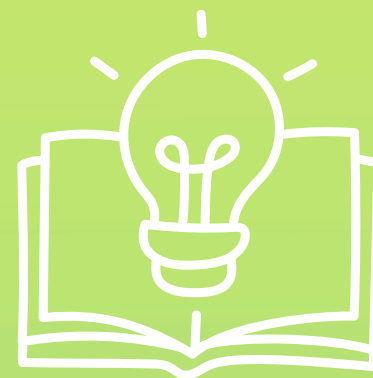




# Introduction to the <sup>A B C</sup> Literacy Landscape





**Literacy  
Quebec**

# **Introduction to the Literacy Landscape**

## **Objectives**

- What is Literacy?
- Literacy Statistics
- Recognizing Signs of Low Literacy
- Practical Solutions to Literacy Challenges/Literacy Quebec services

**What is literacy ???**

**Understanding, evaluating, using** and **engaging** with written texts to participate in society, to achieve one's goals, and to develop one's knowledge and potential.

Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), 2013  
The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

PIAAC measured:

- literacy
- numeracy
- problem solving in a technology-rich society (PS-TRE)

# Literacy Levels

**Below Level 1** - Adults are able to process meaning at the sentence level. They can access single words or numbers in very short texts in order to answer simple and explicit questions.

**Level 1** - Adults are able to locate information on a text page, find a relevant link from a website, and identify relevant text among multiple options. They can understand the meaning of short texts, as well as the organization of lists or multiple sections within a single page.

**Level 2** - Adults are able to access and understand information in longer texts. They can navigate within simple multi-page digital texts to access and identify target information from various parts of the text.

**Level 3** - Adults are able to construct meaning across larger chunks of text. They can identify, interpret or evaluate one or more pieces of information, often employing varying levels of inferencing.

**Level 4** - Adults can read long and dense texts presented on multiple pages in order to complete tasks that involve access, understanding, evaluation and reflection about the text(s) contents and sources across multiple processing cycles.

**Level 5** - Adults may be able to reason about the task itself, setting up reading goals based on complex and implicit requests, search for and integrate information across multiple, dense texts.

LEVEL 1:



**ΓΑΥΤΙΟΞ**

ΧΑΞΙΞΗ: ΔΑΞΗΕΪΟΥΣ GAS  
ΙΣ ΖΟΪΝΕΔ ΧΘΕΞ ΤΘΙΣ  
ΠΪΟΔΥΓΤ ΙΣ MIXED ΧΙΤΘ ΑΓΙΔ

LEVEL 2:



**CAU TION**

WAR NING: DAN GER OUS GAS  
IS FOR MED WHEN THIS  
PRO DUCT IS MIX ED WITH ACID

LEVELS 3-5:



**CAUTION**

WARNING: DANGEROUS GAS  
IS FORMED WHEN THIS  
PRODUCT IS MIXED WITH ACID

# LITERACY

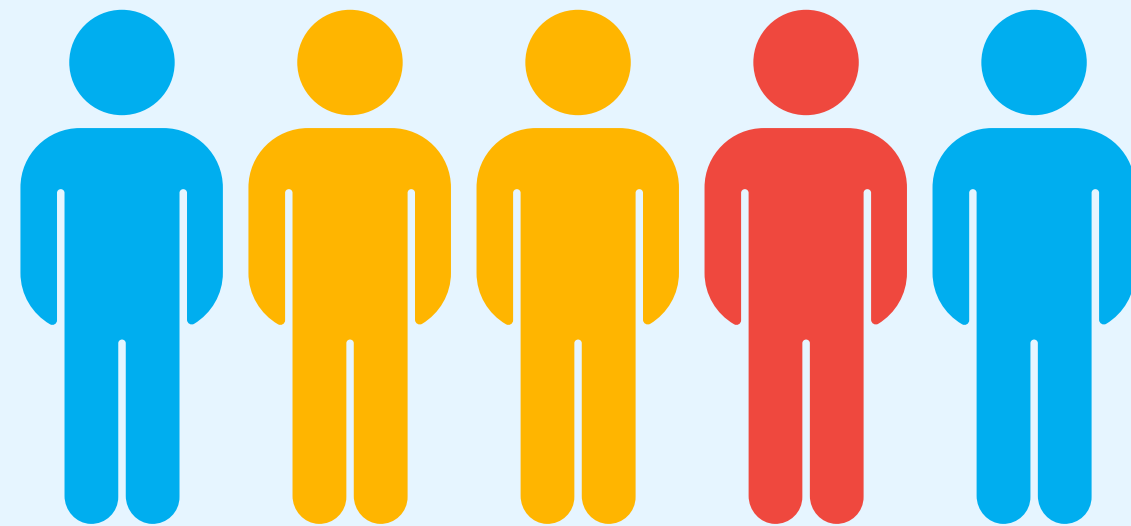
## 9 Skills for Success

Defined as:

- skills needed to participate and thrive in **learning, work and life**;
- foundational skills for building other skills and knowledge;
- overlap and interact with each other, and with other technical and life skills.

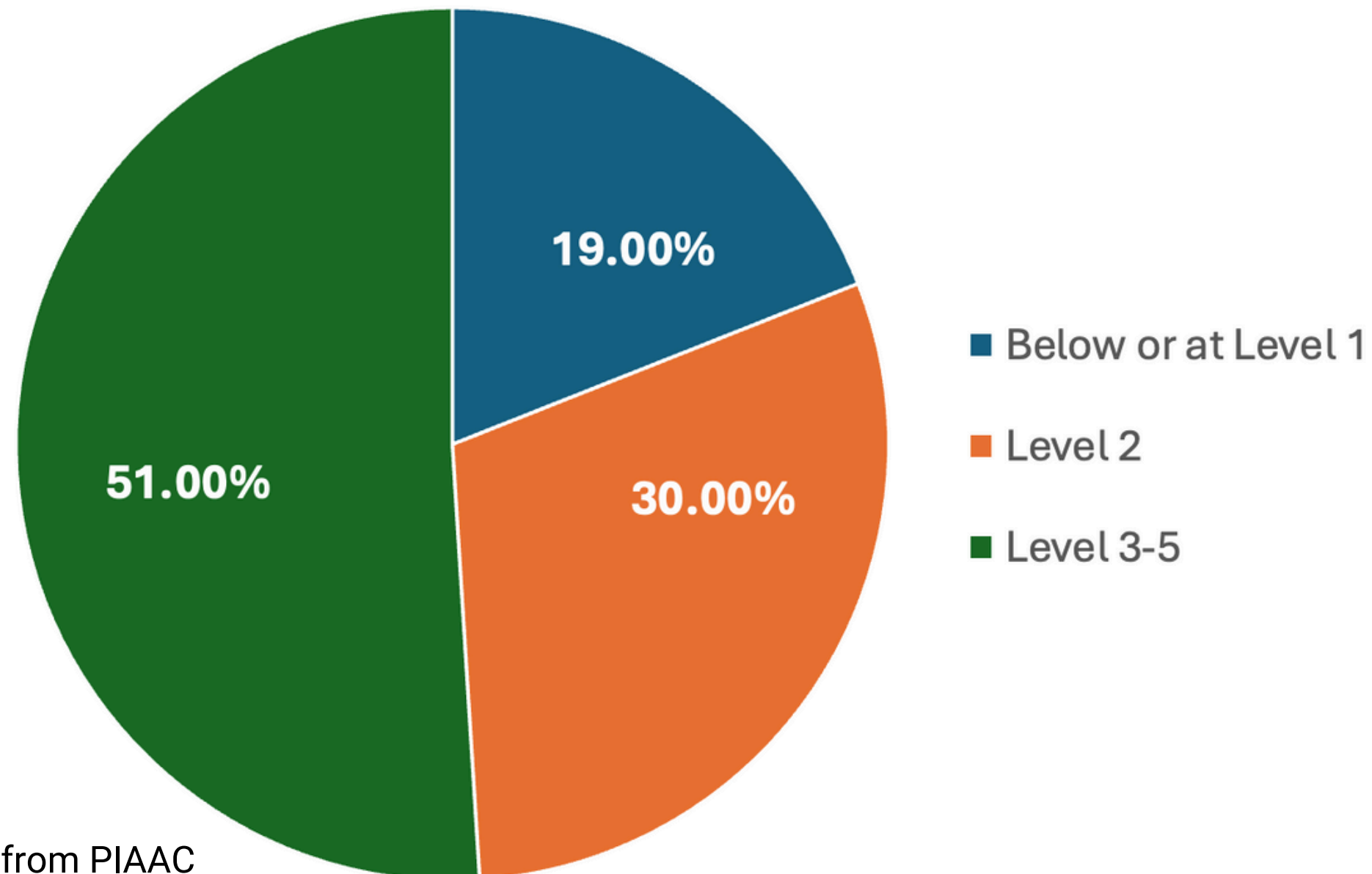


# What are the literacy statistics



## Canada Literacy Statistics, PIAAC 2023

[www.piaac.ca](http://www.piaac.ca)

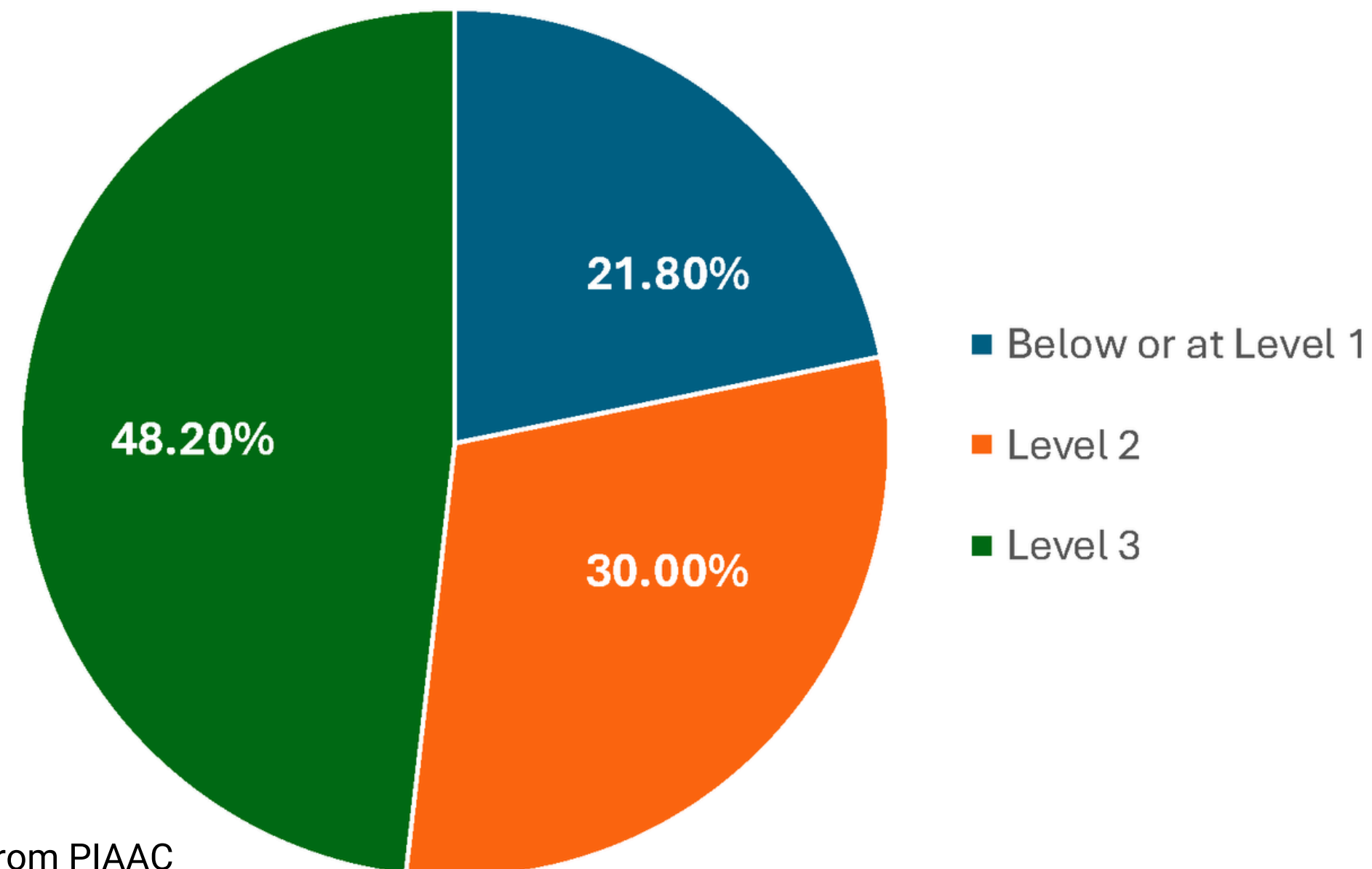


\*Canadian statistics from PIAAC

In Canada, **19%** of adults aged 16 to 65 scored at the lowest literacy levels (level 1 or below).

## Quebec Literacy Statistics, PIAAC 2023

[www.piaac.ca](http://www.piaac.ca)



\*Quebec statistics from PIAAC

In Quebec, **21.8%** of adults aged 16 to 65 scored at the lowest literacy levels (level 1 or below). **This alarming statistic has increased from 19% in 2013.**

**Literacy connects to other issues:**

**Justice**

**Health**

**Labour Market**

**Poverty**

**Economy**

**Civic Engagement**

**Participation in Family/Community**

## Literacy and the Labour Market

We need literacy skills to:

- find jobs
- do tasks in the workplace
- get promotions
- re-train for new jobs
- reduce accidents and injuries



## Literacy and Health

We need literacy skills to:

- identify and locate health services
- make healthy lifestyle choices
- understand and follow doctor's information
- take medication correctly
- understand safety information



## Literacy and the Family

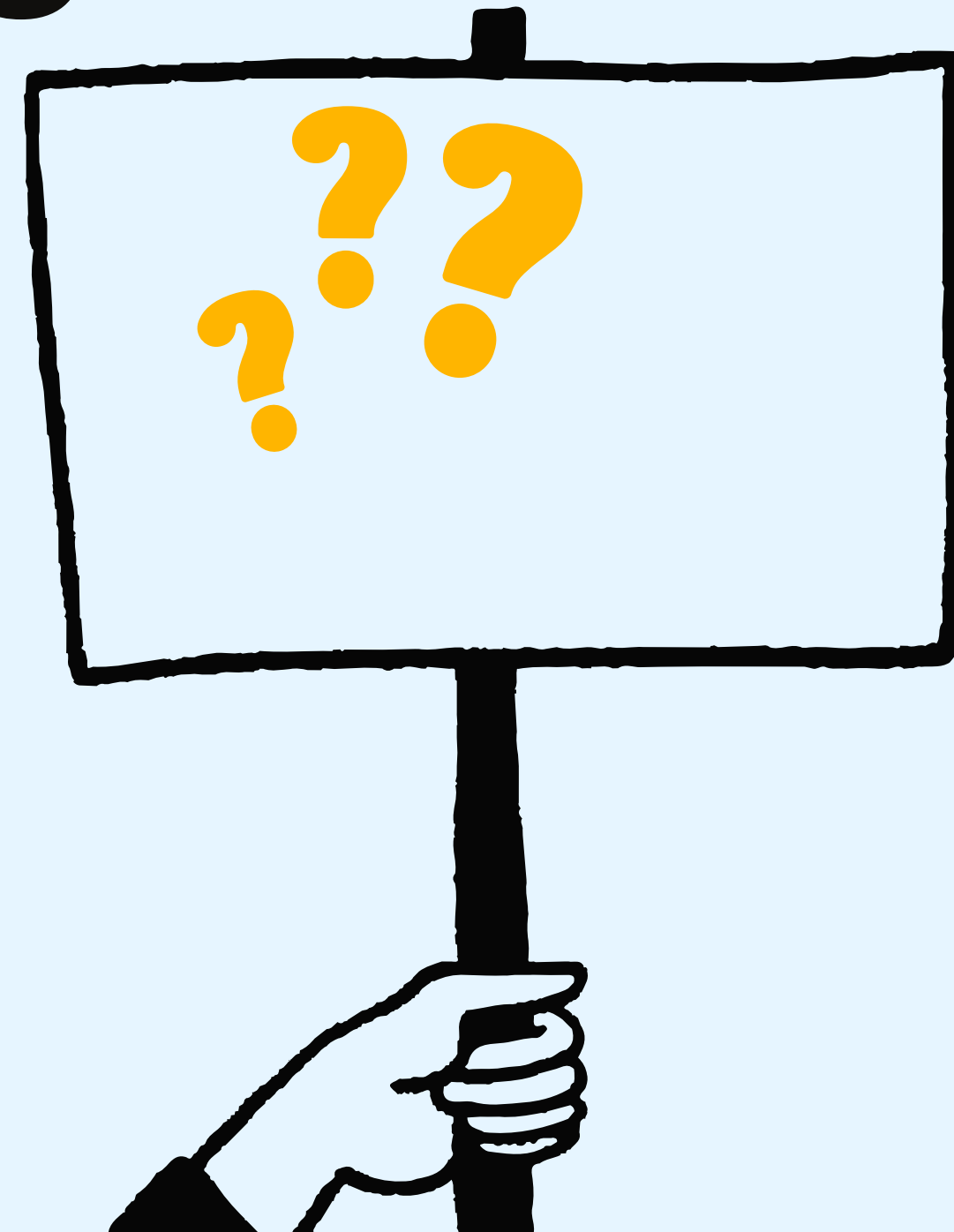
Parents are children's first teachers. Children learn best with supportive families and caregivers who:

- create a learning culture
- provide literacy-rich homes

Reading with children supports school readiness.



**Can you recognize  
the signs**





*"Could you fill out this form for me?"*

*"Thanks, I'll read it at home."*

*"I don't have my glasses."*

*"My writing is bad. I'll ask my wife to fill it out."*

*"I have a good memory. I will remember it."*



## If the person you meet:



- Takes a document without glancing at it.
- Is reluctant to fill out a form in front of you.
- Finds excuses to avoid reading and writing.
- Has missed appointments, or is later/early every time.

It is **possible** they have low literacy skills.

## You can help/support them:

- Don't dramatize the situation; be attentive and create an atmosphere of trust.
- Communicate using clear and simple language:
  - Avoid jargon
  - Pause between important points
  - Avoid closed question with "yes" or "no" answers
  - Limit information to 3 or 4 important points

**\*\* Refer this person to literacy services.**

# What is Literacy Quebec ???

We are a network that **connects and represents** **community-based literacy organizations** to empower people, impact lives and build a stronger society.

Established in 1980 to support literacy for English-speakers in Quebec.



**We envision a Quebec where everyone has the literacy skills they need to live a fully engaged life.**



## Our impact and activities:

- Raise awareness of the importance of literacy in Quebec.
- Campaign to eliminate the stigma of low literacy.
- Strengthen community connections.
- Offer capacity-building opportunities for literacy practitioners.
- Advocate for and represent our member organizations.



# OUR MEMBERS

**15**  
**MEMBERS**

- Literacy Quebec connects 15 community-based literacy organizations that serve English-speaking individuals and families throughout Quebec.
- Member organizations are located across Quebec and provide a variety of literacy services, including one-to-one tutoring, small group instruction, family literacy, digital literacy, financial literacy...and more.

To find the nearest center to you, check out

[www.literacyquebec.org](http://www.literacyquebec.org)



# SERVICES



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Français

Literacy Helpline

Podcast

LQ Academy

Family Literacy

Adult Learners' Week

Our YouTube Videos

Member Portal

Literacy Quebec is a network that connects and represents community-based literacy organizations, empowering people, impacting lives, and building a stronger society.

Discover more 



[www.literacyquebec.org](http://www.literacyquebec.org)

# SERVICES

## LQ Academy



## **NEW Topics**

- **201** Assessing Health Literacy
- **202** Family Literacy

**LQ Academy is a collection of free eLearning courses** designed for anyone who wants to explore and learn more about a wide range of literacy-related topics. If you interact with the general public, create communications material, or are just curious about literacy, you should check them out!

The foundational courses are:

- **Lit 101: Exploring Literacy**
- **Lit 102: Supporting Adults with Low Literacy Skills**
- **Lit 103: Practising Clear Writing and Design**

# SERVICES



## Literacy Helpline

Literacy   Helpline

Call this  
number for  
help →

1-888-521-8181



The Literacy Helpline is a FREE service that provides information and support for tasks that require reading, writing and/or digital literacy skills. English-speaking Quebecers can call 1-888-521-8181 for assistance.

## *What's Literacy?* Podcast

*What's Literacy?* is a podcast for English-speaking, lifelong literacy learners in Quebec. Join our host Dan Laxer from Literacy Quebec as we explore topics around community building, lifelong curiosity, and the multiple types of literacy.

Visit [anchor.fm/literacy-quebec](https://anchor.fm/literacy-quebec) to listen for free now!

LISTEN FOR FREE NOW



# FIND OUT MORE!

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