



# Middlesex EarlyON Year In Review

of 2025

# About Middlesex EarlyON

Middlesex EarlyON programs are free for caregivers and children from birth to six-years-old. Our programs are open to everyone and are welcoming spaces that offer:

- Play-based learning opportunities that allow children to develop their social and emotional skills, reach developmental milestones and begin their journey of lifelong learning.
- Opportunities for sensory play, creative art, music and movement, language and literacy, science and nature, dramatic play, active play and problem solving.
- Fun and interactive activities including storytelling, songs and games.
- Opportunities to connect and network with other caregivers and families.

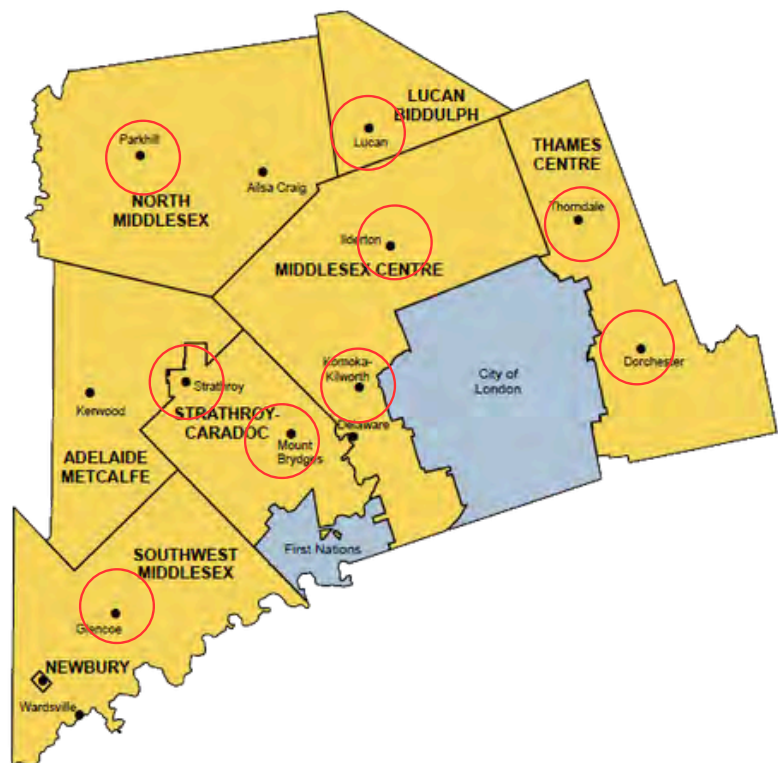
Our EarlyON facilitators can support caregivers with:

- Answers to questions about child development and parenting
- Information about services and supports available from local community agencies
- Connections to other children's programs in the community

EarlyON Facilitators have a degree or diploma in Early Childhood Education and are registered with the College of Early Childhood Educators. Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECE) play a key role in delivering high quality early years programs and have specialized knowledge and expertise in child development and play and inquiry-based learning.

**Middlesex EarlyON programs are managed by Middlesex County Library. Programs are available in nine Library Branches. We also operate out of a building adjacent to River Heights Public School in Dorchester and a number of outdoor programs across the County of Middlesex. We have a team of 4 Full Time Facilitators and one Casual Facilitator.**

**For the most updated  
schedule of programs visit:  
[library.middlesex.ca/events](http://library.middlesex.ca/events)**



# Summary of Key Changes to the Year-in-Review Compared to Previous Years

## Transition to the KEyON Digital Sign-In System

In July 2025, EarlyON Child & Family Centres transitioned to KEyON, a centralized, province-wide digital registration and sign-in platform. This transition represents a significant system change and has impacted the way participation and program-related data is collected and reported. As a result, some statistics in the 2025 Year-in-Review are not directly comparable to previous years.

### Number and Types of Programs

Under the former data-collection system, we were able to track the total number and types of programs delivered, both overall and by location. KEyON does not currently capture these program-specific statistics.

For 2025, the number and types of programs have therefore been estimated based on operational records and estimations. For 2026, we are implementing a complementary tracking process to ensure accurate and consistent collection of program-related data moving forward.

### Key Change in Counting “Unique” Families

Under the previous system, a family was counted as “unique” each time they attended a new EarlyON location within Middlesex County, even if they had already accessed services at another site. This process reset annually.

KEyON counts a family as “unique” only once per calendar year, regardless of how many EarlyON locations they attend within Middlesex County. When a caregiver first scans their QR code, they are counted as newly served for that year. This count resets annually.

### Impact on Data Reporting

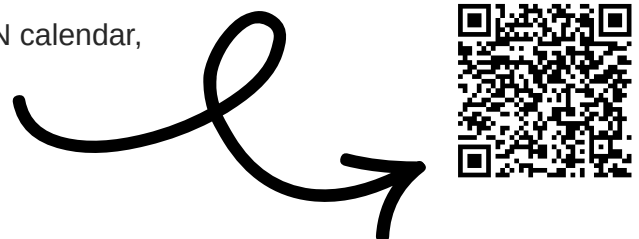
- Going forward, the total number of newly served families will appear lower compared to previous years, as duplicate counts across locations will no longer occur. Total visit counts, however, remain unaffected.
- For 2025 specifically, the number of newly served families may appear higher than expected. This is due to families who were counted as unique earlier in the year under the former system being counted again when KEyON was introduced mid-year. This represents a one-time transition effect.
- Beginning January 2026, KEyON will be the sole data-collection system, ensuring consistent, accurate, and comparable reporting in future years.



KEyON is a centralized, province-wide registration and sign-in platform for families accessing EarlyON Child & Family Centres. Families attending EarlyON programs were invited to complete their KEyON online registration. After registering, each family received a key fob with a QR code linked to their profile. Upon arrival at programs, families simply scan their QR code to sign in quickly and securely.



To access the Middlesex EarlyON KEyON calendar, scan the QR code.



# Outdoor Programs

The following information provides an overview of the approximate number of outdoor programs delivered, brief program descriptions, and relevant background factors that may have influenced program numbers.

24

## Open Spaces Programs

Open Spaces Outdoor Adventures offers free play and adventures in learning in the great outdoors. Child(ren) take the lead in these nature-based programs. This program is best suited for children 2 to 6 years of age. Registration is required.

The number of programs offered in 2025 was lower than in previous years for two reasons. In prior years, programming extended into October; however, the decision was made in 2025 to conclude programming at the end of September due to historically low participation in October. In addition, due to operational matters, no programs were offered in September.

Program locations include Coldstream Conservation Area, Lucan Conservation Area, Dorchester Conservation Area, Strathroy Conservation Area and Wye Creek in Thorndale. The program calendar rotated across locations to support equitable access for families across the county.

23

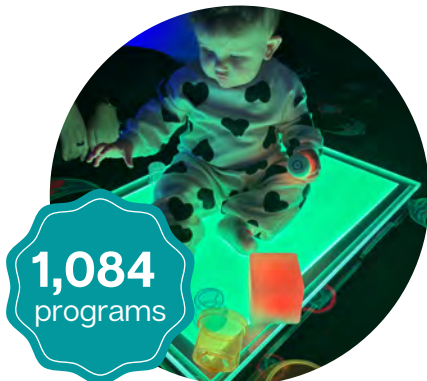
## Splash Pad Programs

Splash Pad programs continued in the summer of 2025, with two weeks of programming offered—one in July and one in August. These sessions extend select indoor programs into local splash pads, providing families with outdoor play opportunities when weather permits. In addition to the regular locations we operate programs (Glencoe, Lucan, Ilderton, Dorchester, Parkhill, Mount Brydges, Strathroy, Thorndale and Komoka) we also offered a program in Kerwood, Newbury and Ailsa Craig.

3

## Bear Hunt Programs

From August through September, Going on a Bear Hunt was featured as part of the Tales & Trails programming at select locations. As an extension of this story theme, the EarlyON team offered three dedicated Bear Hunt programs in Dorchester, Ilderton, and Strathroy. These programs brought the Going on a Bear Hunt story to life through interactive, outdoor learning experiences. Children participated in a guided story adventure combined with outdoor play, supporting engagement, movement, and imagination. Each registered child received a teddy bear, adding to the excitement and creating a memorable experience for participating families.



*These numbers are approximate.*

# Indoor Programs

The following information provides an overview of the approximate number of programs delivered, brief program descriptions, and relevant background factors that may have influenced program numbers throughout the year.

**281**

Baby Time Programs

Baby Time is a play-based learning opportunity for infants 0 to 12 months of age and their caregivers. Our EarlyON Facilitators lead the group in singing and moving with baby as well as conversations around infant topics. Drop-in program.

**510**

Play & Learn Programs

Play & Learn offers a play-based learning opportunity for children 0-6 years of age and their caregiver (s). 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. Drop-in program.

**82**

Open Play Programs

Open Play offers children and their caregivers an opportunity to play, learn and connect at River Heights EarlyON Child & Family Centre. Drop-in program. In November we moved to offering only one Open Play per week to allow for a transition to Toddler Time on Tuesdays.

**30**

Zumbini® Sessions

Zumbini® is a 6-week program that uses music and movement to support child development. For children ages 0-4 years and their caregivers. Registration is required. This program was offered in Strathroy, Dorchester, Lucan, Komoka and Parkhill. Programming was temporarily impacted during the year due to operational matters, resulting in one less location being supported than originally planned.

**24**

Infant Massage Sessions

Infant Massage is a 5-week program that gives caregivers the tools and information they need to communicate with their baby through loving touch. Registration is required. This program was offered in Thorndale, Parkhill, Ilderton, Strathroy and River Heights. Fewer Infant Massage programs were offered in 2025 in response to lower demand, and the program length was adjusted from five weeks to four weeks in Strathroy.

**18**

Sensory Seekers

Little Sensory Seekers programs are held in a Sensory Light Space. Light sensory play uses lights, shadows, and transparent materials to stimulate imagination and creativity. This space was made available in Strathroy in June, August and October. The programs originally scheduled for January 2025 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

**5**

Toddler Time

Toddler Time was added to the River Heights program schedule in November 2025. This program was in response to children aging out of the Baby Time program. This program replaced Open Play on Tuesdays. This program is similar to Open Play but specifically geared to toddlers.

**10**

Little Movers

Little Movers was introduced to support physical literacy and active play. This unstructured program encourages movement and the development of gross motor skills through engaging, play-based activities. This program was added to the schedule in Dorchester in September in response to community interest.

**20**

Roots of Empathy Programs

Through Roots of Empathy, children are coached to recognize and connect with the vulnerability and humanity of a baby who visits their classroom throughout the school year with their parent(s), along with a trained Roots of Empathy Instructor. This program is offered in a Kindergarten class at River Heights Public School in Dorchester.

# Kindergarten Support Programs



## Ready Set Learn



Ready Set Learn is a 4-week program that provides caregivers and their Kindergarten-bound child with a learning experience that will support a successful school transition. The program also offers caregivers the opportunity to ask questions of EarlyON educators and engage in conversations about supporting a successful transition to Kindergarten. Early developmental screening is also available through the program with trained staff.

In 2025, we expanded the number of programs from four to six. These were offered between February and May. Morning programs were offered in Ilderton, Strathroy and Komoka. An evening program was offered in Strathroy and Dorchester. Registration is required for this program.



*Take a peek inside our Ready Set Learn program. This video gives you a glimpse inside a program and includes parent testimonials.*



## Kindergarten Connect

In 2025, we rebranded the Kindergarten Socials under the name Kinder Connects. A supporting logo was developed.

Kinder Connects provides families with an opportunity to meet new friends, participate in fun and engaging activities, and enjoy songs and stories together. The program also offers caregivers the opportunity to ask questions of EarlyON educators and engage in conversations about supporting a successful transition to Kindergarten. Early developmental screening is also available through the program with trained staff.

In 2025, the number of programs expanded from six to eight. Programs were offered between February and April across Strathroy, Ilderton, Lucan, Dorchester, Komoka, Glencoe, and Parkhill, with two sessions delivered in Strathroy. All programs were offered in the evening to increase accessibility for families and were delivered as single-session, registration-based programs.



Kinder Connects was developed as an extension of Ready Set Learn to address capacity and accessibility limitations. With limits on the number of families and programs offered through Ready Set Learn, and recognizing that some families are unable to commit to daytime or multi-week programming, Kinder Connects provides an additional, flexible option. It is intended as one component of a broader menu of kindergarten transition supports, helping reach more families and offering guidance for those who may not be able to access Ready Set Learn or other programs.

# Other Kindergarten Supports

In 2025, the EarlyON team expanded supports for kindergarten-bound children. Alongside in-person programs such as Kinder Connect and Ready Set Learn, a new series of family lending kits was developed to extend learning opportunities into the home and further support children and families as they prepare for school entry. Each kit includes hands-on activities, games, and resources that build early learning skills, spark curiosity, and foster confidence. Whether practicing letters and numbers, developing social-emotional skills, or building independence, these kits provide fun, meaningful ways to support a successful start to Kindergarten.



## READY SET LEARN LENDING KIT

The Ready Set Learn Lending Kits are designed to provide children and their caregivers with a learning experience that will support a successful school transition. These kits contains activities and supporting resources that focus on the following areas: Letter Recognition, Number Recognition, Colour Recognition and Sequencing.

Families can borrow for 7-days to explore together at home.



## READY TO LEARN LENDING KIT FOR INDIGENOUS FAMILIES

This Ready to Learn Kit for Indigenous families supports a successful transition to school through engaging, play-based activities. Designed to be borrowed as a two-part set, one kit focuses on physical, cognitive, and sensory development, while the second supports social-emotional learning. Activities and materials are grounded in Indigenous teachings and incorporate the Anishinaabemowin language throughout.

Developed in partnership with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, the kits include workbooks created by educators from Enji Maaajtaawaad Early Years.

Families can borrow for 14-days to explore together at home.



## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING FOR FAMILIES (S.E.L.F.) LENDING KIT

There are two SELF kits intended to be borrowed separately and each includes materials that correspond with activities. The areas of social-emotional development covered in each kit include:

Kit A: Fostering Emotional Awareness and Self-Regulation 1) Understanding and Managing Our Emotions 2) Understanding Anxiety and Separation Anxiety 3) Developing Emotional Self-Regulation

Kit B: Fostering Positive Choices, Self-Esteem, and Connections 4) Making Good Choices and Understanding Responsibility 5) Developing Confidence and Self-Esteem 6) Understanding and Developing Healthy Relationships

Families can borrow for 14-days to explore together at home.



Borrowed the Ready Set Learn Kit



Borrowed the S.E.L.F. Kit

“

“I loved everything but especially the easy instructions, organization and order of activities in the kit and fun variety of exercises to do in each section.”

”

# Evening & Saturday Programs

In 2025, we expanded our non-traditional program hours. A total of **22 programs** were offered in the evening or on a Saturday. Here are some examples of the special programs offered.



## Krafty Kids!

In December, families came together to create seasonal crafts in Dorchester, Strathroy, Ilderton, and Glencoe.



## STEM

In Ilderton, children used materials such as LEGO, marble mazes, and other creative resources to experiment with coding concepts, build creations, and explore learning stations.



## Kids in the Kitchen

Families enjoyed hands-on cooking experiences while spending quality time together. A total of three programs were offered on Saturdays in Strathroy.



## Sensory

Little Sensory Seekers programs were offered in Strathroy in June, August, and October. A total of three Saturday sessions and one evening program were delivered.



## Strathroy Pride

Families visited the booth to enjoy face painting, giveaways, and a scavenger hunt along the Strathroy Tales & Trails path.



## Messy Play

Families visited our outdoor space in Ilderton for some messy play. They got dirty and explored with sand, water, mud and paint!



## Animal Habitats

This Saturday Play & Learn program in Ilderton provided families with an opportunity to learn about a variety of animal habitats through engaging, play-based activities.



## Open Spaces

Outdoor adventure programs in Thorndale and Dorchester provided families with opportunities to explore, play, and connect outdoors.



## Winter Wonderland

This program invited children and their caregivers to step into a Winter Wonderland and celebrate the season through playful, winter-themed activities.



## Fall Krafty Kids

Children and caregivers took part in fall-themed painting activities, creating seasonal crafts while exploring colour, using their senses, and expressing emotions through art.

# Honouring Indigenous Culture Through Expanded Programming

In 2025, EarlyON significantly expanded its programming to include more culturally rich, community-led learning experiences for families.



## The Adventures of Jay and Gizmo

In early November, EarlyON welcomed The Adventures of Jay and Gizmo: An Indigenous Children's Book Series team for a special cultural presentation celebrating Indigenous stories, song, and dance. Families were invited to engage in an immersive experience that highlighted Indigenous culture through visually captivating regalia, music, and an inspiring Pow Wow dance. Each child received a complimentary copy of *The Adventures of Jay and Gizmo: Jay and Gizmo Learn About Pow Wows*, extending the learning beyond the session.

Led by Kristi White and DJ White. Kristi White is an author and member of the Oneida Nation of the Thames.



## Legend of the Three Sisters - Cooking Program

Later in November, EarlyON further expanded its offerings by welcoming Indigenous educators and partners to lead a program centered on traditional foods and teachings. Families explored *The Legend of the Three Sisters* and learned Anishinaabemowin words related to foods and kitchen items, creating a culturally-grounded and engaging experience that deepened understanding of Indigenous knowledge and food sovereignty.

From cooking together to learning language and teachings, these moments captured the spirit of connection, community, and shared learning.

Led by Chef Shawn Dockstader of Oneida Sweet Treats, Russell Peltier, Language Mentor with Enji Maajtaawaad Early Years Colton Hart, Indigenous Food Sovereignty Coordinator with Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre



In addition to supporting culturally grounded programming, with guidance from educators from Enji Maajtaawaad Early Years, Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, Indigenous language and cultural materials have been integrated into EarlyON environments.

Three Tuff Tray Lending Kits were developed to support programming and rotation across EarlyON locations. This collaboration with COTTFN ensured kit contents reflect culturally grounded learning experiences. Pictured to the left is the *Eye Spy with my Little Eye Tuff Tray Kit*. This kit includes an envelope that contains an instruction sheet, polaroid prompts, and a detective checklist that children can cross off as they find each item on the tuff tray that matches each colour.



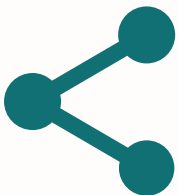
# Check & Connect

In support of the CCEY Service System Plan priority “support earlier identification of developmental concerns and facilitate connections to support services and programs”, development screening clinics were expanded in 2025 to quarterly.

Under the new name, **Check & Connect**, these clinics provide a supportive space where families can work with an EarlyON Facilitator to check in on child development in key areas such as communication, social skills, motor skills, and problem-solving. Caregivers can celebrate new milestones and identify any areas where their child may need support.

The ASQ® is the in-depth developmental monitoring tool that is used. This tool is parent completed and then scored by a trained professional. Results are grouped into one of three zones. Based on the outcome, the facilitator may suggest monitoring a child’s development and share at-home activities to support their development. If needed, they can also recommend connecting with a local agency, such as tykeTALK or Thames Valley Children’s Centre (TVCC), for support and/or additional assessment.

Check & Connect clinics were held in February, May, September and November during regularly scheduled Play & Learn and Baby Time programs. Developmental screening also played a key role in kindergarten transition programs, helping to ensure that children enter school with the supports they need for a positive and successful start.



A total of **349** developmental screens were completed through these clinics and programs, representing children across most age groups.

Of these, **77** screens fell into the monitoring zone, where ongoing observation and at-home activities are encouraged.

An additional **39** screens identified children who could benefit from extra support, leading to referrals for further assessment through local agencies including TVCC, tykeTALK, and Vanier. Families were also encouraged to speak with their family health provider.



Let’s check in on my learning adventure!



Let’s connect with helpful resources to support my development.



# Virtual Programs

## Special Topics

In 2025, we offered a total of 10 Virtual programs. Below is a breakdown of the topics and the partners who supported.

- Infant Feeding, with a Dietitian from Four Counties Family Health Team, March and November
- Packing a Healthy Lunch, with a Dietitian from Four Counties Family Health Team, March and August
- Infant/Child Choking, with Middlesex-London Paramedic Services, March and May
- Kindergarten Caregiver Q&A, with an EarlyON Facilitator and a Kindergarten teacher, May
- Mosquito and Tick Prevention, with an Environmental Inspector with MLHU, September
- Breastfeeding Basics, with a Lactation Consultant, October
- Unlocking the Potential of Food and Family Meals, with a Dietitian from Four Counties Family Health Team, November



## Bounce Back and Thrive

Bounce Back and Thrive is a resiliency skills training program designed to meet the needs of parents (and those in a parenting role) of children under the age of 8. BBT helps parents gain self-regulation and thinking skills that increase their capacity to provide caring relationships and role model resilience-building skills in daily interactions with their children. Then, it shows parents how to directly introduce basic resiliency skills to children, and that helps children bounce back and thrive. This program is 10-weeks and offered virtually. **We offered one 10-week series in 2025.**

# M.I.friends

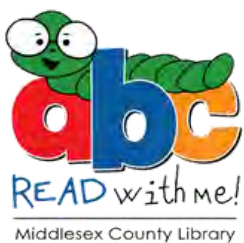
M.I.friends was developed to provide families with tools, videos, and resources to help children build resiliency. This program is best suited for children over 3 years of age.

Registered families are provided with:

- Access code to the digital platform
- A comfort toy (named Poppy) to help manage stressful situations when big feelings arise
- Access to support videos and activities to work through with your child
- Access to parent strategies, tools, resources, and suggestions on how to support your child as they learn to self-regulate

This program was developed with the experts at The Mary J. Wright Child Youth and Development Clinic, Faculty of Education, Western University and educational advisors with decades of experience helping children and their families manage their feelings. Thanks to Optimist Clubs, The Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation and generous community sponsors, this program is available to families at no cost.

**6 families and 7 children were supported through this program.**



All new and expectant parents/caregivers in Middlesex County are eligible to receive a free ABC Read With Me bag that includes board books ideal for sharing with babies. Bags are available at Middlesex County Libraries and Middlesex EarlyON program locations.

**The Middlesex EarlyON team distributed approximately 100 bags.**

# 2025 Partnerships

We significantly expanded our partnerships in 2025. We had a total of **70 visits** to Play & Learn or Baby Time programs.



A member of the Oral Health team from Middlesex-London Health Unit attended both Play & Learn and Baby Time to share information about: programs for children and youth under the age of 17; brushing and caring for your infant and child's teeth; and to answer any questions caregivers may have around oral health. Locations where the partnership was offered include **Komoka, Strathroy and Ilderton.**



A transportation safety expert from London Health Sciences Centre was available during Baby Time to address questions and concerns related to car seats. Locations where the partnership was offered include **Dorchester, Ilderton and Strathroy.**



The 3rd Monday of the month at **Glencoe** Baby Time caregivers with their infants can meet with a Registered Nurse & Dietitian from West Elgin Community Health Centre.



A tykeTALK Speech Language Pathologist from Thames Valley Children's Centre was available during Play & Learns to answer questions and provide strategies to promote early language development through play. Locations where the partnership was offered include **Thorndale, Dorchester, Strathroy, Glencoe, Komoka, Ilderton, Lucan and Mount Brydges.**



Vanier Child & Family Therapist was available to provide consultation regarding infants' emotional needs and what impacts brain development and hands-on practical "in the moment" role modeling for families. Single-session therapy sessions for parent or the parent and child was made available. This drop-in program was held during Play & Learn in **Strathroy.**



A Physiotherapist from Thames Valley Children's Centre was available to answer questions and provide strategies to promote gross motor development through play. This program was held during Baby Time. Locations where the partnership was offered include **Dorchester, Glencoe, Mount Brydges, Strathroy and River Heights.**

An Occupational Therapist from Thames Valley Children Centre was available to answer any questions and provide strategies to promote fine motor development through play. They also answered questions around feeding, self-care and sensory. This drop-in program was held during Play & Learn in **Komoka.**

A Family Community Consultant from Thames Valley Children's Centre was available during Play & Learn to answer questions regarding the Autism and Behavioural Services including Foundational Family Services. Locations where the partnership was offered include **Dorchester, Strathroy and Ilderton.**

# CAREGIVER FEEDBACK 2025

Each year we invite EarlyON families to provide feedback through an annual Middlesex EarlyON Parent/Caregiver Satisfaction Survey. This input helps us to provide high quality programs for all participants in our EarlyON programs. In 2025, a survey was opened for 8-weeks from Friday October 3 to Friday November 28, 2025. A total of 96 caregivers provided feedback.

The feedback demonstrate strong overall satisfaction with EarlyON programs across indoor locations, outdoor Open Spaces, special programs, and partnership services. Families consistently report that programs are welcoming, inclusive, engaging, and supportive, with educators viewed as a key strength of the program.

## Participation and Reach

- Families attend EarlyON programs across all Middlesex locations, with most participating weekly or monthly.
- Both indoor programs and Open Spaces (outdoor programs) show strong engagement, though some families report barriers due to registration, timing, scheduling, and limited capacity.
- Special programs such as Little Sensory Seekers, Zumbini, Ready Set Learn, Splash Pad Week, and Infant Massage were well utilized.

## Belonging & Inclusion

- An overwhelming majority of respondents strongly agree or agree that:
  - They and their children are greeted warmly
  - Programs are welcoming and inclusive of all families
  - EarlyON supports connection with other parents/caregivers
- Qualitative comments frequently name staff as exceptionally welcoming, inclusive, and relationship-focused
- Few suggestions for improvement were noted, indicating high satisfaction in this area

*“The Facilitator is outstanding. She is so kind and inclusive. My daughter absolutely loves her.”*

*“They check in on us often, especially after difficult times.”*

*“I never feel judged and am always offered a hand.”*

*“The Facilitator is always so enthusiastic to see everyone as soon as they arrive! She always greets us by name and makes us feel so welcome.”*

*“We attend programs weekly and always feel welcomed and like we belong in this space.”*

## Well-Being

- Families report strong confidence that:
  - Program spaces are clean and well-maintained
  - Educators demonstrate genuine concern for children and families
  - Support related to child development is readily available
- Minor concerns focused on physical space limitations, flooring comfort for infants, and crowding during popular programs.

# CAREGIVER FEEDBACK 2025 CON'T

## Engagement & Learning

- Respondents consistently report that:
  - Programs are stimulating, fun, and age-appropriate
  - Children are encouraged to follow their interests
  - Learning is visible through activities, displays, and social media
  - Educators actively support parents in their parenting role
- Suggestions for improvement included:
  - More age-specific programming
  - Additional active or outdoor experiences
  - Expanded space or capacity for high-demand programs

*“They nap so well after play group, engaging in activities I would never think of providing myself.”*

*“We love coming in every morning to see what is set up and out for them to explore.”*

*“The program is stimulating and fun for my child.”*

## Expression & Communication

*“We love singing the songs we learned at Baby Time at home.”*

*“I use ideas and activities at home that I learned in the program.”*

*“I like how community resource personnel come up to me during play time to personally inform me about services.”*

- Families feel comfortable:
  - Interacting with educators
  - Raising questions or concerns
  - Applying ideas learned at home
- Concerns, when raised, are reported as being handled professionally and in a timely manner.

## Open Spaces Outdoor Programs

- Highly valued for promoting family connection, outdoor exploration, and well-being
- Common themes for improvement:
  - Registration timing that better accommodates working parents
  - Backup plans for poor weather
  - Clearer communication about locations and scheduling
- Many respondents requested more frequent offerings due to high demand

*“We loved playing in the river and seeing crawfish for the first time!”*

*“Open Spaces is always a time to unwind.”*

*“My oldest child loves exploring and spending time outdoors. We really enjoy the hikes.”*

# CAREGIVER FEEDBACK 2025 CON'T

## Special & Partnership Programs

- Strong interest in continued and expanded offerings, including:
  - Sensory programs
  - Music and movement
  - Nutrition, sleep, and parenting supports
  - Developmental and health-focused partnerships
- Families value access to trusted professionals and integrated services through EarlyON

## Check & Connect (ASQ® Developmental Screening)

- Families who accessed Check & Connect reported:
  - The questionnaire was easy to complete
  - Increased awareness of their child's skills and development
  - Greater confidence in how to support their child's growth
- A notable portion of respondents were unaware of the clinics, indicating an opportunity for increased promotion

## Key Strengths

- Highly skilled, caring, and approachable staff
- Welcoming and inclusive environments
- Strong parent-child and peer connections
- Meaningful learning through play and exploration

## Opportunities for Growth

- Increase capacity and frequency of high-demand programs
- Adjust registration processes to improve equity of access
- Expand age-specific, outdoor, and sensory-based programming
- Increase awareness and promotion of Check & Connect clinics and developmental supports
- Strengthen communication and awareness of partnership services

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“We have a huge mom group thanks to EarlyON.”

“A group of moms met during baby time... and we still keep in touch and meet weekly on our own.”

“It was such a great reason to get out of the house and connect with other parents in the same phase of life.”

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**CONNECTIONS  
& COMMUNITY  
BUILDING**

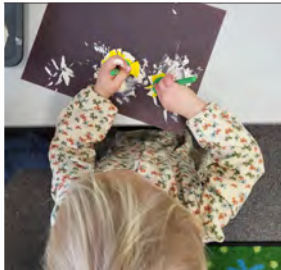
# Year RECAP

**3,825**  
children  
served

**13,095**  
total visits  
by children

**3,033**  
caregivers  
served

**10,135**  
total visits  
by caregivers



**january**



**february**



**march**



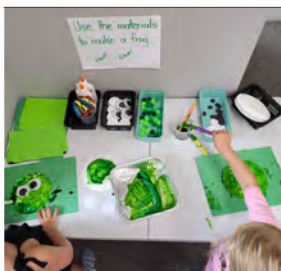
**april**



**may**



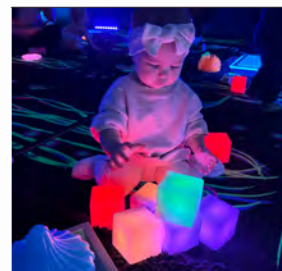
**june**



**july**



**august**



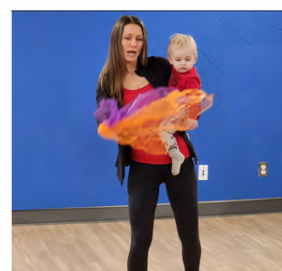
**september**



**october**



**november**



**december**

# MEET THE TEAM

## Allison Beauchamp, EarlyON Senior Facilitator

Allison is a Registered Early Childhood Educator with +25 years of experience in the early years' field. For the past 20+ years she has been with the Ontario Early Years Centre (known now as Middlesex EarlyON). She has past experience working all age groups in licensed childcare as well as supervisory and executive director experience in licensed childcare. She also has her Developmental Service Worker Diploma and worked in that field when she first graduated college.

Allison facilitates programs in Mount Brydges as well as all our Virtual programs. Allison provides communication & other system support. She is trained in Reaching in, Reaching Out, and trained and facilitates Bounce Back & Thrive (resiliency and self-regulation). She is also trained in Ages & Stages (ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2), Make the Connection (infant attachment) and Infant Massage.



## Donna Fleming, EarlyON Facilitator

Donna is a Registered Early Childhood Educator who started with Ontario Early Years Centre in 2017 (known now as Middlesex EarlyON). She has worked with children in various roles for most of her life- from summer camps, Sunday school, daycare and home child care, to teaching English in a kindergarten in Hong Kong.

Donna facilitates programs in Dorchester, Thorndale and River Heights. She also facilitates our Open Spaces Program and Ready Set Learn Program. Donna is trained in Ages & Stages (ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2) and Infant Massage.



## Sarah Sutherland-Sebo, EarlyON Facilitator

Sarah, a Registered Early Childhood Educator and resident of Middlesex County, comes to the early years team with experience as a kindergarten classroom RECE with Thames Valley District School Board as well as child care program provider for newcomer children. She also has previous experience with the YMCA and as a Community Home Child Care provider.

Sarah facilitates programs in Strathroy, Glencoe and Parkhill. She is trained in Zumbini, Infant Massage and Ages & Stages (ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2).



## Ki Hulley, EarlyON Facilitator

Ki has been a Registered Early Childhood Educator for 10 years. Prior to commencing with Middlesex EarlyON, Ki worked with London Bridges Child Care Services where she provided care and facilitated learning in all classrooms, stepped in as acting director, mentored students, and lead professional development workshops for educators. Ki has specialized training in sleep training, supporting children with autism and children's mental health.

Ki facilitates programs in Lucan, Komoka and Ilderton. Ki facilitates the Ready Set Learn program. She is trained in Infant Massage and Ages & Stages (ASQ-3 & ASQ:SE-2). Ki also coordinates the M.I.friends program.



## Tiffany Wilson, EarlyON Facilitator

Tiffany has been a Registered Early Childhood Educator since 2009. Tiffany started out volunteering with us in Strathroy in June 2022. She is now in a permanent casual position.

Tiffany is currently providing program coverage across a variety of locations. Tiffany is supporting Evening Explorers in Parkhill and Glencoe, and will be supporting evening & weekend programs in Strathroy through 2026.



All staff have a supportive role in our Kinder Connect program.