

APRIL/MAY 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](https://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

Sibshop: Sibling and Caregiver Support **E**

Join Connecting for Kids and the Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Ohio for a parent/sibling support program. Children ages 7-12 will meet other sibs, play games, craft and talk about having a sibling with disabilities. In a separate room, caregivers will learn about opportunities for sibling support.

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.
Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

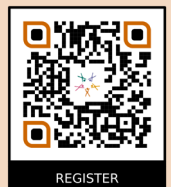
Color, Craft & Connect **A**

Join CFK staff as we share joys (roses), struggles (thorns) and find some connection while we color and craft. Enjoy coffee and treats as you interact with others in a casual environment.

Tuesday, May 21, 6:00 p.m.
North Ridgeville Branch of Lorain Public Library System

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

APRIL/MAY PROGRAMS

Workshops

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

Summer Survival: Navigating Adapted Programs and Funding for Summer **E**

If you are trying to find adapted or inclusive summer programs, join Connecting for Kids staff who will answer questions about summer resources and provide tips for finding funding. Joy Howard, Parent Mentor for Cleveland Heights-University Heights, will also be there to answer questions and connect with families.

Sunday, April 7, 2:30 p.m.
Heights Libraries, Lee Road Branch

Less Screaming and More Talking: Discipline in 2024 - for Black American Caregivers **A**

Anna Jones, LISW-S, of Cleveland State University and Up the Steps, will discuss the generational differences that make discipline difficult, the history of discipline in the Black community and how to know what types of discipline may work for your child. Caregivers will learn calming strategies for the whole family.

Friday, April 26, 6:30 p.m.
Virtual



Adapted Playgroups **Y**

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 can get tips on everything from behavior to social skills from an Intervention Specialist. For caregivers and children ages 18 months- 6 years. connectingforkids.org/play

Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch
• Saturday, April 20, 9:30 a.m.

Westlake Porter Public Library
• Thursday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.
• Friday, April 19, 10:30 a.m.

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

Euclid Public Library

- Thursday, April 11, 6:30 p.m.

Heights Libraries, Lee Road Branch

- Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 8, 6:30 p.m.

Lakewood Public Library, Madison Branch

- Saturday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.
- Saturday, May 11, 9:30 a.m.

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Saturday, April 13, 11:00 a.m.

North Ridgeville Branch of Lorain Public Library System

- Thursday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 16, 6:30 p.m.

Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Monday, April 8, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, April 15, 6:30 p.m.

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Wednesday, April 17, 6:30 p.m.

Music Therapy & More: Elementary Age **E**

These sessions are designed for families and their children ages 7-12 with complex needs or disabilities. Participants engage in singing, listening, instrument play and movement to music in a fun, interactive environment. Families will learn to use music to enhance gross motor skills, develop body awareness, practice social skills and expand their creative abilities. This program is led by a Board-Certified Music Therapist.

Thursday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.
Lakewood Public Library, Main Branch

Adapted Library Programs

For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/library.

P.A.L.S. Big Screen Sensory Friendly Movies: Inside Out

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.

Wednesday, April 3, 11:00 a.m.
Parma-Snow 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, April 11, 6:30 p.m.
Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

Sensation Stations

Engage your child's senses in this all-inclusive program by scooping, pouring and sorting a variety of fun materials. For children of all ages and needs. Registration begins March 30.

Saturday, April 13, 10:00 a.m.
Avon Lake 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, April 20, 3:00 p.m.
Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Library

P.A.L.S. Big Screen Sensory Friendly Movies: Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse

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.

Saturday, May 4, 11:00 a.m.
Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

Kids in the Kitchen Adapted Story Time

Join us for a story time and a hands-on cooking lesson for children with varying learning styles and abilities. Learn together in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences is encouraged. Content is geared toward ages 3 to 7 years, but all ages are welcome. Siblings may also attend but must register separately.

Tuesday, May 14, 6:30 p.m.
North Ridgeville Branch of Lorain Public Library System

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, May 16, 6:30 p.m.
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.

Saturday, May 18, 3:00 p.m.
Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Library

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.

Euclid Public Library

- Saturday, April 13, 11:00 a.m.

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Saturday, April 6, 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, May 4, 11:00 a.m.

Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Tuesday, April 9, 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 14, 11:00 a.m.

Rocky River Public Library

- Saturday, April 13, 9:15 a.m.
- Saturday, May 11, 9:15 a.m.

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

- Saturday, April 13, 10:30 a.m.
- Saturday, May 11, 10:30 a.m.

Westlake Porter Public Library

- Thursday, April 4, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 13, 11:00 a.m.
- Friday, April 26, 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 11, 11:00 a.m.
- Friday, May 24, 10:30 a.m.



Ask Us 1:1

Do you need help navigating resources for your child? Would you like to meet one-on-one with a CFK staff member?

Register for a 30-minute time slot during our monthly Ask Us 1:1 and get information on a wide range of concerns from adapted program options and school struggles to mental health and specific diagnoses.

Time slots are available by phone or Zoom to meet your needs. To view available dates/times, visit connectingforkids.org/AskUs or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.



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
Rotary Club of North Ridgeville
Rotary Club of Westlake-Bay Village
Sierra and The TJX Foundation

Locations

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

Euclid Public Library
631 E 222 St.
216-261-5300

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

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

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