

# LITERACY

## Resource Directory

### 7th Edition

## LIFELONG LEARNING RESOURCES FOR ALL FAMILIES



**Information**



**Activities**



**Tutoring**

Check Out Polk County  
Resources Inside!

Compiled and published by Polk Vision



**For Polk County, Florida**

This project is funded through a  
grant from George W. Jenkins Fund  
within GiveWell Community  
Foundation.



# Letter from the Superintendent

## Welcome to the new school year!

At Polk County Public Schools, we're excited to embark on another year of progress and achievement.

We live in one of the fastest-growing communities in the nation, which means we're serving more students and families than ever. As educators, it's important that we use all available resources to provide a high-quality education for every child in Polk.

This year PCPS is opening two new schools — South Pointe Elementary in Winter Haven and Scenic Terrace in Haines City — as well as debuting a completely revamped campus for Garner Academy in Winter Haven. We're also expanding the school choice options in our district, by offering more magnet schools and rigorous academic programs like Cambridge International.

With a robust selection of advanced programs, career academies, electives, and athletics, we can truly offer something for everyone.

As PCPS continues to grow, it's vital that we work with our partners to ensure we're meeting the community's needs. Polk Vision remains one of our most dedicated partners, and we greatly appreciate their commitment to bringing together stakeholders to find solutions to local issues.

One example of this solution-focused approach is this publication — the seventh edition of the Polk County Literacy Resource Directory. This guide was created to help families access information about tutoring, websites, books, programs, and tips for nurturing literacy.

I hope you enjoy this current edition of the Literacy Resource Directory and discover some of the free or low-cost services available right in your neighborhood.

Sincerely,  
Superintendent Fred Heid  
Polk County Public Schools

## Literacy Team

Lindsay Persohn Ph.D., Co-Chair  
University of South Florida,

Denise Atwell - Community Member

Sara Catherine Barnes  
Theatre Winter Haven

Carolyn Burnett  
United Way of Central Florida

Gretchen Ceranic  
United Way of Central Florida

Reba Coil  
Polk County Public Schools

Emily Coppolo  
Heartland for Children

Jeanette Crowley  
Polk County Public Schools

Stacy Davis  
Polk County Public Schools

Sheri Geiger  
Paper Pie

Andrea Hagan  
Heartland for Children

Craig Hosking  
Maximize Digital Media

Claudine Humber  
Florida Children's Museum

Jennifer Kovac  
Polk County Library Cooperative

LaTrice Moore, PH.D. - Purple Lion  
Consulting/Polk State College

Jennifer Olivas  
Mulberry Community Service Center

Angie Pattison  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay

Amber Qureshi  
United Way of Central Florida

Sandra Roddenberry  
Lakeland Regional Health

Ed Smith - ASAP Prints

Kate Wallace - Spectrum/Charter

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**EDUCATION IS**  
*a gift*  
**THAT CAN NEVER**  
*be taken away*

# Children's Rights to Read

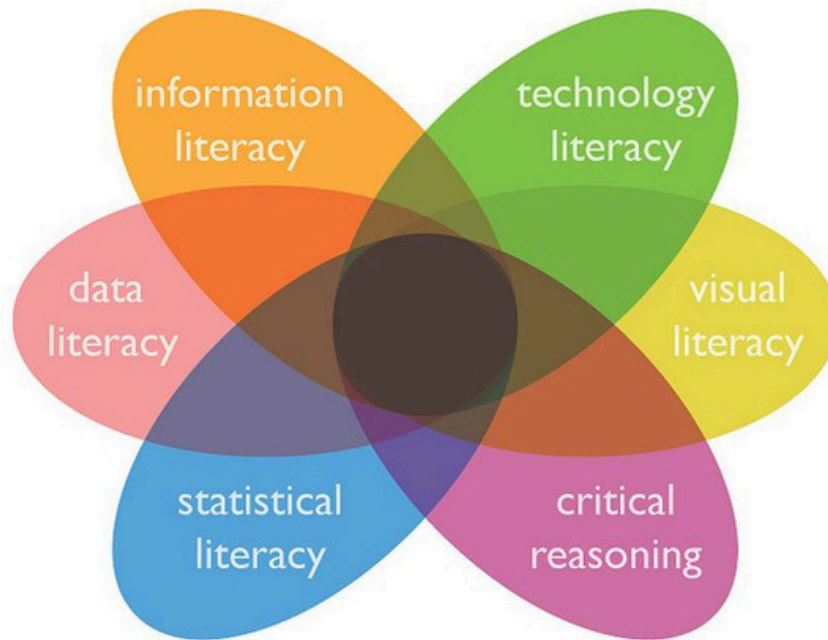
1. Children have the **basic human right** to read.
2. Children have the right to **access** texts in print and digital formats.
3. Children have the right to **choose** what they read.
4. Children have the right to read texts that **mirror** their experiences and languages, provide **windows** into the lives of others, and open **doors** into our diverse world.
5. Children have the right to read for **pleasure**.
6. Children have the right to **supportive** reading environments with knowledgeable literacy partners.
7. Children have the right to extended **time** set aside for reading.
8. Children have the right to **share** what they learn through reading by collaborating with others locally and globally.
9. Children have the right to read as a springboard for other forms of **communication**, such as writing, speaking, and visually representing.
10. Children have the right to benefit from the financial and material resources of governments, agencies, and organizations that **support** reading and reading instruction.

**Pledge your support for these #RightsToRead:**  
**[www.rightstoread.org](http://www.rightstoread.org)**



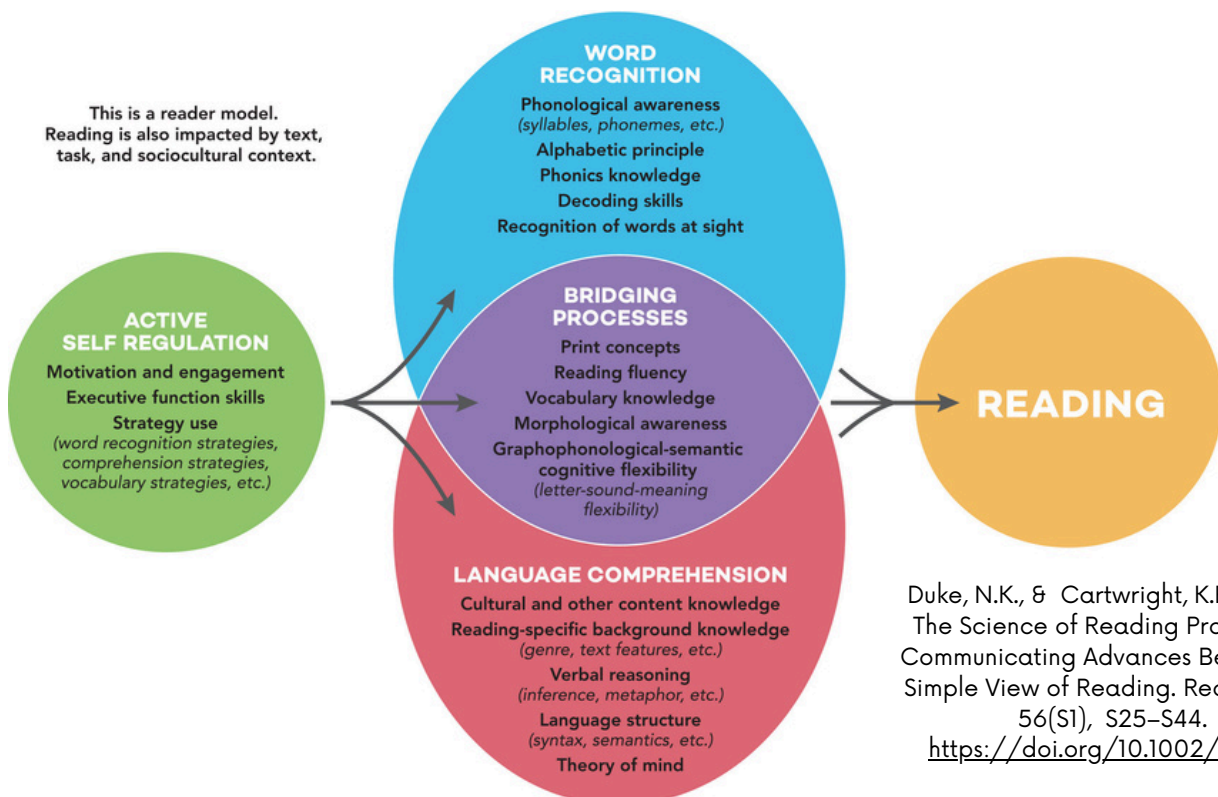
# Types of Literacy

Literacy is an ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, compute, and communicate using visual, audible, and digital materials across disciplines and in any context; knowledge of a wide range of activities that appears as computer literacy, math literacy, or dietary literacy; ways of knowing the world.



<https://u.osu.edu/writing/2021/02/17/literally-literate-how-the-idea-of-literacy-has-spread-beyond-the-act-of-writing/>

## The Active View of Reading Model



# POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## LIBRARY RESOURCE SERVICES



**POLK COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
STUDENTS FIRST

Polk County Public Schools' library media centers are wonderful places for PCPS students, families, and teachers to explore literacy. Each school library offers a unique collection and unique programming. PCPS District Library Media Services also offers district-wide literacy initiatives and programs throughout the year. For more information, please contact Stacy Davis at [stacy.davis@polk-fl.net](mailto:stacy.davis@polk-fl.net).

### **THE BOOKS BRIDGE**

Is an outreach program designed to bring books and book related knowledge to communities in Polk County. Books Bridge Library Media Specialists and Paraprofessional/Drivers take books on busses outfitted as mobile classrooms to every area of Polk County.

### **READING COMES ALIVE**

A program where in Polk County secondary drama education students perform picture books for Polk County's 2nd grade students. Dramatic presentations are written and produced by secondary students, based on state award-nominated books for 2nd graders. 2nd graders travel to local theaters to watch the books come alive.

### **LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES**

These "libraries" are placed around the community where anyone can take a book or leave a book. They often resemble large birdhouses on posts. Anyone can sponsor their own Little Free Library, and anyone can take or leave FREE BOOKS. Library Media Services is a drop off and pick up location for bulk stores of books for Little Free Libraries. For more information about this program, visit <https://littlefreelibrary.org> or contact [stacy.davis@polk-fl.net](mailto:stacy.davis@polk-fl.net).

### **SUNSHINE STATE YOUNG READERS' FESTIVAL**

This festival is designed to encourage students grades 3-8 to read and enjoy state award-nominated books. Students come together to create, compete, and learn about award-nominated titles read prior to the festival. elementary and middle schools are encouraged to participate in the SSYRA Festival.

### **READ WHILE YOU ROLL**

A program designed as a literacy bridge from school to home using the Polk County school buses. Books donated by citizens and civic organizations are kept on the bus in bins, so students can select a book to read while riding to or from school. Students are encouraged to take the books home to keep and share with family members. For more information contact Scott Reeves with Support Services at [scott.reeves@polk-fl.net](mailto:scott.reeves@polk-fl.net).

### **PARENT PORTAL**

The Parent Portal is a service offered to parents and guardians for accessing certain student records, including grades and attendance information. The service allows parents and guardians to access information about ALL of their students through one convenient website. This eliminates the need to visit several different websites, make telephone calls or visit the school to access records and information.

# LITERACY GLOSSARY

- **Adolescent Literacy** - the skills and abilities required to read and write effectively in grades 4–12.
- **Adult Literacy** - the ability to use printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one's goals, and to develop one's knowledge and potential beyond secondary school.
- **Digital Literacy** - an individual's ability to find, evaluate, and clearly communicate information through typing and other media on various digital platforms; evaluated by an individual's grammar, composition, computer skills and ability to produce text, images, audio and designs using technology.
- **Emergent Literacy** - early reading and writing behaviors (e.g., scribble writing and pretend reading), knowledge (e.g., a book is a source of a story or information), and attitudes (e.g., question asking about neighborhood signs); often used to characterize those aspects of literacy that develop without any formal instruction but rather through a stimulating environment.
- **Environmental Print** - the print of everyday life appearing in signs, labels, and logos. Examples: street signs, food labels, the M in McDonald's
- **Financial Literacy** - understanding the topic of money; represents one area of financial wellness.
- **Family Literacy** - home literacy activities of families; also used to refer to literacy education programs that focus on developing the literacy skills of parents and children.
- **Literacy** - an ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, compute, and communicate using visual, audible, and digital materials across disciplines and in any context; knowledge of a wide range of activities and appears as digital literacy, math literacy, or dietary literacy; ways of knowing the world.
- **Oral Language** - the system through which we use spoken words to express knowledge, ideas, and feelings.
- **Progress Monitoring** - a scientifically based practice used to assess your child's academic progress throughout the year and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction. Progress monitoring tells the teacher what your child has learned and what still needs to be taught. This information can become a way for you and your child's teacher to discuss strengths and areas for growth. For more information on progress monitoring and how it will be applied in Florida, please visit <https://www.fldoe.org/fast/>
- **Read Aloud** - the practice of reading orally to large or small groups; pictures and/or text are shared visually with the audience whose primary role is to listen, view the illustrations, and make connections to themselves, other texts, and the world. Reading aloud is intended to model proficient reading and language, promote conversation, motivate, and extend comprehension and conceptual understandings.

For more information, visit [www.literacyworldwide.org/get-resources/literacy-glossary](http://www.literacyworldwide.org/get-resources/literacy-glossary)

# Literacy Resource Directory Quick Guide



	Information	Bilingual	Tutoring	Activities	Cost	No Cost	Page #
Aerospace Center/Air Museum		✓	✓	✓		✓	11
Big Brothers Big Sisters	✓	✓		✓			11
Camp Fire Sunshine	✓		✓		✓		12
Central FL Speech & Hearing	✓	✓		✓		✓	12
Cognitutor		✓		✓	✓	✓	12
Early Learning Coalition	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	13
Eloise Resource Center	✓			✓	✓	✓	13
Family Literacy Academy			✓	✓	✓		13
Florida Children's Museum			✓	✓	✓		14
Girls Inc. of Lakeland		✓	✓	✓	✓		14
Girls Inc. of Winter Haven				✓	✓	✓	14
Huntington Learning	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	15
LK Community Theatre		✓	✓	✓		✓	15
LK Institute for Learning				✓	✓	✓	15
LW Literacy Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	16
Lake Wales Little Theatre	✓	✓		✓		✓	16
Learning Resource Center	✓	✓				✓	16
Mary Norma Resource Center	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	17
Pace Center for Girls							17



# Literacy Resource Directory Quick Guide



	Information	Bilingual	Tutoring	Activities	Cost	No Cost	Page #
Paper Pie Learning	✓			✓		✓	17
Personal Finance Center	✓	✓		✓		✓	18
Polk County History Center	✓	✓		✓		✓	18
Polk Cty Library Cooperative	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	19
PCPS Early Child Learning	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	20
PCPS Library Media Services			✓	✓		✓	20
Sheriff's Crime Prevention	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	20
Public Education Partnership	✓	✓			✓	✓	21
READ Lakeland, Inc.			✓		✓		21
Redland Christian Migrant			✓		✓		22
Ridge Technical College			✓		✓		22
Ridge Tech Adult Education				✓	✓	✓	22
Sylvan Learning			✓		✓		23
Theatre Winter Haven	✓			✓		✓	23
Traviss Technical College	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	23
UF IFAS Extension Services					✓		24
United Way of Central FL			✓	✓		✓	24
Wabash Community Center			✓	✓		✓	25
Wilfred Smith Resource	✓		✓	✓		✓	25
YMCA Reads!							25

# How to Use this Guide

## There's Nothing More Valuable Than Knowledge

According to the Florida Department of Education, literacy involves the integration of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking in order “to use language to communicate and interpret the knowledge and ideas of others, as well as our own.” In the 21st century, literacy has expanded to include the ability to understand and use technology. The future requires students to improve their literacy abilities to invent, design, create, compute, and communicate so that they can make critical judgments, identify and solve real-world problems, and become productive citizens who lead rewarding lives.

### Tutoring

Programs that offer specific strategies and/or practice of literacy skills such as reading, writing, speaking, performing, listening, use of technology, etc.

#### Such as:

- Test prep
- After-school tutoring services
- Free intervention or tutoring products
- Keyboarding instruction and/or practice



### Information

Information related to reading, writing, communication, technology, speaking, performance, and other literacy-related topics.

#### Such as:

- Literacy Awareness Month
- Local library events
- Online safety
- Writing websites
- Guest speakers
- Literacy in the workplace.



### Activities

Activities that promote or showcase literacy-related topics.

#### Such as:

- Literacy Destination Field Trips
- Children's theater
- Literacy Camps
- Speech contests
- Technology fairs
- Industry-based classroom lessons or presentations



### Bilingual Services



### No Cost Services



### Cost Services




# Polk County Literacy Resources

## AEROSPACE CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE / FLORIDA AIR MUSEUM



**Contact:** Kimberly Brewer, Education Director

**Address:** 4075 James C Ray Dr, Lakeland, FL 33811

 **863-644-2431**

 **educate@flysnf.org**

 **<https://aceedu.org/event-calendar/storytime-in-the-florida-air-museum/>**

**Hours of Operation:** Storytime is 10 am every Tuesday.

**About:** Come join us as we bring stories to life and create amazing, interactive learning experiences for our Junior ACE's - exploring the universe, one adventure at a time! All are welcome. Content is targeted for our young ones, ages 2-5. Story Time is FREE. Access to the Florida Air Museum is an additional charge.



## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**





**Bilingual**

## BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS



**Contact:** Sarah McCarty, Polk Program Manager

 **863-967-9583**

 **sarahm@bbbstampabay.org**

 **<https://www.bbbstampabay.org>**

**Hours of Operation:**

- Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**About:** Volunteer mentors (Bigs) and the children they're matched with (Littles) spend an average of 8 hours per month out in the community doing activities that they both enjoy - going to a ball game, taking a bike ride, exploring a museum or just "hanging out" together. We ask for a minimum commitment of 15 months together. Our Littles do better in school, have improved self-esteem, and are mentored by their Bigs on a path to greater success. Relationships begin with Littles age 5-13 and are supported by professional staff.




## CAMP FIRE SUNSHINE



**Contact:** Ashley Roberts

**Address:** 2600 Buckingham Ave. Lakeland, 33803

 **863-688-5491**

 **ashleyr@campfire-sunshine.org**

 **[www.campfire-sunshine.org](http://www.campfire-sunshine.org)**

**Hours of Operation:** Monday – Friday: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm | Summer Hours: 7:30 am – 6:00 pm

**About:** Camp Fire Sunshine provides opportunities for youth to discover who they are now as they uncover and explore their personal “sparks” while building confidence in their abilities. Camp Fire provides all youth with a non-judgmental venue where they can feel physically and emotionally safe to be “who they are.”

Camp Fire gives youth personal choice as they select from a wide variety of age-appropriate activities and programs. Camp Fire offers a science-based, after-school academic enrichment program called STEAM Team, where students receive homework assistance, reading and math help, and science-based activities. Youth may also choose to participate in school holiday and summer day camps, service-learning projects, outdoor programs and family events.




## CENTRAL FLORIDA SPEECH AND HEARING



**Contact:** Amy Tyner

**Address:** 3020 Lakeland Highlands Rd., Lakeland, FL 33803

 **863-686-3189**

 **atyner@cfshc.org**

 **[www.cfshc.org](http://www.cfshc.org)**

**Hours of Operation:**

- Monday – Thursday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm | Friday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

**About:** The Center offers speech-language evaluations and individualized therapy sessions. Children with speech and language disorders often exhibit delayed reading abilities. Supporting a child’s speech and language development provides a foundation for literacy and supports academic success.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**




**Bilingual**


## COGNITUTOR



**Contact:** Loni Lebanoff

 **863-521-3892**

 **support@cognitutor.com**

 **[www.cognitutor.com](http://www.cognitutor.com)**

**Hours of Operation:** 8:00 am – 8:00 pm

**About:** CogniTutor helps. Students learn how to learn! We help them with their current needs with homework and getting caught up and learning the skills that you would need to excel in school and career! We work with all students, including those who are high achieving, those who are behind, those with learning disabilities, and more! We work with K through 12 on all academic subjects including music and art!






## EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF POLK COUNTY



**Contact:** Sheila Bishop

 **863-733-9064 Ext. 328**

 **sheilabishop@elcpolk.org**

 **[www.elcpolk.org/](http://www.elcpolk.org/)**

**Lake Wales Office:**  
120 SR 60 E  
Lake Wales, FL 33853  
(863) 676-3708

**Winter Haven Office:**  
203 Avenue A, NW, Suite 101  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
(863) 508-2037

**Lakeland Office:**  
115 S. Missouri Avenue,  
2nd Floor, Suite 201  
Lakeland, Florida 33815  
(863) 577-2450

### Hours of Operation:

- Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm


**About:** The Early Learning Coalition of Polk County is a non-profit agency focused on early education and care. The Coalition's School Readiness Program provides economically disadvantaged and at-risk children access to high quality early education to help prepare them for success in school while supporting families to become self-sufficient. The Voluntary Prekindergarten Program (VPK) helps early learners build a strong foundation for kindergarten and beyond.

## ELOISE RESOURCE CENTER



**Contact:** Cameron Ramsey

**Address:** 710 Snively Ave., Eloise, FL 33880

 **863-298-4485**

 **CameronRamsey@polk-county.net**

 **<https://www.polk-county.net/parks-and-recreation/resource-centers>**

### Hours of Operation:

- Monday – Friday: 8 am – 5 pm

**About:** The Johnny and Freda Brooks Eloise Resource Center provides a FREE after school program for elementary (K-5 grade) students. Family events, classes and activities are offered year-round, including a Hispanic Heritage Festival, Valentine's Dance, and a Halloween event.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**



**Bilingual**

## FAMILY LITERACY ACADEMY AT LAKE WALES



**Contact:** Deming Cowles

 **863-604-8012**

 **demingcowles@aol.com**

 **[www.flalw.org](http://www.flalw.org)**

### Hours of Operation:

- Monday & Thursday 5:15 PM-7:30 PM Free GED/ESOL at Mary Norma Campbell Center
  - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9AM-Noon Free GED/ ESOL at Mary Norma Campbell Center
- Free childcare provided for parents attending.

**About:** The Family Literacy Academy works with families to become lifelong learners. Social workers help families with issues that prevent them from providing a language rich home. The Academy serves parents with children between 1 month and 10 years old where one parent is in need of his/her GED (high school diploma) or wants to learn English ESOL. Parenting and life skill classes are also provided. The Academy serves Lake Wales and surrounding area.



## FLORIDA CHILDREN'S MUSEUM



**Contact:** Claudine Humber

**Address:** 600 Bonnet Springs Blvd. Lakeland, FL 33815

**863-687-3869**

**chumber@explorefcm.org**

**<https://explorefcm.org>**

### Hours of Operation:

- Monday – Saturday: 10 am – 5 pm | Sunday: 10 am – 3 pm

**About:** Florida Children's Museum presents an adventure in learning! FCM provides Pre-K literacy learning activities as part of our weekly programming with general admission and/or museum membership. FCM offers a literacy summer camp for students entering or exiting kindergarten. Educational components are incorporated into our hands-on museum exhibits. Families thoroughly enjoy our literacy-rich environment!

## GIRLS INC. OF LAKE LAND



**Contact:** Kay Fields

**Addresses:** Lakeland: 1220 W. Highland St., Lakeland, FL 33815

**863-682-3002**

**kayfields@girlsinlakeland.com**

**<http://www.girlsinlakeland.com/>**

### Hours of Operation:

- Monday – Friday: 2:00 pm - 5:45 pm
- School Holiday Hours: 7:30 am - 5:45 pm | Summer Camp Hours: 7:30 am - 5:45 pm

**About:** Girls Inc. of Lakeland provides academic enrichment, character, and youth development programs exclusively for girls in grades K-12 in West Polk County during the school year and 1st-12th during the summer. The girls take part in homework help and sustained silent reading every day.

## GIRLS INC. OF WINTER HAVEN



**Contact:** Peggy Threlkel

**Address:** 2400 Havendale Blvd. NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

**863-967-2874**

**peggy@girlsincwinterhaven.org**

**[www.girlsincwinterhaven.org](http://www.girlsincwinterhaven.org)**



### Hours of Operation:

- Monday – Friday: 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Summer Program Hours: 7:30 am – 5:30 pm

**About:** Girls Inc. of Winter Haven provides vital out-of-school enrichment activities to girls in kindergarten through middle school. The primary service areas are Winter Haven, Auburndale, and Lake Alfred; however other Eastern Polk County cities are included. Our activities are designed to help girls develop academically, socially, and emotionally. Literacy is a weekly focus in our structured program time. In addition to the structured program time, girls are offered homework assistance in the afternoons. Literacy activities occur during our summer programming as well.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**




**Bilingual**

## HUNTINGTON LEARNING CENTER



**Contact:** Carol Sherron

**Address:** Shoppes of Christina, 6655 South Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL 33813

 **863-709-9600**

 **sherronc@hlcmail.com**

 **<https://huntingtonhelps.com/center/lakeland-south>**

### Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 am – 9:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am – 9:00 pm

Friday: 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Saturday: Noon – 4:00 pm

**About:** Huntington provides a comprehensive academic evaluation and personalized tutoring programs to build reading and academic skills. Huntington also hosts a free summer reading program and free workshops for parents and educators. Resources and support available for ESOL students.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**




**Bilingual**

## LAKELAND COMMUNITY THEATRE



**Contact:** Jordyn Jones

**Address:** 121 S. Lake Ave, Lakeland, FL 33801

 **863-603-7529**

 **jjoneslct@gmail.com**

 **[www.lakelandcommunitytheatre.com](http://www.lakelandcommunitytheatre.com)**

**Hours of Operation:** Varies

**About:** Lakeland Community Theatre provides theatre experiences for the community ranging from being a member of the audience, educational experiences, and performing opportunities. We also offer scholarships for children to take camps and classes who need financial assistance.


- Main Stage Productions
- Theatre for Youth Productions
- LCT Theatre for Youth Academy- Classes & Summer Programs
- Out of the Box Troupe (serving developmental disabilities community). Out of the Box is a program primarily for people who have aged out of school programs, but we accept adolescents and teens who would like to join.

## LAKELAND INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING



**Contact:** Adrianna Rivera, Officer of Admissions

**Address:** 2020 Crystal Grove Drive Lakeland, FL 33801

 **863-255-1263**

 **arivera@lifl.org**

 **[www.lifl.org](http://www.lifl.org)**

**About:** The Lakeland Institute for Learning is a service-based school for Exceptional Student Education (ESE) scholars who may also be English Language Learners (ELL). Our purpose is to facilitate access to behavioral, speech, and tutoring services within the educational setting, encourage well-being, and maximize their academic growth.

## LAKE WALES LITERACY COUNCIL



**Contact:** Mary Felix, Program Coordinator

**Address:** 140 E. Park Avenue, Lake Wales FL 33853

 **863-676-5767**

 **lwlouncil@gmail.com**

 **<https://lakewalescarecenter.com/programs/>**

**Hours of Operation:**

- Tuesday and Thursday: 9 am – 11 am

**About:** The mission of the Lake Wales Literacy Council is to improve the literacy of adults so that they may be more productive citizens in the Lake Wales community. Services are provided through one-on-one tutoring and small group instruction by trained volunteer instructors. **ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)**

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**




**Bilingual**

## LAKE WALES LITTLE THEATRE



**Address:** 411 N. Third Street, Lake Wales, FL 33853

 **863-676-1266**

 **lwlttickets@gmail.com**

 **<https://www.lwlt.org/>**

**Hours of Operation:**

- Box Office open Wednesdays 10 am - 2 pm

**About:** Lake Wales Little Theatre (LWLT) has been providing high quality, live entertainment to Lake Wales and east Polk County for over forty years. Our offerings include recent hits and old favorites, and we frequently offer new plays never before produced. LWLT is a non-profit organization solely funded by donations and ticket sales. We offer 5 shows a season (Children's, 3 Adult, and Teen).

### 2023-2024 Show Runs


- Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM
- Sundays at 2:00 PM
  - November: 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19
  - January: 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28
  - February: 2, 3, 4
  - April: 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28
  - June: 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16

## LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER



**Contact:** Pamela Craven

**Address:** 1628 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33803

 **863-688-9477**

 **pamelac@lrcpolk.com**

 **[www.lrcpolk.com](http://www.lrcpolk.com)**

**Hours of Operation:**

- Monday - Thursday: 7:00 am - 5:30 pm
- Friday: Friday: and 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

**About:** LRC helps students, pre-K through adult, maximize their learning potential by providing personalized, educational programs, consultative services for parents, and programs for community needs. Services include:

- 1-to-1 Tutoring (math, reading, and writing)
- Test Prep (ACT and PSAT/SAT)
- Study Habits of Successful Students
- Summer programs
- Professional Development for Teachers




# MARY NORMA CAMPBELL RESOURCE CENTER



**Contact:** Joshua Wood

**Address:** 2226 Karen St., Lake Wales, FL 33898

 **863-679-4335**

 **JoshuaWood@polk-county.net**

 **<https://www.polk-county.net/parks-and-recreation/resource-centers>**

- **Hours of Operation:** Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm


**About:** The Mary Norma Campbell Resource Center provides a FREE after school program for elementary (K -5 grade) students. Family events, classes and activities are offered year-round, including a Hispanic Heritage Festival, Valentine's Dance, and a Halloween event.

## PACE CENTER FOR GIRLS



**Contact:** Jesilynn Pfeffer, Outreach Counselor

**Address:** 213 Tyler Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33801

 **863-688-5596 Ext. 5516**

 **Jesilynn.Pfeffer@Pacecenter.org**

 **<https://www.pacecenter.org/locations/florida/polk>**


- **Hours of Operation:** Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 3:30 pm and available via phone until 4:00 pm


**About:** Pace provides academic education through daily instruction and individual education plans taught by certified teachers. Middle and High School girls attend Pace to get appropriate counseling and education in a nurturing environment. Spanish speaking staff available.


## PAPER PIE LEARNING



**Contact:** Sheri Gieger

 **863-670-5299**

 **sgieger1273@yahoo.com**

 **[www.peaceloveliteracy.com](http://www.peaceloveliteracy.com)**

**About:** We offer high-quality, well-priced, educational books for children of all ages. Our books appeal to beginning, reluctant, curious, and avid readers. Many of our books are in Spanish. Our books show the wonder and diversity of our world. These are books kids LOVE to read! We now offer Usborne and Kane Miller books, SmartLab Toys, and Learning WrapUps.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**




**Bilingual**




# PERSONAL FINANCE CENTER OF POLK COUNTY AT THE MULBERRY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER



**Contact:** Jennifer Olivas, Executive Director  
JenniferO@Mulberrycsc.org  
**Address:** 211 NW First Avenue Mulberry, FL 33860

 (863) 425-1523

 KatieY@PersonalFinancePolk.org  
LeeA@PersonalFinancePolk.org

 <https://www.mulberrycsc.org/home>

## Hours of Operation:

- Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**About:** The Personal Finance Center of Polk County offers a comprehensive Financial Stability Program that includes financial classes, savings incentives, and financial coaching. Because of the generous funding of the United Way of Central Florida, our services are always free of charge.

We also offer employment coaching, resume assistance, job search assistance, and free tax preparation services.

**Financial Stability Classes:** The classes are a series of four sessions in a comfortable, non-judgmental environment that teach participants how to be smarter with money no matter what their circumstances. Credentialed financial education instructors, money mentors, and money coaches help families learn how to successfully utilize banking services, live on a budget, increase emergency savings, save and invest for their life goals, improve credit scores, and reduce debt.

**Financial Incentives and Services:** After completing the program, participants are eligible to receive financial incentives for saving, free financial coaching toward their goals, scholarships to earn job credentials to increase family income, and free credit report restoration to improve credit scores.




## POLK COUNTY HISTORY CENTER



**Contact:** Jayme Jamison

**Address:** 100 E. Main St., Bartow, FL 33830

 863-534-4386

 jaymejamison@polk-county.net

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

## Hours of Operation:

- Tuesday - Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**About:** The history center supports adult and student literacy by featuring: text-rich exhibits, lecture series promoting historical topics paired with books and articles, curriculum based educational programs, downloadable standards-based curriculum, and historical and genealogical research library.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**



**Bilingual**





## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**




**Bilingual**

## POLK COUNTY LIBRARY COOPERATIVE



**Contact:** Jennifer Kovac

 **863-519-8524**

 **j.kovac@mypclcl.org**

 **<https://mypclcl.org>**

**About:** The Polk County Library Cooperative was formed in 1997 to provide free, convenient, accessible library services to all residents of Polk County. One library card provides access to all 15 public libraries, including Special Collection libraries: Polk County Law Library (in the Polk County Courthouse, Bartow) & Historical & Genealogical Library (located in the History Center).

*For more PCLC schedules and services, refer to pages 27-29 of this directory.*



Research shows that understanding concepts of financial literacy like inflation and interest rates helps people make better decisions with their money.

— Lusardi & Mitchell (2014)



## POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING



 863-648-3051

 <https://polkschoolsfl.com/earlychildhood/>

**About:** Polk County Public Schools' early childhood learning programs are designed to support all families as they take their critical first steps in planning their child's education. PCPS offers multiple options tailored to your child's needs.

.....


**PARTICULARLY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD, "EVERYTHING WE DO HAS TO BE PLAYFUL.... WE HAVE TO BRING THE PLAY AND THE JOY BACK."**


— SUSAN NEUMAN (2021) CLASSROOM CAFFEINE PODCAST

## POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS LIBRARY MEDIA SERVICES



**Contact:** Stacy Davis, Senior Coordinator - Library Media Services

 stacy.davis@polk-fl.net


 <https://polkschoolsfl.com/library/>


Check with your child's school for any tutoring services or resources they may provide!

## POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS



**Contact:** Lekeyia Lott, M.S.

 863-298-6677

 [Llott@polksheriff.org](mailto:Llott@polksheriff.org) or [crimeprevention@polksheriff.org](mailto:crimeprevention@polksheriff.org)

 <http://www.polksheriff.org/programs-services>

### Hours of Operation:

- Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

### Crime Prevention Administrator | Communications

Polk County Sheriff's Office

1891 Jim Keene Blvd. Winter Haven, FL 33880

**About:** A variety of programs and services are offered to keep our citizens safe, including Women's Self-Defense, Neighborhood Watch, Internet Safety, and Business Watch. Other courses such as Active Shooter Training and Teen Driver Challenge are available as well.

## Icons:



Information



Tutoring



Activities



Cost



No Cost




Bilingual



## PUBLIC EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP OF WINTER HAVEN



**Contact:** Dr. Charlayne Henry

 **689-237-2857**

 **info@whpep.org**

 **[www.whpep.org](http://www.whpep.org)**

**About:** PEP of Winter Haven is a volunteer-driven non-profit organization supporting quality and collaborative programs for Winter Haven's Public Schools.

### PEP Education Center

- **Address:** 203 Ave. R NE., Winter Haven, FL 33881

- **About:** The PEP Education Center offers after-school homework support, literacy, tutoring, STEM, and enrichment sessions, summer programs, and free books.

### Kindergarten Ready Initiative

- **Contact:** Nat West

- **Website:** [www.whkindergartenready.org](http://www.whkindergartenready.org)


- **About:** Web site information for parents of small children, birth to 5.


## READ LAKELAND, INC.



**Contact:** Beth Hesseltine, Executive Director  
Diana Oropeza, Program Coordinator

**Address:** 1628 S. Florida Ave. Lakeland, FL 33803

 **863-802-1512**

 **[beth.hesseltine@readlakeland.com](mailto:beth.hesseltine@readlakeland.com)**  
**[READ@readlakeland.com](mailto:READ@readlakeland.com)**

 **<https://readlakeland.com/>**

### Hours of Operation:

- Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

**About:** READ Lakeland is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in our community. Our more than 100 volunteers have allowed us to offer FREE services to those who want to better their skills. Whether it's reading, writing or math, our tutors are trained accordingly to provide one-on-one or small group instruction. We are here to help, contact us today!



## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**



**Bilingual**

**DID  
YOU  
KNOW?**

***"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."***

***— Anderson, Hiebert, Scott, & Wilkinson  
(1985) as cited in Trelease (2013)***

# REDLAND CHRISTIAN MIGRANT ASSOCIATION CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



**Wahneta Location:** 1920 Gerber Dairy Rd.  
Winter Haven FL, 33880

**Mulberry Location:** 4441 Academy Drive  
Mulberry FL, 33860



863-295-5917



wahneta@rcma.org



<https://rcma.org/center/rcma-wahneta-cdc/>

863-425-9246

mulberry@rcma.org

<https://rcma.org/center/rcma-mulberry-cdc/>

**Hours of Operation:** 6:30 am to 5:00 pm

**About:** We make the dreams of children in migrant farm-working and low-income families our focus. That means making sure anything that impacts their learning is taken care of. From early childhood education to health care assistance to supplying WiFi hotspots and tablets for homework, we take a holistic approach that cares for the entire child - including a helping hand for their parents.

## RIDGE TECHNICAL COLLEGE



**Contact:** Paul Garrison, Director



863-419-3060



paul.garrison@polk-fl.net



<http://www.ridge.edu/>

**Hours of Operation:**

- Monday - Friday: 7:00 am - 4:00 pm

**About:** Ridge Technical College offers professional training and certification in some of the fastest growing careers in the nation.

## RIDGE TECHNICAL COLLEGE: ADULT EDUCATION DIVISION



**Contact:** Danielle DeConcilio, Ed.D., Director



863-419-3060 Ext. 422



danielle.deconcilio@polk-fl.net



<http://www.polkedpathways.com/>

**Hours of Operation:**

- Monday - Friday: 7:00 am - 4:00 pm

**About:** Students who need help with basic skills such as math or reading, can successfully complete the Adult Basic Education courses for entry into the GED® program. Services are also available for students seeking to learn English (for Speakers of Other Languages).

## Icons:



Information



Tutoring



Activities



Cost



No Cost



Bilingual




## SYLVAN LEARNING CENTER




**Contact:** Deena Porter, Owner/Executive Director

**Address:** 3730 Cleveland Heights Blvd. #3, Lakeland, FL 33803

 **863-647-1922**

 **sylvandirectorfl@gmail.com**

 **<https://locations.sylvanlearning.com/us/south-lakeland-fl>**

### Hours of Operation:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Friday: by appointment only

Saturday: 9:00 am - 11:00 am | Closed Sunday

**About:** Sylvan Learning believes that true learning, "the kind that makes a child smarter and more motivated", calls for a personal approach. That's why we use a proven four-step approach called Sylvan Insight to truly engage each student. Our tutors combine the latest teaching methods with interactive technology to help a child master basic skills in reading and improve math skills! We service students K - Adult.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**




**Bilingual**

## THEATRE WINTER HAVEN



**Contact:** Molly Judy

**Address:** 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven, FL 33880

 **863-224-2783**

 **molly@theatrewinterhaven.com**

 **[www.theatrewinterhaven.com](http://www.theatrewinterhaven.com)**

**Hours of Operation:** Varies

**About:** Theatre Winter Haven offers live theatre for teachers, students, and community groups. Annually, shows include:

- 5 Mainstage Shows (includes Summer Musical) and 3 Second Stage Shows
- Touring Professional Series on our mainstage and Monthly Touring Musical Reviews
- Our Tribute Tuesday series is now indoors!
- Drama Time Live! - Touring performances for early education students
- The Penguin Project at Theatre Winter Haven is a hands-on theatre experience for students with disabilities. This free of charge program is open to anyone between the ages 10-21 who would like to participate. No prior experience required.


### Student Production opportunities include:

- Two live student production opportunities for Polk County School children
- PreK-12th grade year round performing arts activities
- Musical Theatre Summer Camps - June & July for ages 7-17
- Additionally, Theatre Winter Haven provides in-school reading visits for grades K-2 during the month of March.

## TRAVISS TECHNICAL COLLEGE



**Contact:** David Wiggs Director

 **863-499-2700**

 **david.wiggs@polk-fl.net**

 **<http://www.traviss.edu/>**


### Hours of Operation:

- Monday - Friday: 7:00 am - 4:00 pm

**About:** Traviss Technical College offers professional training and certification in some of the fastest growing careers in the nation.

## UF IFAS EXTENSION SERVICES



 863-519-1041

 polk@ifas.ufl.edu

 <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/polk/>

**Address:** 1702 Hwy 17 South, Bartow, FL 33830

**Hours of Operation** | Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

**About:** Through Extension, Polk County citizens find answers to both every day and difficult issues in a diversity of topic areas, from lowering doctor visit frequency through better nutrition and physical activity, to planting a low water-use Florida yard, to protecting commercial fruit operations from pests and diseases. Find a place for your children to stay safe and build their confidence through the 4-H program, or get a license to spray pesticides as a service for your small lawn and landscape business.

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



**No Cost**



**Bilingual**

## UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA



**General Contact** - Gretchen Ceranic

**Address:** 650 Bonnet Springs Boulevard Lakeland, FL 33815

 Gretchen : 863-648-1500 ext 248

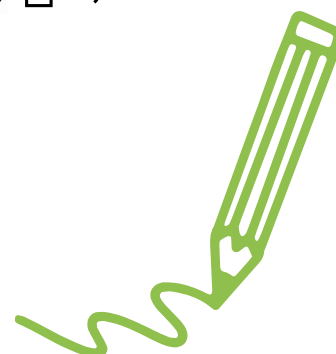
 gretchen.ceranic@uwcf.org

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

**Hours of Operation** | Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

**About:** United Way has several literacy-related initiatives:

- **ReadingPals Early Literacy Initiative:** ReadingPals is a statewide early learning initiative that provides volunteer mentors for students who may need extra help utilizing one-on-one or small group settings. UWCF ReadingPals volunteer in select Polk County Schools for one hour, one day a week (or more) using a curriculum designed to enhance literacy skills that kindergarteners need to master.
  - **Phone:** 863-648-1500 x245
  - **Email:** carolyn.burnett@uwcf.org
  - **Website:** <https://uwcf.org/readingpals/>
- **Master Teacher Early Literacy Initiative:** Provides supervised internships for staff in childcare sites serving low-income children. Helps to increase school readiness rate.
  - **Website:** <https://uwcf.org/master-teachers/>
- **Success By 6:** Provides early learning information, called Born Learning, to help raise happy, healthy children which also includes Born Learning Trails in the community. It also provides Parent Lending Libraries at child care centers to encourage parents to read to their child. SB6 is also a local Dolly Parton Imagination Library facilitator which aims to increase literacy for children ages 0-5.
- **Carol Jenkins Barnett United Way Children's Resource Center:** Access to information, support services, and parenting tools. Daily classes and events help to prepare children (ages 0-6) to enter school ready to succeed.
  - **Location:** 650 Bonnet Springs Blvd, Lakeland, FL 33815
  - **Phone:** 863-648-1500 x294
  - **Email:** resourcecenter@uwcf.org
  - **Website:** <https://uwcf.org/resourcecenter/>
- **2-1-1:** The most comprehensive source of human and social services information in the country. Specialists are available 24/7 to connect you with the best services available in Polk, Hardee and Highlands counties.
  - **Phone:** Call 211 or text your zip code to 898-211
  - **Website:** <https://uwcf.org/find-help/>





## WABASH COMMUNITY CENTER



**Contact:** Cherry Alston

**Address:** 1230 Southern Ave., Lakeland, FL 33815



**863-284-4223**



**CherryAlston@polk-county.net**

- **Hours of Operation:** Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**About:** Wabash Center provides a full continuum of care—from school aged interventions and critical transitions to supportive services into adulthood for individuals with disabilities or special needs. We have summer camps, afterschool programs and emerging adult programs.

## WILFRED SMITH RESOURCE CENTER



**Contact:** Boris Rodriguez

**Address:** 135 Ave Y NE, Winter Haven, FL 33881



**863-298-7898**



**BorisRodriguez@polk-county.net**

- **Hours of Operation:** Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**About:** The Wilfred Smith Resource Center provides a FREE after school program for elementary (K-5th grade) students. Family events include the Back to School Bash (call for more information) and the End of the School Year Dance in May.

## YMCA READS!



**Contact:** Dorene Walter



**863-859-7769, option 3, ext. 406**



**dorene.walter@ymcawcf.org**



**[www.ymcawcf.org](http://www.ymcawcf.org)**

- **Hours of Operation:** Monday - Thursday: 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**About:** YReads provides targeted reading tutoring to students at Winston Academy in grades K-4 during the school year. The program is open to all students' grades K-3 in the community during the summer. YReads is a FREE program, and our summer program is free as well!

## Icons:



**Information**



**Tutoring**



**Activities**



**Cost**



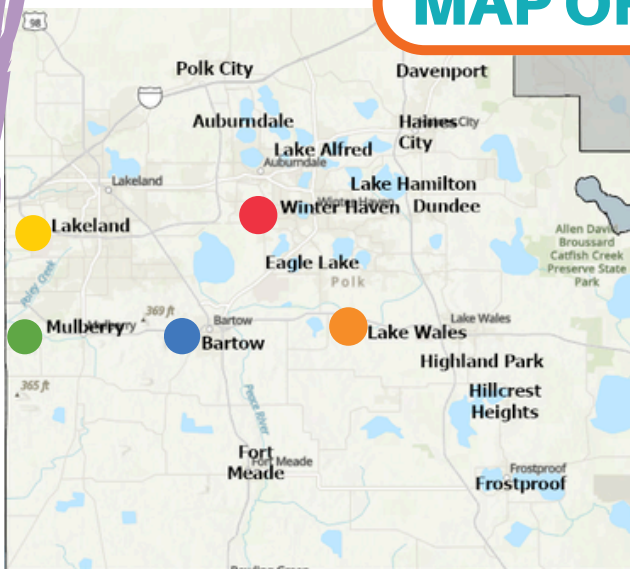
**No Cost**



**Bilingual**



# MAP OF RESOURCES



## COUNTY WIDE

Big Brothers Big Sisters  
<https://bbbstampabay.org/>

Polk County Library Cooperative  
<https://mypclc.org/>

PCPS Early Childhood Learning  
<https://polkschoolsfl.com/earlychildhood/>

PCPS Library Media Services  
<https://polkschoolsfl.com/library/>

## BARTOW

Polk County History Center  
 100 E. Main St., Bartow, FL 33830  
 UF IFAS Extension Services  
 1702 Hwy 17 South, Bartow, FL 33830

## LAKE WALES

Lake Wales Literacy Council  
 First Presbyterian Church 16 N 3rd St, Lake Wales

Early Learning Coalition of Polk County  
 120 SR 60 E Lake Wales, FL 33853

Lake Wales Little Theatre  
 411 N. Third St., Lake Wales, FL 33853

Family Literacy Academy  
 31 Oak St, Babson Park, FL 33827

Mary Norma Campbell Resource Center  
 2226 Karen St., Lake Wales, FL 33898

## MULBERRY

Personal Finance Center of Polk County at the  
 Mulberry Community Service Center  
 211 NW First Avenue Mulberry, FL 33860

## LAKELAND

Camp Fire Sunshine - 2600 Buckingham Ave. Lakeland, 33803

Learning Resource Center  
 1628 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33803

Central Florida Speech and Hearing  
 3020 Lakeland Highlands Rd., Lakeland, FL 33803

Florida Children's Museum  
 600 Bonnet Springs Blvd. Lakeland, FL 33815

Girls Inc. of Lakeland - 1220 W. Highland St., Lakeland, FL 33815

Huntington Learning Center - 6655 S. Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL

Sylvan Learning Center  
 3720 Cleveland Heights Blvd. #3, Lakeland, FL 33803

Early Learning Coalition of Polk County  
 115 S. Missouri Avenue, 2nd Floor, Suite 201 Lakeland, FL 33815

Pace Center for Girls - 213 Tyler Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33801

Read Lakeland, Inc. - 1628 S. Florida Ave. Lakeland, FL 33803

Lakeland Institute for Learning  
 2020 Crystal Grove Drive Lakeland, FL 33801

Lakeland Community Theatre - 121 S. Lake Ave, Lakeland, FL

Traviss Technical College - 3225 Winter Lake Rd, Lakeland, FL

Wabash Community Center - 1230 Southern Ave., Lakeland, FL

United Way of Central Florida  
 650 Bonnet Springs Boulevard Lakeland, FL 33815

## WINTER HAVEN

Ridge Technical College  
 7700 State Road 544 Winter Haven, FL 33881

Girls Inc. of Winter Haven  
 2400 Havendale Blvd. NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

Early Learning Coalition of Polk County  
 203 Avenue A, NW, Suite 101 Winter Haven, FL 33881

Lighthouse for the Blind & Low Vision  
 206 Avenue D N.W. Winter Haven, Florida 33881

Redland Christian Migrant Association Child Development Center  
 1920 Gerber Dairy Rd. Winter Haven FL; 33880

Theatre of Winter Haven  
 201 Cypress Garden Blvd. Winter Haven, FL 33880

Eloise Resource Center - 710 Snively Ave, Eloise, FL 33880

Wilfred Smith Resource Center - 135 Ave Y NE, Winter Haven, FL



# FIND YOUR LIBRARY



**PCLC**  
POLK COUNTY  
LIBRARY COOPERATIVE  
mypclc.org

## SPECIAL LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

### Polk County Historical & Genealogical Library

100 E Main St, 863.534.4380

### Stephen H Grimes Law Library

255 N Broadway Ave, 863.534.4013

## FOR STUDENTS

STUDENTS USE THEIR STUDENT ID# AS THEIR LIBRARY CARD#. NO PHYSICAL CARD IS NEEDED.

Enjoy free access to reading materials and online resources with "PLUS" provided for all Polk County students.



connect . empower . discover . learn

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES

### Auburndale Public Library

100 West Bridgers Ave  
863.965.5548

### Bartow Public Library

2150 S Broadway Ave  
863.534.0131

### Dundee Public Library

202 E Main St  
863.439.9424

### Eagle Lake Public Library

75 North 7th St  
863.293.2914

### Fort Meade Public Library

75 E Broadway St  
863.285.8287

### Frostproof

#### Latt Maxcy Memorial Library

15 Magnolia Ave  
863.635.7857

### Haines City Public Library

111 N 6th St  
863.421.3633

### Lake Alfred Public Library

245 N Seminole Ave  
863.291.5378

### Lakeland Public Library

#### Main Branch

100 Lake Morton Dr, 863.834.4280

#### Kelly Branch Library

Kelly Recreation Center  
404 Imperial Blvd, 863.834.4286

#### Larry R Jackson Library

North Lakeland  
1700 N Florida Ave, 863.834.4288

### Lake Wales Public Library

290 Cypress Garden Lane  
863.678.4004

### Mulberry Public Library

905 NE 5th St  
863.425.3246

### Polk City Community Library

215 S Bougainvillea Ave  
863.984.4340

### Polk County Library Coop

Peter Rust Civic Center - Davenport  
863.519.7958

### Winter Haven Public Library

325 Ave A NW  
863.291.5880

## DOWNLOAD Mobile App

### Polk County Library Coop

Enjoy digital resources, manage your library account and get the most updated info on all 15 public libraries in Polk County.



## MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICES



### Bringing the library to YOU!

**Bookmobile** Look for a stop near you! Check-out popular titles for all ages.

**Books-by-Mail (B-Mai)** Call or order online and return at any public library in Polk County. 863.679.4441.

<https://tinyurl.com/MYPCLC-BMAIL>

**Vending Library** Check-out popular books and movies for all ages for FREE with your library card. A book drop is available at the following vending library locations:

### **Bartow - Carver Rec Center**

520 Idlewood Ave,  
863.534.0161

### **Davenport - Welcome Center**

101 Adventure Ct,  
863.420.2586

### **Eloise Resource Center**

710 Snively Ave  
863.298.4485

### **Fort Meade - Mobile Home Activity Center**

199 Edgewood Dr, 863.285.8287

### **Lakeland - Kelly Rec Center**

404 Imperial Blvd, 863.834.3284

### **Lake Wales City Hall**

201 W Central Ave, 63.678.4004



## PLUS (Polk Library User for Students)

**Success in school starts with your library!**

Enjoy free year-round access to library resources with your Student ID#

- Check-out Books**  
Enjoy free home delivery with Books-by-Mail
- Download Titles**  
Download digital eBooks & audiobooks
- Learn Online**  
Get help with research & homework

## Library Story Times

Check with the library for story time format as some are presented virtually and others in-person.

### Auburndale

**Preschool Story Time**  
10:30 am | Wednesday

**Paws for Reading**  
4 pm | Mondays

### Bartow

**Book Babies Story Time**  
(ages 18 months-2 years)  
10 am | Thursdays

**Songs & Stories**  
11 am | Thursdays

**Paws to Read**  
10 am | 3rd Saturdays

**Bilingual Story Time (family-friendly)**  
11 am | 3rd Sat. Monthly

### Dundee City

**Children's Story Time**  
3 pm | Thursdays

### Fort Meade

**Preschool Story Time (0-5 yrs)**  
3:30 pm | 1st Tuesday Monthly

### Frostproof

**Story Time Preschool PALS**  
"Play & Learn Story Time"  
10 am | Wednesdays

### Haines City

**Preschool Story Time**  
10:30 am | Wednesdays

**Bilingual Family Time**  
11 am | 3rd Saturday Monthly

### Lake Alfred

**Preschool Story Time**  
10:00 am | Wednesdays

### Lakeland

**Main on Lake Morton**

**Story Time**  
10 am | Wednesdays

**Larry R Jackson Branch**  
**Story Time**  
10 am | Thursday

### Lake Wales

**Wiggles & Giggles Story Time (0-3 years)**  
11 am | Tuesday

### Mulberry

**Preschool Story Time**  
9:30 & 10:30 am | Wed.

**Bilingual Family Story Time**  
10:30 am | 3rd. & 4th Thursdays

### Polk City

**Story Time (5 yrs & under)**  
10 am | 3rd Tues. each month

### Winter Haven

**Little Sprouts Storytime**  
10:30 am | Tues. & Wed.

## Reading Enrichment

### Dial-a-Story

Your child can listen to a short story on the phone read by librarians from the Auburndale Public Library. Stories are changed weekly.

**To enjoy, call 863-965-5550.**

### Excellence in Reading

This is a self-paced, yearlong reading challenge for children grades K-12. Children earn reading incentives as they reach reading goals.

**Where: Winter Haven, Lake Alfred & Lake Wales**

### Summer Reading

During the summer months be sure to check with your local library to get involved with the Summer Reading Program offering tons of fun activities and reading incentives.



Picture - Latt Maxcy Memorial Library, Frostproof



# Literacy Programs



**PCLC**  
POLK COUNTY  
LIBRARY COOPERATIVE

<https://www.mypclc.org>

## Computer Classes & Technology Support

### One-on-One Tech Support by Appointment

Do you need help with a device or have a general technology question that requires more than a phone call? Book a session to schedule one-on-one time with library staff.

#### **Fort Meade**

Call for an appointment at (863) 285-8287.

#### **Mulberry**

Call for an appointment on Mondays at (863) 425-3246.

#### **Winter Haven**

3rd Thursdays, 2 – 4 p.m.

Book a Tech Session at [www.tinyurl.com/whpltech](http://www.tinyurl.com/whpltech).

### Computer Classes: Group In-Person and Online

A wide assortment of free computer classes, covering all levels and interests are offered.

#### **Bartow**

Contact the library to make an appointment or to access the current class schedule. Call (863) 534-0131.  
[www.cityofbartow.net/library](http://www.cityofbartow.net/library)

#### **Lakeland**

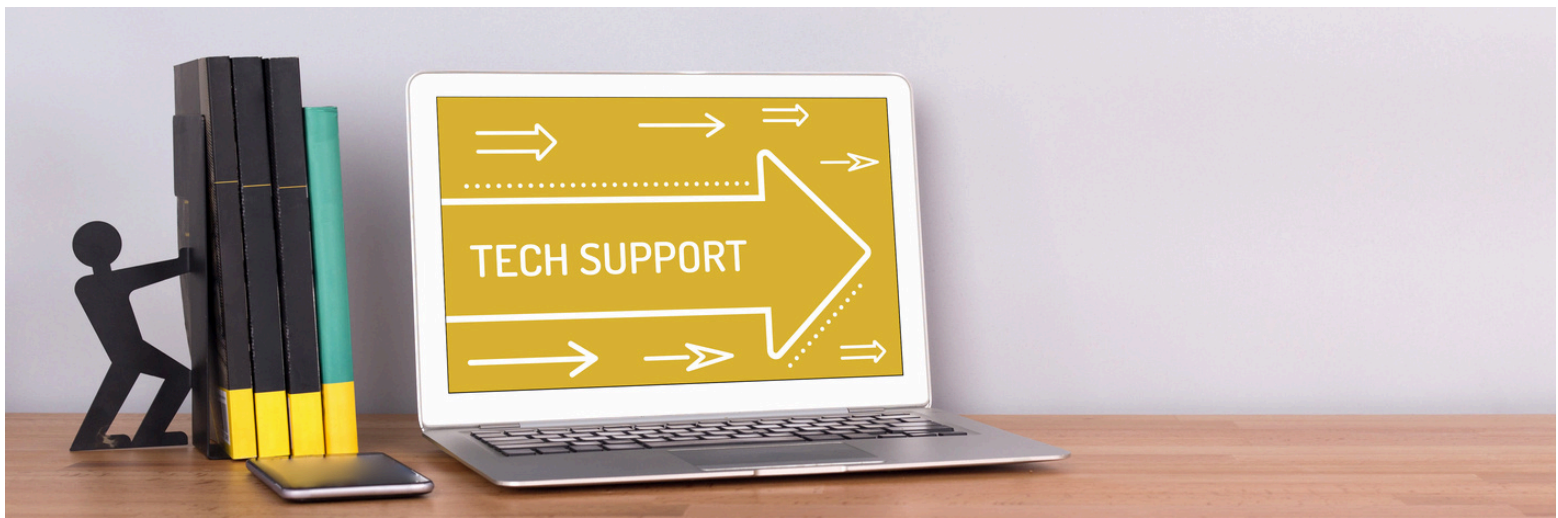
Class offerings and schedule vary each month.

[www.lakelandgov.net/departments/library/programs-classes/](http://www.lakelandgov.net/departments/library/programs-classes/)

#### **Winter Haven**

Class offerings and schedule vary each month.

<https://whpl.libcal.com/>



## VPK – 5th grade students may qualify for a FREE at-home reading program.

- Kids who qualify\* can receive free books and reading activities each month during the school year to help them strengthen literacy skills and nurture a lifelong love of reading.
- Students can choose books that match their interests, reading anything from adventures and comedies to fun facts about animals or nutrition.
- Books are available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and braille.

**\*Not sure if your child is eligible?**  
Learn more at [newworldsreading.com](http://newworldsreading.com).

**new  
worlds  
reading**

**Families can  
apply today.**

[newworldsreading.com/enroll](http://newworldsreading.com/enroll)



**UF** | Lastinger Center for Learning  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

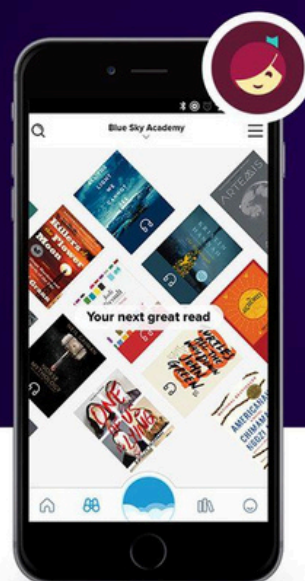
**UF** | IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



*"Reading affects  
everything you do."*

— MORRIS, 1984  
AS CITED IN  
STANOVICH, 1986

The digital library  
is **always open**.



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24  
HOURS

**Libby. Click Me!**

The one-tap reading  
app from our library.

# Online Learning Resources

Enjoy free databases and websites for online learning and enrichment. Below is a quick guide but there's more where this comes from! Visit the Polk County Library Cooperative's website for a full listing of online learning resources. <https://mypclc.org/>



Resources provided by Polk County Library Cooperative. For more info, contact [j.kovac@mypclc.info](mailto:j.kovac@mypclc.info).

## EARLY LITERACY WEBSITES

AR Bookfinder for Kids

<http://www.arbookfind.com/>

Florida Students - Resources

<http://www.floridastudents.org/>

Sunshine State Readers

[www.floridamediaed.org/ssyra.html](http://www.floridamediaed.org/ssyra.html)

Common Core Standards

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

Florida Virtual School

<https://www.flvs.net/>

National Center for Families Learning

<https://www.familieslearning.org/>

DK Find Out!

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/>

Lexile Measure

<https://lexile.com/>

WEDU (new website)

<https://www.wedu.org/>

## DIGITAL LITERACY TOOLS & COMPUTER TUTORIALS

DigitalLearn.org - computer classes/tutorials

<https://training.digitallearn.org/>

TechBoomers.com

<https://techboomers.com/>

- Free technology education for seniors

I4C: Internet 4 Classrooms

<https://www.internet4classrooms.com>

Winter Haven Public Library's YouTube Technology Class Channel

[https://youtube.com/playlist?](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL77DH5DK1D4JY3rqhIUyGma70I6dEQK4d)

[list=PL77DH5DK1D4JY3rqhIUyGma70I6dEQK4d](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL77DH5DK1D4JY3rqhIUyGma70I6dEQK4d)

- Learn computer skills or upgrade the ones you already have with these free, online tutorials provided by the Winter Haven Public Library.

Learnfree

<https://www.gcfllearnfree.org/>

Mousing Around

<http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/intro.htm>

Treehouse - Self-paced, tech courses

[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuC2HflhphLH\\_lcpNyehWTvqPxH1DAewe](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuC2HflhphLH_lcpNyehWTvqPxH1DAewe)

- Available for free with your library card, provided by the Lakeland Public Library.



## LANGUAGE LEARNING DATABASES

Rocket Languages

<https://app.rocketlanguages.com/library/NWUwZWJmZ>

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Winter Haven Public Library.



## ONLINE LEARNING & CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATION

Gale Courses

<https://education.gale.com/l-lwpl/>

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Lake Wales Public Library.

Great Courses Daily - free video tutorials

<https://www.thegreatcoursesdaily.com/free-video-lectures-from-the-great-courses/>

Linkedin Learning

[tinyurl.com/whpllinkedin](https://tinyurl.com/whpllinkedin)

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Winter Haven Public Library

Udemy

[https://link.gale.com/apps/UDEMY?u=20398\\_lkwpl](https://link.gale.com/apps/UDEMY?u=20398_lkwpl)

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Lake Wales Public Library



## READERS ADVISORY ONLINE TOOLS

BookPage

<https://bookpage.com/>

Fantastic Fiction

<https://www.fantasticfiction.com/>

LitLovers

<https://www.litlovers.com/>

Book Spot

<http://www.bookspot.com/>

Good Reads

<https://www.goodreads.com/>

Winter Haven Staff Recommends  
Page & Personal Shopper

<https://www.WHPLreads.com/>

The Mulberry Book Drop Podcast

<https://www.audible.com/pd/Podcast/B08K571RFR>

Tune in for free the Mulberry Public Library's monthly podcast for library programs, book reviews, and general library information.





## FREE DIGITAL MEDIA & BOOKS

### Freegal

<https://lakelandgov.freegalmusic.com/homes/index>

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Lakeland Public Library.

### Flipster (digital magazines)

<https://www.lakelandgov.net/departments/library/using-the-library/resources/ebooks-more/magazines/>

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Lakeland Public Library.

### Hoopla (digital movies, audiobooks, music and eBooks)

<https://www.hoopladigital.com/>

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Lakeland Public Library.

### LitFinder - poems and short stories

[http://go.galegroup.com/ps/start.do?p=LITF&u=20398\\_pclc&authCount=1](http://go.galegroup.com/ps/start.do?p=LITF&u=20398_pclc&authCount=1)

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Polk County Library Cooperative.

### Viva Polk! Magazine

<https://en.vivapolk.com/>

Celebrating Hispanic language and multicultural diversity through print media.

### Tumblebooks

<https://www.tumblebooklibrary.com/Home.aspx?categoryID=77>

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Lakeland Public Library.

### Gale Books & Authors

(Florida Electronic Library)

<http://bna.galegroup.com/bna/>

### Project Gutenberg

<http://www.gutenberg.org/>

### OverDrive/Libby

(digital eBooks, audiobooks and movies)

<https://pclc.overdrive.com/>

Available for free with your library card, provided by the Polk County Library Cooperative.

### ERIC over 150,000 full text articles

<http://fel.worldcat.org/advancedsearch?dblist=203>

### Florida on Florida

<http://fof.fcla.edu/cgi/b/bib/bib-idx>

### SAGE Knowledge

<http://sk.sagepub.com/>

### Newspapers: America's News . Lakeland Ledger Collection . New York Times

<https://www.lakelandgov.net/departments/library/using-the-library/resources/newspapers/>

Enjoy free digital access to local and national topics, old and current news from the most credible newspaper resources with your library card.

## STUDENT & TEACHER RESOURCES/HOMEWORK HELP

### Ask-a-Librarian

<https://askalibrarian.org/>

### Florida Kids (state facts)

<http://dos.myflorida.com/florida-facts/kids/>

### Florida Memory Online Classroom

<https://www.floridamemory.com/onlineclassroom/>

### Florida Student Resources

<http://www.floridastudents.org/>

### Florida Virtual School

<https://www.flvs.net/>

### Khan Academy

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

### Library of Congress Teacher Resources

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/>

### MLA Style Guides online & Apa Styles

### Purdue Online Writing Lab

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

### Periodic Table of Elements (Videos)

<http://www.periodicvideos.com/>

### Polk County Public Schools - Online Resources

<https://polkschoolsfl.com/onlineresources/>

### WeAreTeachers

<https://www.weareteachers.com/>

### Florida Electronic Library

<https://www.flelibrary.com>

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# LITERACY TIPS



## Pre-K

- Have your child name the pictures and/or tell a story by taking a "Picture Walk" through a book.
- Read to your child every day, and be sure to point out letters, sounds, and words as you read.
- Ask questions about the story and point out the characters while reading to help build vocabulary.
- Make reading fun by encouraging your child to read aloud to a pet or stuffed animal!
- Point out words you see on signs while in the car or during outdoor activities.

## K - 2nd

- Help your student choose books of interest and encourage them to talk about what they're reading.
- Choose a word and take turns saying a rhyming word (ex. sneeze, squeeze, fleas, please, etc.).
- Practice tongue twisters, simple poems, or rhymes. Fun tongue twisters are easy to find on the internet and in library books.
- Create cartoons with student to show the meaning of new, interesting, or complex words you read in books.
- Have your student pantomime (act out without talking) action verbs he or she finds in the text.
- Discuss the pictures in a book, considering the lines, shapes, colors, textures, and patterns as well as the message conveyed by the pictures.

## 3rd - 5th

- Get your child a library card to your local public library and explain the importance of taking care of the books he or she checks out.
- Have your child choose a book for you to read and you choose one for him/her. Designate reading time at home and ask each other questions about the book when finished reading.
- Ask your child what he/she most enjoys about reading and use this to motivate them when they are unmotivated to read.

## 6th - 8th

- Create an organization system at home for homework and other activities.
- Spend time developing good reading strategies with your student that concentrate on content rather than on developing reading skills.
- Practice reading every day, especially during the summer months. Practice makes perfect!

## 9th -12th

- Ask your teen to read aloud with appropriate rate and expression.
- Put learning to use. Ask your teen what he/she thinks about a current event. Have him/her support positions with facts.
- Have conversations about sources of information to help your teen understand author bias and determine whether or not a source is reliable.



# FOR MORE INFORMATION



[polkvision.com](http://polkvision.com)



[info@polkvision.com](mailto:info@polkvision.com)



863-669-4939



[polkschoolsfl.com](http://polkschoolsfl.com)



863-534-0500

Contact Polk Vision to be in the  
next issue of this Directory!



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