

## Dear families:

This document includes free online learning ideas and technology-free activity suggestions for children and teens learning English as an additional language. Other resources can be found on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Family Resource page at [https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education/learning\\_at\\_home.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education/learning_at_home.html).

We value your role as your child's first and most important teacher and we know that you have important goals and dreams for your child. We also value and recognize the many gifts you share with your child or children, one of which is the benefit of one or more home languages. Research proves that talking, singing, sharing stories, reading and/or writing in your home languages will support English language development, as well. Some days you may only be able to fit in story time or reading time in your home language. This is OK and is beneficial in many ways.

We also understand that the idea of continuing school at home may seem overwhelming right now. You may have many other worries at this moment, one of which may be that you may have limited access to computers and/or the Internet. We understand and acknowledge that your main priority is to keep your family members safe, healthy and connected to each other.

Your child's teacher or teachers will be contacting you in the coming days, if they have not already done so. Please talk to them and explain what you need to support your child. If your main need is simply to keep the family healthy and well at this time, please let them know.

## Contact the Team for English as an Additional Language (EAL):

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# Kindergarten to Grade 5

## Online Resources/Offline Activities

### Online Resources

**Global Storybooks** is a free multilingual literacy resource for children and youth worldwide. Read, download, toggle, and listen to a wide variety of illustrated stories (developed by the University of British Columbia, Canada).

**Best Movies from Around the World – for Kids** is a list of over 35 excellent films from around the world to watch and discuss with kids.

**BrainPop ELL** is a fun, interactive, multi-skill website that learners of any language level can use.

**Unite for Literacy** has books in over 45 languages. Click “English” and you can change the written language and/or the audio narration to the language of your choice (for listening).

Free phone apps for learning English:  
**Duolingo ABC** and **Fun English**

### Offline Activities

**Playing and connecting with family** and friends (if in the same home) is the most important learning activity. Cook together, clean the house together, or play a game together. Try to schedule in a video or phone call with other family members and friends.

**Reading together every day** is important, as is telling and talking about stories together in any language. Reading together increases vocabulary, knowledge of the world, and understanding of story structure. After reading, draw stories about what was read, or discuss what was surprising, interesting or confusing.

**Listening to music, television or the radio** can be useful for learning and practicing English. While listening, or after listening, try to write down what you heard.

**Chart the daily weather** for a week or longer. Include temperature, drawings and comments.

**Write out a favorite recipe.** Include illustrations.

Look at a **map of Canada**. Learn the names of the provinces and capitals. Learn their locations.

Write about **your family’s favourite hobby** or place you’ve been. Include an illustration.



# Grades 6 to 12

## Online Resources/Offline Activities

### Online Resources

With your free membership to [NewsELA](#), you have access to non-fiction articles about current events. Each article can be modified for different reading levels and comes with a series of questions about the reading.

This [British Council: Learn English Teens](#) website offers practice in listening, reading, and writing at all levels. Do the activities online or download them.

With [English Central](#), you can watch videos, record yourself repeating what is said, and receive assessment on accuracy and pronunciation. Many of the videos are free.

[Binogi](#) is a multilingual platform that supports math and science curriculum for learners in Grades 6 – 9 in Canada. The lessons are currently available in Swedish, English, Arabic, Tigrinya, Dari, Somali, Finnish, and German. This is currently free for everyone, until June 2020.

Free phone apps for learning English: [Duolingo](#) and [Busuu](#)



### Offline Activities

**Read different genres** if you have access to them in your home: non-fiction (e.g., magazines, newspapers) and fiction (e.g., novels, poetry). Tell someone in your family about what you read.

**Record yourself reading** and then watch the recording to see where you need to go slower, go faster, read with more expression, or work on pronunciation. Practice and do it again.

**Write every day** in English or in another language that you know. You can write word lists or simple sentences about what you did today. Or, you could write plans for the future, a letter to family, a shopping list, or a fictional story. Share your writing with a family member and talk to them about it.

**Create your own thesaurus.** Pick a different word each day and try to think of as many words that mean the same thing as that word (or challenge yourself to think of words that mean the opposite).

**Television/Game/Book Critic:** pick one tv show you watch, game you play, or book you have read, and write about it. Tell what happened and share what you liked or didn't like about it. Suggest a new ending.

**Research a topic** of your choice. Tell a friend or family member what you learned.

**Create a recipe book** of your favourite dishes. Include illustrations.