

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

September 2005



Fall is here and welcome
back!

Hope you had a
great summer!

READ

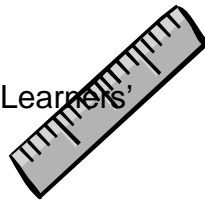
Saskatoon is
very excited

about the many new programs.



Important Dates, 2005:

- ☞ Thursday, September 8th, International Literacy Day. Event will take place at SIAST Kelsey Campus starting at 10:45 a.m.
- ☞ Monday, September 12th, 2005, READ Saskatoon's annual general meeting Room #3, Frances Morrison library (downtown branch) at 7 p.m.
- ☞ September 4-10th International Learners Week



A special **WELL DONE!** to the huge number of tutors and learners who continued to meet during the summer. **If you took a break it is time to begin tutoring again, please get in contact with your tutor as**

soon as possible. We wish everyone the best for this year.

For those of you who have not yet contacted your tutor, please do so. Mavis and Sheryl have begun making calls to many of you, however if we have missed you, please call the office at 652-5448 and give us an update. We always love to hear how things are going for you.

Have you moved recently?



READ Saskatoon Office

#405-220 3rd 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.

Please call READ Saskatoon, at 652-5448, to update us with new address and phone number. This helps us support you better.

Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey shakes things up!



our literacy levels. We are waiting to hear what the results are in early September.

Word Travels: a successful literacy initiative for Saskatoon



READ Saskatoon, Radius Community Centre, Frontier College, in cooperation with the Saskatoon Public Library believe that creating a permanent location, will create a stable, safe and stigma-free location to support learners who need a bridge from the community to organizations that can appropriately facilitate their learning. Our dream resulted in last year's literacy initiative: *Word Travels*.

It was an exciting and demanding year, but everyone involved is delighted in our successes:

- 398 participants accessed Word Travels over its 8 month programming period
- 100 participants made repeat visits to the Drop-in Literacy program
- 14 referrals from the community were made to Word Travels Drop – In Literacy Program
- 10 participants were enrolled in more formal education services
- 4 participants gained employment
- 198 participants were/are enrolled in recreational activities
- Word Travels made 12 referrals to community agencies
- 29 library cards were issued

The partnering agencies are looking to other funding sources to help run this program again.

The Adult Literacy and Life Skills (ALL) Survey was released by Statistics Canada on May 11.

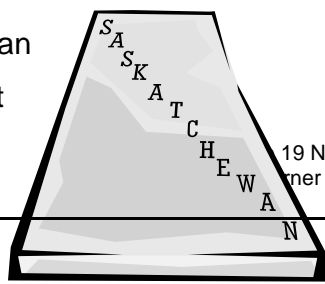
According to the ALL survey, 2 in 5 Canadian adults do not have the literacy skills needed to meet the demands of society. The survey found that 9 million of Canada's 21 million working age Canadians rank below level 3 on literacy tests - the level most experts say is necessary to meet everyday reading and writing challenges in the modern world.

The survey is getting a lot of attention. Since the release, literacy has been covered on the front pages and editorial sections of many of Canada's newspapers as well as on radio and TV. Along with the coverage have come questions:

- What do the statistics really mean?
- Why do the numbers matter?
- What are the policy solutions?

(extracted from the Movement for Canadian Literacy at <http://www.literacy.ca>)

The province of Saskatchewan also wanted to find out about



Some Adult Literacy and Life Skills Highlights

- 42% of Canadians do not have the literacy skills they need to meet the demands of today's society.
- Compared to the last survey, there are fewer Canadians in the lowest literacy level (level 1). There are also fewer Canadians at the highest levels (level 4/5).
- Low literacy hampers success in the labour market. Less literate Canadians earn less, and if unemployed, they're unemployed for longer periods of time.
- People in greatest need of training are the least likely to access it.
- 35% of youth between the ages of 16 and 25 score below level 3.
- Parents' education level has an impact on their children's skill level. Canadian youth aged 16-25 who had parents with little or no education scored lower on average in 2003 than similar youth surveyed in 1994.
- Literacy skills are lost if not used regularly.

Using a Dictionary - Sounds

Use a dictionary to help you answer the questions. (<http://www.rhlschool.com/links.htm>)

1. Which word rhymes with "recuse"?

- a. truce
- b. cuec.
- c. moosed
- d. buzz

2. Which word does not rhyme with the other three?

- a. quay
- b. flea
- c. ti
- d. hi

3. Which word does not rhyme with "nose"?

- a. hose
- b. lose
- c. snows
- d. goes

4. Which word does not start with the same sound as the other three?

- a. pseudonym
- b. sioux
- c. soothing
- d. poodle

5. Which word rhymes with "psych"?

- a. witch
- b. bike
- c. peach
- d. miss



6. Which word does not rhyme with "ruse"?

- a. moose
- b. clues
- c. fuse
- d. news

Balloonist breaks own record

Last year, American balloonist Steve Fossett broke his own record for a [solo](#) balloon flight on the final leg of his journey around the world.

The 58-year-old millionaire stockbroker reached the [milestone](#) while travelling over the Indian Ocean, having cleared the eastern side of the tip of South Africa at 1100 GMT, his [mission control](#) says. This

means that, 12 days after taking off from Western Australia on 19 June, he [traversed](#) more than 80% of his around-the-world distance. Twelve days into a previous such attempt last year, he crash-landed in Brazil, setting the record for the longest solo balloon flight.



Mr Fossett's mission control team based in St Louis quote him as saying that "life is good" in the [gondola](#) of his balloon, which has now travelled more than 23,440 kilometres (14,565 miles). The balloonist is reportedly 26,200 feet (7986 metres) in the air, travelling at 86 km/h (54 mph), and less than 7,763 km (4,823 miles) from Australia.

Close call

This is Mr Fossett's sixth attempt to be the first person to fly a hot-air balloon around the world single-handedly. While crossing the [Andes](#) on the previous leg, he had to fight a three-hour battle to save his mission after his balloon went into a series of dramatic leaps and dives. The journey has seen him spend much of his time attempting to avoid storms around South America.

During the trip, he came "[perilously](#) close" to smashing into the ocean.

Mr Fossett's five earlier solo attempts ended with crash-landings in spots such as the Coral Sea off the north-east coast of Australia and a cattle ranch in Brazil.

Questions

How many people are travelling with Mr. Fossett?

- the story doesn't say
- 12
- 2
- no one

Which of these problems has Mr. Fossett had on this journey?

- His balloon was leaping and diving as he crossed the Andes.

- b. He crashed into the Coral Sea.
- c. He crashed on a cattle ranch in Brazil.
- d. He smashed into the ocean.

What is the name of the punctuation marks used in "perilously close"?

- a. speech marks
- b. apostrophes
- c. colons
- d. commas

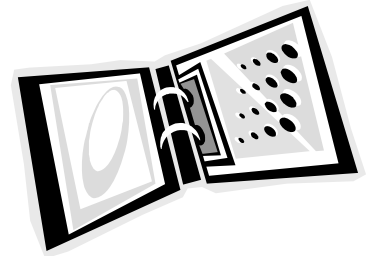
How many times has Mr. Fossett tried to fly single-handedly around the world?

- a. Once
- b. Six times
- c. Twelve times
- d. Five times

Why does Coral Sea start with capital letters?

- a. it is at the start of a sentence
- b. it is an important word
- c. it is the first time it is mentioned in the story
- d. it is a proper noun

http://www.bbc.co.uk/apps/iff/skillswise/inthenews/all_quizzes/quizengine?quiz=0704;templateStyle=all_quizzes;platform=pc-internet;filter_1_type=poolchoice;filter_1_data=5-newstome&year=2002



What's happening at READ Saskatoon?

New Partnerships



READ Saskatoon will be working with Radius Community Centre to provide volunteer tutors. The tutors will help Radius's adult learners as they move from their education program to the workplace.

READ Saskatoon and Saskatoon Open Door

Society is working together to provide family literacy-based programming to parents and families who are new to Canada. Funding is provided by the Saskatoon Foundation.

****New Formats****

Over the next three years, READ Saskatoon's family literacy project will move towards 80% of its family literacy time providing:

- ☞ presentations and orientations to family literacy,
- ☞ information sharing



- ☞ support
- ☞ networking opportunities

The other 20% will continue with direct programming. This will ensure new facilities, Community Based Organization's, and preschools, interested in family literacy, have programs provided by trained staff.

New Publication

Thanks to the United Way's Community Initiatives Fund, READ Saskatoon with the added support of a registered dietician is working to revise READ Saskatoon's plain language pregnancy diary and journal, *Baby and Me*.

The journal provides information and checklists and the back pages can be altered to apply to any community. The guide is also useful to volunteer tutors, instructors and advocates working with youth-at-risk, new Canadians or parents with literacy challenges. Look for it in the New Year!

Same Great Staff

Need we say more?



What is in that Product?

This is a fun food game you can play with your tutor.

Materials:

- Various food containers (yoghurt containers, cereal boxes, snack foods)
- Newspapers
-

Instructions:

- Gather 4 or 5 different food items from your kitchen.
 - Copy down the ingredients and nutritional information from the different food items. Make sure you include the information asked for below. Don't include the name of the food item.
1. Manufacturer _____
 2. Address of Manufacturer _____
 3. Telephone number of Manufacturer _
 4. Main ingredient of product _____
 5. Calories in one serving _____
 6. Serving size _____
 7. Carbohydrates per serving _____
 8. Cholesterol content _____
 9. sugar content _____
 10. sodium content _____
 11. expiry date _____
 12. vitamins and minerals in product _____
 13. other ingredients _____
- Take the information and this newsletter to your next tutoring session.
 - Tell your tutor it is his (or her) job to try and guess what the food item is based on the information you gave them.
 - If your tutor correctly guesses the food item, ask them to explain how they worked out the answer.

Project Ready: shaping my potential



Get paid to improve your literacy and
employability skills.

Are you:

- between the ages of 23 and 30?
- not receiving employment insurance?
- a resident of Canada?
- legally entitled to work in Canada?
- a parent?

9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday to Thursday
9 a.m.-12.p.m. Friday

Session 1: October 3, 2005 - February 3, 2006

Session 2: February 20, 2006 – June 16, 2006

- Money available to support transportation and childcare
- 13 openings per session, interview required.

You will need to commit to 30 hours a week for 17 weeks.

Call Sheryl at 652-5448.

READSaskatoon

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 – 23rd 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



Did you know...?

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

- Alice Turner - Silverspring
- Carlyle King - Confederation
- Cliff Wright - Lakewood
- Frances Morrison –Downtown
- Mayfair – 33rd
- Rusty MacDonald – Lawson Heights

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.*

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

READer Family Fun Page



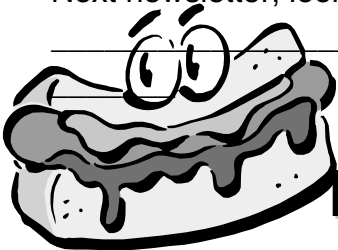
Back to School

It is time to go back to school. For children this can be an exciting, but scary time of year.

- Let them know that it is OK to be worried.
- Make sure they get lots of rest so they are ready for the big day.
- Keep everything simple that morning, no fancy breakfast.
- Have all their school supplies and clothes ready the night before.
- Go with them on the first day and help them meet their teacher
- Say a short goodbye, and let them know you will be back right after school to hear about their day.
- No after-school activities for the first week.
- Let your child know that other children will be worried too.



Next newsletter, look for tips on how to help your child succeed at school



Hot Dog Soup

1 cup chopped onion 2 tbsp cooking oil
1 can pork and beans 1 tbsp brown sugar
1 can tomato soup 1 ½ cup water
8 weiners, sliced thin

Chop onion and cook in oil until soft. Add the weiners and cook 3-4 minutes. Stir in other ingredients. Let simmer for 30 minutes on low.

(Extracted from Kiddie Chow: Making Food fun for kids. www.Kids.cditchen.com)

H	O	T	D	O	G
O	O	H	O	H	T
T	T	T	G	H	O
D	H	D	D	D	O
O	T	G	O	O	G
G	D	T	G	D	G

How Many “Hot Dogs”
in this puzzle?

Family Literacy Game

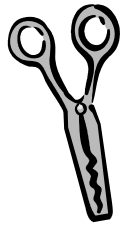
Find the following school supplies hidden in the newsletter and write the page numbers beside them.

Send your form back to READ Saskatoon to be entered in a prize for a READ Saskatoon book bag and craft supplies.

- Pencils pg _____
- Eraser pg _____
- Pen pg _____
- Book pg _____
- Ruler pg _____
- Backpack pg _____



- note paper pg _____
- Glue stick pg _____
- Crayons pg _____
- Binder pg _____
- Scissors pg _____
- Chalk and chalk board brush pg _____



You can mail your entry to:
READ Saskatoon
Family Literacy Contest
#405-220 3rd Avenue South
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1M1

Or fax your answers to: (306) 652-4205

Be sure to include your name and phone number so we can reach you!

Egg Carton School Bus

This is a simple craft for children about to begin school or for young siblings of school age kids.

Materials:

- Lid of a cardboard egg carton
- Yellow paint or markers
- Black construction paper
- Black marker
- Magazine to cut out faces

Instructions:

- Cut lid off of an egg carton
- Paint or colour the lid yellow
- Use a small lid to trace two wheels on the black paper
- Cut 2 circles out of black construction paper
- Once the paint is dry, glue on the wheels
- Cut out faces from the magazines
- Glue the faces onto the bus. If the carton has holes down the center, glued the faces into the holes.
- If the carton doesn't have holes, just glue the faces onto the bus you can draw "windows" around them with a black marker.
- Write SCHOOL along the top of the bus



If your child is able to write on their own, let them do the writing. (Extracted from *DLTK's Printable Crafts for Kids* www.dltk-kids.com)