



October 2020

# Tutor Tips

A monthly publication of the Moore County  
Literary Council



Dear Tutors, volunteers,  
and lovers of literacy,

Have you ever put an entire puzzle together, then bumped it? Or dropped it? All those pieces lay scattered, and you are not sure where they all are? Well, this fall feels a little like that. We had a lovely program in place, running like a fine oiled machine, then- BOOM! After six months, we've opened back up at the Read Moore Center, Seven Lakes is planned to start back up in mid-October, but we are all a little shaken and "scattered" by the interruption to the routines that were in place before March.

Having said that, we simply could not "pick up the pieces" without **YOU**, our tutors! **You have been amazing!** Thank you for helping us reach out to students, for checking in with us here at the office, and for your kind words, patience and support during this time.

As we move deeper into fall, more fine tunings will need to be made. As of right now, we have several tutors who have lost their students, some students who are in need of a tutor, and new volunteers who are patiently waiting on a training date.

But these are all good dilemmas! We ARE moving in the right direction! Over the next several weeks, I will continue to sort it all out, place and re-place student-tutor pairs, and plan for trainings and celebrations. Together we're getting all the pieces back together again! Hooray!

~Until next month, Susan



**ATTENTION! ALL TUTORS!**

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

We have updated the **Quarterly Progress Report** to align with your student's goals. We hope this will be an easier format for you! We will discuss this in a Zoom conference on:

**Wednesday, October 7th @ 6:00pm -OR-**

**Thursday, October 8th @ 2:00pm.**

I will send you an email with the links attached, as before! All you need to do is pick a date, write it on your calendar, and click on the link at that time!

It should take no longer than 30 minutes or so! Thank you! I look forward to seeing you on the 7th or 8th!

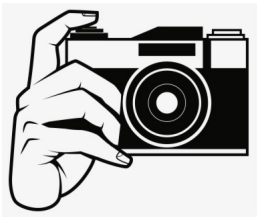
Writing prompt  
for October.....

Ghosts!



October is National Book  
Month!

Did you know??? We have a seasonal selection of books available for "check-out" in the Computer Lab! Take a look with your student! There is a small clipboard beside the selections for you to fill out, or just ask one of us to help you!



**SMILE!** Did you see our "tree" in the lobby? We will be taking pictures of our tutors with their students so we can decorate it with smiles and positive vibes! Be prepared!

**Tutor Rooms** are open by appointment! It is sooooo good to hear the excitement in the center again!

**WELCOME  
BACK!**

Call **910.692.5954** to reserve yours!



Have you heard about **Pc's For People**? It is an organization that helps people obtain refurbished computers at very little cost. There are certain criteria in order to qualify. If your student is in need of a computer, copy and paste the link below for all the details!

<https://www.pcsforpeople.org/get-technology/>

Oh! By the way... **FREE PRINTER!** We have received as a donation a very nice printer! Do you need one? Could your student benefit from a printer? Call the office to add your name to the list! We will draw the winning name on Wednesday, October 21st!



Ask Susan...

I suspect my student may have a learning disability. What should I do?

First, you should take a deep breath! Your student's difficulties are no reflection on your passion or ability as a tutor! But there is something you should check first: the **learning environment**. Many people cannot concentrate if the conditions are awry. **Time of day** can be a huge factor. For example, I am NOT a morning person. I do my best work in the early afternoon. Is the **room comfortable** or too hot? Is there **too much noise**? It is the brain's natural reaction to process everything it hears and sees! Ask your student if they are being distracted in ANY way or by anything going on around the tutoring area. You may not eliminate these distractions, but perhaps you can reduce them.

Another thing to consider is **vision impairment**. Watch your student: is she struggling to see the letters by pulling the book close to her face, or holding it far back away from her eyes? If glasses are out of the question, a pair of drug store readers may help. Hearing loss is another culprit. Look for signs. Is she turning her head towards you and asking you to repeat?

And, yes, there could be an underlying issue. According to the article ***When Learning Disabilities in Adults Go Undiagnosed***, 10% or more of the world's population may be affected by a learning disability. This includes ADHD, Dyslexia, or processing issues, among others. Since we are not licensed clinical professionals, we do not determine if a student has an impairment to learning. But since we ARE the literacy council, we continue to accommodate their literacy needs by:

- ◆ Re-visiting previous goals to be sure the student has attainable goals;
- ◆ Consider the pace of instruction by allowing more time to focus on tricky areas;
- ◆ Trying different learning techniques, such as breaking assignments and lessons into very small steps or using graphs or diagrams. A great resources to visit:

[https://do2learn.com/disabilities/CharacteristicsAndStrategies/  
SpecificLearningDisability\\_Strategies.html](https://do2learn.com/disabilities/CharacteristicsAndStrategies/SpecificLearningDisability_Strategies.html)

Remember, you are providing a valuable service to your student and all students are different with varying abilities! Talk to your Program Specialist about your concerns! Stay focused on the mission, and be proud of your students accomplishments!

To read the full article, copy and paste the link below:

<https://www.readandspell.com/us/learning-disabilities-in-adults>