

Media Advisory

Set Course for Family Fun with the Courtice Literacy Ship!

October 15, 2019—Join Clarington Public Library for the grand launch of the Literacy Ship on Wednesday, October 23 at 4:00 p.m. at the Library's Courtice Branch.

The Ship is an architectural furniture piece designed to attract families to the Branch's children's area. It features interactive play stations that help build children's early literacy skills.

"Play is incredibly important for children in building early literacy skills," explains Steven Cooke, Clarington Public Library Board Chair. "Play can help children express themselves in a variety of ways, helping them connect this experience to understanding symbols and written words."

Counting beads, a treasure hunt, and word matching games are all part of the Ship's themed play stations. The Ship was designed and installed by Keebee, a Canadian producer of modular play equipment that has been producing safe, durable, and fun play spaces since 1995.

The Literacy Ship would not have been possible without the generous support of numerous sponsors, including Ontario Power Generation (OPG). "OPG has been a wonderful Library partner over the years," says Sarah Vaisler, Deputy Director. "They're a key sponsor of the Library's award-winning Winter WonderLearn and How-To in 10 festivals, and have supported past TD Summer Reading Club special events. Strong community partnerships help the Library offer enriching and educational programs and spaces."

The Library continues to be a destination for free family fun in Clarington, and the Ship joins a full line-up of programs this fall, including storytimes, health and wellness workshops, and P.A. day programs for great family experiences. View their full program calendar at www.clarington-library.on.ca/calendar.

The Library will be celebrating the launch of the Literacy Ship at a special event and ribbon-cutting ceremony on **Wednesday, October 23** at the **Courtice Branch** (2950 Courtice Rd.). The event starts at 4:00 p.m., with an official ceremony at 4:30 p.m.

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