



**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 holistic classroom connects adults into further education and skill enhancement programs;
- alternative points of accessing literacy supports. Our Good Book Bins, distributed in public waiting areas in Saskatoon, encourages 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 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and Canada



this issue

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## READ Saskatoon PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy raises \$35,000 for literacy programs... more importantly it acknowledges Nataliaa Pavolvska

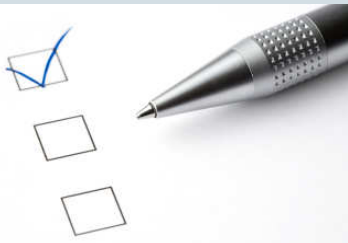
Thank you for this award. I was very happy to find READ Saskatoon, so I could have the chance to learn English.

When I began with READ Saskatoon, I did not understand people and I could not speak with these people. But now, I can speak and understand better.

This is an achievement award. So I would like to share with you my most recent achievement. One week ago I was working as a cleaner and dreaming about going to school. This Monday I was started going to school to learn English. So my dream are beginning to come true. This would not be possible without you people and my tutor.

I am very grateful to Lynne, my tutor. She help me study English. The lessons are always interesting and fun. We read, speak and listen together and do many exercises. I still have much to learn, so I hope to work a long time with Lynne and READ Saskatoon.





## Grow Your Own Training



## Job Related Training = stronger employees, employers and community

### Peoples' earnings rise with their literacy rate.

A man with higher literacy skills makes an extra \$585,000 over his lifetime. For a woman, the amount is \$683,000. Each additional year of education raises annual earnings by about 8.3%.

What do Crestline Coach, Jubilee Residences and JNE Welding have in common? Aside from being dynamic and successful organizations in their chosen fields, they have each partnered with *Grow Your Own Training* to provide employee development and workplace literacy training for their employees.

According to an Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) 2006 report, Canada's participation rate in non-formal job-related education is 29%—well behind Denmark (46%), Sweden (45%), Finland (44%), the United States (44%) and the United Kingdom (34%). It is important, therefore, to acknowledge the efforts of these employers who are taking action to improve communication, safety and satisfaction on the job for their employees.

The OECD reports further that the training gap is particularly significant for workers with lower

The training gap is particularly significant for workers with lower educational levels.

educational levels. In 2008, only 22% of workers with less than high school level education received job-related training, compared to 66% of

employees with university level education. The reasons for this statistic are diverse; however, the cost of replacing employees who are released for training

is a significant investment on top of the cost of the training itself.

So, why do these companies make the effort and invest in their employees by partnering with us? According to a study by the Conference Board of Canada, 66% of employers state that the reason they use or would use Workplace Literacy and Basic Skills Programs is to improve productivity.

According to Brent Brooks at JNE "Instructors were thorough and got people involved. We provided work materials and the instructor figured out how

to create a training lesson with the material. After the training, employees who had been involved in the workplace literacy classes could understand procedures better than other staff."

Yvonne Morgan of Jubilee Residences told us "Because the training was across departments the supervisors reported that employees felt valued and part of the team. In a broader sense they felt this

1 out of 3 Canadian employers experience basic skills-related problems with their workforce, yet less than 1 out of 10 employers are involved in literacy programs or referrals to programs.

- International Adult Literacy Survey, Statistics Canada, 1994

would improve employee retention."

Zach Kleinsasser of Crestline Coach shared with us that because employees from different departments came together for the training, they

got to know and appreciate each other in new ways. One result of this is that they now get together socially.

Outcomes like these contribute to improved financial results and to the well-being and success of both employers and employees.

## New interactive map offers literacy profiles for more than 50,000 neighbourhoods across Canada

In recognition of UNESCO International Literacy Day the Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) launched an online tool that will allow users to explore profiles of prose literacy in 52,200 cities, towns and communities across the country.

As part of its commitment to providing information that Canadians can use, CCL's free Prose Literacy Map (available at [www.ccl-cca.ca/literacy](http://www.ccl-cca.ca/literacy)) provides an extraordinary look at adult literacy data in Canada.

"This innovative map represents a valuable learning opportunity for millions of Canadians, and arrives on a day which is traditionally dedicated to exploring literacy issues," says Dr. Paul Cappon, CCL's President and CEO.

"Though many believe Canada is well-equipped on the literacy front, the fact is that nearly half of all adults have low literacy levels meaning they are ill-prepared for the current demands of our rapidly changing world."

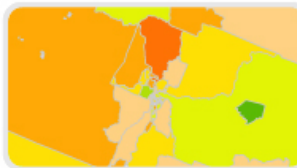
**What is prose literacy?** Prose literacy refers to the knowledge and skills needed to understand and use information from text, such as news stories, editorials, poems and fiction. It is the most commonly understood definition of literacy. Adult literacy is often measured on a prose literacy scale of 1 to 5. Level 3 is widely considered to be the minimum threshold for coping with the demands of the global knowledge-based economy.

**How does CCL's prose literacy map work?** The map uses data from the 2003 International Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey (IALSS) which was conducted by Statistics Canada and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and combines it with 2006 Census data.

The result is an immersive and interactive look at prose literacy across the country, represented by average adult prose literacy scores (on a scale of 0 – 500) or by regions of lower literacy. According to the 2003 IALSS, 48% of adults in Canada had low literacy levels, at, or below, Level 2.

<http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Newsroom/Releases/20090908Newinteractivemap.htm>

### CCL Interactive: Prose literacy map



**Almost 12.5 million Canadians**, the equivalent of 46% of the population aged 15 and over, volunteered for charitable and nonprofit organizations in 2007.

Collectively, these volunteers contributed just over 2.1 billion volunteer hours, equivalent to almost 1.1 million full-time jobs.

[http://www.givingandvolunteering.ca/files/giving/en/csgvp\\_highlights\\_2007.pdf](http://www.givingandvolunteering.ca/files/giving/en/csgvp_highlights_2007.pdf)

## You are invited to READ Saskatoon's annual Potluck and Tree Decorating Extravaganza

Tuesday November 17 — READ Saskatoon office.  
4 - 6 p.m. tree decorating, 6 - 8 p.m. potluck

*Please RSVP by Fri Nov 13<sup>th</sup>*



## 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.

## Wrap with READ

It's the most wonderful time of the year...to spread information about literacy and help out READ Saskatoon. Once again we will be gift-wrapping for donation at McNally Robinson Booksellers. If you are available to help out by taking on a three hour shift, call Sheryl at 652-5448. We require two people per shift; what a great way for you and your learner or friend to do something a little different together.

### Volunteer requirements:

1. great with paper
2. fantastic with ribbon
3. can brag about the great work READ Saskatoon does in the community
4. Not afraid to talk and gently harass strangers

### Dates to help:

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ** Saturday December 12 | ** Sunday December 13    |
| ** Friday December 18   | ** Saturday December 19  |
| ** Sunday December 20   | ** Monday December 21    |
| ** Tuesday December 22  | ** Wednesday December 23 |



**McNALLY  
ROBINSON  
BOOKSELLERS**



## Using a Thesaurus

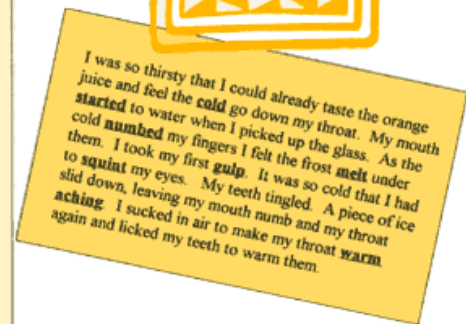
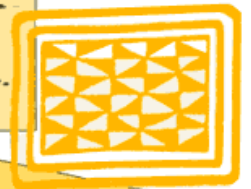
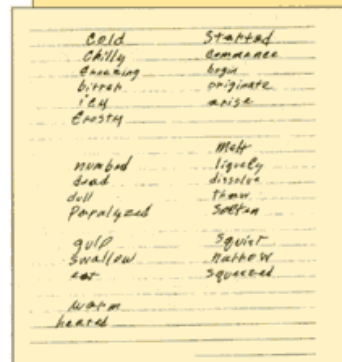
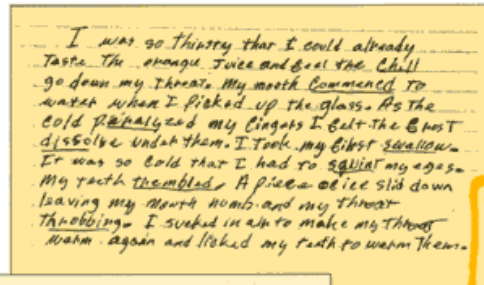
Kelly Frasier, a tutor at an American literacy organization came up with a novel idea for helping her adult learner learn to use a Thesaurus and expand his vocabulary.

First, she explained how a Thesaurus was like a dictionary and how it was different. She then had her learner read a short descriptive paragraph with some key words underlined. Her student wrote down the underlined words, looked them up in the Thesaurus, and made columns of synonyms for each word.

After this, he re-read the paragraph and copied it, inserting a new word for each underlined word.

Kelly notes that, "Reading through the second time there was less hesitation. There were some words he decided not to change because another word would not have made as much sense. After he had rewritten the paragraph, he read it again with almost no hesitation. He really liked doing this and seemed pleased to use the bigger words which are in his vocabulary."

<http://www.oaklandlibrary.org/services/SecondStart/tutortips/lessons/thesaurus.html>



# A Fun Fall Literacy Activity for your Family



**Mark January  
27th on your  
calendar!**

This year's theme  
for Family  
Literacy Day is  
*Singing for  
Literacy.*

It can be karaoke  
or campfire-style -  
whichever you  
prefer! For more  
information  
contact Desiree or  
Cait at 652-5448.

## Autumn Word Ladder

Make your way from TREE to FALL by changing just one letter on each step to make a new word! There are 6 steps in this word ladder.

T R E E      Forest plant.

	R	E	E
--	---	---	---

      Costs nothing.

F	R	E	
---	---	---	--

      To worry.

F		E	T
---	--	---	---

      Something to walk on.

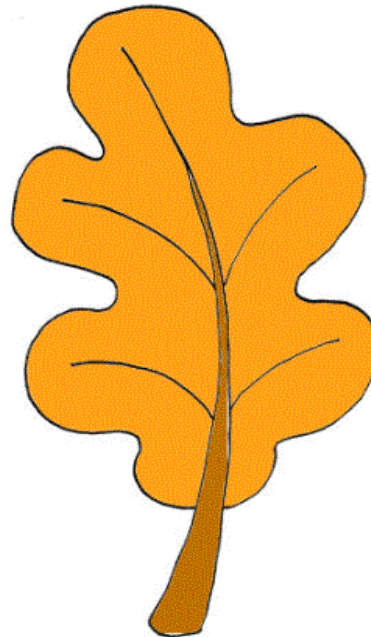
F	E		T
---	---	--	---

      Craft material made of matted fibers.

F	E	L	
---	---	---	--

      Knocked down.

F A L L      Another word for autumn.



Reading every day  
keeps the doctor  
away.



## Health literacy

refers to an individual's ability to access and interpret information relating to their own health, and their capacity to make well-informed decisions about their health.

The single best predictor of higher levels of health literacy is the act of reading every day—even more so than someone's education—says a new report released today by the Canadian Council on Learning.

The report, [Health Literacy in Canada: A Healthy Understanding](#), reveals that daily reading outside of work is associated with higher health-literacy scores—one-third higher than the average for those aged 16 to 65 and more than 50% higher for those 66 and older.

"That reading has such a strong effect is empowering," says Dr. Paul Cappon, president and CEO of the Canadian Council on Learning (CCL). "It means that we can all make a positive contribution to our own health, and potentially to the state of our health-care system, simply by reading throughout our lives."

In 2007, CCL released initial results from an international literacy

# Prescription for good health found in daily reading, new evidence shows

survey that showed 60% of Canadians lacked the necessary skills to manage their health and health-care needs adequately.

*A Healthy Understanding* builds on these results and provides new, in-depth analysis examining the relationship between levels of health literacy and the reported health of Canadians.

### The report found:

- Those with the lowest levels of health literacy are more than 2.5 times as likely to report being in poor or fair health as those with the highest levels.
- Across Canada, the prevalence of diabetes increases significantly as health literacy decreases. A similar link—though not as strong—is found with high blood pressure.
- The three most vulnerable populations for low levels of health

literacy are seniors, the unemployed, and immigrants (especially those who don't speak French or English).

- Health literacy is more complex than previously thought; requiring prose, document and numeracy skills, often in combination for the same task.

"The diabetes finding underscores how an individual's level of health literacy can affect their ability to self-manage their condition," says Dr. Cappon. "Considering that this illness is now estimated to cost more than \$6 billion annually, CCL's findings suggest that improving health literacy could have significant benefits: both improving the health of Canadians and reducing costs for our health-care system."

# Tutoring Activities for the Movie-Buff Learning Teams

Questions to discuss: What kind of movies do you like the best? Who is your favorite actor? Actress? What movies have you seen recently? How often do you watch movies or videos? What movies do you want to see?

By yourself make three riddles for movies that you have seen. Then share your riddles and your learning partner will try to guess the answer.

**Movie 1:** It's a \_\_\_\_ (ex. Comedy, drama, etc) \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_ (name of actor) \_\_\_\_ is in it. It takes place \_\_\_\_ (setting) \_\_\_\_\_. It's about \_\_\_\_ (theme) \_\_\_\_\_. In the end, \_\_\_\_\_.

**Movie 2:** It's a \_\_\_\_ (ex. Comedy, drama, etc) \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_ (name of actor) \_\_\_\_ is in it. It takes place \_\_\_\_ (setting) \_\_\_\_\_. It's about \_\_\_\_ (theme) \_\_\_\_\_. In the end, \_\_\_\_\_.



## Fast Figo at the Films

**Here are Figo's Best Movie recommendations for 2009. Remember you can write him, c/o READ Saskatoon and let him know if you agree or disagree with his opinions.**

District 9 – The best movie of 2009 so far. Wow. An outstanding science fiction film. If this movie does not get an Oscar nod for Best Picture, something is wrong.

Public Enemies – One of Johnny Depp's finest performances ever.

Watching Depp perform a one-arm vault over a bank counter with a machine gun in the other hand is worth the price of admission alone.

The Informant – A dark comedy based on true events. Matt Damons' terrific acting should garner an Oscar nomination for Best Actor. He was brilliant.

Zombieland – A hilarious comedy. Woody Harrelson was the perfect choice in perhaps his best performance since "*The People Vs. Larry Flynt*", one of my all-time favourite movies.

One Week – A surprisingly delightful Canadian film with exceptional cinematography.

Star Trek – Better than nearly all of the other trekkie movies. Exceptionally well done. It even featured the Spock. So good.

Terminator Salvation – Christian Bale delivers another outstanding performance. One of the best Terminator films.

Crossing Over – Harrison Ford is stellar in this drama about illegal immigrants.

Tell No One – A fascinating, delightful murder mystery. It grabs you and won't let go.

Sunshine Cleaning – I never expected something like this to be this good. Intelligent humour. Terrific acting.

Shouting Fire: Stories From The Edge of Free Speech (Documentary) – Outstanding. Everyone with an interest in free speech needs to see this film.

Roman Polanski: Wanted & Desired (Documentary) – An excellent insight into the judicial misconduct that has plagued the Polanski case. So odious is the judicial misconduct even the victim wants the case dismissed.



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

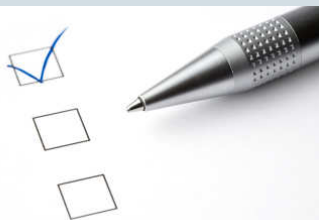
Many people misinterpret low literacy as illiteracy.

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



## Literacy Fact

Higher literacy levels result in a better quality of life through reduced poverty, lower unemployment, and decreased public assistance. Additional positive impacts include improving self-confidence and parenting skills, and increasing the number of job prospects and participation in community life in general.

-As taken from: <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/hip/lld/nls/>

- Saskatoon Region Family Literacy Advisory Meeting — Tuesday, November 10
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, November 10
- Remembrance Day, Office Closed — Wednesday, November 11
- *Introduction to Family Literacy Certificate Training* — November 12
- *Come Read With Me Training*— November 13 & 24
- Tutor, Learner, Volunteer and friend of READ Potluck and Tree Decorating evening — Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, READ Saskatoon office, **please RSVP by Friday, Nov 13<sup>th</sup>**. 4 – 6 p.m. tree decorating, 6 – 8 p.m. potluck.
- Volunteer Literacy Tutor Training — Saturday, November 14
- READ Saskatoon Board of Directors Meeting — Monday, November 16
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, November 17
- Saskatchewan Literacy Network Conference — November 18 & 19
- National Child Day, visit us at Market Mall — Friday, November 20
- Tutor Library Tours — Monday, November 23, Downtown Branch (Frances Morrison Library)
- Come and visit the READ Saskatoon Christmas Tree at the *Festival of Trees...*Western Development Museum, November 22 – 28<sup>th</sup>
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, November 24
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, December 1
- International Day of Volunteers — Friday, December 5
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, December 8
- Human Rights Day — Thursday, December 10
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, December 15
- READ Saskatoon Office Closed — December 23 to January 3<sup>rd</sup>
- READ Saskatoon Board of Directors Meeting — Monday, January 11
- ESL online tutor training begins — January 11
- Saskatoon Region Family Literacy Advisory Meeting—Tuesday, January 12
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, January 12
- Storysack certificate training Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, January 19
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, January 26
- Volunteer Literacy Orientation — Tuesday, January 26 & Wednesday, January 27
- Family Literacy Day—Wednesday, January 27
- Literacy Tutor Training—Saturday, January 30
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, February 2
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, February 9
- Saskatchewan Family Day, Office Closed — February 15
- READ Saskatoon office closure - February Break, Feb 15 - 19
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, February 23
- Freedom to Read Week February 21 - 27
- Adult Drop-in Homework Help, 3:30–5:30, Study Room, Library on 20th Street Branch — Tuesday, March 2
- World Storytelling Day — March 20<sup>th</sup>

READ Saskatoon READER Volume 31, November, 2009

Regina Public Library and READ Saskatoon are working together to better meet the needs of volunteer literacy tutors and newcomers.

If you would like to broaden your knowledge, strengthen your skills, and learn some new literacy tutoring methodologies call Jan at 652-5448.

## Newcomers improving literacy skills need *your* help!

We're looking for volunteer ESL tutors to test an ESL Online Tutor Training Tool. The course begins the week of January 11 and wraps up the week of March 1, 2010. To participate, you must have Internet access and be able to commit 2 hours a week to the course. **Deadline for registration is December 4.** For more information or to register, contact:



Jan Cunningham,  
READ Saskatoon  
Phone: (306) 652-5448  
Email: [READSaskatoon@nald.ca](mailto:READSaskatoon@nald.ca)  
[www.READSaskatoon.com](http://www.READSaskatoon.com)

This pilot project is funded by the Office of Literacy & Essential Skills (OLES)

Canada

READSaskatoon  
It's more than words. 2010

RP  
L&S Regina  
Public Library

## Find These Words

- toque
- mittens
- scarf
- toboggan
- wind chill
- saskatoon berry
- canoe
- deer
- gopher
- football
- hockey
- halloween
- boots
- RCMP
- perogies
- meewasin valley trail
- library
- western red lily
- curling
- sunshine
- wheat
- S'toon
- SK
- Sask

### Did you know?

- "S'toon" is an informal abbreviation for "Saskatoon"
- "SK" and "Sask" are abbreviations for "Saskatchewan"



Saskatchewan

### Western Red Lily

Commonly called a Tiger Lily, this is the official flower of Saskatchewan.

### Football

A popular team sport in Canada and the U.S. Our team is called the Saskatchewan Roughriders.



### RCMP

The abbreviation for Royal Canadian Mounted Police; our national police force.

### Snowman

Children have fun in the winter shaping snow to look like people.



### Wheat

A grain; Saskatchewan produces more than 50% of Canada's wheat.

### Canoe

A popular, lightweight boat used for fun and competition.



### Wind Chill

A way to say how cold it "feels," when considering the wind.

### Toboggan

A long, narrow sled. Children enjoy sliding down hills in winter.

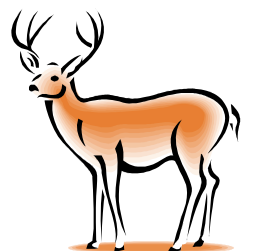


### Meewasin Valley Trail

A beautiful system of trails by the river in Saskatoon.

### Deer

An animal common in the prairies. Watch for deer when driving on highways!





### Boots

Sturdy footwear. In winter, people wear winter boots to keep warm.

### Hockey

A popular team sport, played on ice with skates, sticks and pucks.



### Sunshine

It may be cold here, but at least it's sunny!

### Halloween

October 31<sup>st</sup>; children dress up in costumes, and go from door-to-door asking for candy.



### Curling

A popular team sport played on ice with polished rocks and brooms.

### Gopher

A rodent common in the prairies. It is basically a squirrel that lives in the ground.



### Toque, Mittens, and Scarf

Important clothes to wear in winter to stay dry and warm!

### Saskatoon Berry

A tasty purple/black berry that grows on bushes near Saskatoon.



### Perogies

A popular dumpling often filled with cheese, potatoes and/or bacon.

### Library

A place to borrow books, music and movies for free.



# Word Search

u	p	f	o	o	t	b	a	l	l	m
r	e	s	u	n	s	h	i	n	e	e
a	r	c	m	p	i	o	s	s	u	e
t	o	b	o	g	g	a	n	k	a	w
o	g	s	s	a	s	t	o	o	n	a
w	i	n	d	c	h	i	l	l	o	s
e	e	r	a	i	s	c	a	r	f	i
s	s	e	t	l	a	a	r	t	b	n
t	o	q	u	e	s	n	u	l	o	v
e	s	r	o	n	k	o	n	r	o	a
r	a	i	s	e	a	e	d	a	t	l
n	i	l	m	i	t	t	e	n	s	l
r	h	a	l	l	o	w	e	e	n	e
e	t	n	a	e	o	o	r	r	e	y
d	s	a	s	k	n	w	h	e	a	t
l	l	e	i	o	b	o	r	i	s	r
i	g	o	p	h	e	r	e	n	t	a
l	i	b	r	a	r	y	a	l	e	i
y	o	u	c	u	r	l	i	n	g	l
h	o	c	k	e	y	e	m	d	y	e