

Literacy News

Winnebago County Literacy Council

We teach ...so others may reach!

Fall into Reading....

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Teaching....teaching....taught!!

Please welcome our newest tutors:

Stacy Olson
Joan Miller
Victoria Foston
Jill Zlensky
Lelani Sanchez
Jane Daugherty
Dianne Kutnink
Teresa Rosenbaum
Melissa Rosenthal
Garrison Cummings
Lisa Stockwell
Kristin Tribbey
Kathy & Ken McGeary
Julie Swanson
Laura Arredondo
Patricia Eckerman
Ryan Hilbert
Karola Jungbacker
Tong Xiong
Christine Jeske
Marcia Streicher
Regina Uerkwitz
Patricia Griedl
Tina Krueger
Anna Marie Maly
Marsha McDermott
Barbara Granzow
Dawn Arnold
Heather Budnik
Jerri Neuman
Barbara Inda
Jacky Yang
Stephany Mulholland
Cynthia Hunt
Jessica Aycock
Ann Goldthwaite-Kriz
Mary Mueller

Tutoring Tip: Should I Correct My Student's Pronunciation?

New tutors of ESL students are often concerned about correcting their student's pronunciation of English words or sounds. Pronunciation problems can basically be ignored at first, unless the student cannot be understood. If a student pronounces a word incorrectly, give the correct pronunciation, asking for it to be repeated. Then use the word correctly in a sentence. If, after several tries, the student still has difficulty with certain sounds, try to determine which sounds are causing the trouble.

Remember, before your student can make a correct sound, the sound must be heard and recognized when contrasted with similar sounds. The sequence of learning requires that the sound be heard distinctly, then identified so that attention can be focused on the sound to be learned, then produced correctly. Often the sequence must be followed more than once before a sound is heard.

Your student may not have a particular sound in her/his native language. If this is the case, the sound is often difficult for her/him to hear and produce. Therefore, extra attention should be given to the listening discrimination stage of pronunciation learning. It is usually helpful to show your student how to form the sound instead of just asking for an imitation. For example, if your student cannot make the "th" sound, suggest putting the tongue between the teeth. Demonstrate the method by making the sound yourself, or use a mirror so that the student can "see" the mouth's shape and the tongue's position.

Helpful WCLC Pronunciation Reference Books: Clear Speech, Pronunciation Pairs

Helpful WCLC Computer Programs: Oxford Picture Dictionary, English-White Hmong Picture Dictionary, Easy Accent, ABC Pronunciary, Rosetta Stone and Ellis.

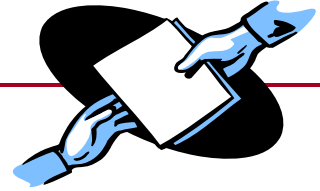
Upcoming Trainings:

ATT: December 6, 8, 13, and 15
9:30-12:30 in Oshkosh
5:30-8:30 in Menasha

Our Winter 2006 schedule will be out soon—call or check our website for the latest info.



Our Mission: To increase literacy skills of adults and families so they can make informed decisions in order to function effectively in society.



Director's Corner

Hello everyone!

The Winnebago County Literacy Council (WCLC) is soon to begin its' Annual Giving Campaign. Before long, you should be receiving an opportunity to donate to the WCLC in this year's campaign. We rely heavily on private donations from individuals and corporations to continue our fundamental programming of providing one-to-one tutoring opportunities to our students. I urge you to give generously this year to this much-needed cause, as it is a direct benefit to your community. The WCLC strives to:

- 1) Increase students' reading level by one level in one year
- 2) Have students achieve at least one personally identified literacy goal in six months
- 3) Increase students' confidence level in their own perceived ability to read, write, and communicate in the English language
- 4) To have parents in the Family Literacy program read to their children at least 20 minutes per day

We understand that people are feeling the crunch of giving to many different charities this season. In light of giving to Hurricane Relief Efforts, many are being asked to give more generously than they have in the past. Please don't forget about our local effort to help change lives by increasing one's literacy. Literacy, or one's lack thereof, affects every aspect of our society, including financial decisions, health related issues, involvement in one's child's education, securing long-term employment, and being able to advocate for one's rights. The definition of functional illiteracy is the inability of an individual to use reading, speaking, writing, and computational skills in everyday life situations. For example, a functionally illiterate adult is unable to fill out an employment application, follow written instructions, read a newspaper, read traffic signs, or understand a school bus schedule, among many other daily functions.

What does your donation support?

- \$500: Adopt-A-Student for One Year
- \$250: Training Costs to Train 10 Volunteer Tutors
- \$100: Cost of Books for 8 Basic Literacy Students
- \$50: Cost of Teacher Manuals for 3 Tutors
- \$25: Initial Cost of Student Books

Again, please consider an annual gift to the Winnebago County Literacy Council. Please give until you can *feel* it, because giving feels so good!

Sincerely,

Lisa Ellis, Executive Director

I would like to give *The Gift of Literacy*...

_____ Enclosed is my donation
in the amount of \$_____.

_____ I would like to become a
volunteer tutor.

_____ I would like to volunteer
in a non-tutoring capacity.

Please make checks payable to "Winnebago County Literacy Council" or "WCLC"

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Mail to: WCLC
106 Washington Ave.
Oshkosh, WI 54901



Give the gift of literacy!!

\$\$\$ Every Little Bit Counts! \$\$\$

Thanks to the following people, businesses, and organizations that have helped to support the Winnebago County Literacy Council

Individuals

Sally and James Sharpe (\$15)

In Memory of Sgt. Andrew Wallace, by Bernie Olejniczak (\$50)

In Memory of Sue Vajgrt, by Donald Vajgrt (\$560)

Businesses & Organizations

Wal-Mart Foundation-Neenah Store (\$1,250)

Roundy's Foundation (\$5,000)

Wal-Mart Foundation-Oshkosh Store (\$1,750)

ShopKo Stores, Inc (\$2,500)

Recent Grants

ADVOCAP-ESL Classes (\$7,000)

English Language Classes at St. John's Lutheran Church, 808 North Main Street

The WCLC is now offering English Classes to Sudanese Refugee families every Thursday from 1:00-3:00 p.m. We are receiving assistance from Michael Kuany, a Sudanese refugee himself. This six-week workshop begins on November 10th and will end December 15th. We hope to open the class up to anyone wanting to increase their English language skills beginning January 19th, 2006. If you are interested in helping with the Adult Class or the Early Learning Children's Class, please call Lisa at 236-5185.

Webster Stanley Middle School's Friday Nights for Families

The Family Education Center (FEC) is kicking off this year's programming with a Potluck Event on Friday, December 2nd. The FEC will offer a variety of programming for parents and children most Friday nights from 6-8p.m. The Literacy Council will be offering instruction using English Learning Software called the Rosetta Stone for adults wishing to increase their English skills. Families may bring their children. A variety of activities will be available for children of all ages. Call Lisa at 236-5185 for information.

WCLC Awarded Grant by Roundy's Foundation

The Literacy Council was recently awarded a \$5,000 grant by The Roundy's Foundation. The Roundy's Foundation gives back to its' communities by supporting organizations that advance literacy, provide hunger relief & help families in crisis. Grants were also given to Advocates of Ozaukee, Broken Bread, & Fond du Lac Area Literacy Service.

Board President Bernard Olejniczak (4th from right) & Raissa Reimer-Phelps (3rd from right) accept the award with Roundy's staff.



"How Do You Spell Chocolate?" 2006 The 5th Annual Corporate and Middle School Spelling Bee

Saturday, February 18th, 2006

Mark your calendars so you won't miss the WCLC's premiere fundraising event, the 2006 Spelling Bee! Watch local middle school students compete in a fun, old-fashioned spelling bee competition in the morning, and then watch the adults do the same in the afternoon. Sample free chocolate while viewing great silent auction items that raise funds for general operating expenses of the WCLC. Have an item of value that you want to donate to the silent auction? Does everyone rave about your sinful chocolate desserts? Consider donating either to help make this event a success. Call Lisa at 236-5185 for more information.

Help Wanted: Board Members Needed

The Winnebago County Literacy Council is seeking people interested in serving on our Board of Directors. The Board meets every third Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. in the lower level meeting rooms of the Oshkosh Public Library. Those interested in advancing the WCLC mission and have a sincere desire to support the cause of adult literacy may apply. Board members are asked to serve on one of the following committees: The Executive Director Relationship Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Board Management Committee, and the Fund Development Committee, and the Special Events Committee. Call Lisa at 236-5185 for more information.

Tutors and Students: Tell Us Your Story: Why is Learning to Read Important to You?

We are requesting that tutors help their students write a brief story about their experiences about learning to read and write at the Literacy Council. Please help us share with others why the WCLC is an important community service. Students can share when and why they became students here, and how having a tutor has helped them in their everyday lives. Students may discuss current goals they are working on, as well as goals that have already been met. Did your student recently become a US citizen, get their driver's license, read a book to their child for the first time, get a new job, or complete a curriculum book? Share with us how your student's life has changed as a result of them increasing their literacy skills.

Please turn in your student's story to the WCLC office by no later than December 15th, 2005.



**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
LITERACY COUNCIL**

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Board Members

Officers: Bernard Olejniczak, President
Joe Manske, Vice-President
Doug Pearson, Treasurer
Jan Wettereau-Houge, Secretary

Members: Joan Naomi Steiner
Darcy Duffy
Joan Simmons
New Member: Lee Wilson



WCLC Staff Members:

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