

HOW TO SET UP AN ADULT BEGINNING READING PROGRAM

Adults who cannot read are the most underserved population educationally. They are also the most desperate and vulnerable, and those who are re-entering society face a high likelihood of recidivism. However, it's not that difficult to set up an effective reading program for this group at your site. We can train staff or volunteers, (preferably from within the re-entry program) so you don't need certified teachers. Below is a summarized checklist of what you'll need to do:

- I. Watch the 4-part video at never2late2read.org and use it to:
 - a. Encourage students to give it a try
 - b. Encourage teachers to give it a try, too
 - c. See a simple, effective, inexpensive, easy to learn curriculum
 - d. See lots of poignant student feelings
- II. Get teachers trained—we can do the training
- III. Assess students and form leveled groups
 - a. Assessments are free and easy to learn to use
 - b. Put up to 5 people on the same level in a group
 - c. Many benefits to teaching in a group
- IV. Start classes
 - a. 1 ½ to 2 hrs., at least twice a week
 - b. Use a small room with a table
 - c. Follow a systematic program for the decoding/phonics instruction
 - d. End with fun, reinforcing, stress relieving activity
- V. Get materials
 - a. ABeCeDarian workbooks for decoding/phonics instruction, including scripted teachers' guides
 - b. Age appropriate reading like the Talk of the Block series
 - c. Dolch bingo, phonics card game, and others
 - d. Free support materials on the ABCD website (abcdrp.com)
 - e. All materials are inexpensive and easily available

Let me know if you have questions or would like to look into this further.

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Adults Can Learn to Read

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