



The
SGB
Youth
Literacy

The Letter I



Ignite Learning!

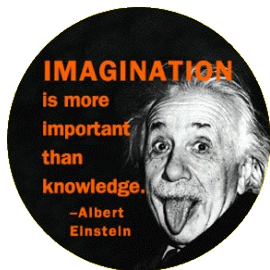
Volume 6 Issue 1

Newsletter of the South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council
467 10th St, Suite 303 Hanover, ON N4N 1R3

January 2012

“To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children, to leave the world a better place, to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson



We dedicate **The Letter I** to our **Imagination**. We are all learners, regardless of our age and we must constantly ignite and intrigue our imaginations.

Albert Einstein – A Playful Genius

Opening Hours for Youth Literacy Office

Tuesday through Friday: 9 AM to 5 PM
Other times by appointment

519.364.0008 info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

The Jones Team Expands

Improbable but true! We welcome our current J.D.S.S. Co-op student, Kyle Jones, as a team member assisting our coordinators, Dyan and Linette. The Jones Team is building the momentum of the learning power of Youth Literacy! The Youth Literacy Office is an active hub of learning for young people working with their volunteer tutors here after school throughout the week. Youth Literacy tutors are active across our region, meeting their young learners at schools and public libraries, bookstores and community radio stations. Each tutor learner-match is individualized, both in program and placement, tuned for success.

Our Volunteers Are Golden

We are proud of our Volunteers, those trained as tutors paired one-to-one with young learners in need of learning support, plus our volunteers who assist in managing our unique learning resources and facilitate our vital fundraising activities. Congratulations to our volunteers nominated in the 5 and 10 year sectors for the Ontario Volunteer Awards Celebration in June, where Youth Literacy was invited as the keynote address. Please join our team, enhancing life in our community!!

Donate to Create

Please consider the Youth Literacy Council in your generous giving. Our modest organization is 100% charitably based and we provide tax receipts. We work wonders with our trained volunteer base, bringing young people who require learning support to come up to grade level. Our success is shared with our community.

- We are a Volunteer driven organization.
- We provide free one-to-one individualized tutoring.
- We are highly acknowledged for excellence.
- Young learners improve grades and self esteem.
- We support Family Literacy & Enrichment Events.
- The Youth Literacy Council is a registered charity.
- Charitable tax receipts are provided .
- We are reliant on fundraising for our operations.
- All donations are directly applied to programming.

Sustainable Growth – YLC Endowment Fund

Our Board of Directors is mindful of the viable growth of our organization. Tax deductible donations made to the SGB Youth Literacy Endowment Fund under the Community Foundation Grey Bruce will be matched by a 50% grant building sustainability for our future.

THE LETTER I

Editor Dyan Jones

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Also available on our website www.sgbyouthliteracy.org

Participate! We welcome newsletter submissions of news, facts, links or articles by email to: info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

Our next issue will be The Letter J

Join our Email List : info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

We will keep you updated with Youth Literacy Events and exciting learning tips and games. At the Youth Literacy Council, we keep it fun while we take Lifelong Learning seriously!

Our Learning Resource Centre is open for free borrowing of books, games and learning activities.



View our website www.sgbyouthliteracy.org

Tutor's Tool Bag



The Importance of Eye Contact

We are all unique learners. It is well proven that maintaining good eye contact with each individual that we engage in conversation improves both our delivery and the comprehension of the listener. There are those amongst us who also informally utilize lip reading as part of their comprehension process. Thus the importance of good eye contact with young learners. This can be an additional plus for holding the attention of a young learner whose attention might be prone to wandering.

Playfulness is Linked to Learning & Creativity



"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."

George Bernard Shaw

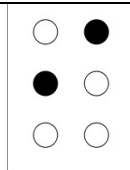
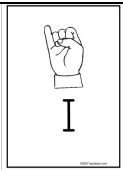
Playfulness means being able to explore and to do things, for the sheer delight of doing them. It means relaxing, being spontaneous

and allowing a situation to carry you where it will. When we have a playful attitude, learning and discovery are fun, and even hard work can fly by.

Sometimes we have to remind ourselves that playfulness actually accomplishes things! When children play, they become smarter because new neuron connections are formed in their brains. Play has been described as the work of childhood, the place where the greatest learning occurs. Great scientists and spiritual leaders often are similarly playful.

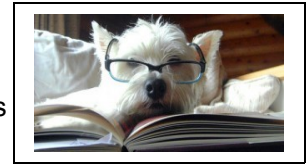
Playfulness reduces stress, and brightens the atmosphere. It engages people to do things that make them more connected with other people. It makes people happy.

Life is a series of journeys.
Allow each step to be a teachable moment.



ASL for the Letter I Letter I in Braille

Tail Wagging Tutors



What do you get when you bring children, dogs and books together? You get happy, confident children who love to read. Teachers, librarians, children and parents all agree it's an unbeatable combination!

In libraries and schools across North America, a loyal and tireless group of literacy volunteers are helping kids to read. They don't demand salary, they never complain or show signs of boredom. They receive nothing more than a cookie and a head scratch for their efforts. They are dogs, and they work miracles for children's literacy. Even kids who know how to read flock to these dogs just for fun while growing their vocabulary and public speaking skills in the process. The greatest beneficiaries, by far, are those who have obstacles to reading and speaking.

The Youth Literacy Council is working with St. John's Ambulance to introduce a community-based literacy program where children are invited to visit the library, pick a book, get paired up with a dog and **read, read, read!** Piloted by Kaye Parker, these select dogs are field tested and certified to be excellent reading buddies, accompanied by their wonderful human handlers.

Dogs provide an attentive, non-judgmental audience for young readers. They don't criticize or laugh. They don't act bored, hurried and impatient. They are there just to listen. Kids develop a love of reading while bonding over a shared story. The children's confidence and reading skills grow in a relaxing environment. It's that simple.

Of course, as an added bonus, children develop a healthy appreciation for dogs and learn to interact with dogs in a positive supportive situation.

Family Literacy Day Is on Its Way - January 27

Yes, we do kick up our heels for Family Literacy Day! The Municipal Councils of Brockton, Hanover and West Grey join the nationwide acclaim by issuing official proclamations for Family Literacy. During this week, the Youth Literacy Council will distribute free books for children at the Durham, Hanover and Walkerton Public Libraries along with great Family Literacy handouts from ABC Canada. We are grateful to First Book Canada and Frontier College for donating the beautiful books and to Hanover Honda and Durham's At The Movies for their generous support of our organization. Watch for our display at these libraries and celebrate Family Literacy, boosting learning in your home.



Access to New Books for Children in Need

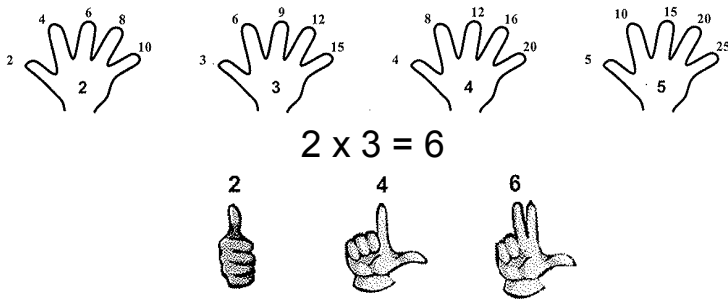
Talk Back – Yes, Please Do!

Digital Recorders For Improved Reading Fluency

The Youth Literacy Council is grateful to United Way and the Rotary Winterama Children's Fund for the generous grant which is enabling our purchase of digital handheld recorders. Championed by our volunteer tutor, Darlene Lamb, this is a proven interactive technique for young learners to gain better reading fluency. Our young learners will be able to practice their reading and record themselves. By listening to the playback, they can modify and smooth out their delivery.

How to Learn your Multiplication Tables – The Handy Way

Trying to do math without knowing your times tables is like trying to play the piano without knowing the location of the notes on the keyboard. Students will have difficulty seeing patterns in sequences and charts, solving proportions, finding equivalent fractions, decimals and percents, solving problems etc. if they don't know their tables. Memorize these numbers on your hand, a little marker on your fingertips can help.



Starting with the 2 times table, 2 times 3 fingers is 6.

And the snappy explanation for memorizing your 9 times tables?

9 x 4 = 36 The tens digit is always one less than the number you multiplied by. (3 is one less than 4) In multiplying by 9, the answer always adds up to 9. (3 + 6 = 9)

Check out these examples: **9 x 8 = 72** **9 x 2 = 18**

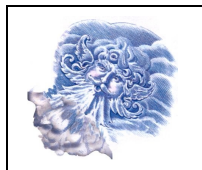
Once the confidence of the multiplication facts is internalized, using one's fingers will ease off, but isn't it comforting to have the answer at your fingertips? (*Thanks to JUMP Math Program*)

Words Aloud 8 Spoken Word Festival Youth Literacy's Collaborative Partner in Rhyme

Words Aloud Festival's Family Presentation this past October featured Kenneth Graeme's classic, *The Wind in the Willows*, brought to the stage with live music, puppets and film projection by Ottawa's Rag & Bone Theatre this recent October. Youth Literacy is proud to curate annual Family Theatre together with Words Aloud at the Victoria Jubilee Hall in Walkerton.

Writing Contest for Youth

Our fourth annual poetry and short story writing contest flew this autumn with the theme of **Wind**. Supported by the Bruce County, Hanover, Grey Highlands & West Grey Public Library Systems, we gave four cash awards and the winning entries were presented by the young writers at the performance of *The Wind in the Willows*, October 22, Victoria Jubilee Hall. We received entries county-wide – from Cape Croker to Formosa to Dundalk, all excellent poems and stories. Winning congratulations to Lydia Dyck, Marisol Stolfuz-Forand, Autumn Beaupre and Jillian Liverance.



Everyone keep writing!

Friends of Youth Literacy

Contributors in Kind

A & R Music	Ann Hagedorn
Doug Abell	Hanover Friends of Library
Bayshore Broadcasting	Hanover Public Library
Back Eddies Café	Elizabeth Hahn
Bluewater Radio	Elora Soap
Samantha Becker	Frontier College
Brick Books	Oliver Keating
Bruce Telecom	Sean Keating
Jon Butterfield	Cheryl D. Lindsay
Maryanne Buehlow	Susan Lindsay
Chapmans Ice Cream	MOSAIC Magazine
Chicory Common	Randy Martin
The Colour Jar	Harvey McFadden
Downtown Bookstore	Jan Moore
Grant's Independent	Northcott Fabrics
Holst Office Supplies	Millennia Books
Jennifer Dimeck	Scholar's Choice
First Book Canada	Victoria Jubilee Hall
Theresa Filsinger	Isaiah Walters
Frederick Turner Books	Welbeck Sawmill
Hanover Home Hardware	Mandy Rhody Zuk

Donors

At The Movies	Lyn & John Duffield
ARTicles Artists	Susan Lindsay
Auditory Health Care	Cheryl D. Lindsay
Bruce Dale Press	Don B. Marshall
BDO Dunwoody	Joan Martin
The Colour Jar	St. John's-Port Elgin Aux.
Municipality of Brockton	Mountain Bison Farm
Liz Barningham	Municipality of West Grey
Anne & Fred Black	Nature's Millworks
Maryanne Buehlow	Queen's Bush Pub
Pat & Leigh Butler	Noah's Inn
Paula Butterfield	QUILL Learning Network
Craig McDonald Reddon	Rockrose Pottery
CSR Walkerton	R.C. Legion-Women's
CWL Holy Family Parish	Auxiliary Chesley
Collen Lantz Run 4 Youth	Saugeen Credit Union
CFUW Members	Saugeen Music School
John Ernewein Construction	David Sugarman
First Book Canada	Town of Hanover
Ilse Gassinger	Rachel Walters
Elizabeth Hahn	Catherine Vassiliadis
Carol & Doug Harris	Wayne Schwartz
Hanover Honda	Construction
Hanover Rotary Club	Walkerton Rotary Club
HEAR NOW Musicians	Elizabeth Zetlin

Sponsors

Bruce Power	Ontario Trillium Foundation
CIBC	Gore Mutual
Power Workers Union	Energizer Canada
Canon Canada	Meridian Credit Union
Community Foundation	United Way of Bruce Grey
Rotary Children's Fund	Eva LeFlar Foundation
Ministry of Tourism and Culture	Ministry of Training Colleges & Universities
Power Workers' Union	

Affiliate Organizations & Partnerships

ABC Canada, Bluewater & District School Board, Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board, Bruce County Public Libraries, BBBS, Community Living, Durham Art Gallery, Edge Hill Country School, Frontier College, Grey Highland Public Libraries, Hanover Public Library, Keystone Child Youth and Family Services, Ontario Early Years Centres, Ontario Literacy Coalition, Project Canoe, QUILL Learning Network, Walkerton & District Community Living, West Grey Public Libraries, Victoria Jubilee Hall, Words Aloud, Youth Roots.

Thank you ! Merci !! Gracias !!!

We are grateful to all who attended the **Waterlife Film** and the **ARTicles Shadow Box Show**, in fact, the beautiful Victoria Jubilee Hall was packed with our supporters for this exceptional event. Our many contributing artists and volunteers put this fundraising event for Youth Literacy over the top.

Fundraising Activities and Support

We are grateful to the many groups that contribute to our organization and fundraise on our behalf. Thank you for keeping the candle of Youth Literacy burning brightly!

Hanover Community Players – Spring 2012 Show Is There Life After 50? May 24, 25, 26, June 1, 2, 3 Hanover Civic Theatre

The Hanover Community Players will generously donate \$1 of each admission to their upcoming Spring Show to Youth Literacy. What a great community happening!

The Concerted Effort for Youth Literacy Concert Gala & Sweets Auction Victoria Jubilee Hall - Saturday, May 12 2012

Yes, don your finery, this is the event of season, where the audience is as celebrated as the performers. The Gala Concert will feature Funny Ones, Parsons and Morel, leading the great lineup of musicians. Back by popular demand, is the ravishingly delicious Auction of Sweets, making this the mother of all events for Mothers Day Weekend.



TOUCH A TRUCK BIG EVENT COMING IN JUNE!!!!

HEAR NOW – A Musical Gift For Youth Literacy

This project is a labour of love, two years in the making, and a major fundraising effort for our organization. Sixteen singers, songwriters, musicians and poets have contributed their original music in a compilation CD, **Hear Now**, a featured cultural project. Talented young people join seasoned professionals in this multiple mix of music genres. All proceeds are dedicated to our Volunteer Tutor Program supporting young learners. The CD is available at venues throughout our region and from our website. www.sgbyouthliteracy.org



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKwS2ixt53E>

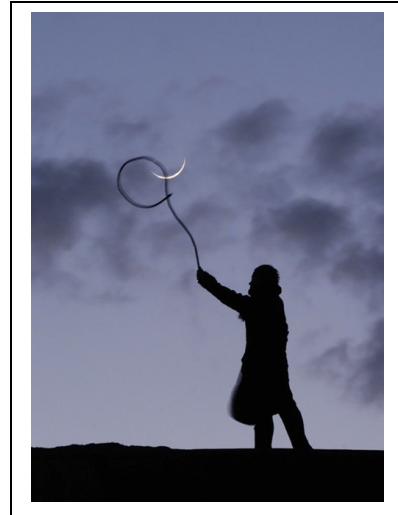


Thanks to Grey Bruce Digital for our Great PSA

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INMbpnj6QKs&list=UUWicB73mW0mbyLGJfPyFE5w&index>



*“Ah, but a man’s reach should exceed his grasp,
Or what’s a heaven for?” Robert Browning*



“And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.” Steve Jobs

☀ Tutor Enrichment Session ☀ Spring Into Learning

Keep Posted for the Spring Date: Reading and math will both receive a good spring cleaning with fun teaching activities offered for tutors and parents to enliven youngpersons’ learning. Thanks to the Hanover Public Library for providing the Saugeen Room for our free public workshop. All are welcome. R.S.V.P. 364-0008 info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

United Way Backpack Program

We are proud to be a member agency of United Way of Bruce Grey. In preparation for school each fall we distribute new backpacks full of school supplies to families free of cost, upon request, as part of the United Way Backpack Program. Contact our office before school lets out for the summer if your family wishes to participate. 519 364-0008 info@sgbyouthliteracy.org

Tutor-Learner Matches

We are currently supporting 30 tutor-learner matches, and have a steadily growing waiting list of young learners. Many young people are helped throughout the year. We support English as a Second Language and provide Family Literacy support. Our Volunteers are active across Grey and Bruce Counties, in libraries, schools, bookstores and community radio stations. Help us grow!

News Flash!!! Our Learning Resource Collection is up on our database. Thanks to Rotary Club Support!



The South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council, a community-based organization, will strive to assist youth, ages 6-18, who are struggling in school, in their quest to improve basic reading, writing and math skills, so that they may enjoy full participation as citizens in the community.