

# TUTORS TALKING

October 2023



## Returning to Lessons

Kids aren't the only ones who have come back to class in the last few weeks; many adults have as well! Here are some tips to help re-fresh lessons for the return of existing learners, as well as preparing for new adult learners this fall.

— Alison

## Goals & Assessments

- ↳ This is a great time to set or review learning goals. Remember to establish some short-term and long-term goals, and don't forget to update these on the Tutor Portal!
- ↳ Consider carrying out a new learning assessment. Research shows that periodic testing encourages learning and slows down forgetting, so don't be afraid to test learners.

Source: <https://nap.nationalacademies.org/read/13469/chapter/4#7>

## Plan Creative Programming

Adults come from a range of different life experiences and require varying teaching methods to suit their learning abilities. Continue to offer learners the opportunity to explore a subject matter in a way that is meaningful to their independent learning style.

Create environments that encourage personal exploration and use creative and compelling resources, references, videos, podcasts, and social media to achieve learning goals.

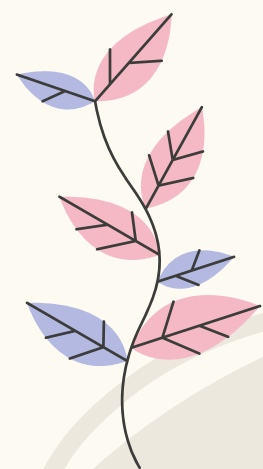
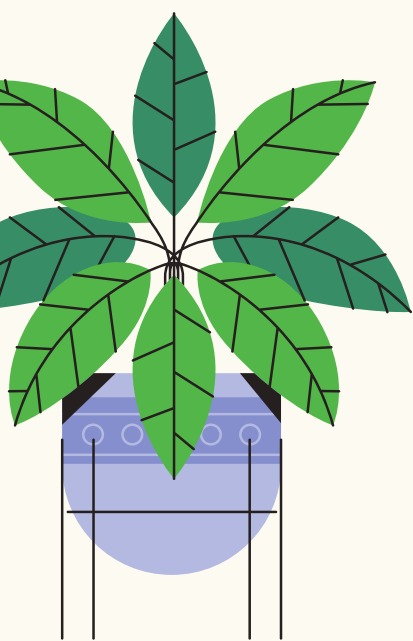
We have several new resources that are free and reproducible, and most are modifiable for your learners, so don't forget to check these out. They include the following:

- **Reading Instruction:**  
Levels 1, 2 & 3
- **General Knowledge**
- **Literacy Development Supports:**  
Grammar, Vocabulary, Phonics & Spelling
- **Writing Instruction**
- **Mathematics & Numeracy:**  
Level 1, 2 & 3 plus Numeracy in Everyday Life
- **Digital Skills:**  
Mobile devices, Computer basics, Internet, Productivity (Google and Microsoft)
- **Job Preparation and Hiring**
- **Test and Exam Preparation:**  
WHMIS, First Aid etc.
- **Empowering Learners:**  
Family Learning, Wellness, Leadership & Legal Education Resources
- **Educator Resources:**  
Editing and Modifying Materials, Culturally Relevant Materials, Teaching Literacy/Numeracy/Math Resources

## Look outside the Learning Program you have been using.

Just like your learners, you're devoting a lot of time and energy to the lessons. Why wouldn't you want to make them unforgettable – for both you and your adult students!

Consider using a theme that not only encourages a fun learning environment, but also helps learners retain the information taught. Use an unusual metaphor throughout your teaching; or incorporate compelling visuals to keep your learner motivated.





## Keep it Fun!

As much as you try as an adult literacy practitioner, some topics are simply less interesting to teach than others.

Before you lose your learners' attention spans, prepare lessons in a way that keeps your learners engaged. Break up dry, comprehensive topics into shorter segments and integrate different types of learning activities such as online research, worksheets, and hands-on activities if possible.

## Get your Inner-teacher Ready

There are specific teacher traits that adult learners find beneficial to their learning, with one of the most common being the demonstration of practical knowledge. Adults want to focus on real-life knowledge and skills rather than on difficult-to-grasp theories and concepts.

As such, the learning materials you provide should be current, evidence-based, and encourage active learning experiences over passive ones. Check out some of these free programs and initiatives from ABC Life Literacy that teach practical literacy knowledge, such as digital technology or personal finance:

- [ABC Connect for Learning](#): a free digital literacy program.
- [ABC Skills Hub](#): an online learning portal that offers at-home delivery of ABC Life Literacy Canada's many adult literacy programs.
- [Civic Voting](#): a guide to voting that helps literacy practitioners engage adult learners in civic literacy ahead of elections.
- [ABC Health Matters](#): empowers Canadians to better manage their health and increase confidence when talking and making decisions about health issues.
- [HSBC Family Literacy First](#): a program that aims to bring parents and children together to practice family literacy through free online resources.
- [ABC Internet Matters](#): empowers Canadians who aren't comfortable using the internet with the knowledge they need to get started.
- [Learning at the Museum](#): aims to increase learner confidence in cultural activities by making cultural spaces more accessible through workbook-based workshops.
- [ABC Money Matters](#): a free introductory financial literacy program for adult learners, new Canadians, Indigenous Peoples and people with diverse abilities.
- [UP Skills for Work](#): helps adult learners develop nine key employability skills needed through free workshops and downloadable workbooks.

Source: <https://abclifeliteracy.ca/programs-initiatives/>

## Appendix

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