

For immediate release
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GROW WITH STORIES FAMILY SPACES

The Government and Public Libraries Forum Early Learning Committee (GPLF ELC) is pleased to announce that the Yorkton Public Library (Yorkton), Albert Branch (Regina) and Waldheim Branch (Waldheim) are the grant recipients of funding for the development of *Grow with Stories Family Spaces*.

The GPLF ELC grant awarded to the three Saskatchewan public libraries will help develop family spaces and enhance the literacy and language development of young children. "Family spaces can enhance the role of public libraries as vital community centres and key players in family and early childhood development and make the library a community destination," said André Gagnon, chair, GPLF ELC.

The *Grow with Stories Family Spaces* will incorporate the principals of a *Family Place Library™* and *Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library* and will be equipped with materials that emphasize emergent literacy and reading readiness such as books, toys, audiovisual materials and electronic resources for babies, toddlers, parents and service providers. Materials in the *Grow with Stories Family Spaces* will foster creative play.

This announcement falls on Family Literacy Day, a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

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