

Friday NewsBriefs



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Visit Our Calendar of Events

www.ohioable.org
www.neable.org

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Stay Connected

Sign up for the Friday NewsBriefs online

Contact Us
info@neable.org

Happy Thanksgiving!



The NERC Staff wishes you and your family a very happy holiday!

Professional Development Opportunities

2012 Beginnings Writers Conference

The 15th annual Writers Conference will be taking place in the Atrium of the Ohio State House in Columbus on May 18, 2012. The OLRC is now accepting submissions, and invites ABLE students to submit original writings for review. All genres are acceptable. The submissions, however, must be original. Original means that the work must not be copied from any source.

Accepted submissions are published in a softbound book, Beginnings. Students whose work is accepted are invited to attend the day-long Ohio Writers' Conference, along with their teacher and one paid guest.

Submit your entry at:

<http://literacy.kent.edu/beginnings/writersconference.html>

Submissions must be original. Entries must not be copied from any source. Deadline for submission is February 13, 2012. Only students who are currently enrolled in an Ohio Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) program are eligible.

Attention ABLE Artists!

Your artwork could be featured on the cover of Beginnings15. Please send your original art on an 8 ½ x 11" sheet of paper to:

Ohio Literacy Resource Center

Attn: Beginnings Art

Research One - 1100 Summit St.

PO Box 5190

Kent State University

Kent, Ohio 44242

New Support Staff Orientation

Please plan ahead for New Support Staff Orientation. This is a required series for new ABLE support staff that includes four parts. Each session focuses on one of four topics: professional development, communication skills, motivation and retention of adult students, and accountability.

All sessions in the series are conducted via Elluminate, an online webconferencing tool. Participants will receive information on how to access Elluminate prior to the session. Below is a full schedule of all offerings for each of the four sessions, so please plan ahead, and register as soon as possible.

- Session 1: Intro to PD (Region 1 only)
 - 12/1/2011 10:00am-11:00am
 - 12/1/2011 3:00pm-4:00 pm
- Session 2: Communication (Statewide)
 - 01/24/2012 10:00am-11:00am
 - 01/26/2012 1:00pm-2:00pm
- Session 3: Instructional Support (Statewide)
 - 02/15/2012 1:00pm-2:00pm
 - 02/16/2012 9:00am-10:00am
- Session 4: Accountability (Statewide)
 - 03/07/2012 9:30am - 11:00 am
 - 03/15/2012 2:00pm-3:30pm

New Staff and New Teacher Orientation

For those new staff members who have not completed New Teacher Orientation, plan ahead and register today! The last two local sessions for this fiscal year will be held on February 24th and 25th at the Henn Mansion in Euclid, OH. Please note that in order to receive credit for New Teacher Orientation, you must first complete the New Staff Orientation online training, so now would be a great time to get started on that! Register for both of these trainings today at www.ohioable.org .

Alternative Delivery Trainings

Just a quick reminder: The NERC and RCN offer a number of alternative delivery training options that you can request at any time and complete in the comfort of your own home! Our resource theme for this newsletter is Citizenship, so we will point out a couple of great citizenship alternative deliveries, but there are trainings on several topics available, including Math, Assessment, Special Needs, and Instructional Strategies. Register for any training listed and the necessary materials will be sent to you with a postage paid envelope to return them.

Citizenship Alternative Delivery Offerings:

- EL/Civics Online Professional Development
- Culturally Proficient Instruction: A Guide for People Who Teach
- Destination America: The People and Cultures That Created a Nation
- Learners Lives as Curriculum: Six Journeys to Immigrant Literacy
- Cultural Orientation for Refugees

So get comfy, slip on those bunny slippers, and head to the calendar of events at www.ohioable.org to get started on professional development you can do at home!

News and Updates

Innovation Forum

The recently-launched [Innovation Forum](https://innovation.workforce3one.org/) is co-sponsored by the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, the Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. Visit the Forum and add comments and links to your sites and innovative programs that are serving youth or adults in career pathways. The audience for the Forum is adult and youth-serving organizations across the nation. Join in the conversation on Tuesday and help spread the word about this new online community. Get started at: <https://innovation.workforce3one.org/> .

USCIS Newsletter and Updates

Michael Jones of USCIS presented three sessions on Citizenship at the Ohio TESOL Conference last week. For those of you that weren't able to attend, Michael also provided us with a number of resources to distribute to our ABLE teachers. These resources will be available through our Bodega at no cost. For more details about these resources, please see the Bodega section below. For more information about the Citizenship process, visit the USCIS Resource Center at www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/citizenship. We also have attached the local USCIS Community Outreach newsletter to share the latest updates.

TABE 9&10 Trade-In Promotion from CTB McGraw Hill

From CTB McGraw Hill:

CTB/McGraw-Hill is proud to announce a TABE® trade-in promotion to allow customers to trade in your paper test books for up to a 20% discount on the purchase of TABE Online! To take advantage of this limited time offer, please use the order form that includes step-by-step instructions. TABE 9&10 test books must be returned with a completed order form for the proper credit to be applied. Customers new to TABE Online and placing their first order must also include a completed TABE Online Subscribers Agreement with the order form. The TABE trade-in offer expires on December 15, 2011.

For questions related to the promotion, please contact CTB Customer Service at 800.538.9547

Matt's Tech Tip

FactcheckEd.org

FactCheckEd.org

Annenberg Classroom Fact Check

A project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center and Annenberg Classroom

FactCheckEd.org is an offshoot of Annenberg Public Policy Center that offers topical lesson plans designed to develop students' media literacy and critical thinking skills. Lessons include background readings, procedures, multimedia materials, and exercises that incorporate the ISTE's National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) and the ALA's Information Literacy Standards for Student Learning. This site combines authentic materials based on current events that offer students the opportunity to think critically about issues that affect their lives, while simultaneously deepening their understanding of the forms of media they are bombarded with daily.

The Resource Room-Spotlight on Citizenship Resources

Bodega Resources

USCIS Resource: Citizenship Foundation Skills and Knowledge Clusters Booklet **NEW**

“Citizenship foundation skills and knowledge clusters help link what students learn on their own or in the adult education classroom with the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful during the naturalization interview and test.”

What Every Immigrant Needs to Know **NEW**

This resource from the USCIS provides practical information for immigrants to help them live successfully in the United States. This

preview version includes practical information about housing, jobs, education, and social norms.

USCIS Vocabulary Flashcards

From USCIS:

These easy-to-use flash cards contain vocabulary words to help study for the English reading and writing portions of the naturalization test. There are limited quantities of these flashcards available, so if you are interested, please request them as soon as possible!

To request these and other free citizenship resources, please visit our Bodega at

Remember that all Bodega items are provided at no cost and are yours to keep!

Library Resources

- *Citizenship For Us : A Handbook on Naturalization and Citizenship - Sixth Edition (2011)*
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc
Becker, Aliza.
- *Future: U.S. Citizens (2011)*
Pearson Longman ESL
Lynn, Sarah.
- *U.S. Citizen, Yes : Preparing for Citizenship (2010)*
Heinle ELT
Magy, Ronna.
- *Our Nation series (2006)*
Red Brick Learning
Titles include: *The American Flag; The Bald Eagle; The National Anthem; Our National Holidays; The Pledge of Allegiance; The Presidency; The U.S. Congress; The U.S. Supreme Court; Voting and Elections;* and more.
- *Celebrating American Heroes: Plays for Students of English (2000)*
Pro Lingua Associates
Siebert, Anne
Available in a set of 10 with audiotape and teacher's guide

- *American Civics* series (1999)
Red Brick Learning
Heath, David
Titles include: *The Presidency of the United States*; *The Congress of the United States*; *The Supreme Court of the United States*; and *Elections in the United States*
Available in sets of 6

Web Resources

The Adult Learning Resource Center of Illinois

<http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/citizenship.html>

This site provides a number of resources for teaching citizenship including teaching technique resources and preparation materials.

The Colorado Department of Education

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeadult/ELCivics.htm>

This website boasts a number of resources and suggested textbooks for teaching EL/Civics and Citizenship.

USCIS Website

<http://www.uscis.gov>

Not only does the USCIS website provide a wealth of factual information about the Naturalization process, it also contains many instructional resources to help with preparation, including printable flashcards to help students prepare for the test.

Thoughts on Persistence

From the Mini Book on Retention Strategies in *The Retention Toolkit*.

Use real life materials to help foster applied learning (i.e. newspapers, maps, and work related materials)

- Subscribe to a news magazine with several reading levels available (Check out <http://www.newsforyouonline.com/index.asp>)
- Use maps to teach reading, math, and geography
- Use recipes to teach fractions, ratios, and proportions