

Changing young lives
one book at a time



We support communities to create minibiblios (mini-libraries) and to light the love of reading in children up to 8 years old.

Together, we can strengthen literacy for this and future generations.

Together with our partners, we envision a Canada where:

- all children have access to good books
- the love of reading is sparked in all children with the help of well-trained, caring and enthusiastic adult readers

A Growing Network

We are open to innovation and are willing to coach wherever the program can benefit young children and their families, including:



All Services Are Free

Contributions from generous donors allow our team to do what we do best—inspire communities to create and expand children’s literacy programs—with no extra cost to community partners.

Your Location

Our program works best in location where:

- Children up to 8 years old (and their family members) go often
- There is a lack of activities that engage children with reading, and/or
- There is a need for good books that children and families can access (and/or accommodate a minibiblio, such as a bookshelf in a community centre)

Your Organization

We can support you best if your organization has:



AN ENTHUSIASTIC COORDINATOR

The volunteer or employee that is organizer and cheerleader for the early literacy component and/or the minibiblio. They are proactively seeking our support when needed, diligent in keeping track of how many children use the programs, and open to exchange with other **minibiblioPLUS** communities across Canada.



WILLING VOLUNTEERS

Adults who have time and enthusiasm to read to children. From students to children’s authors to grandparents—anyone with an interest can learn to read actively with children and spark their love of books.



SUPPORT FROM A LEADER

Those in leadership where the program is hosted understand the importance of children’s literacy, review and sign the partnership agreement with us, and assist the coordinator to reduce any organizational hurdles as they undertake a program.



What We Offer

Our team is made up of librarians and experts in early childhood education. We are your resource people. Through coaching and useful materials, we support you to bring early literacy to life in your community.

COACHING

- One-to-one support from our team to yours.
- We answer your questions about how to set up and sustain early literacy activities and a minibiblio.
- By phone, email or videoconference, whatever works for you.

TRAINING & PEER NETWORK

- Videos and webinars: training modules for you and your volunteer readers.
- Train-the-trainer: we teach you how to recruit and equip volunteers to read with children.
- Conference calls with peers: exchange with other **minibiblioPLUS** communities across Canada. Share your successes and get ideas to address your challenges.

RESSOURCES

- Book lists: every season, we send you recommendations from the children's librarian for books ideal for the age group and interests of the children you serve.
- Early Literacy Toolkit: full of activities to get children active and excited about reading.
- Simple How-To Guides: how to set up and sustain a minibiblio; how to request book donations from our partner First Book; how to organize a series of reading activities, etc.
- Promotional posters.

BOOKS

We collaborate with First Book Canada to offer free and low-cost books directly to community groups. We will assist you to register with First Book and determine which books to request to build your collection. We anticipate working with more distributors in the future.

About Our Team

We are an enthusiastic group of librarians and professionals in early learning and program development. We support community partners across Canada to create early literacy activities and minibiblios where there is greatest need. We believe that caring people make all the difference to children's literacy. We put a **personal touch** on all our collaborations—please reach out and see what could be possible working together!

minibiblioPLUS is an initiative powered by Fraser Hickson, a nonprofit organization based in Montreal. Our mission is to raise literacy levels by empowering our partners to instill in children a life-long love for reading and learning from birth and to enable free access to books and animation services.

Contact Us

We care about **YOUR** vision for children's literacy in your community and will be happy to assist you.

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