

## Family Literacy Night

Queen Elizabeth Elementary School (Grades K-6 school population: ~340)  
2015-2016

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Principal: Rodney MacArthur

Queen Elizabeth Elementary Home and School transformed the entire first floor of the school into learning stations, with several activities and games focused on literacy.

- ✚ **PARENTS** who engaged with students in hands on learning.
- ✚ **STUDENTS** who were thrilled to participate in literacy based games with their parents including a relay race and story writing.
- ✚ **THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY** who learned that parents and students working together in a fun environment can lead to real learning outcomes.

### How were the parents encouraged to attend?

- ✚ The event was promoted through the school newsletter and website.

### Webstory:

The parking lot was full, and the school was abuzz with parents, grandparents, aunties and kids all playing and learning together. The QEES Family Literacy Night transformed the school gym, library, music room and hallways into learning centers - all with a reading and literacy focus. People moved at their own pace and found an activity that met their interests as well as their student's reading level. The music room had an active listening activity, where each student was assigned an instrument to play every time they heard their assigned word – picture using a xylophone for a brook, drums for thunder and a flute for birdsong. Some kids stayed at this station or activity for 3 or 4 stories, moving from instrument to instrument, listening and learning. The gym was converted to active word find games, puzzle stations and a word relay race that has to be seen – racing and chasing words. So fun! For the quieter types, a local author read from popular books in the library, a classroom devoted to writing a story with their parent, and an art station in the hall for those who wanted to use a visual medium to tell a story. It was a fast-paced, interactive evening with parents and students working together to solve puzzles, read and write books and play games.