

# Vermont's Literacy Resources

## Statewide Programs for All Ages

Updated January 2012

### Early Literacy Workshops and more



#### Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF)

[www.clifonline.org](http://www.clifonline.org)  
802.244.0944

The Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to nurturing a love of reading and writing among children throughout Vermont and New Hampshire. CLiF's programs target low-income, at-risk, and rural children up to age twelve. Its sixteen free programs have served more than 120,000 children in almost 400 communities across the Twin states. CLiF provides inspiring writing workshops, author visits, storytelling, thousands of new books, and other forms of literacy support to many groups including children in rural towns, migrant children, refugee children, children in shelters and low-income housing, children in Head Start, children visiting food shelves, children of prison inmates, families with newborns, and many others.

#### Everybody Wins! Vermont (EW!VT)

[www.ewvt.org](http://www.ewvt.org)  
802.229.BOOK (2665)

Everybody Wins! Vermont (EW!VT) is a children's literacy and mentoring organization dedicated to encouraging positive attitudes about reading in elementary school children. Reading Mentor volunteers are paired with students at 21 elementary schools in the state to promote reading for pleasure, build self-confidence and enhance self-esteem in children, and to serve as caring adult role models. EW!VT provides books, training materials, orientations, and ongoing support for mentor pairs. EW!VT also organizes periodic enrichment events for parents/guardians and mentors in order to support their efforts in fostering a love of reading and language.

#### Mother Goose Programs

[www.mothergooseprograms.org](http://www.mothergooseprograms.org)  
802.875.2751

Mother Goose Programs are learning opportunities from the Vermont Center for the Book. Mother Goose Programs enhance the development, self-esteem, school readiness and success of young children by building the skills and confidence of parents, librarians and early childhood educators. Mother Goose Programs provide adults with picture books, activity guides, materials, training and online resources to transform reading with preschool children into multidimensional and powerful learning experiences.



## **The Northern Lights Career Development Center**

[www.northernlightscdc.org](http://www.northernlightscdc.org)

802.828.2876

The Northern Lights Career Development Center works with the Child Development Division and the Bright Futures Information System (BFIS) ([brightfutures.dcf.state.vt.us](http://brightfutures.dcf.state.vt.us)) to help early childhood and afterschool professionals in Vermont. Northern Lights is charged with keeping the BFIS statewide course calendar updated, where the public can find out when and where workshops and courses are being held. BFIS also has a system to track individual's professional development activities, and Northern Lights also helps individuals use this. Vermont Northern Lights Career Development Center helps make available high-quality professional development activities and supports early childhood and afterschool professionals to find their best career pathways.



## **Reach Out and Read New England (MA,VT,CT,NH)**

[www.reachoutandread.org](http://www.reachoutandread.org)

617.455.0656

Reach Out and Read prepares America's youngest children to succeed in school by partnering with doctors to prescribe books and encourage families to read together. Doctors, nurse practitioners, and other medical professionals incorporate Reach Out and Read's evidence-based model into regular pediatric checkups by advising parents about the importance of reading aloud and giving developmentally appropriate books to children. The program begins at the 6-month checkup and continues through age 5, with a special emphasis on children growing up in low-income communities. Families served by Reach Out and Read read together more often, and their children enter kindergarten with larger vocabularies and stronger language skills, and a six-month developmental edge. Currently there are 51 Reach Out and Read Programs in Vermont. To find out which pediatric and family practice clinics, health centers, and private practices are participating, please contact us.



## **The Stern Center for Language and Learning**

[www.sterncenter.org](http://www.sterncenter.org)

802.878.2332

The Stern Center evaluates and instructs children and adults in all areas of learning, including reading, written and spoken language, spelling, math, Social Thinking®, and organizational and study skills. The Stern Center also designs professional learning workshops for educators, sharing the latest in educational research and how it can be applied to evaluate and instruct learners. The Stern Center's BUILDING BLOCKS FOR LITERACY® ([www.buildingblocksforliteracy.org](http://www.buildingblocksforliteracy.org)) program provides early care and education providers and parents research-based early literacy strategies through trainings, mentorships, parent workshops, an online course with a family forum, and live undergraduate and graduate three-credit courses.



## VSA Vermont

www.vsavt.org  
802.655.7735

VSA Vermont is a statewide nonprofit devoted to arts and disability. Our Start With The Arts Program is an arts based-early literacy program, which offers supportive onsite mentoring free to 36 home based childcare sites each year, with 20 hours Professional Development Credits, including training for advanced Specialized Care status as well as inclusion of children ages birth-3. In addition, our Start with the Arts Summer Library Outreach Program helps school age students maintain literacy skills during summer months by connecting childcare providers and community based childcare sites with libraries, and offering arts-based literacy activities to children and training in the use of arts based literacy activities to childcare workers.



**VERMONT  
Humanities  
COUNCIL**

## Vermont Humanities Council

www.vermonthumanities.org  
802.262.2626

Vermont Humanities Council offers free, lively, interactive workshops that promote a lifelong love of reading—Never Too Early professional development for early care and education providers, and Read With Me programs for parents of children from birth to age six. Participants discover ways to make books come alive that encourage language development and communication, and receive books to take home. Other humanities-based literacy programs reach middle school students, incarcerated adults and adult literacy students. An annual statewide one-book community reading program involves readers of many ages and backgrounds. VHC programs also include book discussions, speaker events, conferences and a grants program that supports humanities projects of other nonprofit organizations.

## Adult Literacy



## Learning Works — Adult Education and Literacy Services

www.learningworksvt.org  
802.244.0634

Learning Works is a network of regional centers for adult education and literacy services for adults (out of school and age 16 and over) who need basic academic skills – reading, writing, math, and computing. Adult learners may be working to obtain a high school credential, and to increase their chances of employment or improve their work situation. Vermont Adult Learning operates thirteen centers and subcontracts with the Bennington Tutorial Center, Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, and Northeast Kingdom Learning Services to provide literacy services statewide.

Central Offices  
Vermont Adult Learning  
60 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05676  
802.244.0634; toll-free 800.322.4004  
www.vtadultlearning.org

The Tutorial Center  
208 Pleasant Street, Bennington, VT 05201  
802.447.0111  
www.tutorialcenter.org

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education  
46 Washington Street, Suite 100, Barre, VT 05641  
802.476.4588  
www.cvabe.org

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services  
1 Main Street, Newport, VT 05855  
802.334.6532  
www.nekls.org

## Finding Local Resources



### Vermont Public Libraries

<http://libraries.vermont.gov/libraries>  
802.828.3261

Vermont's 183 public libraries provide a wealth of free resources and services for citizens of all ages to support literacy and lifelong learning activities. With a free public library card, citizens can borrow books, magazines, audiobooks, CDs, and DVDs. Libraries also offer public computers with Internet access, online databases that citizens can access from home or office, downloadable audiobooks, reference and information services, and a wide variety of public programs for children, teens and adults. Many libraries participate in the statewide program, the Vermont Early Literacy Initiative (VELI), and have research-based literacy—rich programs for preschoolers, and training for parents and childcare providers. Check out your local public library! For more information about Vermont's public libraries or to see a directory of libraries statewide, call the Vermont Department of Libraries or log on to their website: <http://libraries.vermont.gov/libraries>.



### Vermont Department of Education

[www.education.vermont.gov](http://www.education.vermont.gov)  
802.828.3135

The mission of the Vermont Department of Education is to provide leadership and support to help all Vermont students achieve excellence. The DOE offers a wide variety of programs and services in support of Vermont's students, teachers, educators, administrators, families, and community members.



### Vermont 2-1-1

[www.vermont211.org](http://www.vermont211.org)  
Dial 2-1-1

2-1-1 is an easy to remember telephone number that connects people with important community services and volunteer opportunities. Every hour of every day, someone needs essential services – from finding an after-school program to securing adequate care for a child or an aging parent. People often don't know where to turn. 2-1-1 helps people find information and makes referrals to human services for everyday needs and in times of crisis.