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.

Whats New?

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

19,549 active cardholders

164,750 IN PERSON VISITS

90,220 WEBSITE VISITS

194,487 items checked out

149,893 items checked out

DIGITAL

Axis 360
cloudLibrary
Hoopla
Kanopy
PressReader
Ancestry
Canadian Red Book
Consumer Reports
Creativebug
DIY Auto repaid Source
Gale Courses
EBSCO
Mango
Middlesex Library Niche Academy
Udemy Online Courses
World Book Encyclopedia

INTERNET HOTSPOT LENDING

Lending hotspot devices to rural residents without reliable internet access.
Only 40.8 % of rural households in Canada have access to the minimum internet speed standards set by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

483 hotspot checkouts

YTD TRENDS

- An increase of 22,972 total items checked out
- 30% increase in hotspot checkouts

1960 PROGRAMS HELD

27,363 ATTENDANCE

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

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

Community NAVIGATOR
Middlesex County Library

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

471 programs

26 outdoor

32 virtual

2022 In-person Programs

851
programs

762
indoor

89
outdoor

Types of In-person Programs

282
Baby Time 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.

450
Play & Learn Programs

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

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.

51
Special Programs

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.

SCAN ME

Sneak Peak inside a Play & Learn Program

SCAN ME

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

SCAN ME

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.

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

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

Follow us!

@middlesexearlyon

@EarlyONMiddlesex

middlesex county library