

Clatsop Community College Volunteer Literacy Tutor News

Volume 4, Issue 8

February 2014

Tutor Training UPDATE January 31, 2014

This training was geared towards **ESL tutors**. We have some new study materials available:

- **ESL Life Skills Writing /Information Gap Activities:** this packet is filled with forms our students often need to fill out in doctors' offices, at rental companies, and other places. These forms can also generate considerable conversation activities.
- **Sentence Strips:** these are really word strips that the tutor and student can cut up to construct sentences. The student gets to manipulate the pieces to learn grammar, make questions and review vocabulary. Punctuation and capital letters can be practiced, too.
- **Phonics Worksheets:** simple sheets with pictures to target individual phonemes with like-sounding words that are particularly good for practicing vowels and vowel combinations.
- **Science Workbooks:** these are free from the Department of Agriculture designed for and by middle school students. Each booklet addresses particular topics- forests, the scientific process, endangered species, etc. These materials are good for higher level readers and particularly those seeking to earn a GED.
- **Like:** think about the many uses of this word- it can be a verb or a preposition, **and** we use it constantly in English. This is a small packet with explanations and sample practice questions to check comprehension. This material is good for learning sentence construction, too.

LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY OF THESE MATERIALS.



Winter Term

TUTOR TRAINING

**February 21, 2014 in Columbia Hall,
room 219 from 11:00-2:00**

**This training is geared towards new
and potential volunteers interested
in how adult students learn and the
barriers they face.**

Do you know of anyone who might like to become a literacy tutor? Recently, we have had many long-term volunteers leave the program for various reasons. Students keep coming in

**Don't forget:
2014 AAUW WINGS Conference
Saturday, March 1, 2014**

**Do you know of a woman who needs a GED
and/or wants to enter college?**

- **Must have good English skills**
- **Be able to use vouchers for GED tests and for a free class by the end of 2014**
- **Free childcare, information and inspiration**



Keys to Language Learning

The Benefits of Role Play in ESL Instruction

- Teaches empathy
- Simulates authentic and memorable language experiences
- Adapts to multilevel groups
- Decreases inhibitions and shyness
- Increases motivation and self-esteem while building confidence
- Prepares students for interviews, medical appointments and other essential activities
- Allows student(s) and tutor to easily switch roles
- Works well with dialogs and video demonstrations
- Can lead the student to reach deep for vocabulary they don't know they possess and to spontaneously-generated conversation
- Teaches etiquette and cultural competencies that immigrants and ESL students need
- Serves as an observable and low-key assessment tool for the tutor- is the student improving or did the student get this grammar point?
- Serves as a good review tool
- Encourages fluency with every repetition

What are some things our tutors have been doing?

- Helping a student prepare essays for college applications
- Ensuring that a high school senior graduated by helping her pass geometry
- Helping a student deal with the courts in a case of identity theft
- Helped (this took 2 tutors!) a student get a liquor license to improve their business



PORTLAND LITERACY COUNCIL

There are still 2 seats available . . .

Volunteer Literacy Tutor Conference

Saturday, March 15, 2014

Reed College

Interested? Attend workshops on how to become a better tutor.

The list of program workshops is available at <http://portlandliteracy.org/resources/program2014.pdf>

Registration fee, lunch and transportation provided by CCC Literacy program.

Interested in doing a radio show on KMUN?

An instructor here at CCC is working on putting together a radio club and is seeking participants. Would you like to talk about your experience as a volunteer tutor? Ideally tutors and students would participate in these on-air discussions, occurring a few times each year. If this seems like something you would like to become involved in, give me a call. This program would be a good way to advocate for literacy and our students, provide a forum for our students to speak publicly and recruit other volunteers.

