

Clatsop Community College Volunteer Literacy Tutor News

Volume 4, Issue 10

April 2014



**The next Tutor Training is scheduled for
Saturday, April 26 from 11:00 - 2:00 pm.
Columbia Hall, room 117
RSVP**

News You and Your Students Can Use *Kids (and Parents) may receive free library cards*

Astoria and Seaside libraries embrace spring break as a chance to remind parents to sign up their children for **free library cards**. Until June 30, children can get a free library card at the Astoria or Seaside libraries, courtesy of the **Rural Outreach to Clatsop County (ROCC) grant**. Whether they are newborn or 18, their cards will be free and renewable. **This applies to children and their parents in the Astoria, Jewell, Knappa and Seaside school districts.**

The libraries encourage families to mark their calendars for upcoming **Summer Reading** events: June 14, the Brownsmead Flats will kick off Summer Reading at Camp Rilea from 2 to 4 p.m.; June 19, Alex Zerbe, action comedian, will entertain families at the Seaside and Astoria Libraries; and a pair of entomologists, "The Bug Chicks," will be at both libraries June 26.

Participation in Summer Reading keeps children's reading skills intact and prevents "summer slide." Studies by RAND Education and the Wallace Foundation show the average student loses one month of learning time over the summer, and disadvantaged students twice as much, with the biggest slide being in reading.

For information, call the Astoria Public Library at 503-325-7323 or go to www.astorialibrary.org, or call the Seaside Public Library at 503-738-6742 or go to www.seasidelibrary.org



YEA! NEW TUTORS

Coralie C. Sandy F. Priscilla F.

We are still recruiting . . . If you have friends or family who would like to learn about the program, please call me.

**Conversational Spanish @ CCC
Spring Term
Wednesday Nights, April 2 – June 4
6:00-8:00 PM
\$80.00**

Course number: 1064187
Taught by Dolores V., one of our literacy tutors.
Call 338-2408 to register.



From the American Community Survey: 2009-2011

37,097,554 American adults lack a high school diploma or equivalent certificate. That's **over 12%** of the population.



Keys to Language Learning

Characteristics of Effective Vocabulary Instruction

1. **Multiple Exposures:** Word learning is shaped through multiple exposures in varied contexts. (Probably THE MOST important idea when it comes to learning new words.
2. **Frontload Key Vocabulary:** Before reading text or learning new content, introduce key vocabulary that is critical to understanding. Elicit background knowledge, create conversation and connections, and display or point out the words so that students will recognize them.
3. **Nonlinguistic Representations:** When learning new vocabulary, have students create pictographs, mental images, and pantomime word meanings in order to increase the likelihood of remembering new words.
4. **Employ a Varied Language Experience:** engage students in speaking, listening, reading and writing to aid retention.

Directly Teach Individual Words

- Pronounce it and have your student pronounce it, too.
- Explain the meaning of the word in terms your student can understand.
- Make file cards, personal dictionaries, etc.
- Encourage elaborations and build memory by asking the student to talk about the word through personal examples.
- Use a variety of assessments to check comprehension and retention: words searches, reviewing, simple crosswords, matching exercises, make-a-sentence worksheets.
- Ask your student to use the word at home, with children and at work with colleagues.
- Ask your student to post the word on a bulletin board or refrigerator.

TESTING SEASON HAS ARRIVED

It's that time of the year! **Post-testing** begins any time after **April 1** and lasts through **6/13**. These post tests will carry into the new school year. Does your student have 40 hours of study time? Homework hours count, too. I will be checking in with you all at some point in the near future.

ADVOCACY FOR LITERACY

Many thanks to all of you who have sent us new tutors. Keep telling your friends and families about the program because it brings more people to us. Your advocacy is important to sustaining and rejuvenating the literacy program.

Teaching Reading Tip

Our students often struggle with reading because they are trying to understand every word, bogged down in trying to understand vocabulary that ironically impedes comprehension. Below is encouragement you can pass on to your student.

Ask yourself this question: *Do I read every word in my own language when I am reading a schedule, summary, or other outlining document?*

The answer is most definitely: No!

Reading in English is like reading in your native language. This means that it is not always necessary to read and understand each and every word in English. Remember that reading skills from the student's home language will transfer when learning the new language.

