

# The **READ**Saskatoon **READer**

September 2004



## Welcome back!

*READ Saskatoon  
celebrates  
25 years of  
learning  
together!*



## Open House

Friday September 17, 2004

2 – 6 p.m.

Come and visit  
meet old acquaintances  
make new friends  
have fun  
eat  
drink  
socialize

### *Events news:*

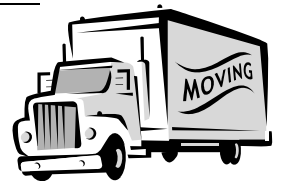
**Another summer has come and gone  
and it is time to begin practicing your  
reading and**

**writing again.** Many of you have begun working with your tutors already and I wish you the best for this year. If you have not been contacted by your tutor, please call the office at 652-5448.

Mavis and Sheryl have begun making contact with many of you, however if we have missed you please don't hesitate to call the office and give us an update. We always love to hear how things are progressing.

### **Have you moved recently?**

Please give the READ Saskatoon office a call at 652-5448 to update your file with new address, phone number and any other relevant information that helps us support you better!



### READ Saskatoon Office

#405-220 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 1M1  
(306) 652-5448

Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday  
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Staff: Sheryl Harrow  
Mavis McPhee

This newsletter is published quarterly.

# The library page

The Saskatoon Public Libraries offer the use of their facilities to all tutors and learners. You and your learner can meet in any of the library's public seating areas.

Frances Morrison Library (downtown)  
311 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Street East, S7K 0J6  
Tel: 975-7558

Alice Turner Library  
110 Nelson Road, S7S 1K7  
Tel: 975-8127

Carlyle King Library  
3130 Laurier Drive, S7L 5J7  
Tel: 975-7592

Cliff Wright Library  
1635 McKercher Drive  
Tel: 975-7550

J. S. Wood Library  
1801 Lansdowne Avenue, S7H 2C4  
Tel: 975-7590

Mayfair Library  
602-33rd Street West, S7L 0W1  
Tel: 975-7591

Rusty MacDonald Library  
225 Primrose Drive, S7K 5E4  
Tel: 975-7600

Visit READ Saskatoon online!  
<http://www.nald.ca/readsask.htm>

## Did you know...?

You can book private space for tutoring in the following libraries:

- Alice Turner
- Carlyle King
- Cliff Wright
- Frances Morrison (Main)
- Mayfair
- Rusty MacDonald

Please be aware that these rooms need to be booked *in advance*, as they are used for other purposes. The **private space at Frances Morrison** is an office and can only be booked on evenings and weekends, when staff are not using it. **Please call Community Relations at 975-7596 to book this office** (called the Outreach Services satellite office). The library requests that you book it by the Thursday of the week before you need it.

The READ Saskatoon office is also available for tutoring during weekdays – *please call ahead (652-5448) to book tutoring time.*



Reading is equivalent to thinking with someone else's head instead of with one's own.  
- Arthur Schopenhauer

## Tutor and Learner Year-End Event and Picnic



READ Saskatoon's Family Picnic was held on May 29, 2004 at Kinsmen Park. We secured the use of the picnic shelter at the park and purchased ride tickets for all the guests. Even though the weather was cold and rainy on the day of the picnic we had over 40 tutors, learners, board members, children and staff in attendance. We feel the weather was a major barrier that influenced the number of guests attending the picnic.

For those persons attending it was a wonderful afternoon in spite of the weather. Many guests enjoyed the rides at the park even though it meant getting wet. The children were especially excited to go on the rides and didn't seem to notice the rain. The balloon artist was amazing. He made balloon hats and sculptures for many of the guests and all of the children. Peppi the clown was well received by the children. She did an

excellent job of entertaining the children while the food was being prepared.



The shelter was well used for most of the afternoon. The food was set-up in it with the hot dogs being cooked outside and then being served. We ate together in the building, which created a cozy feeling.

The funding for this event was provided by the *City of Saskatoon Assistance to Community Groups – Cash Grant*.



A ton of reading does not equal  
one good (tutor).  
- Chinese proverb

# Congratulations Lisa Vargo!

Long time board member, tutor and current president, Lisa Vargo will accept the Educator Award on September 28<sup>th</sup> in Regina. We'd like to thank Saskatchewan Weekly Newsletters for sharing their evening with Canada Post and the award winners.

Lisa has been and continues to be an outstanding tutor and literacy advocate. In 1991, Lisa was matched with Carey Rigby-Wilcox. Lisa and Carey have been meeting weekly since October of that year.

With Lisa's support, Carey has increased her confidence and literacy skills. Carey and Lisa regularly speak publicly on behalf of literacy and READ Saskatoon. Although Carey gives public credit to READ Saskatoon, the real literacy work has been done by Lisa who has worked hard to help Carey meet her goals. In 2001 Carey received the award for Individual Achievement at the Canada Post Literacy Awards. Lisa displays the best qualities of a volunteer tutor. She's dedicated, committed, patient, sensitive and enthusiastic. She believes strongly in the importance for people to fulfill their potential through literacy.

Lisa has been intimately involved with some of the most challenging literacy programs undertaken in Saskatoon, at locations such as the Friendship Inn and the Saskatoon Food Bank. She is never afraid to work with those most in need and most marginalized and to challenge and help organizations to best meet all learners' needs. She has acted as a literacy ambassador, bridging gaps between organizations within the community so that learners may better gain from literacy programming offered to them. Lisa has repeatedly



demonstrated an engagement to literacy learners, their families and the needs of their diverse communities. She is a thoroughly conscientious and dedicated volunteer, giving of her time as a board member, speaker and tutor who has made a vast difference in the lives of individual literacy learners and to the literacy community as a whole.

Lisa helped us understand that in a literacy program, we have the power to create a microcosm of what the world could and should be: inclusive, supportive, caring, fair and respectful. These are the qualities and gifts that Lisa shares in her volunteer and community service.

Lisa has been an outstanding role model, mentor and advocate for literacy. Through her volunteer work, she has positively influenced the literacy field at all levels (learner, volunteer, staff, board, organization), both locally and provincially. She has reached far outside her personal activities on a daily basis for over 13 years to help others improve their literacy skills, which makes the city of Saskatoon, the province of Saskatchewan and the country of Canada better for everyone.

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## Idioms from Numbers

-extracted from Idioms for Everyday use: The Basic Text for Learning and Communicating with English Idioms

– Milanda Broukal

Instructions: Read the story. Then discuss the questions on the following page.

For some people, fishing is so enjoyable that it puts them **in seventh heaven**. For others, fishing is a good time to relax and catch **forty winks**. I'm **of two minds** about it. At first sight, fishing seems like fun. But, **on second thought**, I just don't like to handle a fish when I catch it. To many people who like fishing, it's **second nature** to look at a river or a lake and know where the fish are. They have a **sixth sense** that helps them do this. Soon they're catching fish, while I'm still trying to put the worm on the hook.



continued from previous page...

1. When you are **in seventh heaven**, how do you feel?
2. When you are **of two minds**, have you made a decision? Name some things about which you are of two minds.
3. If doing something is **second nature** to you, is it easy or hard for you to do? Name something that is second nature to you.

A customer is thinking about buying a car.

Will: This model is second to none. It's nice-looking and reliable and it got good mileage.

Ken: Oh, really?

Will: That's right. It's our best-selling model.

The conversation continues.

Will: So what do you think of the car?

Ken: I don't know. I'm of two minds about it. I think I need something bigger.

Will: No problem. Just think about it.

On your own, choose three idioms. Write a short conversation for each idiom. Then act out your conversation. Practice this conversation.

# Don't be without the paper!

The Star Phoenix Subscription Program

\$1.50/week

A special program for adult learners of READ Saskatoon

The Saskatoon Star Phoenix is a great resource for READ Saskatoon adult learners.

- It keeps learners abreast of current world events and trends. Local, International and national news, sports, business, health and entertainment news.
- It enhances learners' life skills, such as looking for jobs, housing and searching for information, thus helping learners to function independently in society.
- It is a great vehicle for upgrading skills in vocabulary, spelling, conversation, reading and writing.
- It helps develop critical-thinking skills
- It opens the door to a lifetime of learning and a lifetime of reading

Subscription length: minimum of 4 weeks to maximum of 12 weeks

Call READ Saskatoon at 652-5448 to register.

**Deadline – September 17, 2004**

# READer Family Fun Page

## Seek and Find

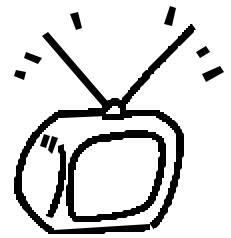
After reading the READer, can you find the answers to our questions? Your family can win movie passes to Rainbow Theatre and a READ Saskatoon book bag.

1. What is READ Saskatoon's phone number?
2. When was READ Saskatoon's family picnic?
3. How many leaves are in the September newsletter?
4. Name three healthy snacks.
5. How many apples do you need for Sarah's Applesauce?
6. What picture is on the front page?
7. Draw us a picture of your family reading together.

Fax your answers to 652-4205  
or mail them by September 30, 2004 to:  
READ Saskatoon  
READer Family Fun Contest  
#405-220 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1M1

## Children, Screens and Books

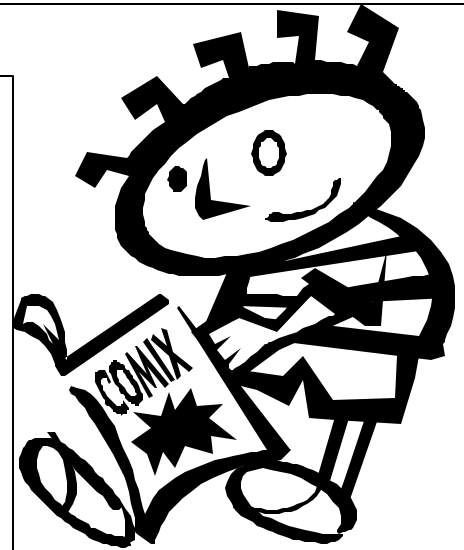
A recent study found that many children under the age of 6 spend more time each day on a computer, playing video games or watching television than they do with books. Many children spend 2 hours each day on computer or watching TV, which is about the same amount of time that they spend playing outside. However, they spend only about 40 minutes a day reading or being read to. Not all computer games or television programs are bad, but if you spend time with a child playing games, reading a book, going for a walk or making a simple snack it is not only better for their brain development, it can build your relationship. Spending time with a child is never a waste of time.



Parent Help Line 1-888-603-9100 [www.parenthelpline.ca](http://www.parenthelpline.ca)

## What's Happening?

READ Saskatoon will provide free family literacy programs, training and support. Programs are based on the needs of the group. We also would love the opportunity to speak to groups of parents about the value of including literacy activities in their homes. For more information call READ Saskatoon at 652-5448 and ask for Mavis



Family Literacy is not just about reading and writing. It's about developing stronger relationships between parents and their children and getting parents involved in their children's education. It is about building stronger families and healthy communities." - Centre for Family Literacy



**Sarah's Applesauce - serves 4**

- 4 apples - peeled, cored and chopped
- 3/4 cup water
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

In a saucepan, combine apples, water, sugar, and cinnamon. Cover, and cook over medium heat for 15 to 20 minutes, or until apples are soft. Allow to cool, then mash with a fork or potato masher.

**Fall Family Fun Time:**

Soon summer will move into fall and the leaves will start to change their colours. This activity will help you keep the leaves looking beautiful into the winter. What you need:

- Fall leaves in a variety of colours
- Clear contact paper (mac tac)
- Hole punch
- Scissors
- String or ribbon
- Branch

**What to do:**

Find leaves in a variety of different colours and shapes. Spread open a sheet of contact paper. Press leaves onto the paper and then cover with a second sheet of paper. Press firmly around the edges of the leaves. Cut out the leaves leaving a little border. Punch a hole in the top of each leaf and attach it to the branch with the string or ribbon. Hang several leaves on the branch. Place the branch in a pot or hang from it the ceiling as a mobile. Now you can enjoy the colours of autumn into the winter.

**School Days...**

Good snacks for school bags or after school might be:

- Cheese cubes
- Fruit-fresh is best
- Vegetable sticks
- Yogurt
- Fruit Smoothies
- Dry cereals
- Goldfish crackers (no trans fat)
- Fruit & Veggie Bars
- Low-fat cottage cheese
- Applesauce
- Low fat pudding snacks
- Toast wedges
- Homemade cookies or muffins
- Milk
- Water

