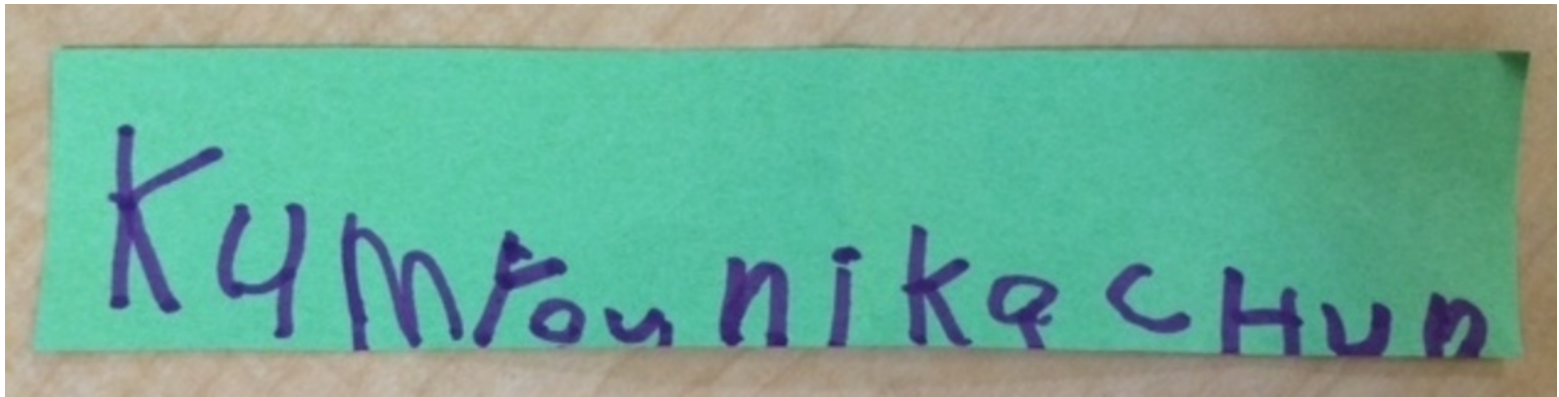


The Early Language and Literacy Initiative (ELLI): Improving School Readiness by Design



Q: Can you decipher this four-year-old's invented spelling? (See answer below.)



What is ELLI?

The Early Language and Literacy Initiative (ELLI) is a high-quality, year-round interdisciplinary approach to early childhood education designed to improve school readiness and close the achievement gap with locations in Norwalk and Fairfield, CT.

ELLI provides essential language and literacy-rich educational experiences for young children that are based on theory, research and community wisdom about what children need to learn and grow up successfully.

Stepping Stones Museum for Children and Literacy How, Inc. created ELLI to infuse the latest early language and literacy research-based theory and practice into immersive, content-

rich science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) learning experiences for museum, classroom and home environments.

Current sites include ELLI Lab School at Stepping Stones Museum for Children, ELLI at

Fairfield University (ELLI Infant Classroom, ELLI Pre-Kindergarten Classroom, and ELLI Toddler Classroom) and ELLI Pre-K classrooms in Norwalk Public Schools (Fox Run, Tracey and Naramake).

Learn more about ELLI at www.steppingstonesmuseum.org/elli. For enrollment information or to schedule a tour call (203) 899-0606 ext. 216.



The achievement gap in Connecticut is multifaceted & shaped by disparities in income levels, language, vocabulary, background knowledge & opportunity.



ELLI was created to close the achievement gap for *all* children.

Answer: *Communication!*



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