



Friday NewsBriefs

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Free Legal Aid Workshops

Legal Aid will be presenting a series of Brief Advice and Referral Clinics through the end of March. Please see attached flyers for full details.

LD Blog

Looking for information on learning disabilities? Look no further. Visit the LD Blog to view and post comments and access a wide variety of learning disabilities resources. Please visit: <http://adultlearningdisabilities.blogspot.com/>

Free Webinars

Strategies for Passing the GED

Caren Van Slyke, GED instructor, teacher trainer, and GED textbook developer
All webinars run from 2-3 p.m. ET. Register for one or more.

February 25: Strategies for Passing the GED Mathematics Test

March 25: Streamlining Preparation to Pass the GED Writing Skills Test

April 22: Building Graphic Literacy to Pass the GED Tests

Passing the New Citizenship Test

Lynne Weintraub, citizenship instructor and author of *Citizenship: Passing the Test*
Each webinar shows you how to get students ready for the new test and previews the new editions of Lynne's books.

All webinars run from 3-4 p.m. ET. Choose one.

February 27

March 13

April 24

Endeavor: Bringing Reading Research into the Classroom

Learn how *Endeavor* helps students improve fluency, develop vocabulary, and apply reading comprehension skills and strategies.

All webinars run from 3-4 p.m. ET. Choose one.

February 20

March 20

April 17

To register, e-mail nascenzo@proliteracy.org. Please indicate which session you wish to attend. You will receive a confirmation and instructions on how to dial into the webinar session

Upcoming Training From the Literacy Cooperative

Instructors Learning Network- Understanding Learner Persistence

Friday, February 27
11:00AM-2:00PM, Lunch Provided

Location: Trinity Cathedral and Commons, 2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115
(FREE parking is available. Enter lot entrance from Prospect Avenue at East 22 St.)

What can programs and instructors do to help learners persist in their studies and reach their goals? What is the difference between retention and persistence? Come to this gathering of instructors to answer those questions and many others! Participants will expand their definition of persistence, learn what researchers have discovered about persistence, and share with colleagues from their own experiences with students.

Target audience for this event is teachers and tutors of adult education, ESOL, after-school tutoring programs, and job readiness programs.

Contact Tova Weinberg at the Literacy Cooperative by phone, 216.393.4549, or by email, tweinberg@literacycooperative.org.

To view other 2009 workshop offerings, go to the Literacy Cooperative's website calendar, www.literacycooperative.org and click on the calendar tab.

Matt's Tech Tips

Social Networks

Online social networks like MySpace, Facebook, and LinkedIn have been around for years, and can be lumped into the general category of Web 2.0 technologies. Essentially, social networks offer users diverse online communication environment to maintain existing relationship and build new ones in professional and personal circles. One of the best examples of an active social network related to education is the Classroom2.0 (www.classroom20.com) site with over 17,000 members that share and discuss Web 2.0 and collaborative technology in education.

To get a better understanding of how social networks work and why they are popular, check out <http://www.whatissocialnetworking.com/>.

Grant Opportunities

Horace Mann: College Course Scholarships for Educators

The Horace Mann Scholarship Program for Educators is offering scholarships for educators in public and private schools to take college courses.

Maximum Award: \$5,000.

Eligibility: Educators must be employed by a U.S. public or private school district or U.S. public or private college/university at the time of application and at the time

the scholarship is awarded, and must have at least two years of teaching experience; not open to residents of Hawaii, New Jersey, or New York.

Deadline: March 12, 2009.

<https://www.horacemann.com/resources/scholarships/default.aspx>



The Resource Room

New in the NEABLE Library

- **Contemporary's 2009 Foundations Series**

Reading: covers content areas - practical reading, nonfiction, poetry and short fiction.

Writing: covers the essay, the writing process, the essay form, and grammar

Mathematics: covers whole numbers, money, decimals, fractions, and ratios and percents

Each book provides numerous practice exercises along with complete answers and explanations. A post-test allows students to assess their skill proficiency and determine their readiness for more advanced study.

- ***I Read It, But I Don't Get It*** by Cris Tovani.
Have you wondered why exactly your students are having trouble reading? Do you know what their personal "reading history" has been since they were young? This book will give you a sense of what they may have experienced as an adolescent, what turned them off to reading and how you can turn them back on.
- ***Refugees from Iraq*** from the Cultural Orientation Resource Center at the Center for Applied Linguistics, 2008.
This enhanced refugee backgrounder provides basic information about the history, cultures, and background experiences of the new Iraqi arrivals. It also looks at experiences of refugees in the countries of first asylum and potential resettlement issues. There is also a list of recommended books, articles, reports and web sites that will be useful for further study.

To access these books from the NEABLE library (www.neablelibrary.org), choose the title search, type in the title, reserve the book and we will send it to you . If you have any difficulty with this process, please call the resource center at 1-800-361-7076.

Thoughts on Leadership

Thoughts on Leadership is an attachment to the Friday NewsBriefs.