

Take your partner

Knowlsey Grandparents group
using ICT



Case study template

Max: 500 words

Case Study Title: Reading Project – Take Your Partner

Pilot LA/provider: Oldham

Contact name and job title: Jane Slater, Learning Development Worker, Saddleworth & Lees cluster – Family Learning and extended schools

Contact details: 0161 770 8263 jane.slater@oldham.gov.uk

Introduction:

The objectives of the project are:

- To test the attitudes to, and experience of, reading amongst groups of emergent adult readers and gather good practice showing successful approaches to encouraging and maintaining reading, especially amongst those with lower literacy levels.
- To provide opportunities for adult readers to access formal literacy programmes/courses where appropriate.

Description/Outline of activity, process, etc

The group were part of a Family Learning ICT Course that was set up at Knowlsey Junior School, Springhead, Saddleworth. The learners were mainly Grandparents of children in the school and community. The course ran for 15 weeks on a Friday afternoon, it was a well attended group with 15 learners on the register. The group was a good mix of Male and Females. The group were all over 60 years of age.

Immediate and longer term impact

The course was advertised in the free local newspaper and the entire group regularly read this newspaper alongside other national newspapers. The group members were encouraged to read online with the children off various internet sites, also they were encouraged to read aloud with the children both off the screen and using the newspaper and books.

Key factors for success:

- Encouraging the learners to make the links between reading on line and reading books for pleasure with their children
- The group were all encouraged to visit the local library with their Grandchildren and also look at the local newspapers together.
- The group really enjoyed spending time reading book reviews off the internet and some of the group were shown how to purchase books off different web sites

Key challenges:

- Technical jargon on the computer, this was re-enforced with worksheets and discussions

Next steps

Any developments since the activity described or plans for future developments? For example:

- We have promoted this locally by following the success in the local newspaper with a follow up story about the groups success and to share their story with the community, this is also a good opportunity to advertise again for future courses

Other additional information:

The group all found *How to enjoy reading aloud to younger children* by Edmund Pegge & Alison Shakspeare very useful with lots of tips and ideas, they also commented on how the book was well illustrated with pictures and lots of colour.

The group also enjoyed reading from the internet using "Google" to search for ideas.

Quotes from parents or practitioners: *(these will go in a separate box)*

Quote from the Head Teacher at Knowlsey Junior School: *"It has been lovely for the school children to see adults from the community enjoying adult learning, it also sends a message out that it's never to late to learn."*

Grandparent: *"I have enjoyed using the internet with my Grandson helping him with homework and having fun."*

Grandparent: *"I can't believe how much information is out there, I have now got thousands of books at my finger tips."*

Photos available (please circle/delete as appropriate): YES NO

Photos need to be high resolution, at least 300 dpi

NB: All photography requires a model release form for signature by each subject, or their parent / guardian in the case of children.

The Reading for Pleasure suite of materials:

- CPD modules: Reading for pleasure in a number of contexts
- Storytelling: CPD unit with lesson ideas
- Families, Learning and Storytelling: Using archives for community cohesion
- Take Your Partner: Engaging emergent adult readers
- Technology and Reading: How to use blogs, wikis, iPods and e-books to promote reading
- Putting two and 2 together: Creating a bridge between literacy and numeracy learning
- Resources for libraries: Guidance on how to engage families to read for pleasure