



## Southwest ABLA Resource Center

# Exposure



## Resources for Ohioans

The LearningExpress Library offers students and adults unlimited, 24x7 access to targeted skill-building interactive courses in math, reading, and writing, as well as hundreds of online interactive practice tests, including the SAT, GED, U.S. Citizenship, and civil service positions. All practice tests include instant diagnostic score reports that help patrons to target those skill areas that need the most attention.

Learning Centers are divided by grade level and skills. There is also a career guidance tool called the *Job & Career Accelerator* which integrates everything from occupational aptitudes to job searches to resume building.

The LearningExpress Library can be accessed from any Web-enabled computer in the library, computer lab, office, or home. "I am pleased that we can offer this service.... we want to assist Ohio residents in achieving their educational and vocational goals. LearningExpress Library should prove to be a helpful tool in this endeavor," said Jo Budler, State Librarian of Ohio.

The LearningExpress Library is available to all Ohio residents through the state's public libraries, K-12 schools, colleges and community colleges, and adult education centers. To access it, please visit: [www.library.ohio.gov](http://www.library.ohio.gov).

March 2011

## Reading Refreshers

*Looking to refresh or build your knowledge of reading?*



The Southwest ABLA Resource Center has some recommendations for you!

Visit our website at [www.sinclair.edu/facilities/swable](http://www.sinclair.edu/facilities/swable).

Then go to Reading & Writing Information > Reading.

There you will find links for the four components of reading (Vocabulary, Alphabetics, Fluency and Comprehension). Under each link, we have listed online courses, SWRC Media Packages, books, and other resources to help you refresh or build your knowledge of reading.

## Reading Tips



### “Cleaning” the Clutter from Online Reading

The physical layout of many websites can make online reading distracting and overwhelming for some readers. [Readability.com](http://Readability.com) turns any web page into a comfortable reading view right in your web browser. It also allows for changes in font, background color and more. The full site does have a monthly fee, but a free version is available.

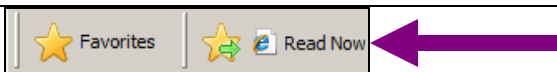
To install the free version, go to: <https://www.readability.com/bookmarklets/> and follow the steps below.

Follow these steps to install the Readability buttons on Internet Explorer:

1. Make sure your "Favorites Bar" is visible. If it is not, right click on any part of the menu bar and make sure "Favorites Bar" is checked
2. Right-click on the "Read Now" button below and select "Add to Favorites"
3. If you receive a Security Alert, click "Yes"
4. Once the Add a Favorite dialog shows up, select the "Favorites Bar" and click "Add"



The Readability buttons should display in your toolbar like this:



Once you have installed this button, you can go to any website then click the “Read Now” button. The program will automatically remove the clutter from the website and open a new, clean window with the selected text.

This text can then be adjusted, printed or shared with the buttons on the left side of the screen.

Try it today and see how clutter-free web-browsing and reading can benefit you and your students!

## Writing Tips



### Writing Teachers Should be Active Writers

Modeling is the most effective teaching strategy I know. When I coached track and field, I ran, jumped, and sprinted with my athletes. It was the easiest way to make sure they understood what they needed to do for their various events....The same goes for writing. I have always written with my students. The students need to see all stages of the writing process, not just the cute little brainstorm maps on the board but also the topic searching and the prewriting, the drafting and the revising... Students love to see the [writing] of their teachers. It's good for the reluctant, and it's also good for the strong writers.

The reluctant writers ... see that writing has a greater purpose beyond some state-mandated test.... strong writers get starry-eyed over the idea that they, too, will be eligible to make money off their talent. That alone is highly motivating.

What really makes the writing experience meaningful to students, weak and strong writers, is the authentic support they receive from a teacher of writing who writes. Believability and trust are huge issues for many students who are typically shy about writing because very few students see anything easy about writing.

Until I get to them.  
James Tigerlobo White

*James Tigerlobo White, is a writing teacher who contributes articles to the [Yahoo! Contributor Network](http://Yahoo! Contributor Network). The insights he shares are relevant to teachers of all grade levels.*

## Math Tip



Looking for great math ideas and teaching tips?

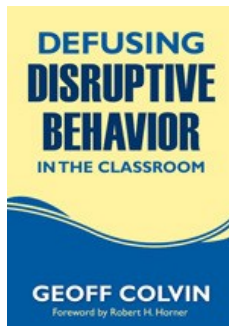
Check out the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics site called Illuminations. There you will find over 100 activities, over 600 leveled lessons and links to other great math sites.

The link to this valuable resource is: <http://illuminations.nctm.org/>

## New in the Library

### ***Defusing Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom*** by Geoff Colvin

***A guide to handling problem behavior "in the heat of the moment".***

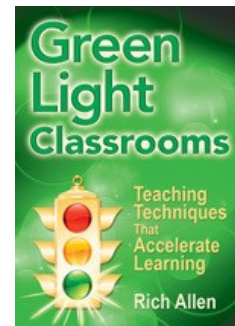


When disruptive behavior occurs, your first response can determine the outcome of the situation and how quickly it is resolved. This practical resource offers teachers approaches for immediately defusing disruptive situations, avoiding escalation, and correcting behaviors. It is directed toward teachers who work in kindergarten through high school classrooms, but the principles and techniques apply to adult education as well. The author introduces seven key behavioral principles and offers specific, research-based strategies for handling disruptions. This resource features:

- Strategies that target specific behaviors, including off-task behavior, rule violations, disrespect, agitation, noncompliance, and threats and intimidation
- Strategies that target specific behaviors, including off-task behavior, rule violations, disrespect, agitation, noncompliance, and threats and intimidation
- Checklists and action plans for applying the strategies while maintaining the flow of instruction

***Defusing Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom helps*** teachers respond in a way that immediately corrects the misbehavior and smoothly returns the class to learning.

### ***Green Light Classrooms: Teaching Techniques that Accelerate Learning***, by Rich Allen



How can today's teachers develop lessons that will inspire students and ignite the desire to learn? Moving away from the traditional lecture-based method of teaching, this teacher-friendly guide introduces a variety of innovative teaching techniques that will motivate, excite, and increase the learning potential of every student.

Using contributions from teachers with experience in a variety of classroom-tested techniques, the author provides nine proven strategies for creating new memory pathways, making content relevant for students, and increasing their learning. Teachers will learn techniques that tap into students' emotions and be able to increase participation in group discussions and activities. Practical features include:

- Sample lesson plans for different grade levels in each chapter
- A variety of practical, brain-compatible teaching strategies

Building blocks for effective instruction, illustrated through descriptions, analogies, and metaphors. Offering key principles of effective teaching that can be applied across grade levels and in any content area, this book shows how it is possible to increase student enthusiasm and impact learning.



**Many new resources, for both students and ABE staff, have been added to the ABE Transitions Repository.**

Visit [www.ohioable.org](http://www.ohioable.org) to see what's new!

# OAACE Conference - Navigating Change



The annual OAACE Conference will be held on April 14-15, 2011 at the Embassy Suites-Dublin. Hotel registration is available at:

[http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/C/CMHESES-OCE-20110413/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/C/CMHESES-OCE-20110413/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

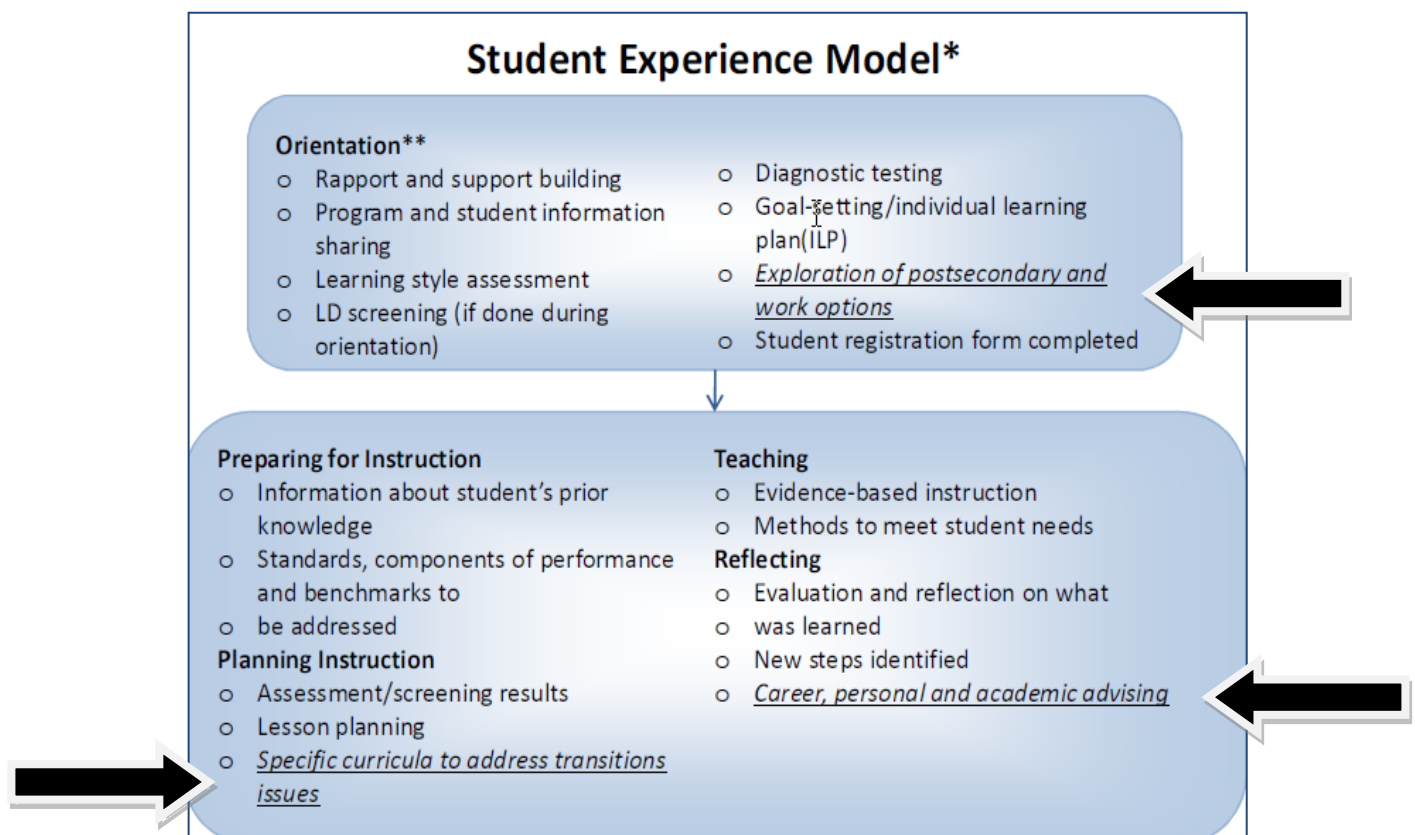
On Thursday, April 14, 2011, the Ohio Association for Adult and Continuing Education (OAACE) is pleased to present a variety of pre-Conference sessions. Speakers will include national advocacy expert Art Ellison and presenters on Ruby Payne's *Bridges Out of Poverty*, Learning to Achieve, and the OLEA Leadership Academy.

On Friday, April 15, 2011, the Annual Conference will take place. Presentations will be geared around the event theme, *Navigating Change*, with strands to include: Instructional Technology, Increasing Student Achievement, Transitions to Post-Secondary Education, Assessment, Communications/Marketing and several others.

The ABLE State Conference reimbursement is \$250.00 for this event but please review the PD policy for eligibility. More details about the conference and hotel will soon be available at [www.oaace.org](http://www.oaace.org)

## Revised Student Experience Model (SEM)

The Ohio ABLE Office announced in February that the Ohio ABLE Student Experience Model (SEM) has been revised to include more specific language regarding transitions. As you work with students, you will want to consider the changes marked below.



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Dayton, Ohio 45402  
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800-558-5374 (Ohio only)  
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**Visit us on  
the web:**

[www.sinclair.edu/  
facilities/swable](http://www.sinclair.edu/facilities/swable)

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Please contact SWRC with training questions. You can also visit [www.ohioable.org](http://www.ohioable.org) to register for workshops across Ohio and to see what other Resource Centers are offering for Alternative PD.

## FY11 SWRC Professional Development Calendar

Date	Event
3/14	Region 3 Directors' Chat (virtual meeting)
3/18	SWRC Advisory Committee Meeting (virtual meeting)
3/18	New Teacher Orientation (Sinclair)
4/11	Region 3 Directors' Chat (virtual meeting)
4/14-15	OACE (Embassy Suites—Dublin)
5/9	Region 3 Directors' Chat (virtual meeting)
6/3	SWRC Advisory Committee/Directors' Forum (Miami Valley Career & Technical Center)

## Ongoing Alternative PD

There are over 85 self-directed options for Professional Development available on the RCN Calendar of Events. If you are looking to refresh your skills, build new knowledge of topics relevant to ABLER or complete your FY2011 Professional Development, be sure to review these options which include:



**Book Reviews**



**Webinars**



**Online Courses**



**Media Packages/DVDS**