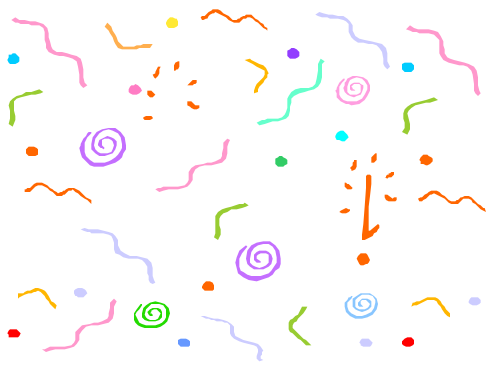


news



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*A Message from the Director
Richard A. Peterson*

A Reading Celebration

In case you missed this year's Reading Breakfast – held on July 26th – you still might have a chance to enjoy what was a memorable day. Over 100 people attended and about 30 Project: LEARN students read aloud. I am always moved by our students when they read in front of a

group. But what impressed me the most this year was the selections they chose : they ran the gamut from the classics to original compositons.

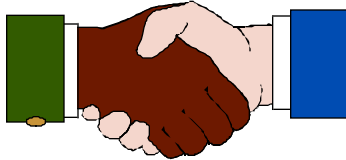
This year we were fortunate to have a professional video made of this event. Once we complete our editing we'll find a way to share it with the Project: LEARN family. We will keep you posted on our progress; look for an announcement in an upcoming issue of Tutor News.

Welcome Andrew Hoffmann

Andrew Hoffmann recently joined the Project LEARN Board of

Directors. He was appointed to a vacancy in the class of 2002.

Andrew is Vice-President and Counsel for Cosmo Corporation, electronic parts manufacturer in Solon. He is a graduate of CWRU Law School. He has always had a passion for education and has been interested in the work of Project LEARN for sometime. He comes to us by way of referral from Business Volunteers Unlimited, a partner of Project LEARN that matches Corporate Executives with non-profit Boards (among other things). We welcome Andrew to the Project LEARN family.



*Tutor Tips
By BARBARA WATSON*

IS THERE ANY HELP FOR SPELLING?

After reviewing the Tutor Contact Sheets from the VTRs for the past month there was one major area of concern tutors had regarding their



student's progress or lack there of - spelling.

One tutor wanted to know if I had a magic pill or trick I could pass on to her so that she could pass it on to her student. Well, I looked in my bag of tricks to see what I could find and lo and behold there was no magic potion I could give to tutors to remedy this pesky problem that seems to plague most of our students. But wait. In my bag labeled, "Hard Work, Persistence and Patience" there is help!

***Patterns In Spelling** is a four book series designed specifically to teach spelling. Here's how Patterns In Spelling works.*

- *It helps the student to develop a sense of their own spelling strengths by teaching specific spelling strategies.*
- *The student studies the spelling and pronunciation of groups of words and then learns how to use common sound patterns and rules to spell other words.*
- *Each lesson will include a study of sample words containing each spelling pattern and a variety of*

exercises that was designed to reinforce each pattern concept.

- *In each lesson the student will see it, say it, hear it and write it, using all of the learning modalities.*

Patterns in Spelling is recommended for students in SB 3 and above.

*The other spelling help is **Focus on Phonics**. Focus on Phonics is a five book series (only because Short Vowel Sounds and Consonant Blends are divided into two parts – 2A and 2B). *Focus on Phonics* is similar to *Patterns in Spelling* except its focus is on teaching the student to use their phonetic skills to decode unknown words. This is done in a very systematic way using all of the learning modalities.*

Focus on Phonics can be used with a student after skill book 1, lesson 5.

*If you're having problems with spelling I hope you will try one of these series. If so, let me know how it works for you. **But remember:** not every student will become a good speller especially some of our "older" students.*

Make sure you know your student and what their reading goals are. Talk with your student about their difficulty with spelling and let them have some say in how they want to proceed. You

might find that you'll have better success when the student is allowed to have a say in their learning process.

As always, Happy Tutoring and Good Luck.

Telling a Tall Tale



I love a good story, one that is fun, exciting, surprising and with a little bit of reality. I can see the characters and the events in my head. They can make me laugh. They can make me cry or just wonder why.

What makes a good story? Well, the best stories sound just as good read aloud as they do read silently. Reading or telling a story out loud is more than just saying the words. The storyteller must draw you into their tale. You can watch their face and eyes as they talk. Their body movements and hands bring you into the saga. Their voice goes up and down, in and out, or sometimes stops just to get your interest.

We listened to some great tall tales when our class went to the Cleveland Metro Parks Zoo a few weeks ago. Could you believe pet snakes even boa constrictors; swimming with alligators (only after they have eaten their fill); making friends with skunks; and my favorite - riding bareback on a giant turtle? There was just enough truth in the telling to keep you wondering. Then the ending was so wild that you knew it had to be a TALL TALE. What a great way to have fun with words.

Robert Bivins



Development Dialogue

By Maria Asher

The Nancy C. Oakley Heritage Society for Literacy

The health and well being of our community requires its members to be functionally literate. For citizens to participate fully in the social, political and economic affairs of society they must be able to read and write.

With that understanding in mind, Project: LEARN formed the Nancy C. Oakley Heritage Society for Literacy in December 1995. Named for the esteemed Founding Director of Project: LEARN, the Society seeks to provide long-term financial stability in support of literacy in our community. Project: LEARN, nationally renowned in the fight against adult illiteracy, will have the opportunity to expand its scope of services and reach many more students in Greater Cleveland in the years to come through the planned giving policies instituted by the Nancy C. Oakley Heritage Society for Literacy. For more information please call the Development Department at (216) 621-9483.

Save The Date!

Alphabet Affair 2003

“Jump for Joy for J”

Date: Saturday, November 1, 2003

Time: 6:30 p.m. to Midnight

*Place: Judson Manor
University Circle
1890 E. 107th
Cleveland, Ohio*