Literacy Action Committee

We are a group of service providers and community members interested in creating and strengthening learning opportunities for all in Revelstoke. The Literacy Action Committee acts as an advisory body to guide community literacy initiatives in Revelstoke.

Our Vision for Revelstoke:
We envision a community that values and supports the development of lifelong learning opportunities through sustainable quality literacy resources that are accessible to all residents. Our community acknowledges and embraces all literacies as an important key to access education, obtain employment and to fully participate in the community and the economy.
For more information call: 837-6669

Community/District Literacy Plan— Over the last decade, much has been done to further and expand literacy work in Revelstoke. If you would like to learn more about plans, identified priorities, literacy assets and goals for our community, please contact Tracy at 837-6669.
Definition of Literacy

The Revelstoke Literacy Action Committee has accepted and embraced the broad definition of literacy provided by Literacy Now:

Literacy is an essential cultural, social and academic practice that involves, not only reading, writing and numeracy, but also a variety of abilities including viewing and representing, aural literacy including language, musical and listening skills, cultural literacy including civic skills.

Literacies enable us to communicate, represent and evaluate knowledge in multiple ways. The more literacies we learn, the greater our understanding of the world. Literacy is a continuum of skills. *We can all become more literate.*

Source: Literacy Now Planning Guide,
Early Learning

Early learning is defined as the knowledge, skills and dispositions that preschool children acquire in the years before school entry in key developmental domains: cognitive, physical, language and communication, social and emotional.

Early learning takes place in multiple settings: homes, preschools, child care environments, early learning centres, and other community settings. Children’s early learning is supported by parents, family members, the broader community, early childhood educators, and multiple other service providers.

Ministry of Education

The BC Early Learning Framework provides information and insights on supporting all young children as they learn and develop.

For more information please go to:
http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/literacy/early_learning or contact the Revelstoke Early Childhood Development Committee at 837-6669.
The members of the Early Childhood Development Committee recognize that families are the primary educators of their children and have the most important role in supporting their child’s development. The ECD Committee seeks to create a community that collaborates to provide a range of experiences, opportunities and supports for children and families.

Vision Statement:
Revelstoke envisions a caring community that acknowledges, values and supports the shared responsibility of investing in young children so that they may live, learn, play and dream in safe and healthy surroundings.

Children’s Services Directory:
Pick up your copy of the Revelstoke Children Services Directory to learn about the early learning programs and services available to your family. You can find a copy at many locations including:

- Revelstoke Child Care Society: Room 106, 1401 West 1st Street
- StrongStart Centre: 420 W 2nd Street
- ECD Children’s Information Board
- Children’s Information Board at the Community Centre: Check the information board across from the reception desk at the Revelstoke Community Centre for information on events, programs and services for children and families. 600 Campbell Ave.

For more information about the Revelstoke Early Childhood Development Committee, call Tracy at 837-6669.
A free drop-in program for children 5 and under and their parent, grandparent or caregiver.

A time for play:
- Explore with sand and water
- Explore through art with a variety of mediums
- Develop all the senses
- Learn songs, enjoy music
- Learn fingerplays
- Listen to stories
- Play dress-up
- Climb and slide
- Build with blocks
- Pretend play with animals, little people, dolls
- Play with natural and real materials
- Nutritious snacks are provided

Drop-In Times:
Choose from:
- Monday to Friday: 9:00-12:00
- Fall and Winter Saturdays: 9:00-12:00

For more program details please contact:
Tabatha Jones, ECE
Early Learning Program Coordinator
Phone: 837-1273
Email: tjones@sd19.bc.ca

We are located at:
Mountain View Elementary School
(2nd Street West entrance by the flag)
Room #102,601 West 2nd Street, Revelstoke, BC V0E 2S0

This StrongStart Early Learning centre is fully funded by the
School District staff are active participants working with Revelstoke preschools, community literacy committees, and the Early Childhood Development Committee to help shape a community response to literacy and child development needs.

What is Ready, Set, Learn?
Ready, Set, Learn is an open house event to welcome parents/caregivers and their three-year-old children to their local elementary school for an introduction to the school and Early Childhood Development (ECD) community resources. Families will be invited to participate in fun activities and will receive:

- A family kit with helpful tips to support preschooler’s learning and development.
- Information for families from participating ECD service providers.

837-2101 for event dates

Interior Health
Speech-Language Clinic
Open Monday-Thursday, 8:30-4:30
Room 107, 1401 West 1st Street
Phone: 837-4285

If you have any questions regarding speech, language or hearing difficulties please contact Carolyn Duncan.

The Revelstoke Speech and Language Clinic is dedicated to improving the communication skills of children birth to age 6.

***The ability to communicate is key to literacy***
REVELSTOKE BRANCH
605 Campbell Avenue
837-5095
www.orl.bc.ca

OPEN HOURS:
Tuesday: 12-8 p.m.
Wednesday 12-7 p.m.
Thursday 10-4 p.m.
Friday: 10-5 p.m.
Saturday: 10-5 p.m.

Resources:
- Children’s magazines
- Summer Reading club
- Music on CD
- Prenatal Exercise and Books
- Children’s DVDs
- Parenting Magazines and Books
- Baby Board Books
- Picture Books
- Families are welcome!
- Come on in to get your library card.
- And much more!

Children’s Programs:
- **Storytime:** For the older 3 1/2 to 5 year old child
  Stories, songs and finger play fun.
- **Tales for Tots:** Participate with your 2—3 year old child in a fun-filled pre-storytime setting.

*Please call for registration dates!*
Revelstoke Child Care Society
Room 106, 1401 West 1st St.
Phone: 837-6669
Email: revccrr@rctvonline.net
Website:
www.childcarechoices.ca

Your community’s best source of child care information and resources.

Child Care Resource and Referral:
FREE child care referrals
- Information about quality child care choices and early childhood development
- Training opportunities for child care providers
- Monthly newsletter

Early Learning Resource Library:
- Early childhood education information
- A full range of early childhood development resources. Children’s books.
- Resource materials and developmentally appropriate toys.
- Infant and toddler equipment.

Early Learning Canada Workshop Series:
ELC is an 8 session healthy development program designed for parents and care providers of children birth to 6 years. Call for more information.

Play in the Park:
A fun early learning playgroup in the park during the summer months. Please call for dates.
Parents as Literacy Supporters (PALS) and Parents of Primary Students (POPS)

These programs are offered in Elementary schools in partnership with School District #19. Information and fun activity sessions provide families with tips, strategies and kits to support learning at home.

Family Literacy Drop-In
Please drop-in with any questions about accessing our programs or resources!

One to One: Volunteers are trained to read with children in school. Our strategies are aimed at increasing self-confidence and skills. Volunteers make a difference!

Mother Goose and Little Goslings Activity Time: Come join us for a chance to share rhymes, songs, stories and giggles with your infants and young children! It is also an excellent chance to meet other parents! Ask us about Little Goslings Activity Time for older siblings.
Family Tutoring
A tutor is provided to families in which some member has identified difficulty with reaching learning goals. Parents receive assistance to learn strategies to support their children’s learning.

Stress Free Reading at Home Workshops
A free evening workshop to provide tips and tools to parents to take the stress out of reading at home.

Family Night Out
This is an evening program for the whole family to enjoy together. Family activities, preschool circle time, family games, storytelling and multi-age group activities are some of the features of this fun time together. Different theme each week!

Story Adventure Kit Lending Library
Fun take home kits to borrow and discover the magic of imagination. Kits include a book and engaging activities for families to explore together.

Revelstoke Book Exchange
The book exchange offers free books for all ages to borrow and bring back or keep and treasure. There are 7 locations: Community Center, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, StrongStart Centre, the Food Bank, Family Laundry, the Revelstoke Awareness and Outreach Program, and the QV Hospital waiting room.

Other Projects:
- Roots of Empathy Community Partnership
- Books for Babies Library Partnership
- Literacy Awareness Events (including Family Literacy Day)
- Support of the Revelstoke Literacy Action Committee
- Community Literacy Coordination
The Revelstoke Board of Education places an extremely high importance on the literacy of students and as a result, since 2000 we have been working to identify and intervene in support of students who are having difficulty reading.

Classroom teachers, resource teachers, learning assistance teachers, a school psychologist, and a district speech/language pathologist all play important roles in the identification and support for students who are not achieving success in reading. For the last six years 90% or more students have left Grade 3 reading at grade level.

**Collaborating with the Community**
Staff collaborate with preschool teachers, the community speech-language pathologist and the Community Living for Children program director to transition students requiring support as they enter the school system.

Staff are active participants working with the *Revelstoke Literacy Action Committee* and the local early childhood development committee to help shape a community response to early learning and literacy.

**Early Learning**
The Revelstoke Board of Education implemented the first StrongStart Early Learning Centre in the province in the fall of 2006. We are participants in the Human Early Learning Partnership (H.E.L.P.). The indicators from the third wave of data collection indicate that Revelstoke children are among the very least vulnerable in the province. We credit this to the long-standing child centered supports that exist within our community.

**Community Partnerships in Schools Support Literacy:**
Parents as Literacy Supporters (PALS), Parents of Primary Students (POPS) and the One to One Children’s Literacy Program are provided in Revelstoke elementary schools in partnership with the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy.
Screening/Identification

All students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 are assessed in terms of the early indicators of literacy skills (D.I.B.E.L.S.). Individual student reading levels are systematically monitored in Grades 1 through 3 using PM Benchmarks. In Grades 4 to 9, all students are assessed using the Gray Oral Reading Test (G.O.R.T.) to monitor reading fluency and comprehension.

Support/Intervention

Students who are not achieving success at the school level are provided support by the classroom teachers and the school based learning assistance teacher. Students may also be provided with additional support from highly trained Educational Assistants who work specifically in the area of literacy from late fall through to late spring. In addition, classroom teachers have a vast array of resources to use to support struggling readers in the classroom. Research based materials form the foundation of the interventions that we utilize at each of our schools.

Library Programs and Services

Our elementary schools offer a rich resource for students by providing quality libraries, staffed with competent teacher-librarians and library clerks. A range of fiction and non-fiction books support our students' reading and research endeavours. A district-wide program, Accelerated Reader, encourages students to read by rewarding students with reading points upon completion of each book. Our Parent Advisory Councils generously support Accelerated Reading Stores where children can redeem their points for school materials and prizes.
**Community Book Exchange**

You can use the book exchange by:

* Taking a book home and enjoying it!
* Taking a book and returning it and taking another!
* Taking a book and keeping it because you love it!
* Taking a book and donating other books to keep the exchange going!

**Locations:**

* Community Center
* Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
* StrongStart Centre
* The Food Bank
* Family Laundry
* The Revelstoke Awareness and Outreach Program
* QV Hospital waiting room
* Revelstoke Forum Arena

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**Volunteer Opportunities**

**One to One Children’s Literacy Program Volunteers:**

Call Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, 837-6669

**Volunteer Literacy Tutoring Program:**

Call Okanagan College, 837-4235

**English Language Services for Newcomers**

One-to-One volunteer tutoring program:

Call Okanagan College, 837-4235
Adult Literacy

Literacy has the power to change people’s lives, forever, and for the better. That’s because literacy is more than reading and writing, more than basic math .... Literacy is the ability to express thoughts, feelings and ideas. It’s the opportunity to pursue personal dreams. It leads to fulfillment, confidence and security. And it allows people to participate in community life.

In fact, literacy is a good measure of health and wellbeing of individuals, families, communities and regions alike.

According to the International Adult Literacy Skills Survey data, 34.7% of BC’s population was identified as having low level literacy skills.

Many barriers keep adults out of literacy and job training programs.

Literacy is everyone’s responsibility and working together we can make a difference.
Adult Academic and Career Preparation at Okanagan College
Upgrading or completion of high school diploma. Okanagan College’s Revelstoke Centre offers a variety of adult basic education courses like English, Math, Social Studies, Law and History. More course selections are available by distance education.

Need money to help pay for an adult basic education course? Some individuals may be eligible for Adult Basic Education Student Assistance Program (ABESAP) funding. Talk with Simone to find out more.

How To Become a Student:
1. Call Simone at 250-837-4235. An appointment will be made to set up a time to help you meet your educational goals and set up a time for the free ABLE Skills Assessment (This is a tool that will help place individuals in the right class).
2. Simone will help choose the right class and discuss course costs.
3. Become a student by paying the $30.00 fee and completing the application form which is available at the front desk.
4. Register for class. Simone will help with this. Courses start four times a year in September, November, January and March.
This free and confidential program helps improve reading, writing, math or basic computer skills.

We match learners with a volunteer tutor. The tutor and learner will meet once a week for about 1 1/2 hours. The learner chooses what they would like to work on. Tutoring takes place in a public place like the college or public library.

Some examples of things people might do:
- Read newspapers or magazines
- Get help with math
- Study for their driver’s license
- Get help filling out forms or reading work materials
- Learn how to set up an email account and send emails
- Get help with a course they are taking

Anyone 19 years or older can use this program. It is not necessary to be a student. Learners can join the tutoring program anytime between September and May.
English as a Second Language Settlement Assistance Program (ESLSAP)

The English as a Second Language Settlement Assistance Program at Okanagan College operates from September until June. The program offers free English language tutoring, weekly classes or field trips and access to English Language software. The main purpose of the program is to help immigrants to adapt to life in Canada and to gain the language and literacy skills to succeed.

Canadian immigrants who are 17 years and older who want to improve their English skills are eligible for the program.

For more information about ESLSAP, please contact B.R. Whalen at 250-837-4235 or email: brwhalen@okanagan.bc.ca
**One-to-One Tutoring**
Volunteers who enjoy teaching and working with people from other cultures mainly fuel the program. Tutors help participants by helping them to learn basic English skills, teach about cultural norms in Canada and direct learners to appropriate services.

**Free ESL Classes**
A trained ESL instructor, Cathy Cameron-Suchy, teaches a multilevel class two mornings a week at no charge. Classes provide opportunities to work on specific settlement-orientated topics with other students and network with fellow newcomers. Every fourth Wednesday, students participate in a field trip or group activity related to life in Revelstoke.

**Access to Software and Support**
Students have access to ESL software and support in the staffed Learning Centre from Monday to Friday. The software library includes Pronunciation Power, the Alphabet, Tense Buster and the New Interchange Series, as well as audio tapes and materials to assist students to study independently.

For more information, please contact B.R. Whalen at 837-4235
REVELSTOKE BRANCH

OPEN HOURS:
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Wednesday 12-7 p.m. 605 Campbell Avenue
Thursday 10-4 p.m. 837-5095
Friday: 10-5 p.m. www.orl.bc.ca
Saturday: 10-5 p.m.

Resources:
♦ Large print materials
♦ Newspapers and Magazines
♦ Music on CD
♦ Large selection of adult novel and non-fiction books
♦ Book kits with DVD or cassette
♦ Foreign language resources
♦ Literacy materials
♦ Advanced picture books
♦ Resources for the visually impaired
♦ 2 computers
♦ DVD’s, CD’s and videos

Come on in to get your library card.

Book Club Opportunities:
♦ Adult Book Club
♦ Youth Book Club

For information about our book clubs please contact us at 837-5095.
Information Sources:

Websites to Check:
- ABC Canada: www.abc-canada.org
- Learning Disabilities Resource Community: www.ldrc.ca
- National Adult Literacy Database: www.nald.ca
- Literacy British Columbia: www.literacy.bc.ca
- ReadNowBC: www.readnowbc.ca
- Literacy—Ministry of Education—Province of BC: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/literacy
- Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy: www.cbal.org
- 2010 Legacies Now: www.2010legaciesnow.com
- Canadian Parents Online: www.canadianparents.com
- Ministry of Advanced Education: www.aved.gov.bc/abe
- National Indigenous Literacy Association: www.nila.ca

Free Public Access Computers:
- Child Care Society: Room 106-1401 West 1st Street
- Okanagan Regional Library: 605 Campbell Ave
- Okanagan College—1401 West 1st Street

Additional Information Services:

Information and Support:
READ 234 Learning Hotline:
Toll free in BC 1-888-READ-234 (1-888-7323-234)

Enquiry BC: Free long distance calls to any B.C. government program, service or person please dial 1-800-663-7867
Revelstoke Literacy Directory

Revelstoke Literacy Action Committee
#1401-1st Street West, Room 106, Box 2059,
Revelstoke, BC, V0E 2S0
Telephone: (250) 837-6669
Fax: (250) 837-6668
E-Mail: tspannier@cbal.org

This directory was made possible by generous support from: