

Reading ASSIST® Institute March 2011 Tutor Newsletter

RAI Appreciation Luncheon(s)

You should all have received an invitation to the 2011 RAI Appreciation Luncheon: *You hold the key to RAI's Success!* The main event featuring US Senator Chris Coons as the guest speaker will be held in Wilmington on April 8, 2011. For the first time there will be a second Appreciation Luncheon held on April 14 in Lewes, DE for the convenience of our volunteers who live in southern Delaware. If you have not yet registered your attendance please do so now by contacting Jeanne DiChiara, jeanned@readingassist.org, (302) 425-4080. Be sure to note which event you are attending and if in Wilmington, your entrée selection - chicken or vegetarian.

Robins and Marshmallow Bunnies

Robins are on my front lawn which can only mean that spring is not far behind. For some, this conjures up images of Easter baskets and candy. It also a time to remind all our tutors that giving food of any kind to our students is prohibited. In addition to the lack of parental consent and possibility of life threatening allergies, using food as a reward may violate a school district's wellness plan nullifying the school and district efforts to comply with the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004Act. Here are a few links which address this issue: http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/hsmrs/Connecticut/Food_As_Reward.pdf
<http://www.docstoc.com/docs/22781983/ALTERNATIVES-TO-USING-FOOD-AS-A-REWARD>

Student Affirmations

Just for fun go to <http://www.drjean.org/html/videoLinks.html>. Scroll down to CHEERS. Here you will find printable cheer cards and a video demonstrating a few fun cheers to use with your students. Marlys Kerr demonstrated some at the Training the Orthographic Processor Brush Up. They were all a hit with the group. These are a few ways to help make your students feel "fantastic" and set off a few "fireworks"!

At the link below you can find a list of *100 Ways to Say Very Good!*

<http://www.bay.k12.fl.us/departments/cis/motivation/100%20very%20good.doc> Here are just a few.

Good for you!

That's the best ever.

What an improvement!

You're on the right track now.

Now you've figured it out.

That's the right way to do it!

You always try so hard.

I knew you could do it.

RAPA and Spelling Brush Up Class

What does RAPA have to do with Spelling? Students' spelling errors often show us what phonological aspects of language they are having difficulty processing. Join us to analyze students' spelling errors, discuss the phonological connection and the implications for instruction.

Friday, March 25 Wilmington or Monday, March 28 Milford from 9:00 am – noon.

It is not too late to register for this new Brush Up class by contacting Jeanned@readingassist.org, (302) 425-4080.

DIBELS Progress Monitoring

Thank you to all our volunteers who have so diligently been reporting student scores to your mentors. Feedback from both volunteers and mentors has been positive for the new student centered mentoring initiative and progress monitoring scores are an integral part of this initiative. Keep up the great work!

Student Party – Dragon Day

The 2010/2011 Student Party will be held on **May 19, 2011** at the Westminster Presbyterian Church Community Hall in Wilmington, DE. This is a fun event to celebrate our students and honor them for their hard work throughout the year. **ALL** students are invited to attend this fun evening of activities and invitations will be USPS mailed to the student's homes in April. Help is needed to facilitate pre planned student activities that evening. If

you can help please contact Ellen Coulston at ellencoulston@comcast.net, 798-4641. (High school students are also encouraged to volunteer!)

Recyclable Art

Creating an art project from recyclable materials has been a hit at the last several student parties. Please begin collecting items such as empty cereal, tissue or other small boxes, plastic bottle tops, egg cartons, bathroom tissue & paper towel rolls, construction paper, Popsicle sticks, yarn, milk/soda/dishwasher liquid caps, and other scrap craft materials and bring them to the Appreciation Luncheon on April 8, 2011. Please drop them off at the Student Party Table where you can also pick up additional invitations to hand to your students. (You can also drop off items at the RAI Office.)

I am looking forward to seeing you at the Appreciation Luncheon!

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