

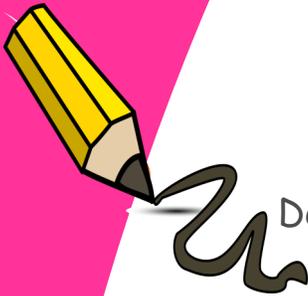


February 2021



Tutor Tips

A monthly publication of the Moore County Literacy Council
Southern Pines, North Carolina



Dear Tutors, volunteers,
and lovers of literacy,

It's cold. It's wet. The excitement of the holiday season has come and gone. We're still dealing with Covid... But, **BOY** do we have it going on here at MCLC! **Literacy Love** is in the air, and we hope it shows!

Throughout January, we **LOVE** that we had students- old ones returning and new ones finding us- that called up to make an appointment or just walked through the door. Their hopes for the future and their desire to meet that future with improved literacy skills is an inspiration to all of us around here!

Kathy McGougan continued to develop the Citizenship program for our students, or maybe I should say "re-invent" thanks to the many years **Marilyn Powers** supervised it, and in a two weeks span we had 4 candidates come to us seeking assistance in becoming Americans. Kathy would **LOVE** a few of you to work with her on this project! Interested? Want more info? Give Kathy a quick call!

We started another tutor training in January, and we'll finish up this month with four new tutors who are already "spoken" for. And speaking of tutors, I'll be hosting your first professional development of 2021 on the 16th when I will share with you visual ways to help your student increase comprehension and critical thinking- see **page 3 for more info!** I can't be in the tutor room with you, but I **LOVE** being able to help you and your student on the literacy journey!

Please pay special attention to the writing prompt this month, "**I LOVE MCLC because...**" We will use this in the **Reflections**, but also use a selection as student testimonies on end of year reports. Believe it or not, we will start testing this month for end of year! Wow!

I wish you a productive and inspiring month, but most of all, I hope you continue to **LOVE** being a tutor here at MCLC!

~Until next month, Susan

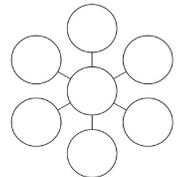


Ask Susan...

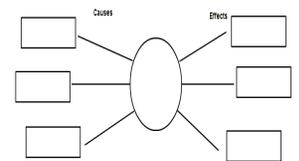
My student is struggling with reading comprehension. They just don't "see" the overall picture. Do you have any suggestions?

The key word is "see". Literally. Roughly 66% of the population needs images, diagrams and charts to help them comprehend ideas and information. Sometimes reading words is just not enough. Sometimes, we need to "see" what we are reading in order to fully grasp the "overall picture". Never fear! Here is a sampling of visual aids, a.k.a graphic organizers, that will help your student better understand what they are reading:

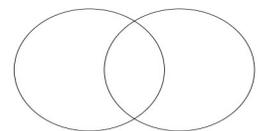
Bubble Charts: *What is this article about?* When in doubt, use a Bubble Chart! Write the topic of your reading— titles work good for this— in the center bubble. Now, as your student reads, have them write the key ideas around the topic bubble. Think "Who, what, when, where, why". This chart helps the student focus on **main ideas** and weed out the irrelevant information. When done, they can "see" what the article or paragraph was truly about.



Cause & Effect Charts: In the center, have your student write the event or problem. On the left, list all the things that **CAUSED** the event to happen. On the right, list all the **EFFECTS** due to that event happening. Once you lay it out in visual form, comprehension and critical thinking in general can occur more easily.



Venn Diagrams are used to **compare and contrast** two events, subjects, ideas, etc. If your student is reading about two items, have them draw two overlapping bubbles. In the left, list all of Item A's unique qualities. In the right, list all of Item B's unique qualities. In the center, list the things they both share, or have in common. Your student can now see how they are different and alike, stemming understanding of the two items on a more critical level!





Writing Prompt: "I Love MCLC because..."

February's Synonyms: Confine = contain, enclose, restrain

Effective immediately, office hours for the Read Moore Center are as follows:



Monday through Thursday 9:00am-7:00pm

Friday mornings 9:00am-12:00pm

EXCEPT Feb 15th! We will be **CLOSED** for President's Day!



Attention All Tutors!

Professional Development is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16 @ 5:00pm via Zoom!
"Using Visual Aids to Aid Comprehension"

You will receive 1 hr of Professional Development credit for your attendance! Click on the link below on the 16th at 4:59!

<https://zoom.us/j/91023860939?pwd=MnNWMVZqOVc2ZkhYTU9aZ2pYVXJuZz09>

IMPORTANT TESTING ANNOUNCEMENT

All eligible students will begin end-of-year progress assessments in **February** and into **March** due to our **Dollar General** grant, which requires its funding report in April (*Yes, this is a little earlier than we have done in the past!*)

Remember: We could not assess in 2020 due to Covid closures!

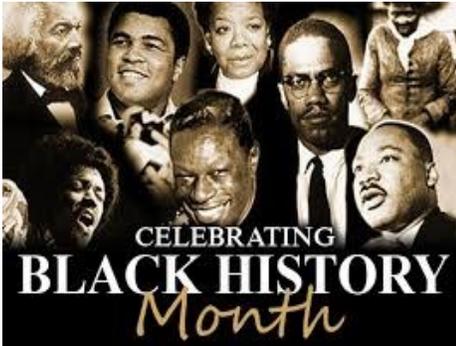
Please be prepared for testing in lieu of one of your February or March sessions!

If you'd like to schedule this ahead of time, please call me!

You do NOT need to attend when your student is testing!



Tutor Rooms are open at the Southern Pines library! If you need an alternate place to meet, give them a call at **910.692.8235** to reserve a room!



Does your student know about our Lending Library in the computer lab?

This month features various selections about notable Black Americans! Check it out, then (literally) check it out! Just sign out your selection on the clipboard! Enjoy!

SEVEN LAKES is re-opening Tuesday, February 2nd 5:00pm!

Please contact Maureen or Susan for more info!



Meet Tom Lyon!

By mere luck-of-the-draw, Tom is the 1st tutor in the spotlight for our new feature!

Tom has been with MCLC since March 2008. He is with his 4th student! What does Tom like best about tutoring? "The thing that I enjoy most is seeing the progress that my students make." You can find Tom on the golf course Mondays and Wednesdays or here at MCLC on Tuesdays, sitting on the little stool in my "office" about thirty minutes before his tutoring time, keeping me in line!

