



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Nancy Edwards

Welcome to the new Literacy Link of Oklahoma County website. We are excited about this opportunity made possible through the LIFE (Literacy Is For Everyone) grant of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. On our website you will find information for students, tutors, donors and community members. Student pages are enhanced with audio so that prospective students can get the information they need to begin the journey to literacy.

Special thanks to the Board of Directors, especially Scott Perry, Beth Wilson, and John Amicon for serving on the website committee. We also want to express our appreciation to Mary Surbeck with OCCF for her help and guidance throughout the grant writing process and her continued support. Thanks to Steve Gordon of WEB:CRE8TIV, the website developer, for enlightening us to the possibilities and making it all come together. His website is www.webcre8tiv.com.

We hope you will browse through the website and let us know what you think.

Our New Web Address:

www.LiteracyLinkOK.org

LITERACY LINK HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting was held on July 28, 2011. The Board of Directors elected officers for next year as follows:

President: Nancy Edwards
Vice President: Lynn Hicks
Secretary: Kathy Dunn
Treasurer: Brian Perry

During the last year, volunteers contributed over 3700 hours of their time to assist in our effort to teach adults to read. We appreciate all volunteers who give their time to support our program.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS

<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
Dustin	Mattie Mary	Aumpai Justin

*****REMEMBER*****
Tutor Talk -

1st Tuesday of Every other month.

**Next Meeting:
Oct. 4, 2011**

» **THANK YOU** «

**The Literacy Link was awarded a \$9,500.00 Literacy Grant from the Literacy Resource Office of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. This grant will be used to continue funding the position of Program Director for our office. This grant is made possible by an annual appropriation to the Department of Libraries from the state legislature.

Grants are very much appreciated by everyone at Literacy Link!

TUTOR TIP

A favorite reading activity is sometimes called Quest/Request. It increases comprehension and fluency by having students ask and respond to as many questions as possible after reading a passage.

Steps for one-to-one instruction:

1. Have the student read silently a short, easy paragraph.
2. When the student has finished the silent reading, start with explicit questions that have answers in the text.

3. Add questions where the student might have to look between the lines for the answer.
4. Broaden the focus to include questions of a graphophonic nature (e.g., How many sentences are there in the passage? How many five –letter words? How many words ending in *tion*?).
5. When the student is comfortable and understands that all kinds of questions are acceptable, encourage the student to ask you questions, or take turns asking questions.

Why it works: There are many reasons this activity is so effective:

- It encourages an active, rather than a passive, reading style.
- It requires students to reread the same text many times, so they develop fluency.
- It forces the reader to rework the meaning of the passage into new forms.

This seems to have a powerful effect on one's ability to comprehend and remember content.

~ProLiteracy America Litscape, Spring/Summer 2006

***HAVE YOU USED
THE COMPUTER LAB YET?
TRY IT!***

***I cannot do everything,
but I can do something.
And I will not let what I cannot do
interfere with what I can do.***

~Edward Everett Hale, American Writer

- Students have responsibilities that restrict time. This means priorities must be chosen carefully. Use your weekly time together wisely.
- Clear communication is essential. Always check with students to be sure that you are being understood.

~Litstart, Second Edition Revised

CHARACTERISTICS OF ADULT NEW READERS

Teaching adults to read is **different** from teaching children. Adult students know a lot about the world. This knowledge affects all aspects of the reading process.

- Most adults have a sense of language. They know the pattern of language and how it should sound. Some may be familiar with language and reading to the point that they know print is “talk, written down.”
- Adults have a wide range of knowledge through a variety of experiences. They know about their jobs, their families, music, sports, politics and “101 other things.” This wealth of knowledge should be utilized in the reading process.
- Adult students may have urgent survival needs or other important goals. Personal goals should have top priority.
- Adults are used to making decisions. Respect students’ opinions, preferences, and priorities. Encourage students to be involved in the selection of books and activities.
- Adult students have an interest and desire to learn to read. Success helps maintain motivation. Showing students what has been accomplished toward reading goals will keep them going.