



Tutor Connection

Winter 2016/17 Edition

By Carol Anne Maloney, Coordinator of Volunteers

Tri-County Literacy Council is a community-based, non-profit organization that enriches both community and individuals by addressing literacy needs

"There's no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs."

Author Unknown

Tips to Motivate Learners

Adult literacy students have much on their mind, literacy being one of many concerns. As such, tutors may find it challenging to motivate learners, at times. The following tips may be helpful for tutors:

1. **Create useful and relevant learning based on learner's interests.**
Emphasise practical knowledge that the learner can use in everyday life, whether at work or home.
2. **Facilitate exploration.** Use a variety of materials such as Internet sites and magazines to make your tutoring session engaging.
3. **Group information.** Provide information in small amounts to help the student remember.
4. **Accommodate individual interests and career goals.** Empower learners to work on these goals and individualize the training to suit their needs.
5. **Stimulate your learner.** Encourage thinking by

using brain teasers or asking thought-provoking questions.

6. **Practice, practice, practice.** Give your student plenty of time to practice different concepts.
7. **Make lessons visually-compelling.** Did you know that 83% of learning occurs visually?
8. **Access emotions.** Use learning materials that are meaningful to the student.
9. **Use examples from the student's workplace, if possible.** Find out which literacy tasks are done at work and have the student practice these during the tutoring session.
10. **Be respectful of the student.**
11. **Ask for feedback.**

"Keep smiling, because life is a beautiful thing and there is so much to smile about."

Marilyn Munroe

“Don’t count days, make the days count.”

Muhammad Ali

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We’re on the Web!

See us at:
www.tricountyliteracycouncil.ca

Visit our website regularly; to learn about the latest FREE courses being offered.

Real-life Materials

Following are real-life materials and exercises you may want to use in tutoring sessions:

Reading

- Books
- Bus schedules
- Calendars
- Canada’s Food Guide
- Canadian Citizenship Test
- Classified ads
- Comic strips
- Course information and schedules
- Driver’s Manual
- Graphic novels
- Local newspapers – Standard Freeholder, Seaway News, Local Seeker, Le Journal
- Magazines
- Maps
- Menus
- Nutritional labels
- School communication documents
- Song lyrics

Filling out Forms

- Apartment lease
- Incident Report
- Medical application form

Writing

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Shopping list
- To Do list

Computer Use

- Applying for a job online
- Performing online searches using Google
- Signing up for email

Working with Others

- Mock Interview

Math

- Balancing a budget
- Calculating the measurements of a room or an item
- Determining the shipping rates or taxes of an item
- Comparison shop
- Doubling a recipe
- Making change
- Reviewing receipts

As you can see, individuals do a variety of literacy-related tasks every day, whether at work or home. The list of real-life materials is endless, limited only by your imagination.

Library Resources

- **Workwrite Volume 1** (*Organizing Information, Schedules, and Information Forms*)
- **Workwrite** (*Policies and Procedures*)
- **Workwrite** (*Numeracy*)

“A person, who never made a mistake, never tried anything new.”

Albert Einstein

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