



**Centres of  
Excellence**  
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

**Upcoming Events  
and Opportunities**  
**May 2026 and beyond**

Please see below a list of upcoming events and opportunities for May 2026 and beyond.

[Our website](#) offers free, curriculum-connected lessons and activities for K-12 classrooms. We also provide live learning opportunities such as virtual or in-person tours, webinars, guest speakers, contests, and professional learning. Check the website regularly for opportunities to engage. Alternatively, reach out directly to [COE@gnb.ca](mailto:COE@gnb.ca) to collaborate with a Centre Lead.



**Centre of  
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LANGUAGE LEARNING

**Expression of Interest: Innovation grants for French language learning.**

**Application deadline: Friday, May 15, 2026**

We are pleased to reoffer a grant of **up to \$5,000** for schools eager to explore innovative approaches to improving French Language Learning in the unique context of their school community. School-based innovations must adhere to Policy 309 and reflect your district guidelines. Deadline to apply is May 15, 2026. [Click here](#) to access the application form.

**Bridge to Bilingualism Awards 2026**

**Application deadline: Saturday, May 30, 2026**

Parents for Bilingual Education New Brunswick is proud to announce the inaugural *Bridges to Bilingualism Awards 2026*, celebrating the remarkable creativity, innovation, and dedication found in French Immersion and FSL classrooms across our province. These new awards shine a spotlight on educators and schools who are transforming students' experiences with French through meaningful, experiential, and inspiring learning opportunities. This year, the *School of the Year* will be awarded \$1,000 and the *Project of the Year* recipient will receive \$500 in recognition of their outstanding contributions to bilingual education. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

**Free tutoring for French learners (Grades K-12)**

**Registration: Monday, April 20, until full**

We are thrilled to relaunch the **Free Tutoring Program**, in partnership with **Apprendre Franco-Fun!** This initiative offers **five free online French tutoring sessions** for students in grades K-12 across the anglophone system — including French Immersion, PIF, and English Pathways. Spaces are limited and distributed equitably by district. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

**Nature NB- guide d'activité/activity guide (Grades 3-5 and 6-8)**

This resource is designed for grades 3-5 and 6-8 educators in New Brunswick who want to provide opportunities for their students to learn about the environment, species at risk and taking hands-on action for nature, through fun, experiential activities that integrate with the New Brunswick curriculum. This resource includes a series of activities that cover the life cycle and migration of the Monarch, as well as the resources for your classroom to take action to help monarchs by planting milkweed. [Click here](#) to access the guides!

**Concours Manie Musicale!**

**Submit by: Wednesday, April 30**

Did your class participate in Manie Musicale? Did you use any COELL resources? We want to hear from you! Submit your pictures and feedback to win Manie Musicale merch!! Send pictures and thoughts to Zoe at [zoe.karatzios@gnb.ca](mailto:zoe.karatzios@gnb.ca).

Check out other posts about the [upcoming Census](#), [Journée d'immersion](#), and [Services Linguistiques!](#)



**Centre of  
Excellence**  
SKILLED TRADES &  
MANUFACTURING

**New Boots Tradeswomen+ Summit Virtual Panel (Grades 9-12)**

**Friday, June 5, 2026**

MAP Strategic Workforce Services and New Boots is excited to offer this summit panel discussion virtually on Friday, June 5. High school students are encouraged to tune in and hear from four fantastic women talking about their leadership roles. For more details about this event and to register, [click here](#).

**Psychological Health and Safety NEW Learning Activity (Grades 9-12)**

What does it really mean to feel safe at work—not just physically, but mentally? In this learning activity, WorkSafeNB introduces learners to the concept of psychological health and safety, why it matters, and how it connects to leadership and well-being in the workplace. Students will explore ways to support mental wellness and create positive environments where everyone can thrive. For more details about this activity, [click here](#).

**Going Up? NEW Learning Activity (Grades 6-8)**

Fluids have special properties such as viscosity, density, buoyancy and compressibility and are useful in the skilled trades industry. These concepts, in combination with the invention of hydraulic and pneumatic presses, are used by industrial mechanics, heavy equipment operators, elevator constructors, and more. For more details about this activity, [click here](#).

### **Build a Pet House: Design, Measure, Construct NEW Learning Activity (Grades 6-8)**

Students will explore skills used in carpentry and manufacturing, including design thinking, measurement, planning, teamwork, and communication skills, to design and build a pet house prototype using cardboard and recycled materials. This activity supports literacy (Interactions) and numeracy (Shape and Space). For more details about this activity, [click here](#).

### **Pitch for Progress NEW Learning Activity (Grades 6-8)**

This learning activity invites learners to step into the role of young innovators shaping the future of food and farming. Through the experience, learners explore how McCain Foods develops new products, integrates advanced technology, and supports sustainable agricultural practices. Working individually or in teams, learners identify a specific problem, develop an original solution, and prepare a compelling pitch, with the option to include a prototype. For more details about this activity, [click here](#).



**Centre of  
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DIGITAL INNOVATION

### **Cisco Cyber Games 2026 (Ages 13+)**

**March – June 2026**

Give your students a front-row seat to hands-on cybersecurity with the **Cisco Cyber Games marathon** (March 23 – June 14). This challenge takes learners through Cisco's Ethical Hacker course, and those who score 70% or higher can compete in a Capture the Flag challenge for certificates, vouchers, and prizes. Students must be 13+ to register. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **How to Code a Sandcastle LIVE Event (Grades K-2)**

**Friday, June 12, at 9 a.m.**

Using kinetic sand and the amazing picture book, *How to Code a Sandcastle* (Josh Funk), students will use critical thinking and digital literacy skills while learning what being a computer programmer is really like! Space is limited: 24 classes (six per district) will receive a complete kit of materials for sandcastle making, along with a classroom copy of the read-aloud. To register for this event, [click here](#) (registration deadline is Friday, May 22). Please email Scott Sampson ([scott.sampson@gnb.ca](mailto:scott.sampson@gnb.ca)) and Sarah Rankin ([sarah.rankin@gnb.ca](mailto:sarah.rankin@gnb.ca)) if you have questions.

### **FireCode Design Challenge (Grades 3-5)**

**Monday, May 25, at 9 a.m.**

Grade 3–5 students will investigate the conditions that spark forest fires in New Brunswick, then put that knowledge to work coding a fire spread simulation in [MakeCode Arcade](#). The classroom with the most compelling simulation wins a class set of Kitronik ARCADE handheld gaming consoles. For details, [click here](#).

### **Cyber Education Learning Activities with Thales NDEC (Grades 6-8 and 9-12)**

**Spring 2026**

At the National Digital Excellence Centre (NDEC), cybersecurity and digital citizenship are brought to your classroom and beyond without the extra prep and at no cost! The Thales' K–12 Cyber Education Program offers curriculum-aligned, ready-to-use lesson resources for middle school educators, plus the option to book hands-on, interactive experiences. For details, [click here](#).



**Centre of  
Excellence**  
HEALTH

### **Nurses Week Gratitude Opportunity (Grades K-12)**

**May 11-17, 2026**

The Department of Social Development, Department of Health and COE Health are celebrating Nurse's Week! As we celebrate under the inspiring theme "The Power of Nurses to Transform Health," we are reminded of the incredible impact nurses have on individuals, families, and communities every single day. We invite your class to create thank you cards and messages for the nurses in your community. A draw will be conducted to award a healthy lunch to two classes that successfully complete the Nurses Week Gratitude opportunity. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **Mindfulness Session #3 "Growing Gratitude LIVE event (Grades K-2 and 3-5)**

**Tuesday, May 26, 2026**

**K-2 Event – 9:30 to 10 a.m.**

**3-5 Event – 11 to 11:30 a.m.**

"Growing Gratitude" will be an engaging session designed to help learners slow down, reflect, and build meaningful connections through appreciation. In this uplifting session, students explore what gratitude means, practice noticing the positive moments in their lives, and develop simple habits they can carry into their daily routines. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **Jack.Org "Mental Health Basics" LIVE EVENT (Grades 8-12)**

**Wednesday, May 27, from 10:30-11:15 a.m. OR 1:30-2:15 p.m.**

COE Health and Jack.org are celebrating Mental Health Month in May. The live event will be led by a trained youth speaker from Jack.org, a leading Canadian mental health charity. This engaging session will cover the foundations of mental health, including the difference between mental health struggles and crises, and the social and structural factors that impact wellness. Learners will also hear powerful personal stories from young people sharing their lived experiences. **The session is intended for students in grades 8-12.** To learn more, [click here](#).



### Free Online Financial Literacy Course

Students and teachers looking to build business and financial skills can explore McGill Personal Finance Essentials, a free, self-paced course covering key topics like budgeting, saving, credit, and investing. It offers practical tools to build confidence and make informed financial decisions. To learn more, [click here](#).

### Idea to Impact NEW Learning Activity (Grades 3-5)

**\* Resources for FI 3-5 coming soon**

Students step into the role of young entrepreneurs, using creative thinking to identify and solve problems in their school or community. They explore real-world examples, choose a problem they care about, and develop and test simple prototype solutions using classroom materials. To learn more, [click here](#).

### Storytime Startup LIVE Event (Grades 3-5)

**Thursday, June 11, at 9 a.m.**

Grades 3–5 classes are invited to a live event with author Paul McAllister, who will share how he turned a problem into a solution by writing books. Paul will read one of his stories and guide students in designing their own unique book characters. Following this, students will take part in an arts-based activity where they explore sculpture and colour theory as they bring their characters to life. This interactive session blends storytelling and creative expression to spark imagination, creativity, and big ideas. Selected classes will receive a copy of the book read during the live event. To learn more and register, [click here](#).

### Economics Unlocked: How Money Moves and Cool Careers in Data & Finance LIVE Event (Grades 9-12)

**Tuesday, May 26, 10:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Learn more about the Bank of Canada and career paths in economics, finance, and data analysis with this informative classroom presentation led by an employee of the central bank. Students will learn about the wider world of finance and economics, as well as explore some interesting jobs. This session includes a Q&A with an economist and data analyst. To learn more and register, [click here](#).



### Bring Climate Education into Your Classroom – Professional Learning Opportunity

Interested in professional learning on how to integrate climate education across the New Brunswick curriculum? The Gaia Project offers engaging in-person and virtual sessions for schools and groups of teachers. The sessions provide practical, curriculum-aligned ways to bring climate change topics into your classroom. The sessions focus on fun, hands-on, and meaningful approaches that help students connect learning to real-world environmental issues. To learn more about available sessions or to book professional learning for your school or team, please contact: [contact@thegaiaproject.ca](mailto:contact@thegaiaproject.ca)

### Hands-On Renewable Energy Workshops – In-Person Event (Grades 6-8)

The Centre of Excellence for Energy is partnering with Relay Education to bring exciting, hands-on renewable energy workshops to grades 6–8 classrooms! Through *Capture the Wind* and *Plug in the Sun*, students will explore how wind and solar power work through interactive STEM challenges. For more information, [click here](#).

### Electricity Now – An all-in-one Resource for Science 10

Electricity Now offers a practical, teacher-friendly “electricity and climate change program in a box” that simplifies complex topics through six modules and 13 engaging lessons, including hands-on activities, multimedia resources, and comprehensive teacher and student notes. For more information and to register and receive access, [click here](#). The resource is available in French and English.

## WAYS TO CONNECT WITH THE CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE



**COE Upcoming Events Email**  
Sent directly to your inbox on the last week of each month. It includes a list of upcoming opportunities with registration links.



**COE Website**  
Explore classroom activities, live events, experiential learning opportunities, career pathway information, speaker series videos and more!



**Connect Directly**  
Email a COE lead for collaboration, or email [COE@gnb.ca](mailto:COE@gnb.ca) for questions and information regarding opportunities near you!

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