

## 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; and health literacy. 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. To subscribe to the Reading/Writing, Math and Numeracy, Health Literacy, or Diversity Discussion Lists, go to <http://lincs.ed.gov/lincs/discussions/discussions.html>.

We are happy to present the first approved Health Literacy resource in the collection: [Literacy and Health in America](#), by Rudd, Kirsch and Yamamoto. This report explores the relationship between literacy and health by re-examining a health-related subset of data from two large-scale surveys of adult literacy (the NALS and the IALS). Researchers used the data and its analysis to create a new Health Activities Literacy Scale (HALS), and to examine how health literacy skills connect to health status, health disparities and civic engagement. This report can be useful to adult education practitioners by identifying and classifying the literacy skills that people need in order to interact with health information. This can then help teachers address health literacy in their programs and classrooms.

[Literacy and Numeracy for Adults: Make Sense of Numbers](#) provides materials for educators and adult learners on Learning Progressions (from low literate to higher literate levels) for various math and literacy topics. The website was developed by the National Centre for Literacy and Numeracy for Adults in New Zealand. The “Make Sense of Numbers to Solve Problems” section

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includes diagnostic questions to assist in determining the level of students and 30 activities for use with students. Topics covered include additive strategies, multiplicative strategies, proportional reasoning, number sequence, place value, and number facts. One reviewer for this resource stated “this is an excellent resource for teachers and tutors, whether they are new or experienced in numeracy instruction.”

[Learning Progressions for Adult Literacy and Numeracy](#), a resource from New Zealand, provides a framework that indicates what adult learners can know and do as they develop their expertise in literacy—Listen with Understanding, Speak to Communicate, Read with Understanding, and Write to Communicate. The progressions are *not* a curriculum, assessment tool, or lesson plan. They are, instead, a set of progressions that can be used to develop or adapt existing curricula, assessment tools, and learning activities. The progressions are steeped in the research of Friere, Bourdieu and Vygotsky, all foundational to adult education. The resource provides not only the skills sets for each progression and each level, but also areas of study to increase to the next level.

### 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](mailto:dcw113@psu.edu) and Dianna Baycich, [dbaycich@literacy.kent.edu](mailto:dbaycich@literacy.kent.edu); **Math and Numeracy**, Jean Stephens, [stephej2@ohio.edu](mailto:stephej2@ohio.edu); **Health Literacy**, Julie McKinney, [julie\\_mckinney@worlded.org](mailto:julie_mckinney@worlded.org)

### What is LINCS?

*LINCS* is a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, 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://lincs.ed.gov>

### What will I find in the New LINCS Resource Collections?

The three [LINCS Resource Collections](#), expanded in 2010, 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 Resource Collections on the [LINCS Web site](#).