

New Free Resource

Attracting and Retaining Immigrants: A Tool Box of Ideas for Smaller Centres.

This resource, originally developed in 2005, has been updated to reflect changes in immigration and migration. It is designed to help communities develop a strategy that will attract, welcome and retain newcomers. It looks at what is happening across Canada and gives examples of how communities are meeting the challenges around migration and immigration. The book is full of practical information to help a community identify ways it can be more responsive and attractive

to newcomers and thus improve its competitive edge. You will find information on Temporary Foreign Trained Workers and the Provincial Nominee Program as well as links to additional information. The Tool Box is available in English and French on-line at <http://www.icavictoria.org/>.

To ask for CDs or paper copies of the Tool Box booklet, contact

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Teaching Technique

Get up and move if

This is a fun way to get a class of learners moving around. It makes a nice break at any level. Get everyone sitting in a large circle. You can adapt the language levels you use according to the skill level of your class. At a low level you might start by saying "Do you wear glasses? Then stand up." Have everyone who wears glasses get up and change seats. Ask the next question and have those that respond to the question change places. Make up questions that reflect the appearance, age, family, likes and dislikes of your class. At a higher level give a command "Get up and move if you drive a car."

Prepare a long list of questions as this activity should move fairly quickly.

Teaching Tip

Save trees! Save time! We need to think about saving time and resources in preparing for classes. One way to do this is to avoid photocopying as much as possible. Instead of copying ten exercises, copy one and think of ten activities you can do with it! Suggestions for activities that don't require photocopying are:

- Dictation of the alphabet, words, sentences
- Role playing
- Sentence starters. Write them on the board and let learners copy them. Let learners suggest them for other learners.
- Games. Memory games, I spy, Hangman, 20 questions. These can be used to review vocabulary or to practice grammar structures.
- When introducing vocabulary also introduce opposites, synonyms, use it in sentences, use it in questions, use it in all of its inflections.

Here's your opportunity

Become a workshop facilitator without breaking a sweat! Two workshops, ESL Literacy and An Introduction to ERPAC, have been completely developed and packaged so that they can be easily presented by coordinators. Included in the package are power point slides, handouts and a facilitator's guide. We are looking for two communities to pilot this training resource.

To seize this opportunity contact:

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"You must do the things you think you cannot do."

Eleanor Roosevelt

"Don't be afraid to take a big step. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps."

David Lloyd George

"A love affair with knowledge will never end in heartbreak."

Michael Garrett Marino

Favourite Resources

Do you have a favourite resource that you have used with your learners which you would be willing to share with other ESL instructors and tutors? Please send the name of the resource and publisher, or source of the resource. Explain why this is your favourite resource. A list of resources you identify will be compiled and published in the next edition of Rural Routes.

For instance, Marilyn Visser with Taber and District Adult Literacy Program used the film "The Pride of Jessie Hallam" with her literacy tutors. It is about a coal miner in Kentucky (Johnny Cash) who has to improve his literacy skills so he can support his family. Popcorn and a movie – it's a pleasant and different way to provide some professional development for your tutors.

ESL Rural Routes

ESL Support is available for you!

Need advice?

Looking for ideas?

Want help in training your instructors and tutors for ESL?

Would like someone to come to your community?

NorQuest College is still providing a free-of-charge consultant service to smaller ESL providers.

To access this free service contact:

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Do you teach a multilevel ESL class?

Would you like to be involved in piloting a new resource? We will be piloting **ESL Lessons: A Mini-Curriculum Based on The ESL Resource Package for Alberta Communities (ERPAC)** with two classes and with two tutor-learner pairs.

Interested?

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Hot Tips for the Summer

Roll on those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer. However, holidays are often a time of separation from English for ESL learners. Give your learners some ideas to help them maintain their English practice while they are away from their classes.

- Keep a vocabulary journal.
- Write shopping lists in English.
- Make an effort to speak to at least one person in English each day. If this isn't possible, watch T.V. or listen to the radio for a couple of minutes each day. Or, eavesdrop on English conversations in the supermarket, on the bus, on the street.
- Write a letter or postcard to your teacher.
- Keep a file of interesting ideas, words, places to visit or situations. Be prepared to discuss them in the fall.

For those learners who have computers and access to the internet here are some great interactive websites.

English Express

www.englishexpress.ca/

The Learning Edge

www.thewclc.ca/edge/

The Everyday Life Project

www.gcflearnfree.org/everydaylife/

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