

READ TO SUCCEED Literacy Program

TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY



November 2018

417 N. Locust St.
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 713-2745

ewilliam1@co.tulare.ca.us

Monthly Reports Due

Can you believe we are stepping into November, already? I hope everyone had a fun and safe Halloween. We tried to get into a little fun with Halloween this year by putting up some small decorations in the literacy center, if you noticed it.

Our monthly reports from tutors are **due Friday, November 9**. As always, you can submit the blue monthly report to the office or the literacy basket in the library, or you can submit the report by filling out the form online.

Learning with Games

On **Friday, November 16 from 11:00am to 1:00pm** we are going to host a boardgame session in the literacy center. What do boardgames have to do with literacy? Actually, there is a lot! The boardgames we have, such as Scrabble, Blurt!, and Apples help you learn new words, how to communicate with others, help with hand-eye coordination, and it's fun!



Staff will be available to help explain and play some of the games we'll have on the tables in the literacy center. Once you learn some of the games you are free to use them anytime you are here in the literacy center especially with tutor and learner sessions. We will likely add more games to help improve reading, vocabulary, and learning skills.

If you have never played boardgames, or if you are not sure if you will have fun, that's ok. We will help explain it to you.

Career Online High School



Our scholarships for Career Online High School are still available, but we are running out fast! A lot of people contacted us in September and October

asking how they can get their high school diploma. Career Online High School is an online program where students can login to complete classes from home by doing homework and turning in assignments online. This makes it very convenient and helpful for anyone who is taking care of children at home or has a job.

We have some students working on their high school diploma now and they hope to finish in the next few months. All of our students started by filling out an application online, and then taking a prerequisite course. The prerequisite course is just a class that you do from home and students are expected to finish it within two weeks. When our students finished this course they would then come in for a student interview so we can approve them for the scholarship to start their Career Online High School courses.

If you or someone you know is interested in getting their high school diploma from home, please contact us and we will get them started.

Literacy Potluck—Friday, November 30 at 11am

The holidays are coming up, which means that many of you may be gone on vacation with family and friends. We are also looking forward to the holidays when we can take a break. However, we are inviting all of our learners and volunteers to drop by on

Friday, November 30 at 11:00am to visit the literacy center for a **potluck** (a potluck is food or meal that happens to be available without special preparation or purchase).



We have a signup sheet at the front desk if you would like to bring a main dish, a side dish, dessert, or non-alcoholic beverages. This should be a good time between the holidays to enjoy time with others at the literacy center.

S.O.S. Program has Learners Focusing on GED and COHS besides Reading

This month, one of our learners successfully completed the novel *The Barrio Kings* by William Kowalski. Staff worked with him by ensuring he read and understood the book by covering a summary after each chapter. After completing the book, staff presented a certificate of completion and encouraged him to continue reading. Staff and volunteers have also been working with other learners as they make their initial steps towards starting their GED studies or Career Online High School courses. S.O.S. (Starting Over Strong) gives learners a chance to come in Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:30am-11:00am in the Visalia Branch Library's upstairs "Blue Room" to focus on coursework, resume building skills, job searching, and a variety of other topics.

Learn More through Universal Class—a Tutoring Tool

Our library has an online program where you can learn from home. This is a free service to use from the library website if you have a library card. This is a great way to learn something new, such as language arts, math, history, business, writing skills, decorating cakes, starting a business and much more. The classes are self-paced, which means you go at your own pace. Many of our learners and even our volunteer tutors may find this useful for your own personal growth or it can be part of your tutoring curriculum. This can also be useful for staff since it covers instruction methods, ESL, grammar, and other related topics.

A banner for Universal Class. It features the text "Over 500 Online Continuing Education Courses" in red and black, the "Universal Class" logo in a blue box with a sun icon, and the slogan "Learn Something New TODAY" in white on an orange background. There is also a graphic of an apple.

You can visit our library's website at www.tularecountylibrary.org/research. At this page you will find a list of other library resources that are helpful. You will find "Universal Class" as you scroll down. Click it and it will take you to a page to enter your library card number to get started.

Online Dyslexia Summit 2018

Dyslexia is a topic that can be unknown for a lot of people, even for those who have dyslexia. Dyslexia is a learning condition which can make it difficult to read and write. While our literacy center cannot diagnose dyslexia with our learners, we can look for signs in a learner as we work with them that might show they have dyslexia. We can share this information with our learner so they can seek professional assistance if it is needed.



Reading Horizons, one of our vendors which provides workbooks and software for our literacy program, held an all-day dyslexia summit in October to cover a variety of topics. They talked about case studies of dyslexia, the screening process, coping skills, and how dyslexia can be an advantage.

The video of the summit is available for free on Youtube.com. You can find the video "Reading Horizons Online Dyslexia Summit 2018" at their Youtube.com page "Reading Horizons."

Stay and Play Conference for Literacy Staff

Some of our literacy staff who work with children attended the Stay and Play Conference at University of California, Davis on October 23-24 with our library director, Darla Wegener. Our library has the opportunity of participating in a pilot program in which we work with informal child care providers, such as family members, friends, and neighbors (FFN). This conference discussed the possibility of programs that will work on reaching out to FFN providers, create story times specifically for them and their children, create play opportunities that model high quality care settings and encourage caregiver/child interactions, materials, and the provision of food needs of care givers and children.

We are currently doing this program at our Pixley Branch Library literacy site every Thursday at 9:30am, and we are looking at different ways to expand this program to the local community. We will continue updating everyone as our staff develops Stay and Play.

**TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY
PRESENTS**

FOOD FOR FINES

**NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 2
1, 2018**

Do you have library fines that are due at the library? From November 1 to December 21 you can clear up to \$10 of overdue fees for non-perishable food items donated at any Tulare County Library branch. Your donations will be sent to local organizations for distribution.

Learner Successes of October

- Played a new game; Quiddler.
- Completed the novel The Barrio Kings by William Kowalski
- Completed Chapter 8 from the workbook Rooms with a View
- Started new workbook Vocabulary for Work Readiness
- Learned about the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake
- Worked on exercises from workbook Grammar Wise 2
- Checked out a book about doing presentations for a college class
- Focused tutoring sessions on reading and spelling
- Read from the book Intrepid: The Epic Story of America's Most Legendary Warship
- Studied 11 commonly mispronounced words