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A Special Thank You

David Massey sent out an email to the Adult Educators on January 14, 2009 announcing his retirement from the Department of Public Instruction after 33 years of service. He took this opportunity to thank us and these were his words:

"...I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your contributions to the adult education programs in your communities and above all the opportunity that you have afforded me to work with you. Over these years I have learned a great deal from you all and I will miss you."



"The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on."

— Walter Lippmann

To: Mr. Massey

Thank you! Your dedicated leadership has been the force behind our success.

Because of your efforts - we have the will and conviction to carry on.

You will be missed.
Best wishes in your retirement.

Pen Again



People with dysgraphia may want to try the PenAgain. This is an ergonomic pen and helps people with dysgraphia to write better. They come in pens, markers, highlighters, and pencils.

Read the testimonials from:

www.penagain.com/twistnwritetestimonials.htm

For more information on this pen:

<http://www.penagain.com/howitworks.shtml>

<http://www.penagain.com/photographs.shtml>

If you wish to purchase this pen you may order them through Amazon.com.

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/browse.html?me=ABNIRI2XAWI5K>

"Hmmm, Is It Really That Simple" Math Workshop

Several people braved the cold and snow to attend the math workshop presented by Lori Gibson in Devils Lake.

Lori recommended 3 websites for math:

<http://nlvm.usu.edu/>

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/>

<http://www.dinah.com/>

Lori also recommended a book:

"About Teaching Mathematics" by Marilyn Burns is a "must have." This resource is full of meaningful, basic skills games and many other ideas. The ISBN# is 0-201-48039-5.

"Hmmm . . . Is It Really That Simple?"

**Cindy Rerick, Devils Lake
Lake Region State College**

Lori Gibson is currently the Secondary Education Coordinator at Dickinson State University Extended Campus in Bismarck, ND.

Participants engaged in different games/activities that stress "big ideas" in mathematics. These strategies could be implemented into their classroom.

Participants had the opportunity to create questions to extend student thinking and reasoning as we played the games. The course concentrated on fractions, decimals, percents, mental calculations, and operations with integers. It was two full days of activities that included drawing out concepts, using blocks to represent questions, and many more mind bending activities.

All participants felt it was a worthwhile course and encourage everyone to attend any of Lori Gibson's trainings that become available.

Helping Your Child Become a Successful Citizen

U.S. Department of Education

Helping Your Child Become a Successful Citizen is in pdf format for anyone to download. There are activities for elementary, middle, and high school children. Some of the titles of the chapters are: compassion, self-respect, responsibility, coping, and much more.

To see what is offered and to download the activities go to:

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/citizen/index.html>

Adult Learning Activities

The California Distance Learning Project (CDLP) has a site which helps adults improve basic skills like reading and spelling using real-life stories on topics of interest to adults. The majority of topics include: a basic story, full story, video, and an array of activities. Topics include: Working, Law and Government, Family, School, Health and Safety, Housing, Money, Science and Technology, Services, Going Places, and Nature.

To view this site go to:

<http://www.cdldonline.org/>

ABE Disabilities Website

Minnesota has launched its [adult basic education disabilities Web site](#) offering resources available 24 hours daily, seven days a week, for ABE instructors and programs that serve clients with disabilities. The Web site contains information frequently requested by Minnesota's adult education instructors and is accessible by users with disabilities. The material helps equip ABE managers, teachers, volunteers and tutors to provide learning experiences and basic skills that improve the lives of students with disabilities.

<http://www.mnabedisabilities.org/>

ADHD is Real

Howie Mandel is an advocate for people with ADHD. His website gives some tips about adults and children with ADHA

Read Howie Mandel's story at this website:

<http://www.adultadhdisreal.com/>

Scientists have finally figured out what is wrong with mankind. The problem lies in the two halves of the brain -the left half and the right half.

The left has nothing right in it and the right has nothing left in it.

New Florida Curriculum Aims to Keep English Learners Healthy

The [Florida Literacy Coalition](#) has posted a new health literacy curriculum and corresponding student resource book, which integrates health literacy and English language learning (ELL). *Staying Healthy: An English Learner's Guide to Health Care and Healthy Living* focuses on increasing health literacy among ELL students. The curriculum encourages them to make healthy choices about nutrition and engage in preventive health care. The materials, funded by a grant from the [Florida Department of Education's Division of Workforce Education](#), are written at the 4th through 5th grade levels and correlate both to [CASAS](#) competencies and [Florida Adult ESOL Course Standards](#).

Staying Healthy Learner's Guide:
http://www.floridaliteracy.org/literacy_resources__teacher_tutor__health_literacy.html



Matters

An interesting website on color and how it matters is found at:

<http://www.colormatters.com/entercolormatters.html>

This website includes fun questions for kids such as: Are school buses really yellow?

It also talks about how color affects our emotions, how we design with color, how we market with color, and much more.

This website can be used with science classes and has a section called "Amazing Science".

Interesting website!

Baxter Black

Lucky to be an American

www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0rQzUVQjd8



Brain Based Learning



Interested in Brain Based Learning? Here are several websites to find more information about this topic:

Brain Connection: <http://www.brainconnection.com>

Brain Gym:

<http://www.braingym.org>

How People Learn:

http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=6160

Brain Reads Sound by Sound:

<http://www.cdipage.com/brain.htm>

Brain: Facts and Figures:

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/facts.html>

Funderstanding:

http://www.funderstanding.com/brain_based_learning.cfm

Seeing, Hearing, and Smelling the World

<http://www.hhmi.org/senses/>

The Whole Brain Atlas:

<http://www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB/home.html>

Integrated Curriculum:

<http://www.nwrel.org/scpd/sirs/8/c016.html>

How Can Research of the Brain Inform Education?

<http://www.sedl.org/scimath/compass/v03n02/brain.html>

Brain and Behavior:

<http://serendip.brynmawr.edu/bb/>

Enhance Learning With Technology:

<http://members.shaw.ca/priscillatheroux/brain.html>

Google Translate

Translate words or webpages into another language using Google Translate at:

http://translate.google.com/translate_t#

Your ESL students may enjoy translating websites and words from English to their language!

Example: House = 房子 in Chinese

House = Huis in Dutch

House = Dom in Polish

ESL Websites

Marsha Rogne

Marsha Rogne, from the Minot Adult Learning Center, has contributed a couple of sites for ESL students. One site is for ESL grammar/quizzes and is located at: <http://a4esl.org>.

A site for international newspapers that Marsha's students like to use to read the papers in their language is: www.newseum.org

Snow Activity

North Dakota knows what snow is all about this winter. Here are some ideas to use in your classroom to learn about snow.

Teacher Vision: Where Does Snow Come From?
<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/weather/resource/3827.html>

Classroom Assistant

Classroom Assistant has some interesting articles on dyslexia and teaching ideas. This site has great information plus links to many other related websites.

<http://www.classroom-assistant.net/>

For teaching methods: <http://www.classroom-assistant.net/>

Math

1. Here is a math dictionary for kids:
<http://www.teachers.ash.org.au/jeather/maths/dictionary.html>

This dictionary has math vocabulary and definitions from A to Z.

2. This is a glossary of math with movement in the examples!

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mesg/html/math6web/m6glossary/math6-master gloss.swf>

This also goes from A to Z.

Habits

Author Unknown

From Simple Truths newsletter

I am your constant companion.

I am your greatest asset or heaviest burden.

I will push you up to success or down to disappointment.

I am at your command.

Half the things you do might just as well be turned over to me,

For I can do them quickly, correctly, and profitably.

I am easily managed, just be firm with me.

Those who are great, I have made great.

Those who are failures, I have made failures.

I am not a machine, though I work with the precision of a

machine and the intelligence of a person.

You can run me for profit, or you can run me for ruin.

Show me how you want it done. Educate me. Train me.

Lead me. Reward me.

And I will then...do it automatically.

I am your servant.

Who am I?

I am a habit.

<http://www.simpletruths.com/index.asp>

Need a Good Laugh?

<http://videos.komando.com/2008/06/04/mans-surprising-laugh/>