



Southwest ABLA Resource Center

Exposure

Professional Development Reminder

Are you looking for "alternative" professional development opportunities? The SW Resource Center has Media Packages that can be completed at your convenience at your location. Our titles include: Building Academic Background Knowledge; Comprehending Content; Focus on Spelling and more! A complete list of alternative professional development can be viewed on the training calendar at www.ohioable.org – click on "Calendar of Events," then click on "Alternative Delivery PD Options" at the top of the page then browse all the offerings.

Free Webinars

Another form of "alternative" professional development is available through Webinars. The following descriptions are provided by Proliteracy.

Strategies for Passing the GED

Caren Van Slyke, GED instructor, teacher trainer, and GED textbook developer

All webinars run from 2-3 p.m. ET.

March 25: Streamlining Preparation to Pass the GED Writing Skills Test

April 22: Building Graphic Literacy to Pass the GED Tests

Passing the New Citizenship Test

Lynne Weintraub, citizenship instructor and author of Citizenship: Passing the Test

Each webinar shows you how to get students ready for the new test and previews the new editions of Lynne's books.

All webinars run from 3-4 p.m. ET. March 13 or April 24

To register, e-mail nascenzo@prolitteracy.org. Please indicate which session you wish to attend. You will receive a confirmation and instructions on how to dial into the webinar session.

March 2009

Inside this issue:

Monthly Ideas	2
Staff Appreciation Corner	2
Tech Corner	2
Resources Across Country	2
Library Resources	3
Advanced Technology Training	3
Calendar of Events/PD	4

Internet Index

Looking for accurate and relevant websites for your students and your use?

The **Librarian's Internet Index** is a publicly-funded website from the state of California. It is updated weekly.

Websites included must pass criteria for:

- Availability (must be free)
- Credibility (current, accurate information)
- Authorship
- External links (links to appropriate content)
- Legality (follows copyright and fair use guidelines)

To access this resource, go to <http://lii.org>

National Day on Writing

From the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE):

Americans are writing like never before-through text messages and IMs, with video cameras and cell phones, and, yes, even with traditional pen and paper. Whether it is done in a notebook or on a blog, writing, in its many forms, has become daily practice for millions of Americans.

NCTE invites you to explore and celebrate the integral role writing has in each of our lives by participating in the National Day on Writing/National Gallery of Writing October 20, 2009.

We invite everyone to play an active role in this celebration of writing. We encourage participants from many sectors-students, teachers, parents, grandparents, service and industrial workers, managers, business owners, legislators, retirees, and anyone else to submit a piece of writing.

For more information, visit the NCTE website at <<http://lists.ncte.org/t/1873232/3031308/10313/0/>>

March Tech Corner

Here are some basic Tech Tips that can save you time.

- You can enlarge the text on any Web page. In Windows, press Ctrl and the plus (+) or minus keys (-) for bigger or smaller fonts.
- You can also enlarge the entire Web page or document by pressing the Control key as you turn the wheel on top of your mouse.
- You can tap the Space bar to scroll down on a Web page one screen length. Add the Shift key to scroll back up.
- You can hide all windows, revealing only what's on the computer desktop, with one keystroke: hit the Windows key (below the Z) and "D" simultaneously in Windows. That's great when you want examine or delete something you've just downloaded to the desktop, for example. Press the keystroke again to return to what you were doing.
- When typing a URL in the address bar, type the main address then press Ctrl-Enter. It will automatically add the "www" at the beginning and the ".com" at the end.
- Double clicking on a word will highlight it for copying or moving.

Watch for more Tech Tips in upcoming issues of SW Exposure. If you have any questions about this article or technology, please contact Jenny at the SWRC via jennifer.davis@sinclair.edu.

Staff Appreciation Corner for March

As the weather (hopefully) starts to turn warmer, remind the staff that there is no **SUB**stitute for their hard work and dedication to the students in your program by holding a luncheon of sub sandwiches. You may even be able to get your local deli to donate breads and condiments. This luncheon could also be held in conjunction with a staff meeting to bring everyone up to speed on state ABE changes.



March Celebrations

March is...



American Red Cross Month: to learn more about how this organization helps local and national efforts, please visit: www.redcross.org

National Nutrition Month:
The 2009 theme is "Eat Right."
To access information, quizzes, games and timelines, go to: www.eatright.org



Poison Prevention Awareness Month: it is estimated that every 30 seconds a child is accidentally poisoned. To learn prevention tips, visit: www.ppsinc.org/poison.htm

To check out other March events, visit:

- <http://www.holidayinsights.com/>
- <http://brownielocks.com/march.html>

Resources from Across the Country

Ohio ABLE has an extensive system for professional development, resources and technical assistance to help programs and staff meet the needs of their students. We are not alone, however, in facing the challenges of transitioning students, developing relevant adult-based resources and lesson plans, and maintaining high quality instruction. Check out some of these resources from other states to learn more about what is happening across the US:

Massachusetts: Their latest *Field Notes* offers information on Transitions to College. www.sabes.org



Florida: In addition to Florida TechNet (www.floridatechnet.org), this state has ABE Florida (www.abeflorida.org) which contains training, archived publications and more.



Spotlight on Library Resources

Clear Speech: Pronunciation and Listening Comprehension (for ESOL)
by Judy Gilbert, Cambridge University Press

Conscientious teachers ask, "How can we reduce student pronunciation errors?" It may be more useful to turn that question around this way: "How can we increase student clarity?" *Clear Speech* is designed to help achieve this goal. The program is a pronunciation course for ESOL students. It is based on the principle that rhythm and melody (and their effect on sentence emphasis and thought grouping) are the framework within which speech flows most clearly from speaker to listener. Every unit begins with general comments on the topic and then proceeds with lessons on how to use rhythm, stress, and intonation to provide "navigational" guides for the listener. Includes student text, teacher manual and cassette tapes.

Math Strategies You Can Count On : Tools and Activities to Build Math Appreciation, Understanding and Skills.
by Char Forsten, Crystal Springs Books

Your students will be eager for math lessons to begin when you take advantage of these engaging, classroom-tested strategies designed to make even the most reluctant learners crazy about math. Bring on your sports fans, your future fashion designers, your TV watchers and your musicians. Every activity (reproducible) presented helps develop an appreciation of and a deeper understanding of math concepts. The author shows how you can introduce students to increasingly complex math concepts by keeping things based in the concrete and visual, and by guiding students in their discovery of math patterns and relationships.

Advanced Technology: Using Web 2.0 & More

Friday, April 24
9:00 am to 3:30 pm
SCC Library Computer Lab

In this **Advanced** session, we will explore how you can enhance your instruction with Internet-based applications and advanced peripherals (cameras, video/audio devices). We will create a blog for your classroom, design presentations and explore the latest Web 2.0 features.

This session is for those who have high comfort with using computers and the Internet. We will meet in a computer lab so each participant will have a hands-on learning experience.

Register at www.ohioable.org



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Visit us on the web:

www.sinclair.edu/facilities/swable

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Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
March 13	<i>The Write Future: A Statewide Writing Training</i>	OCLC Dublin, Ohio
April 2	Statewide PD Day <i>LD 202; BEST Plus; Portfolio; and Transitions: NCTN Toolkit</i>	OCLC Dublin, Ohio
April 18-22	COABE Visit www.coabe.org for more information	Lexington, Kentucky
April 24	Advanced Technology	Sinclair Community College
May 1	OAAACE Spring Conference	TBD

SWABLE's Ongoing Alternative PD

Online Training	Media Packages
REA 101: Reading Overview	How to Improve Your Questioning Techniques
WRT101: Writing Overview	Building Academic Background Knowledge (Vocabulary)
Writing for the GED (from KET)	Comprehending Content
Developing Writers: Writing for Different Audiences	Thoughtful Reading
	Reading in the Content Areas
	Focus on Spelling

We also have **Literacy Trunks** for check-out in our library. Trunks contain "ready-to-go" lessons and activities, including user's guide, resources, handouts and online sites.

For information on upcoming trainings, please contact SWABLE at 800-558-5374 or 937-512-5375. You can also visit www.ohioable.org to register for workshops across Ohio and to see what other Resource Centers are offering for Alternative PD.