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CIAESC Connection

CIAESC is part of the Illinois Service Center Network



CIAESC Connection is a publication of the

Central Illinois Adult Education Center

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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.

Supplementary Articles for Classroom Use

The Importance of Word Study

It is the author's experience that Beginning and Intermediate ABE students greatly enjoy and benefit from planned and directed word study. They soon realize that this is what they have been missing in their reading instruction and actually look forward to reading, spelling, and/or understanding selected word lists. The mysteries of the English language diminish and they begin to believe that they will become readers. Their lifelong reading difficulties are no longer "about them"; but rather are about finding out what they know and don't know and filling in the gaps of alphabetic or background knowledge.

I-BEST: A Program Integrating Adult Basic Education And Workforce Training

Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (I-BEST) pairs English as a second language (ESL)/adult basic education (ABE) instructors and professional-technical instructors in the classroom to concurrently provide students with literacy education and workforce skills. In spring 2004, Washington's State Board for Community and Technical Colleges' Offices for Adult Basic Education and Workforce Education (SBCTC) began 10 innovative demonstration I-BEST projects that tested traditional notions that students must first complete all levels of basic education before they can begin workforce training. All of the projects focused on ESL education, and this abstract chronicles what can be learned from the I-BEST demonstration projects.

Mathematics and At-Risk Adult Learners: Would Technology Help?

The authors of this paper examine the effects of computer-assisted instruction (CAI) on adult at-risk learners in fundamental mathematics education. This examination includes comparing the results of adult learners experiencing learning with CAI with those who do not. They explore and present viable teaching and learning strategies for at-risk students with a focus on a Web-based approach, summarize the analysis of the data, and also discuss concerns and issues arising from the learning experience.

Overcoming Barriers to Employment: Strategies of Rehabilitation Providers

Focus groups of rehabilitation providers identified barriers to the employment of persons who are visually impaired and strategies to overcome them. The barriers included negative attitudes of employers and of persons with visual impairments, inadequate transportation, the lack of access to print, and administrative issues. Strategies for overcoming each barrier are discussed.

Please email GK-Henderson@wiu.edu if you would like a copy of these articles.

Web Spotlight

You Are Here

www.ftc.gov/YouAreHere

Students can learn key consumer concepts by visiting this virtual shopping mall. Find answers to questions like "How does advertising affect you?" and "How do you benefit when businesses compete?". The site is designed for learners at the 5th through 8th grade level and can complement lessons in critical thinking, writing, language arts, media literacy, business, civics, and social studies. Teachers should be sure to check out the Parents and Teachers page on the site for suggested activities and ways to use the site in your classroom.

A Letter from the Director

When I was 17, I went from being a high school honor student to a teenage runaway—just one step removed from living on the street. Three years later, I was married and had a child. I had no diploma and little hope for the bright future I had once dreamed of. Then I met someone a lot like you.

It has been twenty-five years. During that time, I studied for and earned a GED, continued on to a graduate degree, worked in adult education as a volunteer, teacher, advisor, staff developer, and finally as an administrator. My aspirations grew and bloomed brightly. Of course, it wasn't easy. But I had help along the way. From many someones who were a lot like you.

At the end of this month, I will be leaving Illinois and the Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center. My husband and I will be moving to Ohio to be near family and friends. I will miss you all very much—and thank you sincerely for your help and support. It has been my pleasure to work beside you these past 15 years helping others to help themselves.

The current status of the Illinois budget makes for an uncertain future—and I am afraid for those individuals whose potential may be thwarted, yet again. This time, because of funding. We as a field must continue to work together to help the decision-makers understand the economic and human consequences of a failure to maintain adequate funding for adult education. I know you believe in what you do. We must help them believe it, too. If you've already contacted your legislators, do it again—and if you haven't, now's the time.

Someone just like you changed the course of my life. Don't ever doubt that you make a difference. I can tell you from experience that you do.

Sincerely,
Raemarie Oatman
rmoatman@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATE!

In place of the required August Administrators Meeting the ICCB will be holding one day regional meetings. The meeting time will be 10:00 – 4:00 with lunch provided.

The regional schedule for these meetings is as follows:

Region I - August 26th - Harold Washington College
Region II - August 27th - High School District #214 - Forest View Center
Region III - August 12th - ICCB Conference Room
Region IV - August 24th - Rend Lake Market Place

ICCB is very excited about this new format. Keep your eyes out for registration information and an agenda.

David Baker
Illinois Community College Board

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.

Learn About the United States: Quick Civics Lessons for the New Naturalization Test Civics Flash Cards for the New Naturalization Test

Learn About the United States: Quick Civics Lessons for the New Naturalization Test will help learners study for the civics and English portions of the naturalization interview. There are 100 civics (history and government) questions on the naturalization test. *Learn About the United States* contains short lessons based on each of the 100 civics (U.S. history and government) questions. An audio CD of the 100 questions and answers for the new naturalization test accompanies this booklet. The *Civics Flash Cards for the New Naturalization Test* will help immigrants learn about U.S. history and government while preparing for the new naturalization test. These flash cards can also be used in the classroom as an instructional tool for citizenship preparation. (2009)

FLAIR (Family Literacy Assessment for Illinois Results): Pilot Training Manual

In this training manual, performances with thresholds, expectations, and time periods suggested by the Working Group and the 120 participants in the focus groups is included. Also included in FLAIR is a Fall 2002 technical manual that explains in detail how to enter information collected via FLAIR data collection forms or locally developed assessment tools into the FLAIR Database (2001)

Bridges to Careers for Low-Skilled Adults

This 125-page guide provides concrete guidance on how to develop and implement "bridge programs," which help adult students improve their basic skills and succeed in college. The guide contains information and interactive worksheets that program developers and managers can use to help with program design, curriculum development, funding, implementation, and evaluation. (2005)

Kitchen Math: Math and My World

Map Math: Math and My World

Medical Math: Math and My World

Time Math: Math and My World

Travel Math: Math and My World

Weather Math: Math and My World

Math is all around you! It's almost impossible to go through a day without finding reasons to add, subtract, multiply, and divide. There's plenty of practical information in the *Math and My World* series that will make math fun and easy. Each title in the series must be requested individually from the CIAESC Resource Library. (2004)