



A NuVo World

TRANSFORMING NDG

The Wizard of NDG Program

Making kindness, courage and service a way of life

Changing the World One Small Act at a Time

The spirit behind A NuVo World

The Wizard of NDG begins with a beautifully simple idea: every person - child or adult - has the power to make the world immediately around them a little better.

The Wizard has no wand, no spells and no magical powers. His 'magic' is a kind heart, a curious mind, the courage to notice, and the willingness to act.

In the NDG Transformation Plan, The Wizard of NDG is deliberately placed first. It is intended to become one of the foundation stones of A NuVo World because buildings, transportation and services can improve a community, but the culture of a community changes when people begin caring for one another as a normal part of everyday life.

The program turns the lessons of *The Wizard of NDG* from stories into habits: notice something, care about it, and take one small positive action.

The vision

Children are introduced to kindness, compassion, responsibility, courage and service not merely as ideas to admire, but as qualities to practise. Adults are invited into exactly the same challenge. The goal is to create a community in which people stop assuming that 'someone else' will make things better and begin asking: **What small thing can I do today?**

The magic is not the Wizard. The magic is us.

How the program works

- Make *The Wizard of NDG* widely available through schools, libraries, community centres, places of worship, businesses and neighbourhood Little Free Libraries.
- Create school and family discussion guides that turn each story into a conversation and a simple real-life action.
- Hold Wizard Reading Days, storytelling gatherings and intergenerational reading events throughout NDG.
- Invite classrooms, families, businesses and community groups to complete regular Wizard Challenges.
- Share stories of ordinary residents doing small, extraordinary things so kindness becomes visible and contagious.
- Connect Wizard activities directly to other A NuVo World programs such as BuyNothing NDG, Feed NDG, The Art of Neighbouring and community beautification.

The Wizard Challenges

The challenges should remain deliberately small. Their power comes from making participation easy enough that almost anyone can begin today.

- Pick up five pieces of litter.
- Introduce yourself to a neighbour you do not yet know.
- Help an older resident with one practical task.
- Read to a child.
- Plant a flower or care for a shared green space.
- Thank someone whose work often goes unnoticed.
- Donate or share a book.
- Volunteer for one hour.
- Smile and say hello to ten people.
- Give away something useful through BuyNothing NDG.
- Bring food or support to a Feed NDG partner.
- Invite someone who may be lonely for coffee, a walk or a conversation.

None of these acts transforms NDG by itself. Thousands of them, repeated until they become part of the culture, can.

A simple rhythm for schools & families

- **READ:** Choose one Wizard story.
- **TALK:** What did the Wizard notice? Why did it matter?
- **IMAGINE:** Where might we see a similar opportunity around us?
- **ACT:** Choose one small deed and do it.
- **REFLECT:** What happened? How did it affect the other person - and us?
- **SHARE:** Tell the story so another person may be inspired to act.

A Wizard does not need recognition

The program should celebrate kindness without turning kindness into a competition. Children and adults can be recognized for participation, creativity and service, but the deeper lesson is that doing good has value even when nobody is watching.

Launching The Wizard of NDG across the community

First 90 days

- Appoint a Wizard of NDG Program Champion and a small working group including educators, parents and community volunteers.
- Recruit a first group of elementary schools, libraries and community organizations for a pilot.
- Provide books plus a short Teacher & Family Guide with 20 discussion prompts and 20 corresponding acts of kindness.
- Launch a monthly 'Wizard Challenge of NDG' that everyone in the community can attempt.
- Hold the first community Wizard Reading Day and invite children, seniors, educators and local leaders to participate.
- Create a simple way for residents to submit short stories of kindness, with consent and privacy safeguards.
- After the pilot, ask children, teachers and families what actually inspired action and refine the program before expanding.

Community partners

- Elementary and secondary schools; daycare centres and parent organizations.
- Public libraries, Little Free Library stewards and local bookstores.
- Community centres and youth organizations.
- Churches, synagogues, mosques, temples and other community-serving groups.
- Senior residences and intergenerational programs.
- Local businesses willing to distribute books, sponsor activities or host challenges.
- Artists, storytellers and volunteers who can make the Wizard come alive.

Measuring what matters

Measure	What it tells us
Books distributed	How widely the stories are reaching NDG.
Schools & groups participating	Whether the program is becoming community-wide.
Reading events	Opportunities for shared conversation and inspiration.

Wizard Challenges completed	Whether stories are turning into action.
Volunteer participation	The breadth of resident involvement.
Stories of kindness	Evidence that caring behaviour is spreading person to person.

The greatest measure cannot be counted

Success will ultimately be seen in children growing into compassionate adults, neighbours becoming more aware of one another, volunteerism expanding, and acts of kindness becoming commonplace rather than exceptional.

There is no single Wizard of NDG.

The magic is the smile we offer, the courage we share, the hands we extend and the good we choose - together.

THE INVITATION: Become a Wizard. Notice one thing today that could be better. Do one small thing about it. Then inspire someone else to do the same.