

# Connecting for Kids

## Upcoming Programs & Other Updates

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### Submit Your Photos to be Entered in \$50 Amazon Gift Card Drawing

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An integral part of our Winter Fundraiser is celebrating the many families that have been touched by Connecting for Kids.

We will be putting together a presentation for the evening which will include photos and selfies of our families. **We want as many photos as possible to show donors the large number of families we help!**

To encourage you to send them in, we will randomly select a name from those who submit photos to receive a **\$50 Amazon Gift Card**.

Please send your photos by **November 15** to [lamCFK@connectingforkids.org](mailto:lamCFK@connectingforkids.org).



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### Speaker Series: Positive Play with Preschoolers

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Does your child have challenges playing nicely with others? Is sharing, communicating, and expressing emotions a difficult task? Does your child tend to play alone and not interact with other children? Join Rec2Connect as they discuss common challenges with preschoolers (both typically-developing children and those with special needs). They will provide simple strategies to encourage children to develop social and cooperative play skills and stop behaviors such as hitting, being a sore loser when playing games, and whining. This program is co-sponsored by

the Lakewood Family Room.

**Tuesday, November 13, 6:30 pm**  
**Lakewood Public Library, Main Library**  
Register an [Adult](#); Register a [Child](#)

## Speaker Series: Supporting the Social Development of Gifted Kids

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Does your gifted child have trouble connecting with peers? Does your child have trouble working or playing with peers? Is he or she emotionally sensitive and more easily hurt by what others say and do? Join Dr. Meghan Barlow of Meghan Barlow and Associates as she explores the factors that interfere with the social relationships of gifted kids. She will discuss such topics as trouble connecting with peers, cognitive rigidity (a child's difficulty in changing his or her thinking) and uneven intellectual, physical and emotional development. Dr. Barlow will also provide recommendations for how parents and caregivers can best support their gifted child's social development.



**Wednesday, November 28, 6:30 pm**  
**Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library**  
Register an [Adult](#); Register a [Child](#)

## Speaker Series: Solutions for Picky Eaters and Problem Feeders

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Whether you're worried about a child who won't eat vegetables or a child diagnosed with a feeding disorder, join us for an interactive, solutions-based discussion by Stefanie Peck, MA, CCC-SLP, and Brenda Richards, OTR/L, of The Center for LifeSkills. We will divide into two different small groups - one for picky eaters and one for more involved problem feeders. You'll walk away with tips you can put to use during your next meal at home.

**Friday, November 30, 11:30 am**  
**Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library**

Register an [Adult](#); Register a [Child](#)

## Elementary Experiences<sup>SM</sup>

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These hands-on training programs are designed for families and their children (ages 7-12 years) who are struggling. Families will learn targeted skills together and receive a handout with ideas and resources to use at home. Adults are expected to participate in the program with their children. Siblings (ages 7-12 years) may also attend but must register separately.

### Social Series: Wrapping up Social Skills for the Holidays

The holidays are an exciting time but can also become overwhelming and confusing for those who struggle with social skills. This program, led by Ellen Spear, MA, CCC-SLP, of Lakeshore Speech Therapy, LLC., is designed to help navigate the many social situations, hidden rules and potential problems related to the holidays. Join us as we discuss how to make conversation with relatives and friends, tips for handling parties and appropriate ways to give and receive gifts.



**Saturday, December 1**

**Elyria Public Library System, West River Branch**

Sessions begin at [1:00 pm \(7-9 years\)](#) and [2:30 pm \(10-12 years\)](#)

For more information, visit [connectingforkids.org/elementary](http://connectingforkids.org/elementary)

## Teach Me to Play<sup>SM</sup>

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Do you want to help your child learn to play with others? Are you looking to give your child more social opportunities? With fun, new themes each month, Teach Me to Play offers your child a host of new activities and experiences each time he or she attends. Your child will enjoy playing with other children while practicing language and social skills.



Since you attend together, you will have the opportunity to interact with our

experienced Early Intervention Specialist and Speech-Language Pathologist who can provide strategies for dealing with problem behaviors and offer tips for increasing your child's communication skills. This program is specifically designed for children ages 18 months-6 years who are struggling in an area of development. Come connect with other families in a supportive and accepting environment.

**Westlake Porter Public Library**

Thursday Preschool session begins at 6:30 pm, Friday Preschool session begins at 9:30 am and Friday Toddler session begins at 11:30 am.

**Thursday, November 15**

**Friday, November 16**

**Elyria Public Library System, West River Branch**

Preschool session begins at 6:00 pm.

**Thursday, December 6**

For more information and to register, visit [connectingforkids.org/play](http://connectingforkids.org/play).

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**Music Therapy & More<sup>SM</sup>**

This program is designed for families and their children (ages 0-6 years) who are struggling in an area of development. Join us for a hands-on program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child's motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. This program is led by a Board-Certified Music Therapist. Siblings (ages 0-6 years) may also attend but must register separately.



**Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library**

Session begins at 10:30 am.

**Saturday, November 17**

**Lakewood Public Library, Main Library**

Session begins at 10:30 am.

**Saturday, December 1**

**Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library**

Session begins at 10:30 am.

**Friday, December 7**

**Elyria Public Library System, West River Branch**

Session begins at 6:00 pm.

**Thursday, December 13**

**Westlake Porter Public Library**

Friday sessions begin at 9:30 am and 10:30 am. Saturday sessions begin at 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 11:30 am.

**Friday, December 14**

**Saturday, December 15**

For more information and to register, visit [connectingforkids.org/music](http://connectingforkids.org/music).

## Upcoming Sensory Consults in Elyria

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- Does your child hate "itchy" clothes?
- Is your child bothered by noises or have difficulty with busy environments?
- Are you concerned about your child's frequent meltdowns and difficulty interacting with others?
- Does your child frequently spin, jump and crash his or her body into things?



If so, come to our Sensory Consult where you and your child will meet with a pediatric occupational therapist. This consult is open to children ages 18 months-12 years. Your child will be encouraged to engage in some activities while you complete a checklist. You will also learn strategies to help him or her at home. This program is supported by Abilities First, LLC.

**Thursday, November 15 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm**  
**Elyria Public Library System, West River Branch**

Click [here](#) to register for a specific time slot

## Library Adapted Storytimes and Special Needs Programs

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The libraries below all offer Adapted Storytimes where children with varying learning styles and abilities learn together in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences is encouraged. This storytime, followed by a time for socialization, is designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime experience. Content is geared toward ages 3 to 7 years, but all ages are welcome. Siblings may also attend but must register separately. Some libraries also offer additional special needs programming.

### **Akron-Summit County Public Library**

Adapted Storytimes are offered at the Northwest Akron Branch and Ellet Branch. You can register through the [CFK website](#) or by calling the branches directly.

### **Avon Lake Public Library**

In addition to Adapted Storytimes, other special needs programming is offered. You can register through the [CFK website](#) or by calling the library directly.

### **Cuyahoga County Public Library**

Adapted Storytimes are offered at multiple branches. The Parma-Snow branch also offers Sensory Movies. You can either register through the [CFK website](#) or by calling each branch directly.



### **Elyria Public Library System**

Adapted Storytimes are offered at the Central Branch and West River Branch. Register through the [CFK website](#) or by calling the library branches directly.

### **Lakewood Public Library**

Adapted Storytimes are offered at the Lakewood Public Library, Main Library. Register on the [CFK website](#).

### **Lorain Public Library System**

In addition to Adapted Storytimes, other special needs programming is offered. You can register through the [CFK website](#) or by calling the library directly.

### **Rocky River Public Library**

Register for Adapted Storytimes on the [CFK website](#) or by calling the library directly.

### **Westlake Porter Public Library**

In addition to Adapted Storytimes, other special needs programming is offered. You can register through the [CFK website](#) or by calling the library directly.

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Join A CFK Closed Facebook Group  
[CFK Families](#), [CFK Dads Only](#), [CFK Gifted Children](#),  
[CFK Moderate-to-Severe Disabilities](#)

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

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The Program Update is made possible by a generous grant from  
[Hyland Software, Inc.](#)



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