

July, 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

Assessing Employability Skills

The term “employability skills” refers to those skills required to acquire and retain a job. In the past, employability skills were considered to be primarily of a vocational or job-specific nature; they were not thought to include the academic skills most commonly taught in the schools. Current thinking, however, has broadened the definition of employability skills to include not only many foundational academic skills, but also a variety of attitudes and habits.

Family and Intergenerational Literacy

“Teach the parent, reach the child.” Family and intergenerational literacy programs are intended to improve the literacy of educationally disadvantaged parents and children, based on the assumption that improving the literacy skills of parents results in better educational experiences for their children. This ERIC DIGEST looks at types and characteristics of family literacy programs and considers some of the issues in this approach.

The Mathematics and Reading Connection

A children’s rhyme linked the domains of the three Rs—reading, ‘riting and ‘rithmetic—long before the whole language philosophy or integrated curriculum became focal points for educators. Letters, symbols, and numbers are the primary methods of communication in the world. This includes the universal sharing of ideas, concepts, data, and information. This common role in society creates a natural connection for the integration of reading and mathematics in the school curriculum.

Learning Disabilities and Its Impact on Poverty and Adult Literacy Programs

There is increasing evidence that learning disabilities are directly linked to the economic and social well-being of adult populations. The findings of recent studies show that individuals with learning disabilities make up large percentages of those in the US who receive public assistance, participate in adult literacy programs, and are enrolled in job training services. This paper reports on poverty issues as they pertain to adults with learning disabilities.

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

Google Short Message Service

<http://www.google.com/sms/index.html>

Google SMS is a new service that enables you to search for certain kinds of information with Google and returns your search results as text messages. The results will display in the phone image on the website or to a mobile phone. Get phone book listings, driving directions, weather, facts, dictionary definitions, language translation, currency conversion, a calculator, and more.

Online Horizon WIMBA Staff Development

Each workshop is presented online using Horizon WIMBA. Participants must register for ONE WIMBA Walk-Through prior to their first online workshop. For a complete list of scheduled Walk-Throughs, go to <http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/walkthrough/index.asp> There are no registration fees but please contact CIAESC at (800) 572-9033 to participate in a Walk-Through or Online Workshop.

Financial Planning 101

July 25, 2006, 11 am - 12 pm

Are you wondering if you are saving enough for retirement? Are you worried about trying to save money for both your children's college education and your retirement? Are you taking full advantage of all your "tax-deferred" retirement options? In this workshop you will learn about some basic financial principles, lessons and facts that will help you determine how well you are doing financially now and also how to improve your financial planning for the future. Examples of the magic of compounding interest, rule of 72, and pay yourself first principle will be discussed and illustrated. Participants will benefit from expanding their financial planning knowledge and taking control of their saving and investing opportunities.

PowerPoint in the Classroom

August 1, 2006, 12 pm - 1 pm

Microsoft PowerPoint is a high-powered software tool used for presenting information in a dynamic slide show format. Text, charts, graphs, and pictures are just some of the elements PowerPoint can incorporate into your presentations with ease. This hands-on, learn-as-you-do method will have you up and running on PowerPoint by the end of the workshop so that you can use it in the classroom and teach your students a valuable workplace skill.

TABE What's New and What's Not?

August 9, 2006, 1 pm - 2 pm

TABE 7/8 or TABE 9/10? Which forms should my program be using? What's the difference? Does my program have to change to 9/10? Can we use both? Which form will students benefit from the most? This brief informational TABE session will answer these questions and more!

Websites for the ESL Classroom

August 10, 2006, 10 am - 11 am

What websites are the best for your ESL learners? Can they be used effectively in your classroom or as part of distance learning for your adult ESL learners? This online professional development session will explore ESL websites. Participants and the presenter alike can learn from each other and develop strategies to make learning online easier. At least five websites will be explored with input from the presenter and the participants.

Score! Improving Performance on the GED Math Test

August 16, 2006, 1 pm - 2 pm

Learn about the difficulties non- and near-passers have encountered on the GED Math tests, how they performed in three thematic areas, and teaching tips recommended by the GED Testing Service to help them improve their scores in these areas.

CIAESC Fall Conference

October 19-20, 2006

Ramada and Conference Center, Peoria, IL

Full Conference \$95.00

Thursday only \$60.00

Friday only \$40.00

The Conference Registration Form is available from our website in .pdf format. Or call (800) 572-9033 for a paper copy. Registration deadline: October 13, 2006

<http://www.cait.org/ciaesc/conference>

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.

Reaching Adult Learners in New Ways

Capitalizing on the promise for adult literacy that technology holds forth involves more than simply plugging in a computer. This video of a PBS LiteracyLink® showcases effective uses of current technologies in action and explores how community partnerships can expand access, quality and resources for adult learning. This video may ONLY be used for internal staff development within your program and any copying of the tape in whole or part is strictly prohibited by the PBS licensing terms. (2001)

Math Games for Middle School

This is an ideal resource for teachers who want to challenge their students and at the same time reinforce basic skills. The book reviews all the topics of the middle-school curriculum, from addition to subtraction to plane and space geometry, graphing, and probability. "Math Camps" provide fun ways to apply new skills. (1998)

What I Want My Words To Do To You

This DVD documentary distributed by PBS Home Video gives a candid portrait of life behind bars. Through a series of exercises and discussions female inmates delve into and expose their most terrifying realities as they grapple with the nature of their crimes. The video culminates in a performance of the women's writing by acclaimed actors. The DVD running time is approximately 80 minutes. (2003)

Amazing American Women

This is a collection of stories, not complete biographies, about forty important American women. The collection is designed to act as supplementary materials to enrich and enliven core curriculum teaching. Each of the women profiled in the book faced a burden of having to break through societally imposed gender barriers to reach their goals and expand opportunities for others. (1995)

Achieving TABE Success in Language Level E

Achieving TABE Success in Language Level M

Achieving TABE Success in Language Level D

Achieving TABE Success in Language Level A

Contemporary's four-part series that helps students learn and improve basic grammar, usage, and writing skills. Each lesson gives instruction and varied practice on a specific language or writing skill as tested on the TABE. Lessons include usage, sentence formation, paragraph development, capitalization, punctuation, and writing conventions. Each book in the series corresponds to a level of the test and concentrates on skills necessary for mastery for both the Language test and the Language Mechanics tests. Request each level from the online library individually. (2006)