

Professional Development Monthly Advisor and Planner (PD MAP)

Theme: Reading Instruction for Adults

July 2009

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Welcome to the July Professional Development MAP!

We often associate summertime with reading – sitting outside in the warm weather with a good book. But as we all know, for many adults, reading is a challenge and a frustration, rather than a pleasure. The theme of this month's Professional Development Advisor and Planner is *Reading Instruction for Adults*. John Kruidenier's 2002 book *Research-Based Principles for Adult Basic Education Reading Instruction* was the springboard for a wealth of high-quality professional development materials that help teachers understand the four components of reading – alphabets, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension – and how good instruction can promote learner's mastery of those essential skills. The 2005 text *Applying Research in Reading Instruction for Adults: First Steps for Teachers* takes Kruidenier's principles and translates them into practical techniques for adult education teachers. Most of the resources listed in this month's PD MAP – online courses, seminars, articles, lesson plans, webcasts and research briefs - grew out of these two seminal texts. Note that Kathy St. John of ProLiteracy will present a double session on reading comprehension at the CAEPA Rendezvous Conference August 6-7.

Please share this PD MAP with your teachers, but before you do take a look at the resources yourself. Many, particularly the seminar guides listed under Collaboration with Colleagues, would be excellent for back-to-school teacher in-services in late July or early August.

Keep on reading!

Best regards,

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Self-Study:

Applying Research in Reading Instruction for Adults: First Steps for Teachers

National Institute for Literacy, National Center for Family Literacy, 2005

<http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/publications/adult.html>

Written for teachers of adult basic literacy, each chapter in this downloadable book describes in detail a component of reading instruction (alphabets, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension), discusses how to assess the component and provides numerous practical techniques for instruction.

Research-based Reading Instruction for Adult Learners

Thinkfinity, self-paced online mini-courses

<http://literacynetwork.verizon.org/Free-Online-Courses.21.0.html>

Several free mini-courses address reading instruction for adults: *Understanding the Reading Process*, *Phonemic Awareness*, *A Way with Words: Strategies for Strengthening Adult Learners' Vocabularies*, *Developing Reading Fluency*, *Before During and After – A Reading Comprehension Technique* and *Working with Adult Literacy Learners*.

Understanding What Reading Is All About: Teaching Materials and Lessons for ABE Learners

National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy (NCSALL), 2005

<http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/teach/uwriaa.pdf>

This guide, for teachers of ABE learners reading at a 0-6 reading level, offers 13 lessons that help learners understand the distinct but integrated skills involved in becoming a more fluent reader. These lessons help demystify the process of learning to read and guide students to set their own goals for reading. The step-by-step instructions can also be adapted for use with ESL learners.

How Should Adult ESL Reading Instruction Differ From ABE Reading Instruction?

Burt, Miriam, Kreeft Peyton, Joy and Van Duzer, Carol. March 2005

Center for Adult English Language Acquisition (CAELA)

http://www.cal.org/caela/esl_resources/briefs/readingdif.html

Using findings from a synthesis of research on adult ESL learners learning to read this brief examines the four components of reading instruction (alphabeticity, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension), discusses implications for adult ESL learners, and provides practical suggestions for teaching the components to adult ESL learners.

The Relationship Between Reading and Speaking Skills

Focus on Basics, Vol 4, Issue A, 2000

<http://www.ncsall.net/?id=771&pid=328>

This interview of Ann Hilferty explains the importance of teaching reading as well as oral communication in the adult ESL classroom even with low level learners.

Adult Education Reading Instruction: Assessment Techniques and Activities

Kathy Santopietro Weddel, Northern Colorado Professional Development Center, 2008

<http://ae.stvrain.k12.co.us/ncpdc.html>

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

This document describes over 15 instructional techniques and activities that can be used to link reading instruction to the *CASAS Competencies* and *Reading Basic Skills Content Standards*. Techniques include strip stories, cloze, skimming, jigsaw, vocabulary sets, team reading, scanning, context clues, Language Experience Approach, question grid and discrimination.

Collaboration with Colleagues:

From Assessment to Practice: Research-Based Approaches to Teaching Reading to Adults

National Institute for Literacy, archived webcast, Sept 2007

<http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/webcasts/assesspractice/webcast0928.html>

View this webcast with your staff and follow up with a discussion of how its findings can be implemented at your local program. The webcast explains how the four components of reading provide a framework for assessing students' reading ability and how assessment results can lead to instruction that improves students' reading. The webcast focuses on word analysis and comprehension to illustrate research-based practices.

Topics in Reading Instruction for Adults: NCSALL Seminar Guides

National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy, 2005

These five guides provide comprehensive instructions and all necessary materials for facilitating short seminars for local adult education teaching staffs. The seminars explore the four components of reading, introduce evidence-based instruction for ABE learners, describe the reading profiles from the Adult Reading Components Study and explain reading instruction for ESL learners.

Ideas for Teaching Reading: ABE

http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/teach/ideas_abe_role.pdf

Ideas for Teaching Reading: ESL

http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/teach/ideas_esol_role.pdf

Reading Difficulties

http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/teach/read_diff_role.pdf

Reading Profiles

http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/teach/read_profile_role.pdf

Teaching Learners What Reading is All About

http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/teach/teach_learners_role.pdf

Critical Literacy for Adult English Language Learners

Van Duzer, Carol and MaryAnn Cunningham-Florez. CAELA Brief, December 1999. National Center for ESL Literacy Education.

http://www.cal.org/caela/esl_resources/digests/critlit.html

Critical literacy helps readers go beyond the decoding of letters and words. This digest examines the concept of critical literacy, discusses why critical literacy is important to include in instruction and gives examples of critical literacy activities and strategies. Ideas in the article are applicable to ESL and ABE/ASE learners.

To conduct a 60-90 minute staff discussion of the above article, use the following resource:

Guidelines for Facilitating Discussion Groups

<http://www.calpro-online.org/pubs/DiscussionGuidelineforResearchPublications.pdf>

Workshops, Trainings, Conferences:

Structured Learning Webinar July 13, 2:00 – 3:00 RMT

Many adult students who have learning or attention problems manifest poor organizational skills and appear to lack structure, resulting in inefficiencies and ineffectiveness when learning and studying. This presentation provides participants with techniques to help adult learners with organization and structure. Presented by nationally acclaimed learning specialist Richard Cooper, Director of the Center for Alternative Learning. All you need to participate is a computer and telephone.

Register online at www.naasln.org/webinars.htm \$20.00 Members, \$30.00 Non-Members
For questions, email info@naasln.org.

Courses for Credit:

Summer EDU courses are already under way in July. New courses start in August and September.

Additional Professional Development Resources:

Deeper Reading: Comprehending Challenging Texts

Gallagher, Kelly. Portland, Maine: Stenhouse Publishers, 2004

<http://www.stenhouse.com/html/booksvideo.htm>

Learn ways to teach readers to read beneath the surface details to the greater meaning. Although the book targets readers in grades 4-12, the concepts can be applied to adult learners. The primary focus is on teaching larger pieces of literature, but also includes a section on teaching critical reading of "real-world writings" such as political cartoons, popular statistics, propaganda, consumerism, etc.

Reading Issue

SABES Field Notes, Vol. 10, No. 2, Fall 2000

<http://www.sabes.org/resources/publications/fieldnotes/index.htm>

This journal, written by adult education teachers in Massachusetts, contains a wealth of articles about successful strategies they have employed with adults learning to read. Article topics include: reading

skills for students transitioning to college, reading instruction for pre-GED learners, teaching higher order reading skills to low level ESL readers, and developing independent readers.

Subject: Reading

National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy

<http://www.ncsall.net/index.php?id=91>

This site lists NCSALL’s collection of research articles on adult reading instruction from 1997-2007.

Linking Reading Instruction and Assessment - Supplemental ESL and ABE Textbooks

<http://ae.stvrain.k12.co.us/ncpdc.html>

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

This document identifies textbooks that can be used with adults to supplement a core text series to provide extended instruction and practice in reading basic skills or content standards. The texts are listed according to CASAS Levels A, AX, B, and C.

Research on Reading Development of Adult ESL Learners: An Annotated Bibliography

Adams, R. and Burt, M. Center for Applied Linguistics, 2002

http://www.cal.org/caela/esl_resources/bibliographies/readingbib.html

This bibliography presents a comprehensive view of the research that has been conducted on reading development among adult English language learners in the United States from 1980-2001.

CDE/AEFL Professional Development Hours

All professional development options listed on this PD MAP earn CDE/AEFL PD Hours as described in the *Guide to Professional Development Reporting* at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeadult/download/pdf/GuideToPDRreportingV2.pdf>

For annual AEFLA reporting, teachers completing Self-Study or Collaboration with Colleagues options simply confer with their program director and record the number of PD Hours earned on their *Teacher’s Annual Professional Development Activity Record*. Teachers completing workshops, training, or courses for credit receive certificates with PD Hours or transcripts.

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeadult/download/pdf/AnnualPDActivityRecordFY09v3.pdf>

The PD options listed under the Self-Study strand are not acceptable for the LIA Portfolio training hours or for renewing a LIA. <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeadult/LIAIndex.htm>

Follow-up to This Month’s Professional Development

The CDE/AEFL office is hosting a 1-hour conference call on Friday, July 24th at 9:00 a.m. to follow up with teachers who complete any of the PD options listed on this month’s PD MAP. The conference call allows teachers across the state to connect with each other to ask and answer questions about this month’s theme of *Reading Instruction for Adults*, to share successful strategies and ask for advice regarding challenges. Teachers who participate in the conference call earn 1 additional PD Hour. To register for the conference call, please call 303-866-6942 or e-mail your name, program name, e-mail address, and daytime phone number to: Jessie Hawthorn, Hawthorn_J@cde.state.co.us

To find this issue of the PD MAP on our Web site go to:

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

PD Advisory Group Mission Statement

To create an integrated, accessible, and flexible system of professional development for adult education teachers in Colorado.

Upcoming PD Events in August

CAEPA Rendezvous Conference
August 6-7, Breckenridge

CDE/AEFL Regional Assessment Trainings

Trinidad, Aug. 13-14
Aurora, Aug. 20-21
Gunnison, Aug. 31-Sept. 1
Ft. Morgan, Sept. 11-12
Glenwood Springs, Sept. 25-26

August 2009 PD Monthly Advisor & Planner

Theme: Intake, Assessment and Goal Setting with Adult Learners

CDE/AEFL Professional Development Advisory Group members:

Jane Miller, CDE/AEFL; Mary Jo Sobocinski, McLain Community High School, Lakewood; Connie Davis, Northern Colorado Professional Development Center, Longmont; Debra Fawcett, CDE/AEFL; Melissa Burkhardt-Shields, Adult & Family Education, SD-11, Colorado Springs; Dave Askeland, CMC Adult Education, Breckenridge Campus; Karin Hostetter, Summer Scholars, Denver; Michele Short, The Learning Source, Lakewood