



READ Saskatoon provides:

- free literacy tutoring to adults;
- free family literacy programs;
- free family literacy support and coordination to schools, community-based organizations and businesses;
- training to groups interested in building their skills in adult and family literacy;
- group adult learning opportunities. Our outreach programming connects adults to further education and skill enhancement programs;
- alternative points of accessing literacy supports. Our *Good Book Bins*, distributed in public waiting areas in Saskatoon, encourage families to choose a book from the box and read it together, take it home, bring it back at the next visit, replace it with another, or keep it;
- *Grow Your Own Training*: an award winning workplace literacy model that supports lifelong learning on the job;
- research to the literacy community.



READ Saskatoon

It's more than words.



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READ Saskatoon PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy Friday, September 9, 2011 Saskatoon Golf & Country Club

To increase awareness of low literacy levels in Canada, Peter Gzowski founded the first PGI Golf Tournament in 1986. Since that time, the PGI has blossomed into a high profile event, celebrated in every province and territory.

READ Saskatoon, with the help of a creative, dynamic volunteer committee, and a supportive Board of Directors, is hosting the fifth year of this event on Friday, September 9th. This fundraiser has raised over \$98,000 for READ Saskatoon's free literacy programs and has made a significant difference to the agency's capacity to continue to meet the needs of partner agencies and our community.

Registration 9:00 — Shotgun Start 10:00

Literacy Awards Banquet 4 :00

Hole Sponsor (includes one golfer) \$500

Golf Team \$700 — Single Golfer \$175

(includes lunch, banquet & \$50 charitable receipt)

Additional banquet tickets \$35

Call **652-5448** for more information.

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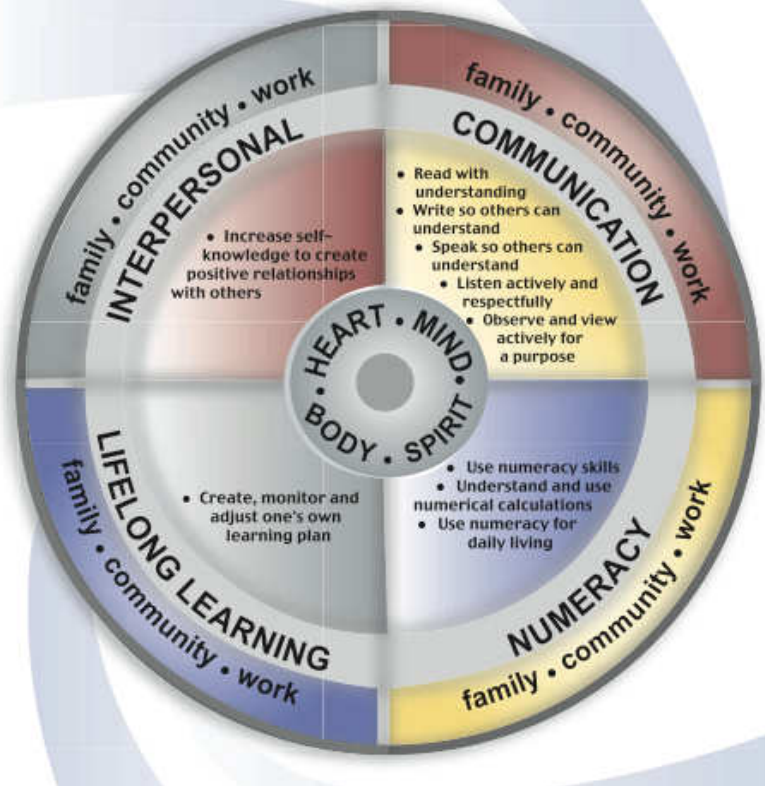


READ Saskatoon

Golf Tournament for Literacy

A picture says a thousand words... have you ever checked out a picture dictionary? Picture dictionaries are a great way for learners (especially visual learners and learners new to Canada) to expand vocabulary. Check out the Oxford Picture Dictionary collection at the library.

Look for Our Upcoming Books!



READ Saskatoon has two new books coming out! Both are geared towards adult learners and use the philosophy of The Circle of Learning from the Saskatchewan Adult Literacy Benchmarks.

It's More than Words: Help with Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar is our literacy book, based on the communication and lifelong learning sections of the Circle of Learning. It is aimed at helping you learn to read and write, but it has a broader focus than just that. *It's More than Words* includes everything from phonics and spelling tips to help using a dictionary or a computer to suggestions for writing essays and taking tests. It also has helpful sections on grammar and punctuation, and reference word

lists.

Do the Math is our numeracy book, based on the numeracy section of the Circle of Learning. It is aimed at helping you with numbers and math, and includes everything from what numbers are to operations with fractions and decimals to geometry, algebra and more. We call it "The Math You Actually Use" because it also shows you how much math you already know and helps with practical math like calculating credit card interest and reading your meter. Because the best way to learn math is by practicing, *Do the Math* includes plenty of examples, exercises and questions to think about, to help you get more comfortable with math.

Look for both coming this fall!



On September 8th, Promote Literacy and Peace!

A Fundamental Right



Educational institutions and literacy organizations around the world commemorate International Literacy Day on September 8. Endorsed by UNESCO, this day is proclaimed for disseminating literacy awareness throughout the world.

According to a UN analysis there are close to 796 million adults worldwide who lack the literacy skills to fully participate in their societies. That's 1 in 6.

Adopted in 1965 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Literacy Day is observed every year on this day with a new mission. International Literacy Day 2011's theme is "Literacy and Peace."

Since its very inception, this day became a special occasion but in 1990, the United Nations General Assembly provided a bolster to global literacy by proclaiming the year as International Literacy

Year. UNESCO is striving to meet the Education for All Goals agreed upon in Dakar in 2000, especially Goal 3

(meeting the learning needs of all young people and adults), Goal 4 (a 50 per cent improvement in adult literacy rates by the year 2015) and Goal 5 (achieving gender equality in education).

Because of this, UNESCO promotes:

- Literacy for empowerment—not what literacy can do for people, but rather what people can do with literacy;
- Literacy for lifelong learning—literacy as a continuous process that requires sustained learning through application and a rich literate environment;
- Literacy and learning

societies—programmes providing literacy skills which enable citizens to actively participate in public life.

UNESCO is the lead agency for the United Nations Literacy Decade, 2003-2012, which emphasizes the goal of literacy for all people of all ages, in all regions of the

67.4 million children worldwide do not attend school and many more attend irregularly or are drop outs.

world, in rural and urban areas, in school and out-of-school, within families, communities and the work place.

Making the entire world literate is yet a far-fetched goal.

However, the fact is that without making the entire world literate we cannot expect global development.

On this special day, let us take an oath to make our country, as well as the world, literate. It is possible if we take the very first step of making time to volunteer.

Information on UNESCO and on International Literacy Day comes from www.unesco.org/en/literacy/

Education is a fundamental right as enshrined in Article 26 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Every person, regardless of race, gender, ethnic or social origin, age or ability, has the right to access to education.

Q: What building has the most stories?

A: A library, of course!

Parents who view reading as a source of entertainment are more likely to have children who enjoy reading. Focusing on the pleasure of sharing time together with print is crucial to building positive attitudes which will engage both parent and child with print more often.

(Weigel, D.J., Martin, S. & Bennett, K., 2006)



Family Fun Page

Looking for things to do with your children? Here are a few ideas:

Wednesday, September 8th Is "International Literacy Day"

Join us for the celebration of literacy at 10 a.m. at the SIAST Kelsey Campus front lawn. Free books for families, fun activities and cake to celebrate! At 1 p.m., everyone in the city is encouraged to Drop Everything and READ! Check out our International Literacy Day Kit for Schools and Families, available at www.nald.ca/slc/what.htm



Sunday, September 25th Is The Word on the Street Festival

Come to 23rd Street E between 3rd and 4th Avenues from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with your whole family for readings, discussions, author interviews and more. There will be arts and crafts and activities for children to participate in, along with games, face painting and contests throughout the day. For more information, see www.thewordonthestreet.ca/wots/saskatoon

Good Book Bins Are Everywhere!

Our red recycling bins filled with children's books can be found at various locations around the city. Families are encouraged to choose a new or gently used book from the box and read it together. You can read it there or take it home, bring it back on your next visit or replace it with another book, or keep it for yourself. Look for one in your community!



Your contribution means everything to us!

Learn more about the difference you are making to Saskatoon. Meet others involved in adult and family learning. Come to READ Saskatoon's Annual General Meeting.

Monday, August 29th, 2010 — 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Western Development Museum —the balcony 2610 Lorne Avenue

RSVP by Wednesday, August 24th by calling 652-5448
appetizers and refreshments included



Boy Smarts Action Talk

Learn how to talk so boys will listen and how to listen so boys will talk.

Join READ Saskatoon and Barry MacDonald, author of *Boy Smarts* and *Boys on Target*, to learn about how to mentor your son for success at school and life.

This traveling workshop is coming to Saskatoon September 17, 2011 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in partnership with READ Saskatoon. Early bird registration is in effect until September 7.



Registration details at www.MentoringBoys.com

Workshop fee includes two books by Barry MacDonald:

Boy Smarts: Mentoring Boys for Success at School and

Boys on Target: Raising Boys into Men of Courage and Compassion

**Did you know
you can book
private space**

for tutoring
sessions at the
following
branches of the
public library:

- Alice Turner
- Carlyle King
- Cliff Wright
- Frances Morrison (Main)
- Mayfair
- Rusty McDonald
- Library on 20th Street



READ Saskatoon wants YOU! (to be a tutor)

READ Saskatoon needs tutors! Have you considered tutoring with READ Saskatoon? Do you know of someone who would be a great tutor for an adult learner? Are you someone who has tutored before and who is wondering if you should get back into it? If so, now's the time!

We are now accepting applications to tutor this fall. Please call our office at **652-5448** or send us an email to info@READSaskatoon.com and we will send you an information packet.

Tutor Orientation starts on September 27th, please contact us before then if you would like to tutor someone this fall.

Call the branch directly to learn about the procedures for booking your space!

What Is Numeracy?



READ

Saskatoon is

about more

than words ...

it is about literacy:

reading, writing,
speaking, listening
and numeracy.

By providing these

foundational skills

with qualified

staff and trained

volunteers, we can

help people reach

their full

potential.

We all know that literacy is important, and promoting literacy is one of READ Saskatoon's main goals, but what is numeracy, and why is it important? Dictionaries define **numeracy**, or numerical literacy, as "the ability to think and express oneself effectively in quantitative terms" or "the ability to use numbers, especially in arithmetical operations", but it is more than that.

Just as literacy is about more than knowing the alphabet and spelling, numeracy is about more than knowing numbers and doing simple arithmetic, as the United Kingdom's Department for Education and Skills explains in their definition of numeracy:

"Numeracy is a proficiency which is developed mainly in mathematics, but also in other subjects. It is more than an ability to do basic arithmetic. It involves developing confidence and competence with numbers and measures. It requires understanding of the number system, a repertoire of mathematical techniques, and an inclination and ability to solve quantitative or spatial problems in a range of contexts. Numeracy also demands understanding of the ways in which data are gathered by counting and measuring, and presented in graphs, diagrams, charts and tables."

Numeracy does include number sense, operation sense and computation, but it also includes measurement, geometry, probability and statistics. Someone with an incomplete understanding of fractions

and percents will have a hard time with probability and statistics. The same is true for someone who does not know how to read charts, graphs and tables. Because information is increasingly presented to us in these forms, those with low literacy may have trouble understanding things like news articles, nutritional information and financial matters. It may also be harder for them to get a job, or to perform all of their duties on the job.

Just as literacy is a continuum, with a large number of people falling between full literacy and full illiteracy, people have different levels of numeracy. The International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey measured numeracy in Canada in 2003. They defined numeracy as "the knowledge and skills required to effectively manage the mathematical demands of diverse situations", and measured it on a scale from 1 to 5. The IALSS found that 55%, or just over half, of Canadian adults were below Level 3 on the numeracy scale, which is considered the desired benchmark for developed countries.

READ Saskatoon aims to raise numeracy in our community. One way that we are doing that is through our upcoming book, *Do the Math*, which looks to teach adults math that they can actually use.

For more information, see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numeracy>; Canadian data from Statistics Canada's "Building our Competencies: Canadian Results of the International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey"

What's Your Learning Style?

Did you know that different people learn in different ways? People are grouped into three different **learning styles** according to how they learn best:



- **Visual** learners think in pictures, and learn better if they are shown diagrams and have things written down.
- **Auditory** learners learn best through listening, and do well with explanations and discussions.
- **Kinesthetic** learners learn best through movement, and have more success if they are allowed to do or touch things themselves.

These three learning styles are also called learning by **seeing**, learning by **hearing** and learning by **doing**. Do you know what kind of a learner you are? If not, here is a little test to help you find out.

1. When learning something new, I like to... **A)** read the instructions; **B)** listen to an explanation; or **C)** try it out and learn by doing.
2. I remember things best when I... **A)** have notes or printed details; **B)** repeat things out loud or in my head; or **C)** do, make or practise something.
3. When I spell, I... **A)** try to see the word in my head; **B)** sound out the word; or **C)** write the word down.
4. Easiest for me to remember are... **A)** faces; **B)** names; or **C)** things I've done.
5. I like the instructor to use... **A)** charts and diagrams; **B)** group work and discussion; or **C)** hands-on activities.

If you answered mostly **As**, then you are probably a **visual** learner. If you answered mostly **Bs**, then you are probably an **auditory** learner. If you answered mostly **Cs**, then you are probably a **kinesthetic** learner.

Test material from Learning Styles Inventory from Essential Skills handbook, available at www.douglas.bc.ca/training-community-education/essentialskills.html

How can there be a literacy problem in Canada, when most adults can read and write?

Many people misinterpret low literacy as illiteracy.

In fact, very few Canadian adults are truly illiterate (unable to read or write).

The main concern is regarding the millions who possess some literacy skills, yet who are below the internationally-accepted standard for coping in a modern society.

Reading the Future <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/ccl/reports/readingfuture/index.htm>

Upcoming Events at READ Saskatoon

- International Youth Day, Friday, August 12
- Left-handers' Day, Saturday, August 13
- READ Saskatoon Annual General Meeting, Monday, August 29, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Western Development Museum
- National Marshmallow Toasting Day, Tuesday, August 30
- Labour Day, Office Closed, Monday, September 5
- International Literacy Day, Thursday, September 8, 10 a.m., SIAST Kelsey Campus front lawn
- Drop Everything and Read Event, Thursday, September 8, 1:00 p.m., 15 minutes, wherever you are!
- READ Saskatoon PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy, Friday, September 9, all day, Saskatoon Golf And Country Club
- Broadway Street Fair, Saturday, September 10, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Broadway
- Boy Smarts Action Talk Conference, Saturday, September 17, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Circle Drive Alliance Church
- *Arghhh ye maties* – International Talk Like a Pirate Day, Monday, September 19
- Word on the Street Festival, Sunday, September 25, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., 23rd Street East between 3rd and 4th Avenues
- Culture Week – proclaimed by Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport, September 26 – October 2
- Tutor Orientation, Tuesday, September 27, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., READ Saskatoon
- Tutor Orientation, Wednesday, September 28, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m., READ Saskatoon
- Raise-a-Reader Day, Wednesday, September 28, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m., Downtown corners
- Family Learning Olympics Event Planning, Thursday, September 29, 4 – 5 p.m., READ Saskatoon
- Reading and Parents Program (RAPP) Planning, Thursday, September 29, 5 – 6 p.m., READ Saskatoon
- Introduction to Family Literacy Training, Saturday, October 1, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., READ Saskatoon
- Tutor Training, Saturday, October 1, 9:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m., READ Saskatoon

READ Saskatoon READER Volume 33, August, 2011

Literacy Fact

In Saskatchewan,
66% of people who
are at the lowest
level of literacy are
employed.

- LITERACY in Saskatchewan
Implications of Findings from
IALSS 2003



Sheryl Harrow, READ Saskatoon and Carol Cisecki,
Affinity Labour Community Representative

READ Saskatoon
would like to
thank Affinity
Credit Union for
continuing to
support literacy
and our
community.

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