

Tutoring: For Me or They?

At the most recent Tutor Training Workshop, our newest tutors worked in teams to explore the writing process and the tools of brainstorming and clustering. While exploring these tools, they created some great insights to lifelong learning and the many benefits of volunteering, tutoring and helping another adult to grow and change.

The READ/OC team would like to share their group writing efforts as a way of thanking all READ/OC volunteers whose valuable and selfless efforts help change lives of adult learners, their families and the community for the better. Their words are also a timely reminder of the importance of sharing literacy with another. Reading and writing are powerful tools – use them and share them with others.

Tutoring: For Me or They?

By Norman Blanco, Rett Lemoult, Kirsten Murrietta and Hugh Western

Becoming a tutor with READ/OC has fulfilled many personal goals as well as the desire to help my community. Most of our students are eager learners and are extremely grateful for our time. We have the ability to drastically change the quality of life of our students and help them become successful members of society. Being a READ/OC tutor allows you to make a genuine difference in the lives of many.

All of these benefits have been wonderful however the most amazing thing about being a READ/OC tutor has been the amount I have learned. My brain is being constantly challenged. I am gaining new perspectives and challenging myself in awesome ways. It has become one of my favorite times of the week. I AM THE ONE WHO IS TRULY BENEFITTING FROM THIS EXPERIENCE.

Dear "X"

By Gary Baker, Karen Smith, Ron Smith, Carolina Handojo

I'm looking forward to tutoring a new learner and helping them to improve their English language ability and helping them accomplish some personal goals. I have always loved reading and have learned much from the topics I've read. I want to share this with someone else, so they can have that same enjoyment and use that knowledge to improve their lives. I think this will be a good a good way to give back to the community and will help me learn new skills with teaching and interacting with others. I can't wait to get started.

In the end, we'll make a friend

By Valerie Serrano, Joan Chiles, Susan Allen, Jason Yore, and Clint Wolf

I'm looking forward to helping someone in need
With enough time they'll learn to read.

With LEA, phonics, and such,
I hope they don't think it's too much.

On the path of learning we are never alone.
I am always available on the phone.

I learned it once when I was in school.
I learn it again when I am with you.
In the end, we'll make a friend.

Tutoring for several reasons

By Marianne Galt, Graham Towers, Barbara Coltman, Ja'Nae S. Walker, and Shelley Middleton

I enjoy tutoring for several reasons. Helping people is important, and tutoring is how I give back to the community. It helps me learn about another culture also. Tutoring makes me feel good about myself. I get excited when I see the progress my student is making.

Dear John

By Annie Ratanapinta, Twyla Blanco, Sommer Ranich, Veronica Wade and Ken Dalnes

Dear John,
I have no time for you anymore because I've become a tutor with READ/OC.

I'm looking forward to my tutoring so much because I believe in the cause and love helping others. The work is so fulfilling because I am helping a person achieve his goals, and it's been fantastic to meet a person from another culture.

If you also want to become a tutor, I can give you information about the next seminar.

Formerly yours,



Editor's Note to Our Readers: If you or someone you know would like to help change a life through literacy, call or email READ/Orange County. Adult learners are eagerly waiting for your help.

Ms. Paige Turner
(Fun advice for tutors and learners)



Dear Paige,

I really enjoy being a tutor with READ/OC. It is such a rewarding and life-changing experience for both my learner and me.

Does READ/OC need more tutors? I would like to share this volunteer opportunity and the adult literacy need in Orange County with co-workers and others. Please give me ideas of what to do and say.

Wanting to Share

Dear Wanting to Share,

The best place to begin is with your own tutor experience. I encourage you to share your "life-changing" experience with family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. *(Remember to keep your learner's information confidential.)*

You can share the fact that thousands of adults in Orange County need help with basic reading and writing skills so they can get a job, a better job, read their mail, help children with school work, write a letter to a friend, read a recipe, become a citizen, read a story to grandchildren or complete their education. Currently READ/OC has more than 100 adults learners waiting for a tutor.

Ask your company if you can share this unique volunteer opportunity at a staff meeting or in your company's newsletter. Contact READ/OC staff for talking points, bookmarks, pencils, posters, copies of the newsletter, or if you would like a special presentation by READ/OC staff.

Don't forget you can also share your experience when you are out walking with a friend, at the gym, the salon, the grocery store, children's school, clubs, church, or just out for coffee. Spread the word how easy it is to help an adult to read better with only a pencil and piece of paper for just a few hours each week!

Paige Turner

Arrrgh! Matey!

Have You Saved this date for our annual celebration? Well, what are you waiting for!

**Saturday, June 25, 2011
12 - 3:30 p.m.**



