

Resource

Filling out forms is a need for many learners. The contents are Canadian. This resource contains a wide variety of forms that a learner may be required to fill out in their daily life. While this resource was developed for ESL learners, it is useful for native-English-speaking literacy learners as well.

Source

Bow Valley College. ABCs of Practical Literacy. Calgary: Bow Valley College, 2002.

Individual Titles

Personal Management. http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-personal%20management_0.pdf

- “Understanding signs in the library” – picture signs and words (pp. 120 – 130)

- Simple list – “Category headings” (p. 135)

Employment Literacy. http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-employment%20literacy_0.pdf

- Looking for employment (p. 63)

- “Application form” (p. 65)

Economic Literacy. <http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-economic%20literacy.pdf>

- “Number flashcards” (pp. 26 – 31)

Description

This resource book, developed by Bow Valley College, contains content-based literacy activities based on Canadian Language Benchmarks 2000: ESL for Literacy Learners. The book has three sections: personal management activities, employment literacy activities, and economic literacy activities. Personal information forms, registration forms, and employment application forms are included.

Format

Free download from ESL Literacy Network website <http://www.esl-literacy.com/> under “toolbox”

Resource

Environmental print is the text found in everyday life: labels on food, traffic signs, or the logo of a restaurant chain. It is usually the first print we recognize and it plays a role in helping us learn that letters and symbols have meaning.

Source

NWT Literacy Council. How to Kit – Environmental Print Games.* 2003. Available at <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/howtokit/enviro/cover.htm>

Description

This kit contains many examples of environmental print and includes instructions and templates for a variety of games.

Format

Free download

Comments

Recognizing environmental print makes learners feel successful at “reading” and motivates them to read more.

Resource

Flash cards offer a visual, tactile resource to practise the alphabet, phonics, and sight words. This is a Canadian resource that has adult-appropriate visuals.

Source

Canadian Skill Builder Flash Cards. Toronto: Canadian Curriculum Press, 2012.

Description

This boxed set of flash cards includes: alphabet, phonics, 102 sight words, French-English vocabulary, counting, and addition.

Format

Flash cards

Comments

These adult-appropriate flash cards – letters, sounds, sight words, word pattern cards – encourage developing ARB Level 1a skills.

Level 1B

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

The Best of the Reader offers authentic Aboriginal material that is culturally appropriate, relevant, and interesting. It also has adult Canadian content.

Series

Best of the Reader

Source

Acosta, Joan. Canada's Aboriginal People. 2011. Available at http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/best_reader/aboriginal_people/aboriginal_people.pdf
"National Aboriginal Day" (p. 9)

Description

This e-book is part of a series called Best of the Reader.
<http://bestofthereader.ca/>

The Best of the Reader is a series of e-books intended for use by literacy-level adult learners. The stories are from past issues of The Westcoast Reader, a newspaper for adults who are improving their English reading skills. This particular e-book contains stories about Canada's Aboriginal people.

Format

e-book

Comments

There are three reading levels in this book but no explanation of how the readability levels were determined. Please keep in mind that the inclusion of maps, charts, and graphs make even simple text more difficult for the learner to read.

Resource

Filling out forms is a need for many learners. The contents are Canadian. This resource contains a wide variety of forms that a learner may be required to fill out in their daily life. While this resource was developed for ESL learners, it is useful for native-English-speaking literacy learners as well.

Source

Bow Valley College. ABCs of Practical Literacy.* Calgary: Bow Valley College, 2002.

Individual Titles

Personal Management. http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-personal%20management_0.pdf

- Simple rental listing – "Rental Accommodations Listing" (p. 77)

Economic Literacy. <http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-economic%20literacy.pdf>

- "Number word flashcards" (pp. 32 – 34)
- "Canadian coin flashcards" (pp. 59 – 64)
- Simple flyer ads: "Reading flyer ads" (p. 110)

Description

This resource book, developed by Bow Valley College, contains content-based literacy activities based on Canadian Language Benchmarks 2000: ESL for Literacy Learners. The book has three sections: personal management activities, employment literacy activities, and economic literacy activities. Personal information forms, registration forms, and employment application forms are included.

Format

Free download from ESL Literacy Network website <http://www.esl-literacy.com/> under "toolbox"

Resource

Even though the English Express newspaper is no longer being published, except for special editions, it is still available on-line and is very popular with literacy practitioners. The Canadian (often Alberta) content is relevant and interesting to learners and covers a wide range of topics.

Source

English Express. Alberta Advanced Education and Technology <http://eae.alberta.ca/englishexpress/>
• People Saved Owl. English Express. February 2010.

Description

This website for adult learners has articles from the English Express newspaper. Learners can read or listen and read along. Learners can read about people, animals, and holidays, or they can read news stories. It also has a section for teachers and tutors.

Format

Newspaper

Downloadable from <http://eae.alberta.ca/englishexpress/>

Comments

English Express has three levels of readings. There is no explanation about how these levels were determined. Most of the articles are at ARB 1b but there are some at levels 1c and 2a. 1b – Photos directly related to the text. Short length of texts about something familiar. Short simple sentences. Simple vocabulary of concrete nouns and simple action verbs, generally one or two syllables in length.

Level 1B

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

This resource with Canadian content provides many reading strategies for learners.

Series

The Active Reader Series

Source

All readers by Linda Kita-Bradley. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2011.

The Active Reader – Foundation.

The Active Reader – Book 1.

Description

The Active Reader Series is based on the premise that fluent readers actively engage with a text, using a variety of strategies. Each workbook provides ten levels of reading passages relating to five popular themes: people, relationships, health and safety, environment, and history.

The foundation-level Active Reader has photo stories and activities that develop foundational skills and strategies. It includes letter names and sounds, word prediction, assisted reading, and assisted writing.

Active Reader 1 has twelve units that develop skills and strategies and includes letter names and sounds, word prediction, assisted reading, and assisted writing.

Format

Workbook

Resource

These e-books cover a wide range of interesting, relevant topics for adults. The books are available as a free download and are Canadian.

Series

Best of the Reader

Source

Joan Acosta is the author of all these texts.

Alex Works at a Garden Centre. People and Jobs. 2009. Available at http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/best_reader/people_jobs/people_jobs.pdf

Canada's Aboriginal People. 2009. Available at http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/best_reader/aboriginal_people/aboriginal_people.pdf

Description

These e-books are part of a series called Best of the Reader. The stories in the e-books are from The Westcoast Reader and are written for adults who are improving their English reading skills.

Format

Free e-book download

Comments

The Best of the Reader assigns a reading level between 1 and 3 to each story. There is no explanation of how these levels are assigned. Generally most of the stories are ARB level 1b. Some of the stories have more complex sentence structures and vocabulary. Some topics may not be familiar to the reader. Because maps, diagrams, and charts may be included with each story, these factors will bump the story up to ARB level 1c.

Resource

The readers were written for adult ESL literacy learners at Canadian Language Benchmark ESL Literacy Phases I-III. They are based on authentic situations that are of interest and relevance not only to ESL literacy learners, but native-English-speaking literacy learners as well.

Series

ESL Literacy Readers (ESL Literacy Network)

Source

Each title comes from Bow Valley College. The ESL Literacy Network. 2010. Available at <http://www.esl-literacy.com/readers/>

Individual Titles

Inge Cuts Hair

Andres Needs Gas

Mark Goes to the Dentist

Andre's Speeding Ticket

Description

Relevant topics and practical instruction are included in each book. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Free download – Google ESL Literacy Readers
<http://www.esl-literacy.com/readers/>

Comments

ESL Literacy Readers were developed for CLB Phase I (Initial, Developing, and Adequate), Phase II (Initial, Developing, and Adequate) and Phase III (Initial, Developing, and Adequate). Here is how the ARB 1b line up with the resources developed for CLB Phase I and II.

CLB Phase I: Initial, Developing, and Adequate – ARB 1b

CLB Phase II: Initial and Developing – ARB 1b

Resource

Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Photo Stories are photo stories with high interest, low vocabulary, and relevant content. Each page includes a photograph and one or two short sentences. The photographs reflect the text, making the words easier to decode.

Series

Animal Series

Source

Campbell, Pat. Bears. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2000.
Kita-Bradley, Linda. Bald Eagles. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.
———. Grey Seals. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.
———. Grey Wolves. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.

Description

The animal series contains photographs and information about animals. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Book

Comments

The pictures in the photo stories relate directly to the text which consists of simple sentences and simple vocabulary. However, some of these books (Bears) contain maps and other visuals and insets that bump the resource up to ARB 1c.

Series

Health Series

Source

Gould, Laurie. Stress. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2000.
Kita-Bradley, Linda. Fad Diets. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.
———. A Good Night's Sleep. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.
———. Saying No. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.

Description

The Health Series is for adults trying to cope with the day-to-day challenges of life. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Book

Comments

The pictures in the photo stories relate directly to the text which consists of simple sentences and vocabulary.

Series

How-to Series

Source

All of the books are by Linda Kita-Bradley, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.
How to Be Good to Yourself. 2012.
How to Build Community. 2008.
How to Buy a Good Used Car. 2000.
How to Check an Apartment. 2012.
How to Clean Green. 2012.
How to Live Green. 2008.
How to Save Time. 2012.
How to Stop Hiccups. 2008.

Description

Relevant topics and practical instruction are included in each book. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Book

Comments

The pictures in the photo stories relate directly to the text which consists of simple sentences and vocabulary.

Resource

Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Photo Stories are photo stories with high interest, low vocabulary, and relevant content. Each page includes a photograph and one or two short sentences. The photographs reflect the text, making the words easier to decode.

Series

Romance Series

Source

All books by Linda Kita-Bradley, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

Cake Date. 2012.

Inside Out. 2012.

Love of My Life. 2012.

The Big Goof. 2000.

The Big Question. 2003.

The Big Snore. 2003.

The Big Surprise. 2003.

The Perfect Man. 2012.

Description

Stories about love. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Book

Comments

The pictures in the photo stories relate directly to the text which consists of simple sentences and vocabulary.

Series

Be the judge series

Source

All books by Linda Kita-Bradley, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

Fran's Story. 2000.

Just Good Friends. 2003.

Mandy's Garage Sale. 2003.

Potluck. 2012.

The Change.

The E-mail. 2012.

The Test. 2012.

Tony's Deal. 2003.

Description

Open-ended stories that invite the reader to assess the characters' situations. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Book

Comments

The pictures in the photo stories relate directly to the text which consists of simple sentences and vocabulary.

Series

Humour Series

Source

All titles by Linda Kita-Bradley, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

A Bad Car Day. 2008.

Late Again! 2008.

The Coffee Lover. 2012.

The Hike. 2000.

The Map. 2012.

The Mix-up. 2012.

The New Shoes. 2012.

Where Is My Man? 2000.

Description

Amusing, very easy-to-read photo stories. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Book

Comments

The pictures in the photo stories relate directly to the text. The text consists of simple sentences and vocabulary.

Level 1C

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

The Best of the Reader offers authentic Aboriginal material that is culturally appropriate, relevant, and interesting. It also has adult Canadian content.

Series

Best of the Reader

Source

Acosta, Joan. Canada's Aboriginal People. 2011. Available at http://en.copian.ca/library/learning/best_reader/aboriginal_people/aboriginal_people.pdf
• "Scientists Study Frozen Body" (p. 25)

Description

This e-book is part of a series called Best of the Reader. <http://bestofthereader.ca/>

The Best of the Reader is a series of e-books intended for use by literacy-level adult learners. The stories are from past issues of The Westcoast Reader, a newspaper for adults who are improving their English reading skills. This particular e-book contains stories about Canada's Aboriginal people.

Format

e-book

Comments

There are three reading levels in this book but no explanation of how the readability levels were determined. Please keep in mind that the inclusion of maps, charts, and graphs make even simple text more difficult for the learner to read.

Resource

Filling out forms is a need for many learners. The contents are Canadian. This resource contains a wide variety of forms that a learner may be required to fill out in their daily life. While this resource was developed for ESL learners, it is useful for native-English-speaking literacy learners as well.

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Bow Valley College. ABCs of Practical Literacy. Calgary: Bow Valley College, 2002.

Individual Titles

Personal Management. http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-personal%20management_0.pdf

- Simple classified ads – "Classified ads" (pp. 142 – 147)

Employment Literacy. http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-employment%20literacy_0.pdf

- "Days of the week flashcards" (pp. 3 – 6)

Economic Literacy. Calgary: Bow Valley College. <http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-economic%20literacy.pdf>

- "Using a bank machine" (pp. 123 – 124)
- "Utilities statement" (p. 115)
- WestCan Bank Pamphlet" (p. 129)

Description

This resource book, developed by Bow Valley College, contains content-based literacy activities based on Canadian Language Benchmarks 2000: ESL for Literacy Learners. The book has three sections: personal management activities, employment literacy activities, and economic literacy activities. Personal information forms, registration forms, and employment application forms are included.

Format

Free download from ESL Literacy Network website <http://www.esl-literacy.com/> under "toolbox"

Resource

Even though the English Express newspaper is no longer being published, except for special editions, it is still available on-line and is very popular with literacy practitioners. The Canadian (often Alberta) content is relevant and interesting to learners and covers a wide range of topics.

Source

English Express. Alberta Advanced Education and Technology <http://eae.alberta.ca/englishexpress/>
• Income Taxes. English Express. April 2010.

Description

This website for adult learners has articles from the English Express newspaper. Learners can read or listen and read along. Learners can read about people, animals, and holidays, or they can read news stories. It also has a section for teachers and tutors.

Format

Newspaper

Downloadable from <http://eae.alberta.ca/englishexpress/>

Comments

English Express has three levels of readings. There is no explanation about how these levels were determined. Most of the articles are at ARB 1b but there are some at levels 1c and 2a. 1c – Texts with simple sentences, up to several sentences long. Text topics are familiar. Vocabulary is limited to common words and may include some three-syllable words.

Level 1C

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

Workplace literacy is a need for many learners. The Easy Reading Career Planning Series was developed to help adults with low literacy skills or ESL expand their knowledge of occupations and choose an occupational goal. These are Alberta resources.

Series

Easy Reading Career Planning Series

Source

Alberta Employment and Immigration. Easy Reading Job Profiles. Edmonton: Government of Alberta, Employment and Immigration, 2011. Available at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ec/cp/oi/EasyReading.html>

Description

These twenty-four job profiles are adapted from existing Alberta occupational profiles. Each job includes a story of someone on the job as well as information about duties, working conditions, personal characteristics, hourly wages, and related jobs.

This publication is a supplementary tool for use with the Easy Reading Job Profiles and the Work and You books. The dictionary provides definitions of workplace terms that clients can use to look up the difficult words and phrases in the profiles.

Format

Free download

Comments

The text has simple sentences, mostly common words, and some three-syllable words. Text topics are somewhat familiar to the reader.

Resource

This book is a first dictionary for literacy learners.

Source

Adelson-Goldstein, Jayme, and Norma Shapiro. The Oxford Picture Dictionary. 2nd Canadian ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Description

The Oxford Picture Dictionary was written to meet the needs of beginning and low-intermediate-level ESL students. While it was written for ESL students, it is useful for native-English-speaking literacy learners as well. It is an illustrated, theme-based dictionary that presents 4,000 words and phrases within meaningful, real-life contexts.

The themes include food, clothing, health, housing, community, transportation, and work. On each page, coloured illustrations convey the meaning of the words. Each unit closes with an illustrated story that presents vocabulary in context, followed by discussion questions.

Format

Free download

Resource

This resource with Canadian content provides many reading strategies for learners.

Series

The Active Reader Series

Source

All readers by Linda Kita-Bradley. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2011.

The Active Reader – Book 2.

Description

The Active Reader Series is based on the premise that fluent readers actively engage with a text, using a variety of strategies. Each workbook provides ten levels of reading passages relating to five popular themes: people, relationships, health and safety, environment, and history.

Active Reader 2 has ten units that develop skills and strategies including pre-reading, post-reading, a mini lesson, literacy practice, and “word attack.”

Format

Workbook

Level 1C

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

Illustrated Canadian newspaper stories with a variety of reading exercises focusing on skimming, scanning, finding the main idea, inference, and evaluation. Includes literacy practice with authentic application forms, menus, etc.

Source

Bates, Susan. Amazing! Canadian Newspaper Stories. Scarborough: Prentice Hall, 1991.

- “Surprise”

Bates, Susan. Amazing 2! Canadian Newspaper Stories. 2nd ed. Scarborough: Prentice Hall, 1997.

- “Waitress Gets Big Tip!”

Description

While these resources were specifically designed for mid-beginner to low-intermediate ESL students, their emphasis on reading skills makes this a very useful resource for native-English-speaking literacy learners.

Format

Book

Comments

As the ARB level goes up, the length of the text increases, sentence structure and vocabulary become more complex, more three-syllable words appear, and unfamiliar topics and more abstract vocabulary are apparent.

Resource

Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Photo Stories are photo stories with high interest, low vocabulary, and relevant content. Each page includes a photograph and one or two short sentences. The photographs reflect the text, making the words easier to decode.

Series

Animal Series

Source

Campbell, Pat. Bears. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2000.
Kita-Bradley, Linda. Bald Eagles. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.

———. Grey Seals. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.

———. Grey Wolves. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2008.

Description

The animal series contains photographs and information about animals. An audio of each story is available on-line.

Format

Book

Comments

The pictures in the photo stories relate directly to the text which consists of simple sentences and simple vocabulary. However, some of these books (Bears) contain maps and other visuals and insets that bump the resource up to ARB 1c.

Resource

The Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Biographies portray the lives of famous Canadian, American, and international figures. Download free workbook activities for each biography.

Series

Maple Leaf Series

Source

All books by Terry Barber, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

Emily Carr. 2011.

Lucy Maud Montgomery. 2011.

Michaëlle Jean. 2012.

Norman Bethune. 2011.

Poundmaker. 2011.

Terry Fox. 2012.

Description

These easy-to-read biographies portray the lives of famous Canadians.

Format

Book

Comments

The text has simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The text topics may or may not be familiar to the reader. Vocabulary involves common words and includes some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c. However, added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB Level 2a.

The Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Biographies portray the lives of famous Canadian, American, and international figures. Download free workbook activities for each biography.

Series

Acts-of-Courage series

Source

All books by Terry Barber, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

Fannie Lou Hamer. 2008.

Laura Secord. 2008.

Oskar Schindler. 2008.

Rick Hansen. 2008.

Description

This series features four people who have changed the world through their acts of courage.

Format

Book

Comments

The text has simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader.

Vocabulary involves common words and includes some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c.

However, added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB Level 2a.

Series

Terry Barber (author). Activist series. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

Source

Cesar Chavez. 2006.

Louis Riel. 2006.

Dalai Lama. 2008.

Mahatma Ghandi. 2008.

Eleanor Roosevelt. 2008.

Martin Luther King Jr. 2006.

Elizabeth Fry. 2008.

Mother Teresa. 2006.

Harriet Tubman. 2006.

Nelson Mandela. 2006.

Jane Goodall. 2006

Rosa Parks. 2006.

Jean Vanier. 2008.

The Famous Five. 2006

June Callwood. 2008.

Description

Learners become familiar with concepts such as apartheid, segregation, boycott, and nonviolence as they engage in discussions related to freedom, human dignity, social justice, and reform. Free workbooks are available to download.

Format

Book

Comments

The texts have simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader.

The vocabulary usually involves common words and includes some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c. However, added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB level 2a.

Series

Famous firsts series

Source

All books by Terry Barber. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

Amelia Earhart. 2007.

Charles Lindbergh. 2007.

Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay. 2007.

First Women in Space. 2007.

Matthew Henson and Robert Peary. 2007.

Description

Learners read about people who risked their lives to achieve their dreams.

Format

Book

Comments

The text has simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader. The vocabulary involves mostly common words and includes some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c though added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB level 2a.

Level 1C

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

The Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Biographies portray the lives of famous Canadian, American, and international figures. Download free workbook activities for each biography.

Series

Sports Series

Source

All books by Terry Barber, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.
Althea Gibson. 2007.
Muhammad Ali. 2007.
Nancy Greene. 2007.
Tom Longboat. 2007.
Wayne Gretzky. 2007.

Description

Learners gain insight into the lives of these five sports figures.

Format

Book

Comments

The text has simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader. Vocabulary includes common words and some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c but added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB level 2a.

Resource

This series is from the UK. They are available in a range of language levels and there are both fiction and nonfiction books. They are high-interest, low-vocabulary books for beginning readers.

Series

Oxford Bookworms Library Starter Series from Oxford University Press distributed by Grass Roots Press and New Readers Bookstore

Source

Burrows, Phillip, and Mark Foster. *Escape*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.
Lindop, Christine. *Sally's Phone*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.
———. *The Girl with the Red Hair*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Description

There are about forty Oxford Bookworms Library Starter Stage titles. Each title includes an introduction, glossary, author information, and before-, while-, and after-reading activities. For each stage there are tests, a teacher's handbook, and activity worksheets.

Format

Book

Comments

The starter-level fiction books are chapter books for literacy learners. Many of the starter books are at ARB level 1c. However, the comic book format used in some of the books may be difficult for new readers and bumps the ARB level up to 2a. Since the books are not Canadian, the British telephone number format is used in *Sally's Phone*.

Resource

These e-books cover a wide range of interesting, relevant topics for adults. The books are available as a free download and are Canadian.

Series

Best of the Reader

Source

Joan Acosta is the author of all these texts.
Two Amazing Friends. *Amazing Stories*. 2009. Available at http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/best_reader/amazing_stories/amazing_stories.pdf
Many Ways to Help. 2009. Available at http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/best_reader/ways_to_help/ways_to_help.pdf

Description

These e-books are part of a series called Best of the Reader. The stories in the e-books are from The Westcoast Reader and are written for adults who are improving their English reading skills.

Format

Free e-book download

Comments

The Best of the Reader assigns a reading level between 1 and 3 to each story. There is no explanation of how these levels are assigned. Generally most of the stories are ARB level 1b. Some of the stories have more complex sentence structures and vocabulary. Some topics may not be familiar to the reader. Because maps, diagrams, and charts may be included with each story, these factors will bump the story up to ARB level 1c.

Level 1C

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

The readers were written for adult ESL literacy learners at Canadian Language Benchmark ESL Literacy Phases I-III. They are based on authentic situations that are of interest and relevance not only to ESL literacy learners, but native-English-speaking literacy learners as well.

Series

ESL Literacy Readers (ESL Literacy Network)

Source

Each title comes from Bow Valley College. The ESL Literacy Network. 2010. Available at <http://www.esl-literacy.com/readers/>

Individual Titles

A Relaxing Weekend
A Terrible Toothache

Description

These theme-based readers come with an instructor's guide. The themes are of high interest and relevance to learners. Photographs in the stories are directly related to the text.

Format

Free download – Google ESL Literacy Readers
<http://www.esl-literacy.com/readers/>

Comments

ESL Literacy Readers were developed for CLB Phase I (Initial, Developing, and Adequate), Phase II (Initial, Developing, and Adequate) and Phase III (Initial, Developing, and Adequate). Here is how ARB 1c line up with the resources developed for CLB Phase I and II.

CLB Phase II: Adequate – ARB 1c

Level 2A

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

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Source

Bow Valley College. ABCs of Practical Literacy. Calgary: Bow Valley College, 2002.

Individual Titles

Employment Literacy. http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-employment%20literacy_0.pdf
• “Employee Information Form Worksheet” (p. 10)
Economic Literacy. <http://www.esl-literacy.com/sites/default/files/ABC-economic%20literacy.pdf>
• Simple coupons: “Coupon diagrams” (pp.81 – 82)

Description

This resource book, developed by Bow Valley College, contains content-based literacy activities based on Canadian Language Benchmarks 2000: ESL for Literacy Learners. The book has three sections: personal management activities, employment literacy activities, and economic literacy activities. Personal information forms, registration forms, and employment application forms are included.

Format

Free download from ESL Literacy Network website <http://www.esl-literacy.com/> under “toolbox”

Resource

The Healthy Aboriginal Network publishes comic books on health and social issues for youth. Many of these are also suitable for adults. The comic books are based on relevant and contemporary issues and the comic book format appeals to reluctant and beginning readers. The Healthy Aboriginal Network designates the comic books as culturally appropriate.

Series

Healthy Aboriginal Network (Vancouver). Comic book series.

Source

All of these titles are published by Healthy Aboriginal Network (Vancouver).
Hopkins, Zoe. *It Takes a Village*. 2012.
Mitchell, B. and T. Audibert. *River Run*. 2010.
Sanderson, Steven Keewatin. *An Invited Threat*. 2008.
———. *Darkness Calls*. 2009.
———. *Droppin’ the Flag*. 2011.
———. *Lighting up the Darkness*. 2011.
Van Camp, Richard. *Path of the Warrior*. 2009.

Description

To view the full description of sources, please refer to the *Referencing Resources to the Alberta Reading Benchmarks* full report on the ARB website under Resources.

Format

Comic book (some are available as a free download)
www.thehealthyaboriginal.net

Comments

Readers must be able to navigate a comic book format.

Resource

While this novel is based on an Alaskan legend, it would be appropriate for all First Nations people. It is a story about survival in the wild, aging, and relationships. It is easy to read. There is a study guide, developed by the NWT Literacy Council, to accompany the novel.

Series

Best of the Reader

Source

Wallis, Velma. *Two Old Women: An Alaskan Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1994.

Description

This story of survival and isolation is based on a legend from central Alaska. Two elderly women are abandoned by their migrating tribe. The two women demonstrate their strength of will and determination to live. There is a study guide for *Two Old Women* developed by NWT Literacy Council. The guide provides learners with a variety of learning activities and handouts. It includes a pre-reading and post-reading section, and each chapter contains vocabulary lists, comprehension questions with answers, journal writing and reflection ideas, discussion questions, and extended activities. Available at <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/nwt/tow120/en120.pdf>

Format

Book

Level 2A

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

While this novel is based on an Alaskan legend, it would be appropriate for all First Nations people. It is a story about survival in the wild, aging, and relationships. It is easy to read. There is a study guide, developed by the NWT Literacy Council, to accompany the novel.

Series

Sports Series

Source

Wallis, Velma. *Two Old Women: An Alaskan Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1994.

Description

This story of survival and isolation is based on a legend from central Alaska. Two elderly women are abandoned by their migrating tribe. The two women demonstrate their strength of will and determination to live.

There is a study guide for *Two Old Women* developed by NWT Literacy Council. The guide provides learners with a variety of learning activities and handouts. It includes a pre-reading and post-reading section, and each chapter contains vocabulary lists, comprehension questions with answers, journal writing and reflection ideas, discussion questions, and extended activities.

Available at <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/nwt/tow120/en120.pdf>

Format

Book

Resource

Even though the English Express newspaper is no longer being published, except for special editions, it is still available on-line and is very popular with literacy practitioners. The Canadian (often Alberta) content is relevant and interesting to learners and covers a wide range of topics.

Series

English Express. Alberta Advanced Education and Technology

<http://eae.alberta.ca/englishexpress/>

• Talking about Family Violence. English Express. Special Issue April 2009.

Source

Newspaper

Downloadable from <http://eae.alberta.ca/englishexpress/>

Description

This website for adult learners has articles from the English Express newspaper. Learners can read or listen and read along. Learners can read about people, animals, and holidays, or they can read news stories. It also has a section for teachers and tutors.

Format

Book

Comments

English Express has three levels of readings. There is no explanation about how these levels were determined.

Most of the articles are at ARB 1b but there are some at levels 1c and 2a.

2a – Texts with sentences that are longer and more complex than those in 1c and that may contain more than one clause. Texts may be several short paragraphs in length. Vocabulary more complex and longer words, some abstract words.

Resource

Health literacy is an important issue for all Canadians. This Canadian content uses simple language, provides tips for pronouncing difficult words, and includes many illustrations. Each item is available in a newspaper-style format or as a free download.

Series

Vocational and Rehabilitation Research Institute (VRRI) Simply Health series

Source

VRRI. *Simply Health: Dental – Learn About Teeth and Gum Problems*. 2009. Available at <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/vrri/dental/dental.pdf>

———. *Simply Health: Eyesight — See with Healthy Eyes*. 2009. Available at http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/vrri/vision_health/vision_health.pdf

———. *Simply Health: Hearing — What Is Hearing Loss?* 2009. Available at http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/vrri/hearing_health/hearing_health.pdf

For more sources please refer to the *Referencing Resources to the Alberta Reading Benchmarks* full report on the ARB website under Resources.

Description

To view the full description of sources, please refer to the *Referencing Resources to the Alberta Reading Benchmarks* full report on the ARB website under Resources.

Format

Booklet or free download

Comments

The sentence structure is primarily simple sentences with some compound and complex sentences. The vocabulary has more complex and longer words, and the subjects may not be familiar to the reader.

Level 2A

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

This book is for parents and caregivers of young children.

Source

Mayer, Gloria, and Ann Kuklierus. *What To Do When Your Child Gets Sick*. La Habre, CA: Institute for Health Advancement, 2010.

Description

This book is written for parents and caregivers of young children. The illustrations are simple but explicit and add to understanding of the text. The book contains information for managing more than fifty common childhood illnesses and health problems, including earaches, fever, vomiting, and nosebleeds. The book describes the conditions, what can be done at home, and when to call a healthcare provider.

Format

Book

Comments

Sentences are longer and include simple, compound, and complex sentences. Vocabulary is more complex and there are longer words.

Resource

This resource with Canadian content provides many reading strategies for learners.

Series

The Active Reader Series

Source

All readers by Linda Kita-Bradley. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2011.

The Active Reader – Book 3.

Description

The Active Reader Series is based on the premise that fluent readers actively engage with a text, using a variety of strategies. Each workbook provides ten levels of reading passages relating to five popular themes: people, relationships, health and safety, environment, and history. Active Reader 3 has ten units that develop skills and strategies that include pre-reading, post-reading, vocabulary, dictionary use, a mini lesson, literacy practice, and “word attack.”

Format

Workbook

Resource

Workplace literacy is a need for many learners. These Easy Reading Work-Related Guides are Alberta resources and were developed for adults with low literacy skills or ESL.

Series

Easy Reading Work-Related Guides

Source

Alberta Employment and Immigration. *Easy Reading: Be Safe at Work*. Edmonton: Alberta Employment and Immigration, 2011.

<http://alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/engexpsafework.pdf>

———. *Easy Reading: Employment Law Protects Workers*. <http://alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/ERemploylaws.pdf>

———. *Easy Reading: Looking for a Job*. <http://alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/ERlookforjobs.pdf>

Description

Be Safe at Work provides easy-to-read information about how to stay healthy and safe on the job. It illustrates how to spot danger, use safety equipment, report injuries, and share health and safety concerns with employers.

Employment Law Protects Workers provides basic employment standards information about minimum wage, vacations, rest breaks, overtime, statutory holidays, and how to read a pay stub. *Looking for a Job* helps people learn important job-search skills such as identifying skills and interests, setting goals, preparing a resumé, developing a back-up plan, and preparing for a job interview.

Format

Free download

Comments

Sentences are longer and more complex. The reading vocabulary is more complex and there are longer words. The text has more complex organization with headings and subheadings.

Level 2A

How to Benchmark Materials to the ARB

Resource

Apprenticeship information is a need for many learners. This is an Alberta publication.

Source

Alberta Advanced Education and Technology. Trades in Alberta. 2012. <http://www.alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/aaet/tradesinalberta.pdf>

Description

This easy-to-read guide, published by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology, is for low-literacy individuals who are interested in learning about the trades or working within the trades as a career choice. Teaching notes are available to accompany the publication.

Format

Free download

Comments

Sentences are longer and more complex. The reading vocabulary is more complex and there are longer words. The text involves more complex organization with headings and subheadings.

Resource

Illustrated Canadian newspaper stories with a variety of reading exercises focusing on skimming, scanning, finding the main idea, inference, and evaluation. Includes literacy practice with authentic application forms, menus, etc.

Source

Bates, Susan. Amazing! Canadian Newspaper Stories. Scarborough: Prentice Hall, 1991.

- "Life of a Mountain Climber"

Bates, Susan. Amazing 2! Canadian Newspaper Stories. 2nd ed. Scarborough: Prentice Hall, 1997.

- "Cycling for Air – With Love"

Description

While these resources were specifically designed for mid-beginner to low-intermediate ESL students, their emphasis on reading skills makes this a very useful resource for native-English-speaking literacy learners.

Format

Book

Comments

As the ARB level goes up, the length of the text increases, sentence structure and vocabulary become more complex, more three-syllable words appear, and unfamiliar topics and more abstract vocabulary are apparent.

Resource

A Canadian resource with Canadian content.

Series

Vocabulary Boosters

Source

Rogers, Susan. Vocabulary Boosters 1. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2005.

Description

These workbooks help adult learners develop their vocabulary. Each workbook is organized around four themes: health, wildlife, the environment, and popular culture. Each lesson presents a nonfiction passage that relates to one of the four themes and a set of activities. The workbook activities can be completed independently, with a tutor, or with a group.

Format

Workbook

Comments

Sentence structure and vocabulary become more complex with each level. The topics may not be familiar to the learner and vocabulary becomes more abstract.

Resource

The Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Biographies portray the lives of famous Canadian, American, and international figures. Download free workbook activities for each biography.

Series

Maple Leaf Series

Source

All books by Terry Barber, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.
Emily Carr. 2011.
Lucy Maud Montgomery. 2011.
Michaëlle Jean. 2012.
Norman Bethune. 2011.
Poundmaker. 2011.
Terry Fox. 2012.

Description

These easy-to-read biographies portray the lives of famous Canadians.

Format

Book

Comments

The text has simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader. Vocabulary includes common words and some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c but added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB level 2a.

Resource

The Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Biographies portray the lives of famous Canadian, American, and international figures. Download free workbook activities for each biography.

Series

Acts-of-Courage series

Source

All books by Terry Barber, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.
Fannie Lou Hamer. 2008.
Laura Secord. 2008.
Oskar Schindler. 2008.
Rick Hansen. 2008.

Description

This series features four people who have changed the world through their acts of courage.

Format

Book

Comments

The starter-level fiction books are chapter books for literacy learners. Many of the starter books are at ARB level 1c. However, the comic book format used in some of the books may be difficult for new readers and bumps the ARB level up to 2a. Since the books are not Canadian, the British telephone number format is used in Sally's Phone.

Resource

These e-books cover a wide range of interesting, relevant topics for adults. The books are available as a free download and are Canadian.

Series

Terry Barber (author). Activist series. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.

Source

Cesar Chavez. 2006.	Mahatma Ghandi. 2008.
Dalai Lama. 2008.	Martin Luther King Jr. 2006.
Eleanor Roosevelt. 2008.	Mother Teresa. 2006.
Elizabeth Fry. 2008.	Nelson Mandela. 2006.
Harriet Tubman. 2006.	Rosa Parks. 2006.
Jane Goodall. 2006	The Famous Five. 2006
Jean Vanier. 2008.	
June Callwood. 2008.	
Louis Riel. 2006.	

Description

Learners become familiar with concepts such as apartheid, segregation, boycott, and nonviolence as they engage in discussions related to freedom, human dignity, social justice, and reform. Free workbooks are available to download.

Format

Book

Comments

The texts have simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader. The vocabulary usually involves common words and includes some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c. However, added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB level 2a.

Resource

The Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Biographies portray the lives of famous Canadian, American, and international figures. Download free workbook activities for each biography.

Series

Famous firsts series

Source

All books by Terry Barber. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.
Amelia Earhart. 2007.
Charles Lindbergh. 2007.
Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay. 2007.
First Women in Space. 2007.
Matthew Henson and Robert Peary. 2007.

Description

Learners read about people who risked their lives to achieve their dreams.

Format

Book

Comments

The text has simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader. Vocabulary involves common words and includes some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c. However, added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB Level 2a.

Resource

The Grass Roots Press Easy Readers: Biographies portray the lives of famous Canadian, American, and international figures. Download free workbook activities for each biography.

Series

Sports Series

Source

All books by Terry Barber, Edmonton: Grass Roots Press.
Althea Gibson. 2007.
Muhammad Ali. 2007.
Nancy Greene. 2007.
Tom Longboat. 2007.
Wayne Gretzky. 2007.

Description

Learners gain insight into the lives of these five sports figures.

Format

Book

Comments

The texts have simple sentences, up to several sentences long. The topics may or may not be familiar to the reader. The vocabulary usually involves common words and includes some three-syllable words. The text is generally at ARB 1c. However, added insets, maps, and some visuals may bump the resource to ARB level 2a.

Resource

This series is from the UK. They are available in a range of language levels and there are both fiction and nonfiction books. They are high-interest, low-vocabulary books for beginning readers.

Series

Oxford Bookworms Library Starter Series from Oxford University Press distributed by Grass Roots Press and New Readers Bookstore

Source

Burrows, Phillip, and Mark Foster. Escape. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.
Lindop, Christine. Sally's Phone. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.
———. The Girl with the Red Hair. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Description

There are about forty Oxford Bookworms Library Starter Stage titles. Each title includes an introduction, glossary, author information, and before-, while-, and after-reading activities. For each stage there are tests, a teacher's handbook, and activity worksheets.

Format

Book

Comments

The starter-level fiction books are chapter books for literacy learners. Many of the starter books are at ARB level 1c. However, the comic book format used in some of the books may be difficult for new readers and bumps the ARB level up to 2a. Since the books are not Canadian, the British telephone number format is used in Sally's Phone.

Resource

The readers were written for adult ESL literacy learners at Canadian Language Benchmark ESL Literacy Phases I-III. They are based on authentic situations that are of interest and relevance not only to ESL literacy learners, but native-English-speaking literacy learners as well.

Series

ESL Literacy Readers (ESL Literacy Network)

Source

Each title comes from Bow Valley College. The ESL Literacy Network. 2010. Available at <http://www.esl-literacy.com/readers/>

Individual Titles

A Woman's Rights at Work
An Expensive Lesson
A Trip to the Dentist
Fun on the Weekend
A Home of their Own

Description

These theme-based readers come with an instructor's guide. The themes are of high interest and relevance to learners. Photographs in the stories are directly related to the text.

Format

Free download – Google ESL Literacy Readers
<http://www.esl-literacy.com/readers/>

Comments

ESL Literacy Readers were developed for CLB Phase I (Initial, Developing, and Adequate), Phase II (Initial, Developing, and Adequate) and Phase III (Initial, Developing, and Adequate). Here is how ARB 2a line up with the resources developed for CLB Phase III.
CLB Phase III: Initial, Developing, and Adequate – ARB 2a

Resource

While health literacy is an important issue for all Canadians, this text is specific to Canadian First Nations, Inuit, and Metis. The brochure is free to order from the Canadian government or as a free download. This brochure is authentic material.

Source

Health Canada. Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide – First Nations, Inuit, and Métis. Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 2007.

This publication may be reproduced without permission. No changes permitted. HC Pub.: 3426 Cat.: H34-159/2007E ISBN: 0662-44562-7

Description

Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide – First Nations, Inuit, and Métis was developed for individuals, families, and communities to learn about and share ways of eating well that include both traditional and store-bought foods. The food guide is now available in four Aboriginal languages – Woods Cree, Plains Cree, Ojibwe, and Inuktitut – in addition to English and French.

Format

Pamphlet

Free download from

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/fnim-pnim/index-eng.php>

Comments

The vocabulary and organization of this resource is quite complex.

Resource

This Calgary-based magazine is authentic Aboriginal material that is culturally appropriate, current, fiction and nonfiction, adult content, relevant, and interesting. It is available free on the street and as a free download.

Source

New Tribe. Calgary: Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth (USAY).

Description

New Tribe is a monthly magazine published in Calgary since February 2010 by the Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth and distributed throughout the city and surrounding communities. The publisher's mission is to promote a positive outlook on Aboriginal people who live in an urban setting by promoting and sharing information within the community. "New Tribe aims to provide Aboriginal youth with stories of inspiration, and invites them to share their own stories and get involved in the community. Youth are encouraged to contribute to the magazine, whether it be artwork, fiction, poetry or journalism."

http://www.usay.ca/services/new_tribe

Past issues

http://www.usay.ca/services/new_tribe_past

Format

Magazine

Comments

Artwork, poetry, fiction, and journalism are presented in the magazine. Each issue includes a very wide range of materials: recipes, community-events calendars, and in-depth articles on topics such as graphic novels for youth, drug use, and other relevant issues.

Resource

Health Literacy is an important issue for all Canadians. This Canadian-content brochure is free to order from the Canadian government or as a free download. Another consideration in choosing this brochure is that it's an authentic material.

Source

Health Canada. Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide* (HC Pub.: 4651). Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 2007. <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index-eng.php>

Description

Canada's Food Guide provides recommendations on how many servings of each food group you should eat each day, including vegetables and fruit, grain products, milk and alternatives, and meat and alternatives.

Format

Pamphlet or free download

Comments

Complex vocabulary and organization.

Resource

Workplace literacy is a need for many learners. These Easy Reading Work-Related Guides are Alberta resources and were developed for adults with low literacy skills or ESL.

Series

Easy Reading Work-Related Guides

Source

Alberta Employment and Immigration. Easy Reading: Be Safe at Work. Edmonton: Alberta Employment and Immigration, 2011.

<http://alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/engexpsafework.pdf>

———. Easy Reading: Employment Law Protects Workers.

<http://alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/ERemploylaws.pdf>

———. Easy Reading: Looking for a Job. <http://alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/ERlookforjobs.pdf>

Description

Be Safe at Work provides easy-to-read information about how to stay healthy and safe on the job. It illustrates how to spot danger, use safety equipment, report injuries, and share health and safety concerns with employers.

Employment Law Protects Workers provides basic employment standards information about minimum wage, vacations, rest breaks, overtime, statutory holidays, and how to read a pay stub.

Looking for a Job helps people learn important job-search skills such as identifying skills and interests, setting goals, preparing a resumé, developing a back-up plan, and preparing for a job interview.

Format

Free Download

Comments

Sentences are longer and more complex. The reading vocabulary is more complex and there are longer words. The text has more complex organization with headings and subheadings.

Resource

This resource with Canadian content provides many reading strategies for learners.

Series

The Active Reader Series

Source

All readers by Linda Kita-Bradley. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2011.

The Active Reader – Book 4.

Description

The Active Reader Series is based on the premise that fluent readers actively engage with a text, using a variety of strategies. Each workbook provides ten levels of reading passages relating to five popular themes: people, relationships, health and safety, environment, and history. Active Reader 4 has ten units that develop skills and

strategies that include pre-reading, a main reading passage, post-reading, vocabulary, dictionary use, a mini lesson, literacy practice, and “word attack.”

Format

Workbook

Resource

Illustrated Canadian newspaper stories with a variety of reading exercises focusing on skimming, scanning, finding the main idea, inference, and evaluation. Includes literacy practice with authentic application forms, menus, etc.

Series

Oxford Bookworms Library Starter Series from Oxford University Press distributed by Grass Roots Press and New Readers Bookstore

Source

Bates, Susan. Amazing! Canadian Newspaper Stories.

Scarborough: Prentice Hall, 1991.

•“Rick Hansen: A Canadian Hero”

Bates, Susan. Amazing 2! Canadian Newspaper Stories. 2nd ed.

Scarborough: Prentice Hall, 1997.

•“The Edible Cup”

Description

While these resources were specifically designed for mid-beginner to low-intermediate ESL students, their emphasis on reading skills makes this a very useful resource for native-English-speaking literacy learners.

Format

Book

Comments

As the ARB level goes up, the length of the text increases, sentence structure and vocabulary become more complex, more three-syllable words appear, and unfamiliar topics and more abstract vocabulary are apparent.

Resource

A Canadian resource with Canadian content.

Series

Vocabulary Boosters

Source

———. Vocabulary Boosters 2. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2005.

Description

These workbooks help adult learners develop their vocabulary. Each workbook is organized around four themes: health, wildlife, the environment, and popular culture. Each lesson presents a nonfiction passage that relates to one of the four themes and a set of activities. The workbook activities can be completed independently, with a tutor, or with a group.

Format

Workbook

Comments

Sentence structure and vocabulary become more complex with each level. The topics may not be familiar to the learner and vocabulary becomes more abstract.

Resource

This resource with Canadian content provides many reading strategies for learners.

Series

The Active Reader Series

Source

Kita-Bradley, Linda. The Active Reader – Book 5. Active Reader Series. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2011.

Description

Active Reader 5 has ten units of reading passages and practical literacy activities. The workbook is organized around five themes: people, relationships, health, the environment, and history. Each theme consists of two units that provide the following activities: pre-reading, main reading passages, post-reading, summary, vocabulary, mini lesson, literacy practice, and dictionary use.

Format

Workbook

Resource

This Calgary-based magazine is authentic Aboriginal material that is culturally appropriate, current, fiction and nonfiction, adult content, relevant, and interesting. It is available free on the street and as a free download.

Source

New Tribe. Calgary: Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth (USAY).

Description

New Tribe is a monthly magazine published in Calgary since February 2010 by the Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth and distributed throughout the city and surrounding communities. The publisher's mission is to promote a positive outlook on Aboriginal people who live in an urban setting by promoting and sharing information within the community. "New Tribe aims to provide Aboriginal youth with stories of inspiration, and invites them to share their own stories and get involved in the community. Youth are encouraged to contribute to the magazine, whether it be artwork, fiction, poetry or journalism."

http://www.usay.ca/services/new_tribe

Past issues

http://www.usay.ca/services/new_tribe_past

Format

Magazine

Comments

Artwork, poetry, fiction, and journalism are presented in the magazine. Each issue includes a very wide range of materials: recipes, community-events calendars, and in-depth articles on topics such as graphic novels for youth, drug use, and other relevant issues.

Resource

The contents are Canadian and some authentic forms are included in the workbook.

Source

Allaby, Joan. Canadian Forms Made Easy. Ottawa: Laubach Literacy of Canada, 2006.

Description

This workbook contains a variety of forms to give students practice with commonly used forms for work and home. Canadian Forms Made Easy addresses difficulties in understanding and completing commonly used forms for work and home. Students can practise a variety of exercises such as filling in surname, previous address, and date of birth. This resource includes forms for change of address and applications for social insurance and birth certificates. It also uses authentic documents and includes information about common vocabulary and abbreviations found on many forms.

Format

Book

Comments

Complex vocabulary and organization of authentic forms.

Resource

Calgary Metro and Edmonton Metro are free newspapers available in Calgary and Edmonton in boxes on the street. They are authentic resources with current news.

Source

Metro <http://metronews.ca/news/edmonton/> and <http://metronews.ca/news/calgary/>

Description

Free community newspapers

Format

Newspaper

Comments

Newspaper articles on relatively complex subjects with complex sentence structures and more complex vocabulary.

Resource

Many learners face problems in their personal lives that can interfere with their learning. This series deals with some of these issues. The content is Canadian.

Series

Easy to Read Health Series The Active Reader Series

Source

Murphy, Judy. Living with Grief and Loss. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2006.

———. Living with Healthy Relationships. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2009.

———. Living with Stress. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2005.

Description

Living with Grief and Loss focuses on the loss of a loved one.

Living with Healthy Relationships focuses on our relationships with ourselves and others.

Living with Stress. The author provides activities for identifying stressors in our lives, strategies for calming ourselves, and tips on how to identify and deal with panic, anxiety, burnout, and PTSD.

Format

Book

Comments

Multiple pieces of information. Complex sentence structure, more complex vocabulary including many abstract words and relatively complex subjects.

Resource

A Canadian resource with Canadian content.

Series

Vocabulary Boosters

Source

———. Vocabulary Boosters 3. Edmonton: Grass Roots Press, 2010.

Description

These workbooks help adult learners develop their vocabulary. Each workbook is organized around four themes: health, wildlife, the environment, and popular culture. Each lesson presents a nonfiction passage that relates to one of the four themes and a set of activities. The workbook activities can be completed independently, with a tutor, or with a group.

Format

Workbook

Comments

Sentence structure and vocabulary become more complex with each level. The topics may not be familiar to the learner and vocabulary becomes more abstract.