



Happy Summer!

We hope that you are enjoying the long days and the sunny weather.

Want to read more this summer? You can read more about the Library's Summer Reading program on page 4. Summer Reading has been a **tradition** at libraries in the United States for over 125 years.

Want to share PSC with a friend? We still have gift cards from our spring program. Tell a friend about PSC, get a \$20 gift card to Starbucks or Target! Ask a PSC staff member for more information.

We wish you a beautiful summer season.

In this Issue

2024 Tutor Honorees.....	2-3
Family Reads	4
Learner Achievements.....	5
NEW! PSC News Club.....	6
Learner Activity.....	7
Tutor Tip.....	8
Tutor Workshops & Events.....	9
Glossary.....	10

You can find the meaning of words in **orange** in the Glossary on page 10.

2024 President's Volunteer Service Award

This year, PSC is excited to be honoring tutor **Jane Copps** with the President's Volunteer Service Lifetime Achievement



Award. This award is given by the President of the United States to volunteers whose service has positively **impacted** their community. It requires that the volunteer have donated at least 4000 hours of service. In 2024, Jane will be the first PSC tutor to reach that milestone of 4000 hours.

Jane has worked with the same two learners, Ehte A. and Parvin M., since she finished her tutor training in 2012. She tirelessly searches for reading passages that are at her learner's reading levels on topics that interest them. She is encouraging, supportive, and always cheerful. When asked about their tutor, both of Jane's learners had only good things to say. Ehte said, "Thank you for being such a kind and caring teacher. Your help with learning English means a lot to me. I appreciate everything you do." Parvin added, "Jane is my favorite teacher. She is responsible, caring, helpful, and patient. In fact, she is amazing. I feel blessed to have Jane as...a friend...She helps me whatever I need to know about my daily life in the U.S."

Thank you, Jane, for everything.

1000-Hour Tutor Service Honorees

Candace Bradley joined PSC in 2018. Since then, she has tutored three learners in the Wilson Reading System. Candace's **passion** for finding what motivates her learners and her **flexibility** make her a truly learner-centered tutor. She approaches all tutoring tasks with a kind heart.

Since 2015, **Lisa Cline** has been a very dedicated member of the PSC community. In addition to tutoring five learners, Lisa has given her **expertise** in the areas of technology and finances to the PSC, Inc. board. Her patience and **reliability** are very much appreciated!

Trina Hodges has been with PSC about 5 years! In that time, she has worked with three ESL learners and one Wilson Reading System learner. She is **creative** in her use of materials—tutoring in a book club-style with one ESL Learner and helping a Wilson Reading System learner with math. Trina has also given her time **generously** to support PSC at outreach events—from **starring** in the 40th anniversary video with her learner to speaking in person at orientations. Trina is flexible, excels at meeting learners where they are at, and creative with materials! Thank you Trina!

Beth Reynolds first tutored with PSC in 2017. She has worked with five ESL learners since then. Her **gentle nature** and sensitivity make her a wonderful tutor. And her kind laugh always makes those around her smile.

Continued on page 3

1000-Hour Tutors Cont'd

Mikko Rogers has worked with two ESL learners since joining the program in 2019. She is very responsible; she always turns in her calendars on time, she plans activities for her learner to do while she is on vacation, and she goes to workshops to discover new ways to support her learners.

Fred Vierra has been a tutor at PSC since 2019. He has had the opportunity to work with the same learner throughout his time with PSC. During their tutoring sessions, they read novels that are both interesting and challenging. Together they have discovered new vocabulary, characters, and stories that have **enriched** both of their lives.

500-Hour Tutor Service Awards

Thank you to the following tutors for your service to PSC and our learners. We can't do it without you.

Amy Abele
Sandy Burnett
Anrisa Fannin
Connie Forrest
Virginia Hazlewood
Heidi Keck
Madeline Krimmel
Mike Slinde
Kasey Soto
Jane Sprouse
Bonnie Yee



Thank You Note to 40th Celebration Donors

This year, PSC turned 40!

PSC was grateful to see many tutors and learners celebrating with us at our June 15 event. PSC is also grateful for the support of local businesses and community groups who donated time and goods so our party could be extra special!

So, if you are **out and about** and visit one of these businesses, know they are also supporters of making Project Second Chance successful.

We thank:

- **Trader Joe's** (Oak Grove and Treat in Concord) for the gift card that allowed us to purchase flowers.
- **Diablo Foods** (Lafayette) for supplying **refreshing** beverages.
- **Whole Foods Market** (Lafayette) more **refreshing** beverages.
- **Gira Circo** (Danville) clowning company for a fun show.
- **Rossmoor Ukelele Club** (Walnut Creek) for great music.
- **The Beyer Family Trust**, which provided the printing costs of *In Our Words*, our annual book of student writings. We are especially thankful for this long-standing donation.

Thank you to everyone who supports our wonderful volunteers and learners!

Get Ready for the 2024 Elections!

Start now to learn how to vote in the upcoming 2024 elections. Proliteracy, a national literacy organization, made an easy, free, online class to help new readers understand voting. Learn:

- About the American voting system
- How to register to vote
- How to find accurate information on the **issues**

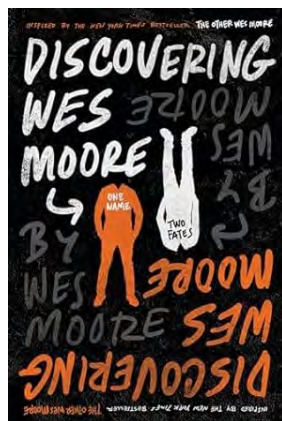
This class is unbiased—that means it doesn't tell you which people or **issues** to support. It only explains the process of voting. Go to this link: <https://www.proliteracy.org/voting-guide/> and watch the slides and videos on the left side of the screen.

PSC Reads Part II

PSC is inviting you to read another book with us this fall.

Our fall book club selection is *Discovering Wes Moore* by Wes Moore, the current **governor** of Maryland. The book is the story of how he almost took a different path in life.

Watch for an email in August with more details including how to get your book copies, event dates, a short **FAQs** video, and a Tutor Guide of resources specifically for *Discovering Wes Moore*.



Family Literacy Corner: Summer Reading!

Learners, the Summer Reading program has started! We have sent the Summer Reading **passports** and some books for your child in the mail already, so they can begin reading this summer. This year, the topic is **conservation** and nature.

The program runs from June 1 to August 3. Don't forget to join in on the fun activities at the library and have a chance to win prizes! Find out more about the activities and events by visiting <https://ccclib.org/summer/>.

To get another reading passport, for you or a family member, just go to your nearby library or the PSC office.

News for Learners & Tutors

Learner Completions



Angela S. —*Wilson Reading System* Step 4 with Leslie M.

Annie Z. —Confidence and Connections 2R with tutor Clio H.

Catherine N. —Confidence and Connections Level 4L with Lynette T.

Dhondup W. —Confidence and Connections Intro with Lynne Eve K.

Judith M. —Journey to Success Book 3 with Terri M.

Mal K. —*Challenger 3* with Michael W. Good work!

Misty G. —*Wilson Reading System* Step 9 with Judi K.

Walid R. —*Wilson Reading System Steps 3, 4, and 5* with Susie T.

YuJeong Y. —Confidence and Connections Level 2L with Connie M.

Learner Achievements



So exciting! **Yanina B.** recently became a U.S. citizen. All her hard work with tutor Eileen H. paid off. That's wonderful news, Yanina!

Viktoriia P. passed her driver's license test in English on her first try. Way to go, Viktoriia!

Congratulations to **Lilian O.**, tutored by Anne Marie F. Lilian got a big **promotion** to a manager because of her **significantly** improved English skills!

According to tutor Amrita R., **Aide A.** got her first library card. Enjoy all the library has to offer, Aide!

Tutor Barbara B. reported that **Yurany S.** scored a 94 percent correct on an Off2Class progress test! That's amazing!

Dee A. says that **Zachary W.** has started reading store ads instead of just looking at the pictures. Way to go, Zachary!

Leslie R. noticed that she was able to communicate much better with her doctor, says tutor Divya S. Wonderful news!

According to tutor Terry S., **Yuko M.** recently got a new job. Their year and a half together have really improved Yuko's conversation and reading skills. We're so proud of you, Yuko!

Tutor Cecilia B. reported that **Linda L.** read *I Am Malala* even though the vocabulary was challenging! Way to go, Linda!

Heidi H. reported that **Myrna P.** read a book about Cesar Chavez during their sessions. Excellent work, Myrna!

Yulia K. read *Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Scarlet* with Fred V. even though it was not the easiest book. Way to go!

Two different learner-tutor pairs worked on the same goal this spring. **Carmita V.** and her tutor Kristi C., **Sepideh N.**, and her tutor Nancy V. all took a field trip to Muir Woods where the learners read park signs to learn about nature and American history. What a fun way to apply literacy skills!

Meet Learner Lhamo T.

Lhamo comes from Tibet. She has spent her life working for human and political rights for the Tibetan people.



Why did you join PSC?

I have two wishes. One is to learn English to be a nurse. Also, one day I hope I can write down my story.

What is your special talent?

My heart. I am naturally good at helping others. I always feel I must do something. All my family members say you are too kind, but I say, everybody needs kindness. The world needs more kindness. Not only am I saying this, but I am doing this myself.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama is talking about how kindness is very, very important, especially at this time when things are getting worse in the world.

What do you want to do next?

I will open a family home daycare very soon. I have been thinking about this for a long time. I lost my job, and my granddaughter is with me. It's most important to teach children how to read and speak Tibetan. Our language is **endangered**. In Tibet these days, school is taught only in Chinese. The Tibetan community everywhere are only speaking other languages, even to their children. Our kids will be okay if we speak Tibetan to them.

NEW! PSC News Club

Do you like to read the news? Join PSC staff to read and discuss interesting news stories.

Each class meets twice in one month.

Learners of all reading levels are welcome. No registration, just come!

August class: Thursday, 8/1 & 8/8, 12–1 p.m.

September class: Thursday, 9/5 & 9/12, 12–1 p.m.

Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/PSCnewsclub>

Learner Travel Program is Back!

Learners: We know that it can be expensive to travel to tutoring sessions. PSC has gift cards to Uber and Clipper Cards available for learners who need help. You can ask your tutor or PSC staff for help with the form.

Please fill out the form here: <https://tinyurl.com/PSCtravelprogram>

Thank you to PSC, Inc. for making this possible!

One Sentence Book Review

Book: *The Orchard*

Author: Catherine Temma Davidson

Review: “This is a great story about an immigrant family who came to the United States.” —Claudia A., PSC learner

Find the book here at the library: <https://tinyurl.com/TheOrchardBook>

Activity for Learners

The Benefits of Reading for 20 Minutes a Day

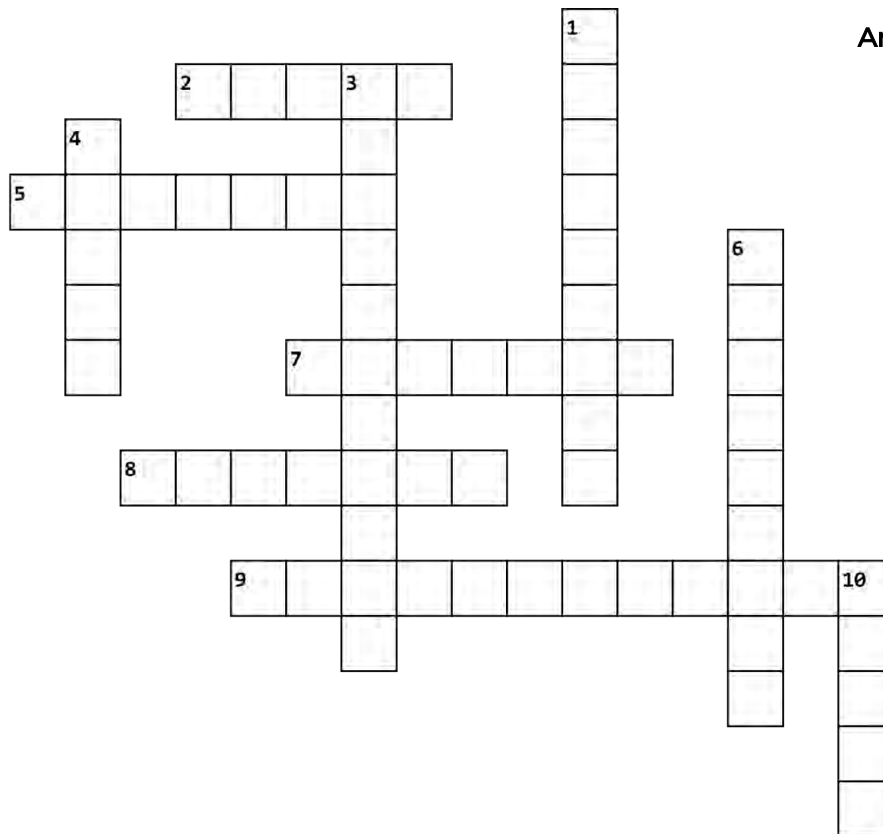
Reading isn't just fun. It's healthy, too! It helps reduce stress! It helps our brains **stay sharp!**

Reading everyday makes everyone better readers. It helps us learn new words. Knowing more words helps us when we have to write emails and text. It also helps us when we have conversations with our neighbors. It gives us the words we need to share our ideas and talk about things we are interested in.

Should kids and adults read for 20 minutes? The answer is yes! Everyone should read. We can read to relax. We can read by ourselves in the morning. We can read at night at the end of the day. We can read together as a family. Reading helps everyone!

Word List

- benefit
- comic
- conversation
- healthy
- Interesting
- librarian
- magazines
- novel
- reading
- relax



Answers on page 9.

Across

- 2. A magazine with pictures that tell a story.
- 5. This is helpful!
- 7. Open a book and look at the page
- 8. I am strong in my body and mind!
- 9. Talking to someone

Down

- 1. A thin paper book with large pages, articles, and pictures.
- 3. I want to learn more!
- 4. I am happy and calm!
- 6. A person who works in the library
- 10. A book that tells a story about characters or people and their lives.

Tip for Tutors

Embracing a Multisensory Approach

Multisensory activities are vital when tutoring adult learners because they engage multiple senses simultaneously, aiding in information processing and retention. These activities work well for different kinds of learners, so everyone can learn in a way that suits them. By incorporating tactile, auditory, and visual elements, tutors can provide alternative pathways for comprehension. Using multisensory activities helps adults feel more confident and motivated, and it makes it easier for them to do well in their learning.

Activity: Vocabulary Sensory Exploration

Goal: To enhance vocabulary learning through personalized sensory experiences in a one-on-one tutoring session.

Materials Needed:

- Vocabulary list tailored to the learner's interests or needs.
- Sensory items related to each vocabulary word (e.g., objects or pictures).

Instructions:

1. Before the tutoring session, select a set of vocabulary words based on the learner's interests, level, or areas of improvement.
2. Gather sensory items that correspond to each vocabulary word. Consider the learner's preferences and learning style when choosing sensory materials.
3. Start the tutoring session by explaining the activity to the learner. Highlight the



importance of using all the senses to better understand and remember new words.

4. Present the first vocabulary word to the learner, along with its definition and usage in context. Encourage the learner to repeat the word aloud to ensure pronunciation.
5. Introduce the sensory items associated with the vocabulary word. Allow the learner to explore each sensory item one by one while discussing how it relates to the word. Example: If the word is "mountain," provide a small rock for touch and a picture of a mountain for sight.
6. Encourage the learner to think about what they see, hear, feel, taste, or smell, and relate those experiences to the new word they're learning. Ask them to explain how each sense connects to the word.
7. Repeat the activity for each vocabulary word on the list.

Tailor the sensory activity to what the learner likes and how they learn best, making vocabulary learning more enjoyable and helpful during one-on-one tutoring.

Welcome, New Tutors!

Gabriel Alexander	Cathy Mattison
Molly Anderson	Rachel Mellinger
Karen Arntzen	Janet Monroe
Deepa Bharani	John Osborne
Tami Bilbo	Cheryl Olson
Kristi Clontz	Sandra Peterson
Aaron Crowe	Kendra Phair
Tam Dang-Gainer	Leslie Quinn
Jacqueline Ervin	Richard Staaf
Ivana Falla	Maureen Steiner
Julio Gomez	Alfonso Valladolid
Kirk Hammond	Contreras
Sheldon Jones	Suguna Vepa
Megan Kammerer	Wendy Wagner
Chris Ladd	William Weidinger
Alla Lyubinina	James Wray
Denise Malvey	Kathy Youngson



Join Us for Tutor Skill Ups

Tutor Skill Ups are hour-long Zoom sessions that focus on strategies and resources you can use in your lessons. After an initial presentation by PSC staff, you will have the opportunity to chat with fellow tutors.

To join any Skill Up, go to <https://tinyurl.com/PSCtutorSkillUp>. No RSVP—just come!

All Tutor Skill Ups are from 12–1 p.m. The dates and planned topics for the summer months include:

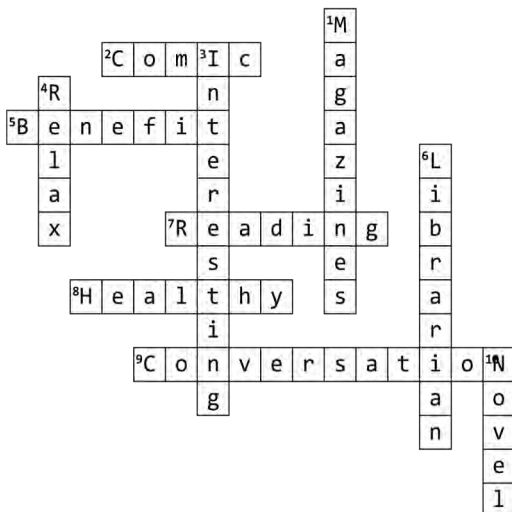
Friday, July 5: Building Your Learner’s Vocabulary

Friday, August 2: Supporting Your Learner’s Conversation Development

Friday, September 6: Having Fun in Your Lessons

Also, if you miss a Skill Up, you can find recordings in the Learning Community on America Learns. Just use “skill ups” as your search term.

Reading 20 Minutes a Day



Tutor Coffee Hour Back Soon!

Tutor Coffee Hours went on summer hiatus in June and July, but we’ll be back starting in August with Coffee Hours across the county. Check your email for updates!

Glossary

tradition

a way of doing something that has been done for a long time

impacted

to have an effect on

passion

a very strong liking for something

flexibility

having the skill to change easily as needed

expertise

special skills or knowledge on a subject

reliability

the quality of being someone you can trust and depend on

creative

good at thinking of new and interesting ideas

generously

giving a lot of money or time to help other people

starring

being the focus of a video, movie, or other presentation

gentle nature

kind and careful personality

enriched

made better

out and about

going places to do everyday activities

refreshing

making you feel better or less hot

issues

subjects that are often talked about, especially involving people

governor

a person who runs a state

FAQs

a list of answers to questions people ask a lot

passports

documents that allow you to join something

conservation

protecting and guarding things in nature, like plants and animals

promotion

getting a better job in a company

significantly

in an important way



His Holiness the Dalai Lama

the leader of the Tibetan Buddhist religion

endangered

describes something that may not last much longer

stay sharp

be alert or focused