Additional Resources/Review

Professional Development Resources

Orientation for Teachers New to Adult Education on CD

This multimedia interactive CD from the Capitol Region Education Council in Connecticut is designed to enhance your professional development initiatives. It recently won the 1999 Connecticut Association of Boards of Education Award of Excellence. The material on the CD includes video and audio, a learning-styles inventory, full-text articles, and ready-to-use handouts. You can view sample screen images and audio files at http://www.crec.org/atdn/.

Note: Jane Meyer, Director of Canton ABLE program, uses this CD and recommends it as a useful tool to provide foundational information to new adult educators.

Another video resource from CREC is If the School Fits... adult education from the student’s perspective. This student video has been used in teacher training, curriculum development, student orientation, and fundraising. It features 13 students from diverse backgrounds and programs, sharing their thoughts about participation in adult education. Sample audio and video clips are available at the above Web site.

Family Literacy Resources

The Work-Related Learning Guide for Family Literacy and Adult Education Organizations is a collaborative publication from the National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) and Jobs for the Future (JFF). This publication offers concrete help to organizations that are trying to integrate work-related learning activities into family literacy programs. The goal of this publication is to help users “think through the options, models, and challenges.” Copies of this publication are available through the NCFL for $14. Call (502) 584-1133 ext. 149 to order a copy of this publication or visit http://www.jff.org to obtain a free copy.

Collaboration Resources


Because so many funding sources stress or mandate collaboration these days, organizations want to learn from the experiences of others how to work together better. Although many of us complain about the difficulties of overcoming “turf” barriers, Michael Wilder and Karen Ray have written a book instead. The user-friendly book in everyday language has several sections. A narrative describes a real collaborative effort through its many stages. A second section explains helpful concepts and definitions. The third section details a 4-step plan on how to develop collaboration. The final section of appendices contains annotated resources, useful forms that can be copied, and an index. The thoughtfully organized book is visually effective with left margins and icons that allow the user to personalize his or her path through the book.

General Adult Literacy Resources

Second Start Adult Literacy Program has two noteworthy literacy series. The first series contains four books, “Quest for Life,” “Proclamation of Independence,” “They Were My Friends,” and “I Could Leap Through a Cheerio.” These books contain life stories as told by students in the Second Start Adult Literacy Program and address issues like searching for your inner spirit and reason for being, recognition of individual worth and value, the announcement of personal freedom and self-reliance. The second series of books were designed as a curriculum for adult students. The first book “A is for Adult” evolved from an art and literacy class and contains an alphabet created by the adult students at Second Start Literacy Program. The second book in the series, “From Scratch, Making Art, Making Literacy” contains activities that encourage art creation and awareness in learners while also encouraging practice in the basic skills of reading and writing. The final book in the series, “I Never Wrote a Letter Because…,” helps students learn to compose a letter as well as how to choose the correct letter format to use. Each of the books in the first series costs $10 and each of the books in the second series costs $15. For further information on these books or to place an order contact Second Start Adult Literacy Program at (510) 238-6934.

Technology Resources

http://www2.wgbh.org/mbcweis/ltc/alri/integratech.html provides you with the information you need to harness technology to serve adult literacy. This web page lists common learning and teaching problems faced by adult literacy and ESOL teachers and their students, divided into categories such as ESOL, reading, writing, math, science, social studies, health, and work readiness/job preparation. Effective solutions involving computers, the Internet, television, audio and video cassettes are listed, and there are links to Web-based resources for instruction.

(Reprinted from “Info and Opportunities,” Fall 1999, Western New York Professional Development Consortium.)

Note: Resources with this symbol are available for Ohio ABLE programs to borrow from the Ohio Literacy Resource Center library.