

April, 2006

CIAESC Connection

A publication of the



Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center

College of Education and Human Services

Horrabin Hall 5A, Western Illinois University

Macomb, IL 61455-1390

www.cait.org/ciaesc/

The Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center is a special project conducted under the provisions of the Workforce Investment Act, Title II Adult Education and Family Literacy, and is administered through the Illinois Community College Board. Federal funds provide 100% support.

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Supplementary Articles for Classroom Use

Electronic Portfolios: A New Idea in Assessment.

Teachers and administrators are showing increased interest in becoming part of a "new wave" of assessment in the classroom; assessment which includes authentic and performance-based measures. One of these new assessment measures, the portfolio, has become increasingly popular, and technology is helping with its creation and management. This digest considers the questions "What is a Portfolio?" and "Why Use a Portfolio?".

For more information on this subject, check out our Web Spotlight in this newsletter.

Job-Related Basic Skills.

In light of the recent explosion of information on workplace literacy and basic skills, this Digest updates a previous edition by redefining job-related basic skills and reviewing the current consensus on their importance. Levels of job literacy, examples of programs, and recommendations about ways to make skill development programs work are discussed.

Family Literacy: Respecting Family Ways.

This digest is based on a model that acknowledges that there are family-relevant, as well as school-relevant, ways of bringing literacy into the home. It acknowledges the positive contributions of family members and takes into account the influence that cultural values and practices have on literacy development.

Poetry in the Adult ESL Classroom.

Poetry can be used in adult English as a second language (ESL) classes with all learners, even those with limited literacy and proficiency in English. Learners can read, discuss, and write about poems and how they speak to their life situations. They can also create poems of their own to express their feelings, thoughts, or beliefs. This digest discusses ways to select and use poetry in adult language and literacy classes and provides information about poetry collections and resources for further reading.

If you would like a copy of any or all of these articles, please email GK-Henderson@wiu.edu or call CIAESC at (800) 572-9033.

Web Spotlight

Electric Teacher Online Portfolios
<http://www.electricteacher.com/onlineportfolio>

Portfolios are collections of student work representing a selection of performance. They can include not only written samples, but also math work, science, social studies, etc. Students are often interested in publishing their work online, and in this way can critique their work and note their learning progress. This site can help give teachers ideas on how to use online student portfolios and how to set them up for their own classroom. No web server to host your portfolios? The Pre-Steps page of this site provides links to sites where you can secure free access to space.

CIAESC Staff Development Workshops

There are no fees for these workshops, but please contact CIAESC at (800) 572-9033 if you plan to attend.

Descriptions for all workshops may be found on our website, www.cait.org/ciaesc.

Click on the *Calendar of Professional Workshops* link.

Conquering Common ESL Classroom Management Problems

April 20, 2006, 2 pm - 3 pm

Online using Horizon Wimba

ESL Provider Group

April 21, 2006, 9 am - 12 pm

Richland Community College, One College Park, Decatur, IL 62521

Picture Story Phonics

April 21, 2006, 10 am - 1 pm

Lakeview Library, 1137 W. Lake Avenue, Peoria, IL 61614

Dig It!

April 21, 2006, 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Macon-Piatt ROE Adult Education Center, 432 N. Water, Decatur, IL 62523

Websites for the ESL Classroom

April 27, 2006, 10 am - 11 am

Online using Horizon WIMBA

Reading 3 - the Mystery of Assessment

April 28, 2006, 10:30 am - 5 pm

Lakeview Library, 1137 W. Lake Avenue, Peoria, IL 61614

Here Today, Gone Tomorrow!

May 2, 2006, 2 pm - 3 pm

Online using Horizon WIMBA

Workplace Provider Group Meeting

May 5, 2006, 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Macon-Piatt ROE Adult Education Center, 432 N. Water, Decatur, IL 62523

Horizon WIMBA Walk-Through

May 10, 2006, 10 am - 11 am

Online using Horizon WIMBA

Idioms for ESL and ABE/GED. Wuz 'at mean?

May 10, 2006, 1 pm - 2 pm

Online using Horizon WIMBA

Grouping ESL Students Effectively

May 11, 2006, 2 pm - 3 pm

Online using Horizon WIMBA

Workplace Skills Across the Curriculum - The Green Industry

May 12, 2006, 12 pm - 3 pm

Monmouth PASS, 1291 North 6th Street, Suite 100, Monmouth, IL 61462

CIAESC Resource Library Picks

CIAESC maintains a lending resource library of professional and classroom materials (books, videos, audiotapes, disk software and CD-ROMs) and makes the resources available at no cost to all adult education program staff in the Illinois Service Center Network service region. To check out materials listed below or to customize your search for additional resources, please go to our web site, www.cait.org/ciaesc and click on the Resource Library graphic. To find one of the titles listed below, type the title in the search form title field and begin search. Directions to conduct your own search and to check out materials via the online shopping cart are provided. Patrons are encouraged to utilize the online system. If you do not have access to the Internet, please call (800) 572-9033 to arrange for check out.

How To Respond To Your Culturally Diverse Student Population

The author of this book presents a wealth of research on the effects of traditional American education practices on minority students, and practical suggestions for change. She focuses on five specific areas in which schools can make significant strides in reaching out to students. The self-evaluation questions for readers and suggestions for developing multicultural programs will help educators create schools in which all students feel they are full-fledged members of the school community. (1993)

Motivating Students and Teachers in an Era of Standards

The pressures of standards and testing can lead to higher student dropout rates and teacher attrition. But you can help your school stay positive and focused with the timely advice from this book. Learn why attending to five basic human needs is critical to school success. Explore simple strategies that make the experience of school rewarding for teachers and students. (2003)

Infotext Reading and Learning

The textbooks, manuals, magazines and so on that we read for information (Infotexts) often present problems, even for proficient readers. This text explains why this is so and how teachers of content subjects can help students overcome these problems. The book sets out practical, classroom-tested techniques that focus on content while encouraging students to take control of their own learning by expanding their repertoire of reading strategies. (1993)

Methods That Matter

This resource offers concrete descriptions of practical and proven ways of organizing time, space, materials, students, and activities that embody new standards while creating student-centered classrooms. The book describes six fundamental, recurrent activities. (1998)

Read All About It

A 23-book series that invites beginning readers to explore a science or social studies topic. The books combine nonfiction content with a story framework. (1995) *The parts may be checked out individually or as a series. Search for the entire Read All About It series and then add the parts you wish to request to your shopping cart.*

Key Words for Fluency

This resource concentrates on those words which students need to communicate in English. It emphasizes those very common words which occur in lots of different contexts and identifies around 150 nouns which are essential for fluency. Each unit deals with one word and on average covers 20 of its most important collocations, teaching over 3,000 lexical items. Intermediate level. (2005)