



National Institute for Literacy

Literacy Information and Communication System (*LINCS*)

January 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, and 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, and math and numeracy to be successful in GED preparation, as well as in work readiness programs and 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/Numeracy, Health Literacy, or Diversity discussion lists, go to

<http://www.nifl.gov/lincs/discussions/discussions.html>

The [Construction Math Toolbox](#) combines industry-required math lessons with supplemental academic and career guidance information. It was developed at Renton Technical College as a part of its Transition Math Project. The toolbox provides instructional tools and ideas, worksheets, additional web links, and other teaching aids that connect mathematical concepts in the context of construction. The material is applicable to ABE/ GED and transition classes.

With limited resources for outside professional development, program coordinators often need to offer in-house opportunities for practitioners who teach reading. This excellent resource, [Study Circle Guide: Research-based Adult Reading Instruction](#), provides a comprehensive description of how to conduct a study circle for teachers to learn about background research on reading instruction for adults.

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Writing is another subject for the Basic Skills Collection. [Writing Next: Effective Strategies to Improve Writing of Adolescents in Middle and High Schools](#) identifies 11 research-based elements of current writing instruction found to be effective. Although the title indicates that the article applies to adolescents, it is of value to adult educators as well. It also provides useful information about effective teaching practices and lists sources.

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

Visit the [Basic Skills Resource Collection](#) for additional resources. Contact the 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/Writing – Drucie Weirauch, dew113@psu.edu and Dianna Baycich, dbaycich@literacy.kent.edu; and Math/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](#).

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