

### Library Services Update

MANDATE: To provide a vibrant community space that encourages people to gain knowledge, build relationships, be creative, and enhance their lives.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: **REIMAGINE** what the library has to offer; **ENRICH** the lives of Middlesex County residents; **TURN OUTWARD** and make connections.



QUIET MEETING PODS NEW CATALOGUE TALES & TRAILS

### QUIET MEETING PODS

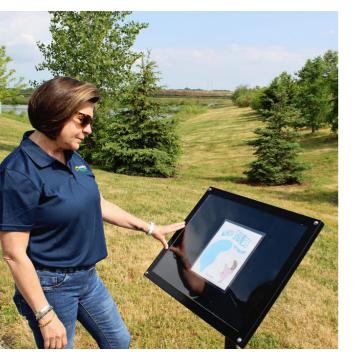


In partnership with the County of Middlesex Social Services department, and with provincial funding through the Social Services Relief Fund, Middlesex County Library now offers 4 Quiet Meeting Pods for use at the Ailsa Craig, Komoka, Strathroy and Thorndale Branches. These spaces provide quiet, confidential meeting space, and are equipped with virtual meeting technology.

### NEW CATALOGUE

The Library launched a new online catalogue and discovery layer – the system patrons use to search for library materials. This new system combines an accessible interface with modern data standards, creating an enhanced user experience.





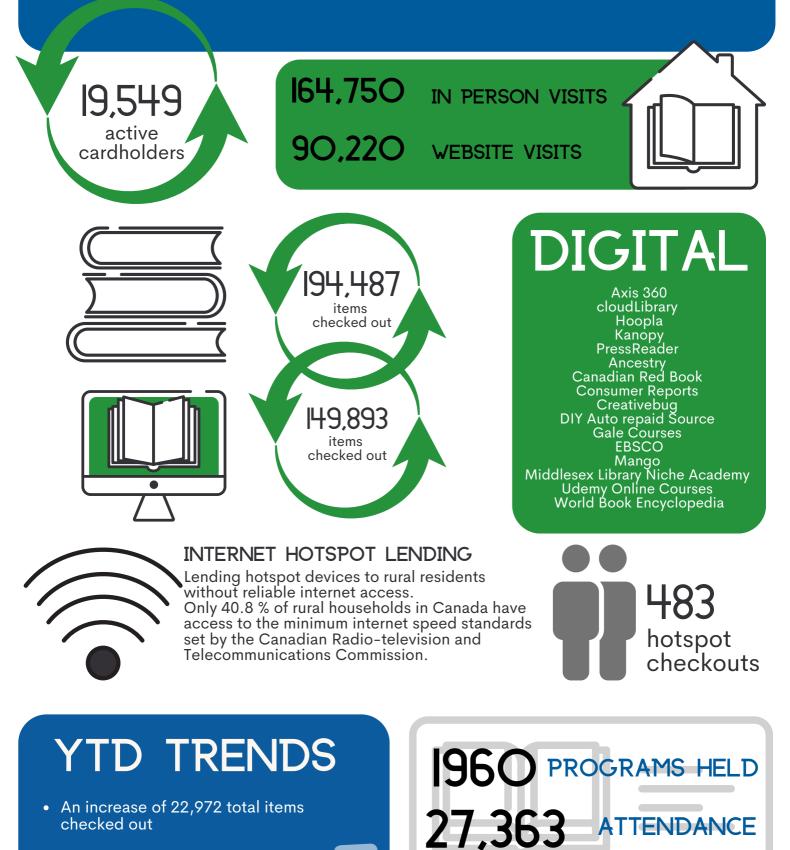
### TALES & TRAILS

Connecting our Community through Storytelling...

Middlesex County is now home to eight storytelling trails. Tales & Trails feature pages from children's storybooks as well as stories from our communities. People of all ages can experience the power of storytelling while enjoying the wonders of nature. This project is managed by Middlesex County Library in partnership with our eight local municipalities – and was funded in part by the Government of Canada through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario), as part of the Canada Community Revitilization fund (CCRF).

Featured themes for 2023 reflect the CCRF priority of encouraging the participation of underrepresented groups, and considering the unique challenges of rural and remote communities. Tales & Trails will focus on sharing stories of diversity, inclusion and belonging based on a variety of themes.

# 2022 USAGE STATS



• 30% increase in hotspot checkouts

BRANCH PROGRAMMING



HOUSING SUPPORTS Navigate the social housing system and access homelessness prevention assistance



COMMUNITY REFERRALS Get connected with community programs to meet your needs and support your health and wellness



PPLICATION ASSISTANCE Help filling out various forms and applications, such as Birth Certificate and OW / ODSP Applications



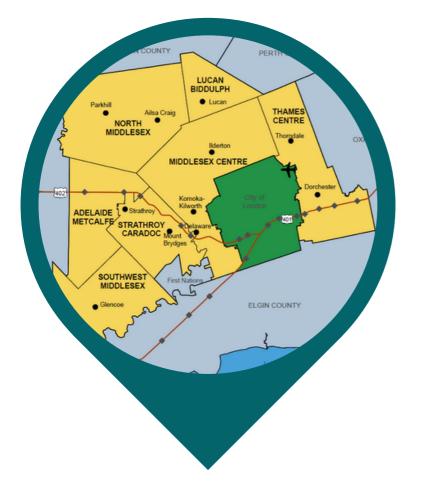
#### **COMMUNITY NAVIGATOR**

No Referral Needed Contact your Community Navigator to get started! phone: (519) 245-8237 ext. 4030 email: communitynavigator@middlesex.ca



### **Middlesex EarlyON**





Dorchester Library Branch 2123 Dorchester Rd, Dorchester

> Glencoe Library Branch 123 McKellar St, Glencoe

Ilderton Library Branch 40 Heritage Drive, Ilderton

Komoka Library Branch 1 Tunks Lane, Komoka

Lucan Library Branch 270 Main St, Lucan

Mount Brydges Library Branch 22501 Adelaide Rd, Mount Brydges

Parkhill Library Branch 229 B Parkhill Main St, Parkhill

Strathroy Library Branch 34 Frank St, Strathroy

Thorndale Library Branch 21790 Fairview Road, Thorndale

**2023 Q1 & Q2** 







### **2022 In-person Programs**



#### **Types of In-person Programs**

**282** Baby Time Programs

**450** Play & Learn Programs **Baby Time:** Baby Time is a play-based learning opportunity for infants 0 to 12 months of age and their caregivers. Our EarlyON Facilitator lead the group in singing and moving with baby as well as conversations around infant topics.

**Play & Learn:** Each Play & Learn program offers a play-based learning opportunity in one of our indoor library program spaces. Activities planned by our EarlyON facilitators encourage positive parent and child interaction and inspire play and learning! We also offer a circle time (songs and stories) at the end of program.

**Outdoor Play & Learn:** Our outdoor programs offer a play-based learning in our Thorndale and Ilderton outdoor play spaces. Activities planned encourage positive parent and child interaction and inspire play and learning! We offer a circle time (songs and stories) at the end of program. Best suited for children 2 to 6 years of age, but children from 0-6 years are welcome.

**55** Open Spaces Programs

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**Special Programs** 

**Open Spaces Outdoor Adventures:** Open Spaces offers free play and adventures in learning in the great outdoors. Child(ren) take the lead in these nature-based programs. We offer a circle time (songs and stories) at the end of program. Best suited for children 2 to 6 years of age, but children from 0-6 years are welcome.

**Special Programs:** We offer on occasion indoor and outdoor special programs and events. Examples include visits to Splash pads, Apple Land field trips, Krafty Kids, Super Science and more!

**Ready Set Learn:** A 4-week program that offers activities that help children develop skills and behaviours important to the school transition. Also offers free play using creative materials and toys, conversations with our Early Childhood Educator on a variety of learning and development topics, circle time (songs and stories) and a healthy snack.

13 Saturday Programs **Saturday programs:** On occasion we offer a special program on a Saturday to support working caregivers/parents unable to attend our programs offered through the week.

# **Sneak Peak inside a Baby Time Program**

Take a peek inside one of our Baby Time programs! Check out our short video on our YouTube Channel. It will give you a glimpse of what you and your child can expect at any of our programs across the County.









# Sneak Peak inside a Play & Learn Program



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Take a peek inside one of our Play & Learn programs! Check out our short video on our YouTube Channel. It will give you a glimpse of what you and your child can expect at any of our programs across the County.





## **Sneak Peak inside an Open Spaces Program**



Take a peek inside one of our Open Spaces programs! Check out our short video on our YouTube Channel. It will give you a glimpse of what you and your child can expect at any of our programs across the County.





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### **Communication & Promotion**



Upon registration, families are asked how they heard about Middlesex EarlyON programs. The majority of respondents heard of programs through the library, whether that be through staff, newsletters, website or simply seeing programs operating when dropping in to the branch.

Social media and family/friends also support communication of programs.

Community partners included child cares/schools, hospital or Middlesex-London Health Unit.

#### Month-at-a-glance calendar

Each month we create a month-at-a-glance calendar. This calendar will include drop-in and registration-only programs by location. Any known cancellations we will also include.

#### **Monthly Newsletter**

Each month we send out a monthly newsletter. This will include program information and any known cancellations. We will also share stories and pictures from our programs from the previous month & any news!

#### **Our Socials**

We use our socials to share program information and any cancellations. We will also share stories and pictures from our programs from the previous month and any news!

### Email

We use our email list to share program information and any cancellations.

### library.middlesex.ca/events

Follow us!

Visit our library website for more information on EarlyON programs and other early years & adult programs offered in branches across the County!

#### earlyon@middlesex.ca

519-666-3227

@middlesexearlyon

@EarlyONMiddlesex











library