



National Institute for Literacy

Literacy Information and Communication System (*LINCS*)

April 2010

LINCS Resource Collections



Basic Skills



Program Management



Workforce Competitiveness

Welcome to *LINCS* Resource Collection News!

In this edition, we feature the [Basic Skills Collection](#), which covers the topics of reading, writing, math and numeracy. Each month Collections News features one of the three *LINCS* Resource Collections – Basic Skills, Program Management, and Workforce Competitiveness – and introduces research-based resources that you can use in your adult and family literacy programs and classrooms.

What's New in the Basic Skills Resource Collection?

Students need a strong foundation in reading, writing, math and numeracy to be successful in GED preparation, in work readiness programs, and in post-secondary education and training. The resources in the Basic Skills Collection that will assist in providing this foundation include research articles, materials and curriculum based on research, and discussion lists that can be used to ask questions and share ideas. For free subscriptions to the Reading, Writing, Math and Numeracy, Health Literacy, or Diversity Discussion Lists, go to <http://www.nifl.gov/lincs/discussions/discussions.html>.

Beyond the Daily Application: Making Numeracy Teaching Meaningful to Adult Learners is a new addition to the Mathematics and Numeracy collection. This article describes a research project in three colleges in England that explored adult learners' relations with numeracy in both formal and informal contexts. The specific aims of the project and valuable insights from the *LINCS* reviewers can be found in the abstract of the article. The document itself provides practitioners with practical ideas to help make the teaching of numeracy effective. It also highlights the characteristics of struggling students, what students' preferences are for good math instruction, and what characteristics students want in their math teachers.

Another great math resource is the [Math and Numeracy Discussion List](#) moderated by Brooke Denny, a math instructor and instructional coordinator in the Adult Education Program at Cowley College. Lively discussions on the list have included topics such as memorizing math facts, using math manipulatives, and teaching negative numbers. To subscribe to the Math and Numeracy Discussion List go to <http://www.nifl.gov/mailman/listinfo/numeracy/>.

LINCS Regional Resource Centers

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An addition to the research on reading in the Basic Skills Collection is [Reading Comprehension Strategies for Adult Literacy Outcomes](#) written by Mike Hock and Daryl Mellard. The purpose of the research was to determine (a) the reading comprehension skills that are most important to adults' success, based on three commonly accepted measures, and (b) intervention strategies, previously researched and found to be effective with adolescents, that may be helpful for instructors to use with struggling adult readers.

How can I learn more about the Basic Skills Resource Collection?

Visit the [Basic Skills Resource Collection](#) for additional resources. Contact these Basic Skills Collection content experts for additional information and to learn more about the resources, technical assistance, and professional development opportunities that are available at no cost: Reading and Writing – Drucie Weirauch, dcw113@psu.edu, and Dianna Baycich, dbaycich@literacy.kent.edu; and Math and Numeracy – Jean Stephens, stephej2@ohio.edu.

What is LINCS?

LINCS is a service of the National Institute for Literacy, providing online information and communication networks for adult and family literacy practitioners. LINCS' offerings include Discussion Lists, Regional Resource Centers, the Collections, and training opportunities. Learn more about LINCS on the Web site: <http://www.nifl.gov/lincs>.

What will I find in the New LINCS Resource Collections?

The three *new* [LINCS Resource Collections](#), expanded this year, are comprised of items that have completed a rigorous internal and external review. Use these resources directly in the classroom or to guide development of customized programs and classes. You can find more information about the new Resource Collections on the Institute's [Web site](#).