

# Literacy This Week

January 29, 2015

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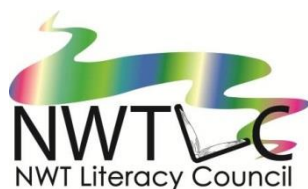
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We're the family, youth and adult literacy and essential skills centre for excellence.

We support literacy and essential skills in all the official languages of the Northwest Territories.

We're also plain language specialists.

[Check out our website to  
learn more](#)

## Literacy Dates

Safer Internet Day - February 10

Freedom to Read Week - February 23 March 1

## Our Blog



### Snuggle Up Together

Our [Snuggle Up Together](#) booklet suggests 100 great reads for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers.

You can get copies of Snuggle Up Together from our office while they last. Just contact me at [pat@nwtliteracy.ca](mailto:pat@nwtliteracy.ca)...[Read more](#)

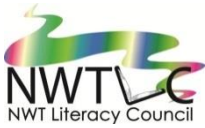
## Announcements and Events

### We have winners

We are sending out our Family Prize Packs to three winners in our Family Literacy photo contest. Congratulations to Norma Gauthier, of Behchoko, Kate Latour, of Hay River and Kaja Kotulak, of Yellowknife. You can read more about these photos on our [Facebook](#) page.



## Support Literacy



You can support literacy in the NWT

- [Make a donation](#)
- [Join the Council](#)

Take part in literacy activities in your community

### Connect With Us!

Like us on Facebook 

Follow us on  twitter

View our videos on  YouTube

### Contact Us

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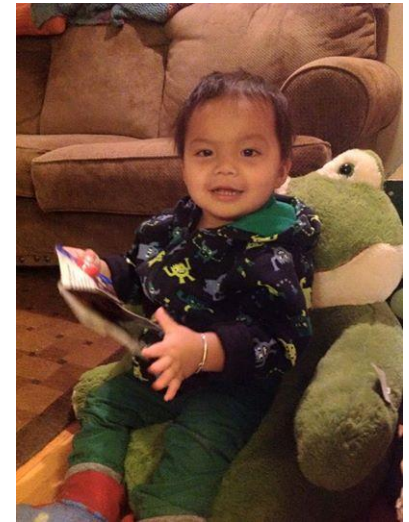
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[www.nwt.literacy.ca](http://www.nwt.literacy.ca)

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### See you at the Children's Festival of Silliness

We're doing family literacy activities this Saturday afternoon at the [Northern Arts and Cultural Centre](#) in Yellowknife. It's free. Come join us.

### Literacy This Week survey highlights

Thank you everyone who took part in our reader survey. [Here are the highlights.](#) We're grateful for the feedback and all the positive comments. People said we most need to improve our blog and want to see more information about community programs. Please help us do that. Send us stories and photos related to family and community, adult and Aboriginal language literacy in the NWT.

### World Cancer Day activities

The [Yellowknife Public Library](#) hosts a Human Library event Saturday afternoon with the theme, Cancer -Stories from Our People. The NWT Department of Health and Social Services will raise cancer awareness and share inspirational stories in art and video February 4 from 5-7 pm at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

## Funding

### After school project funding available

The [RBC After School Project](#) funds after school programs that provide a safe environment where kids can develop social skills and self-esteem. The application deadline is March 16, 2015.

### Indigenous Writer-in-Residence Fellowship

The [School for Advanced Research](#), in New Mexico, is seeking applicants for the Indigenous Writer-in-Residence fellowship. The fellowship runs from mid-June to early August and is open to writers indigenous to the United States or Canada. The fellow is provided with a \$6,000 stipend, on-campus housing, studio space, supplies allowance, library support, and travel reimbursement. The deadline to apply is February 16.

### Grants help improve mental health

The [Bell Let's Talk Community Fund](#) provides grants of \$5,000 to \$50,000 to organizations focused on improving access to programs and services that support

and help improve the mental health and wellbeing of people living with mental health issues. The deadline for applications is March 31.

## News and Research

### **New multi-lingual family literacy program launched**

A new initiative aimed at improving the literacy skills of Canadian families, including those who are new to Canada, launched this week. "Parents are a child's first teacher, and research shows that family-focused learning has an enormous impact on both the child's and the adult's literacy gains," said Gillian Mason, President, ABC Life Literacy Canada. "...[Read more](#)

### **How much does reading level matter?**

The other day, a friend and I were talking about becoming better writers by looking at the "reading levels" of our work. Scholars have formulas for automatically estimating reading level using syllables, sentence length, and other proxies for vocabulary and concept complexity...[Read more](#)

### **Loss of aboriginal culture linked to diabetes rates, U of A study finds**

*Edmonton Journal, January 23, 2015*

High rates of diabetes among aboriginal communities can be strongly linked to declining knowledge of indigenous languages, according to a new University of Alberta study ...[Read more](#)

### **Opening the doors to digital literacy**

If you are a job seeker with an understanding of coding - even the basics - you've got a competitive edge that employers are seeking...[Read more](#)

## Resources and Websites

### **Kids Care Canada Society**

[Great research-based parenting videos](#)

### **Canadian Centre for Child Protection**

[Safer Internet Day resources for children, youth and parents](#)

### **Universal Child Care Benefit**

[Changes to program explained in this short video](#)

