

NOV/DEC 2024

Resources, support & community

Connecting for Kids (CFK) provides resources, support and community to families in Northeast Ohio who have concerns about their child. We serve all families, including those children with and without diagnoses.

Designed for your family

Programs are designed to educate and support families of children (birth - 12 years). Look for these icons to choose programs for your family:

- Y** Families with young children (0-6 years)
- E** Families with elementary-aged children (7-12 years)
- A** All families with children (0-12 years)

Free programs


All Connecting for Kids programs are free and open to the public. For more information:


Call/Text: 440-570-5908
info@connectingforkids.org
connectingforkids.org/register

Connect With Us

It's free to join Connecting for Kids and start connecting with other Northeast Ohio families on a similar path.

connectingforkids.org/joinus

 facebook.com/connectingforkids

 [@connectforkids](https://instagram.com/connectforkids)



Share & Support

Join our support groups and meet other families facing similar concerns. Free, supervised children's activities are available but adults and children must register separately. connectingforkids.org/support

Parenting is Lonely **A**

Join the Connecting for Kids staff to discuss the article, "Why Parenting Can Be Lonely, Even When You're Rarely Alone." We will explore the theme of isolation when raising a child with disabilities or mental health issues and how to build a village of support.

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Wednesday, Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Program for Families of Children of Complex Needs

- Tuesday, Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m.



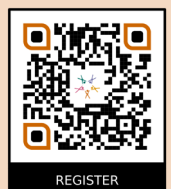
Sponsored by United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Cleveland

North Ridgeville Branch of Lorain County Public Library System

- Thursday, Dec. 5, 6:00 p.m.

Find Full Program Details & Register Online!

Learn more about our programs and register on our website. To get started, visit connectingforkids.org/register or use a smartphone camera to scan this QR code!



REGISTER

NOV/DEC PROGRAMS

Music Therapy & More **Y**

This program is designed for families and their children, ages 0 - 6 years, who have concerns about development. Join us for a hands-on program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child's academic, motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. This program is led by a Board-Certified Music Therapist. connectingforkids.org/music

Heights Libraries, Lee Road Branch

- Wednesday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m.

Lakewood Public Library, Madison Branch

- Saturday, Nov. 23, 9:30 a.m.

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Saturday, Nov. 23, 11:00 a.m.

North Ridgeville Branch of Lorain Public Library System

- Thursday, Nov. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Monday, Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m.

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Wednesday, Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m.

Westlake Porter Public Library

- Friday, Nov. 8, 10:30 a.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 9, 10:30 a.m.

Music Therapy & More:

Elementary Age **E**

These sessions are designed for families and children ages 7-12 with complex needs or disabilities. Engage in singing, listening, instrument play and movement to music in an interactive environment. Families learn to use music to enhance gross motor skills, develop body awareness and practice social skills. connectingforkids.org/music

Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch
Thursday, Nov. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Playgroups **Y**

Designed for caregivers and their children. connectingforkids.org/play

Inclusive Drop-In Playgroup

Get hands-on support, meet other families and connect to community resources while children play. Led by an Early Childhood Specialist, caregivers will learn strategies for dealing with behavior challenges, communication concerns and sensory issues. Registration is welcome but not required. For caregivers and their children ages 0-6 years.

Lakewood Family Room

- Thursday, Nov. 7, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Adapted Playgroup

Adapted Playgroup is a safe, welcoming environment for caregivers of children with concerns about development. Your child will practice play and social skills while you get tips on everything from behavior to social skills from an Early Childhood Specialist. For caregivers and children ages 18 months - 6 years.

Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch

- Saturday, Nov. 16, 9:30 a.m.

Oberlin Public Library

- Wednesday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m.

Westlake Porter Public Library

- Thursday, Nov. 14, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 15, 10:30 a.m.

Workshops

During workshop sessions, pediatric professionals will guide families in discussion, problem-solving and learning experiences. For in-person programs, free, supervised children's activities are available but adults and children must register separately. connectingforkids.org/workshops

Behavior Chat **Y**

Ochanya McRoberts-Wells, MEd, will lead a discussion guided by your questions on a variety of behavior topics. Each session will focus on a new tool from our free Behavior Toolkit but questions on any behavior concern are welcome. Content is geared toward children 18 months - 6 years.

How Structure Can Prevent Meltdowns
Monday, Dec. 16, 6:30 p.m.
Virtual

Free Behavior Toolkit for all families who attend!

Speaker Series

Presentations on childhood topics by pediatric professionals. Free, supervised children's activities are available but adults and children must register separately. connectingforkids.org/speakerseries

Autism 101 **A**

Nathan Morgan, MSSA, LSW, of Milestones Autism Resources, will present facts, debunk myths and provide the most up-to-date terminology available on ASD informed by experiences as both a licensed social worker and autism self-advocate. Learn about differing strengths, lagging skills and accommodating ever-changing support needs.

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6:30 p.m.
Hybrid Westlake Porter Public Library or Virtual



Adapted Library Programs

For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/library.

Avon Lake Public Library

Lego Imagineers

Use your creativity and imagination to complete a new Lego challenge each month! Legos provided, drop in anytime. Built creations remain at the library. No registration. Ages 4 and up with a caregiver.

Thursday, Nov. 21, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 19, 3:30 p.m.

PAWS & Relax

Relax for a bit – stop in after school to paint, eat pizza, and pet a therapy dog. Ages 11 & up.

Thursday, Dec. 5, 3:00 p.m.

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

GenZen Hangout: For Tweens of all Abilities in Grades 4-6

Play games, tinker, make art, and just hang out at our inclusive monthly meet-up.

Saturday, Nov. 16, 3:00 p.m.

North Ridgeville Branch of Lorain Public Library System

Kids in the Kitchen Adapted Story Time

A story time and a hands-on cooking lesson for children with varying learning styles and abilities. While content is geared toward ages 3 to 7, all ages are welcome.

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6:30 p.m.

Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

P.A.L.S. Big Screen Sensory Friendly Movies

Join us for a Sensory Friendly Movie, where the sound is lower, the lights are brighter, and where talking, singing and moving is perfectly acceptable! Light refreshments available.

Monday, Nov. 4, 11:00 a.m. Lego Movie

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

GenZen Hangout: For Tweens of all Abilities in Grades 4-6

Play games, tinker, make art, and just hang out at our inclusive monthly meet-up.

Thursday, Nov. 14, 6:00 p.m.

Westlake Porter Public Library

All Abilities Playdate

An open playtime for children of all abilities ages 2-7 with a caring adult. Siblings welcome! No registration required. Developmentally appropriate toys and a sensory station will be provided for open, imaginative, nonjudgmental play. Adults are responsible for supervising their children. Questions? Contact Youth Services at 440-250-5471.

Sunday, Nov. 24, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 22, 2:00 p.m.

North Pointe Ballet Workshop

Performance: The Nutcracker

North Pointe Ballet's fall tour, featuring excerpts and choreography from The Nutcracker ballet, has activities that teach storytelling through movement and plenty of audience engagement. Ages 3-12. This program is intended for children with disabilities and their typical peers.

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2:00 p.m.

Cookie Decorating

Engage your child's senses and encourage messy play while delighting in the fun and wonder of the season. No baking or decorating experience necessary. This inclusive program is for ages 3-7. If you have an allergy or special diet concerns, please contact the Youth Services Department at 440.250.5471 for a complete list of ingredients. This inclusive program is for ages 3-7 and their typical peers or siblings welcome.

Saturday, Dec. 21, 2:00 p.m.

Adapted Storytimes

Children with varying learning styles and abilities learn together in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences are encouraged. This storytime is designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime experience.

connectingforkids.org/library

Heights Libraries, Noble Neighborhood Branch

- Saturday, Nov. 9, 10:30 a.m.

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Saturday, Nov. 16, 11:00 a.m.

Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Tuesday, Nov. 12, 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 10, 11:00 a.m.

Rocky River Public Library

- Saturday, Nov. 2, 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 7, 11:00 a.m.

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Saturday, Nov. 9, 10:30 a.m.

Westlake Porter Public Library

- Thursday, Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 23, 11:00 a.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 12, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 21, 11:00 a.m.



With Our Thanks

Programming is made possible in part by support from local organizations.

Community Foundation of Lorain County
 Community West Foundation
 Cuyahoga Arts & Culture
 GPD Employees' Foundation
 Healthy Lakewood Foundation
 Nordson Corporation Foundation
 OberlinKids Community Collaborative
 Rotary Club of North Ridgeville
 Rotary Club of Westlake-Bay Village

Locations

Avon Lake Public Library
 32649 Electric Blvd.
 440-933-8128

Heights Libraries, Lee Road Branch
 2345 Lee Road
 216-932-3600

Lakewood Family Room at Cove Community Center
 12525 Lake Ave.
 216-529-5018

Lakewood Public Library, Madison Branch
 13229 Madison Ave.
 216-228-7428

Lakewood Public Library, Main Library
 15425 Detroit Ave.
 216-226-8275

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library
 16699 Bagley Road
 440-234-3600

North Ridgeville Branch of Lorain Public Library System
 35700 Bainbridge Road
 440-327-8326


Oberlin Public Library
 65 South Main Street
 440-775-4790

Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library
 2121 Snow Road
 216-661-4240

Rocky River Public Library
 1600 Hampton Road
 440-333-7610

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library
 34125 Portz Pkwy.
 440-248-8777

United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Cleveland (UCP)
 1200 Resource Drive
 Brooklyn Heights
 (216) 354-2727

Westlake Porter Public Library 
 27333 Center Ridge Road
 440-871-2600

 KultureCity® Sensory Inclusive™ certified. Every employee has gone through sensory awareness training.



Connect With Us

It's free to join Connecting for Kids and start connecting with other Northeast Ohio families on a similar path.

Online
connectingforkids.org/joinus

Call or Text
 440-570-5908

Email
info@connectingforkids.org