

Transforming Lives

By Meeting the Functional Literacy Needs of Adults in Richardson and the RISD

Richardson Adult Literacy Center

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News to Use April 2010

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Tutor Notices

Next training for new tutors: May 8, 2010

Let your friends know about it!

Orientation and instruction will provide them with the tools they need to begin tutoring.

E-mail literacy@RALC.org or call the RALC office 972-644-5119 for more information.

Tutor Roundtable Report

On March 25 six tutors met in the training room at the Richardson Public Library to share their experiences with teaching individual students as well as conversation classes. All attending tutors have been tutoring for at least one year and have seen their students succeed. Nevertheless, assessment is still a challenge. Journaling, however, has proved to be a viable way to observe and follow a student's learning process and to tailor the lessons to his or her individual needs. Students and tutors are locating them in the same areas: (basic) grammar rules, pronunciation, and appropriate adult reading materials for class and self-study. As a result of the discussion Diane Reed has provided a set of spelling and pronunciation rules (see Tip of the Month). Join the next Tutor Roundtable to exchange your experiences and teaching tips.

Monthly report

Please remember to submit your monthly report with your volunteer hours and student updates. They are due by the 10th of the month.

RALC Calendar

April 14: North Texas Future Funds Bridge Awards Luncheon

April 15: Literacy Night at Aldridge Elementary School

April 20: Board Meeting

April 24: Murder Mystery at the Richardson Public Library

From the Executive Director, Mimi Tanner

The Murder Mystery fundraiser is fast approaching!

April 24 is the date; tickets are \$45.

We will be holding a drawing from among those volunteers who

have submitted their March hours by April 15 (there are 5 "grace" days here).

So, please be sure to submit your hours. To purchase tickets, please call the office, 972-644-5119 to join the fun!

A big "Thank you" to all the volunteers who are working so hard to make this a fantastic event.

Mimi Tanner

Tip of the Month

Spelling and Pronunciation Rules in English

Plurals: add suffix 's' to words for plural; add 'es' to words ending in s, z, x, sh, ch.

Words ending in 'f', 'l', and 's' often have doubling of final consonant—called Floss (fls) rule.

A syllable ending in one vowel and one consonant is a 'closed' syllable and the vowel has a short sound. VC

A syllable ending with one vowel is an 'open' syllable and the vowel is long in an accented syllable. V

Vowels in unaccented syllables often lose their usual sound and often say 'uh'.

When two vowels are together, often the first vowel has a long sound and the second vowel is silent.

In a syllable with a vowel-consonant-'e', the vowel is long and the 'e' is silent. V-e

'er', 'ir', and 'ur' are all pronounced as 'er'. 'Or' and 'ar' have their own sounds.

In words ending in the syllable consonant plus 'le' (ble, cle, dle, fle, gle, kle, ple, tle), this final syllable is never accented and is pronounced with an 'ul' sound. The previous syllable is always accented.

Doubling Rule—When a word ends with one vowel and one consonant, the consonant is doubled when adding a vowel suffix. (run/running)

Dropping Rule—When a word ends with a vowel-consonant-'e', you drop the silent 'e' before adding a vowel ending. (save/saving)

Changing Rule—When a word ends with a consonant plus 'y', change the 'y' to 'i' before adding a suffix. (happiness)

Contact Us

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