



Volunteers are an important part of The Early Learning Coalition's mission to provide leadership and advocacy that builds a community where all children are prepared for success in school. Volunteers help make this mission possible by engaging in a variety of activities such as helping with hands-on activities with community events to going out to read to children once a week. We acknowledge and respect that time is a valuable and limited resource to ask someone to freely give and therefore welcome volunteers to participate in as few or many hours as you wish.

Volunteer Opportunities



ELVIS (Early Learning Volunteer Instruction and Support) Program - ELVIS brings community volunteers together to promote early literacy to children. We provide training to volunteers and equips them with a complete literacy kit to take to childcare centers or family childcare homes. Typically, a visit lasts one to one and a half hours. You will need to have transportation to and from the ELC office to pick up the literacy kits and to get to your assigned center/family childcare home.



Celebrity Readers - Celebrity Readers brings the community together to promote early literacy to children. Celebrity Readers can be local business owners; business professionals (doctors, lawyers, real-estate agents, accountants, etc.); government service employees (teachers, military, law-enforcement officials, etc.); or collegiate or professional athletes. The program commitment is to simply visit with a class at one of our childcare centers or family childcare homes and read a book.



Preschool Helper - Teachers always need extra hands to help out in the classroom. As a preschool helpers you will be on the one of the kids again! Our preschool helpers are in the classroom assisting the teacher with daily routines such as center time, circle time, helping to set up activities and just plain playing around.



Teacher Resource Development/ Co-op - Teacher Resource Development is an on-going process in which volunteers will help prepare teacher materials for math and early literacy readiness kits and assemble information packets to be distributed at upcoming events.



My First Books - My First Books is a new program offered to families who visit the Coalition's Family Service Center. Families will receive a book during their visit and ELC staff members will help parents identify various ways they can support their children's literacy development. You help by organizing a book drive, fundraiser, or by helping us organize the books in the "Word Garden Library."



Weekend Childcare Center Makeovers - Many child care centers need help with the maintenance of their facilities, which includes, painting, refurbishing playgrounds, planting, and more. Your organization can help a center by volunteering your time to help with these tasks. This is a great easy way to volunteer your time and improve a center for the children who attend.



Office Assistant - Volunteers are needed to assist staff with daily office duties and any other special projects.



Internships - We welcome internships for any of the different departments within our organization such as Finance, Early Intervention, Quality Child Care, Public Relations and Social Work. To find out more about these opportunities contact our Volunteer Coordinator.

All Volunteers will attend an orientation session and complete a background screen before being placed.

**If you are interested in getting involved,
contact our Volunteer Coordinator at
385-0504 or email
bmertz@elcbigbend.org**

