



## Summer Greetings from PSC

At the PSC Community Celebration in June, we shared our new *In Our Words* book of learner writing. This year, several learners wrote about animals. Animals are important to many of us. They can be members of the family. They can also have special meanings in different cultures.

This summer, our PSC Book of the Year, *Finding Gobi*, is about a dog. You can read more about our *Finding Gobi* book club on page 3. If you'd prefer to read about a different animal, the Library's Lite Reads collection has stories about cats, mice, lions, spiders, and more. Ask your **coordinator** for more information. Whether you prefer dogs, cats, or another animal, we hope that you find something fun to read this summer.

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You can find the meaning of words in **green** in the Glossary on page 9.

## Honoring Service, Celebrating Together!

Thank you to everyone who came to our PSC Celebration on June 14. We ate ice cream and cake, played games, and celebrated all of the amazing learning that has happened this year. We also shared our new *In Our Words* book of learner writing. This book will be mailed to learners and tutors who didn't come. Finally, we celebrated our volunteers who have given more than 500 hours of time to PSC. You can read about them here.

### 500 Hour Service Honorees

**Cecilia Baron** has been tutoring with PSC since February 2022 and has worked with two adult learners.

**Priscilla Couden** has been tutoring her adult learner since June 2021.

**Eileen Hinds** has been tutoring her adult learner since October 2021.

**Diane Kopchik** has been tutoring her adult learner since August 2022.

**Susan Schneider** has been tutoring with PSC since June 2022 and has worked with two adult learners.

**Malathy Sethuraman** has been tutoring with PSC since May 2021 and has worked with four adult learners.

**Rob Venema** has been tutoring his adult learner since February 2021.

### 1000 Hour Service Honoree

**Claudia Lewis** became a PSC tutor in 2015. Since then, she has supported **numerous** learners on their way to a variety of goals, including delivering presentations at UC Berkeley, reading *Nancy Drew* and *Pinocchio*, and improving general writing skills. Claudia's **easy-going** nature and willingness to laugh make her learners feel safe in their lessons. Thank you, Claudia, for your past ten years of service!



### San Pablo Office Changes

Starting in July, there will be a new TLC in San Pablo. Zoe Eng, who works in PSC Concord and Antioch, will be moving to the San Pablo Library PSC office. She looks forward to working with West County pairs and will be in touch in July. Zalma will still be at the San Pablo office on Fridays this summer, so you can still stop by to see her then.



## PSC Book of the Year: *Finding Gobi Book Club!*

Thank you all for your interest in this year's community read, *Finding Gobi* by Dion Leonard. We've given away over 120 copies of the book to PSC tutors and learners! Many thanks to Friends of PSC who paid for the books.

To all of you who are reading: are you enjoying the book? Do you **have mixed feelings**? What's the most interesting part **so far**?

Be sure to bring your thoughts about Gobi, Dion and their **unusual adventure** to our book chat in September on Zoom. As a group, we'll talk about the book. It's okay if you don't finish the book or you didn't understand it very well.

Here is the date of the book chat:

**When:** Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Zoom, <https://tinyurl.com/PSCFindingGobi>

## Stand Together Contra Costa Presentation

Do you have questions about immigration? Do you want to learn more about the rights that immigrants have?

[Stand Together Contra Costa](#) is a program that supports safety and **justice** for immigrant families in Contra Costa County. They will be doing a presentation on Zoom just for members of the PSC community. Friday, August 15, from 12-1 p.m.

**Zoom link:** <https://tinyurl.com/PSCStandTogether>

Learners and tutors are both welcome, but please note that this presentation will be learner centered. We respectfully ask that Q&A time be **reserved** for learner questions.

## Family Literacy Corner: Summer Reading!



Join the Summer Reading Program at the library! It runs from June 2 to August 2. To get started, visit your nearest library to pick up a Summer Reading Passport.

To join, you must complete the passport by reading books and doing fun activities. The last day to turn in your finished passport is August 2.

When you finish, you will be entered to win great prizes. Only one prize entry is allowed per person who finishes the program.



## Books Completed

*Challenger*

Maria M. (3)

Martin G. (6)

*Confidence & Connections*

Amel B. (3L)

Bashir N. (2L)

Belsys P. (2L)

Bruno R. (3R)

Hsiao Feng W. (2L)

Jamie B. (3R)

Javi C. (1R)

Jilmar F. (3R)

Maria G. (2L)

Mary G. (Intro)

Masoumeh E. (2L)

Milena R. (3R, 4R)

Sandra M. (2L)

*Grammar for You*

Keuna B.

*Journey to Success*

Dolma C. (1)

Feyza K. (2)

Keuna B. (8)

Linda L. (6 and 7)

Luisa O. (3)

Manizha H. (3)

Mine U. (2)

Nat K. (Intro)

Rafik B. (7)

Sarah K. (2)

Sepideh N. (4)

Sylvana F. (2)

*True Stories*

Sarah K. (2)

*Wilson*

Byron D. (2A)

Kyra M. (4)

Misty G. (11)

Walid R. (8)

Zachary W. (4)

*Writing Skills*

Dewayne B. (A)

Lhamo T. (A)

## Learner Accomplishments



**Leonor L.** has been accepted at Merritt College in the early childhood education program.

Learner **Kerretta F.** completed an **incident** report at work for the first time. It's a big deal because it's her goal and she did it alone.

**Rocio C.** received the Top **Producer** award from her real estate firm for the second **quarter** in a row!

**Yareni R.** got a job at Taco Bell!

**Maryory N.** started a new job working part-time in an afterschool program at a **charter school**.

**Velia R.** completed a literacy goal of writing a recipe for the Food Bank of Contra Costa/Solano.

**Lucie S.** earned her **certification** in California Mandated Reporter Training.

## PSC Talking Club: Now Online and In Person!

Learners, do you want to practice English in a safe, fun place? Come to the PSC Talking Club. This summer, we will have the Talking Club once each month online and once each month in person. In July, we will be talking about friendship. In August, we will be talking about places. In September, we will be talking about shopping. We hope to see you there!

### In Person Meetings

PSC Concord Office:

2151 Salvio Street, Suite 299

Wednesday, July 2, from 2-3 p.m.

Wednesday, August 6, from 2-3 p.m.

Wednesday, September 3, from 2-3 p.m.

### Online Meetings

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

Thursday, July 17, from 4-5 p.m.

Thursday, August 21, from 4-5 p.m.

Thursday, September 18, from 4-5 p.m.

## Learners: We Want to Hear from You!

Learners, we want to hear your ideas for PSC. What do you like? What can we do better? What do you want to see at PSC in the next year?

Come to one of these groups to share your ideas with staff. We hope to see you there!

Friday, July 11, from 12-1 p.m. on Zoom

Tuesday, July 15, from 10-11 a.m. at the San Pablo Library



## Learner Tip: Leaving a Phone Message

We use our smartphones and texting a lot to **get a hold of** people.

But sometimes we need to **dial** a phone number and reach someone by calling with our voices. A voicemail is a recorded message you leave when the person you are calling is not there. When you call, you will usually hear a message that says: *"The person you are calling is not **available**. Please leave a message after the tone."*

Then, it is your turn!

**#1.** Greet and say your name

*"Hello. My name is Fatima."*

**#2.** Say why you are calling

*"I am calling to ask about my son's baseball game **schedule**."*

**#3.** Ask for them to return your call.

*Can you please call me back?*

**#4.** Say your phone number (speak extra slowly!)

*My number is (925) 555-1234*

**#5.** It's a good idea to say your name and phone number again.

*Once again, my name is Fatima. Can you please call me back at (925) 555-1234?*

**#6.** End the Call

*Thank You.*

Always speak slowly. **Pause** between your sentences. Practice this with your tutor, and leave them a voicemail! Then you can talk about it during tutoring! Have fun! Also, watch the first 2 minutes of this video for more help! <https://tinyurl.com/LeaveAVoicemail>

## PSC Reading Club

The PSC Reading Club meets the first two Tuesdays of the month on Zoom. The purpose is to read articles on a variety of topics, discuss them together, and learn some vocabulary.

**At the first meeting of the month**, we review vocabulary, read an article, and talk about it.

Then, before the second meeting of the month, you will need to read an online article on your own. If you are new, staff will explain how to get the second week's story at the first meeting.

**At the second meeting of the month**, we focus on talking about the article. This second meeting is a chance to talk with the group about the article's main ideas and what you thought about them.

To join, go to this website: <https://tinyurl.com/ReadWithPSC>. It is important that you attend the first meeting of the month.

Here are the dates for the Reading Club this summer:

Tuesdays, July 1 and 8

Tuesdays, August 5 and 12

Tuesdays, September 2 and 9



## Learner Activity: Reading about Skin Care

Dermatology is an area of medicine that focuses on the skin. Our skin is the largest **organ** of our body, and taking care of it is important. The following reading activity explores this topic.

First, what do you know about skin? Think about the following questions:

- How do you care for your skin?
- Have you ever been sunburned?
- What do you know about skin cancer?

Then, fill out the first two columns of the K-W-L chart below. In the K column, write down what you already know about skin and skin care. In the W column, write down what questions you have.

<b>K</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>
Things I <b>K</b> now	Things I <b>W</b> ant to Learn	Things I <b>L</b> earned

Next, read the [handout](https://tinyurl.com/DermatologyHandout) from the American Academy of Dermatology. It can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/DermatologyHandout>.

Finally, fill in the last column (the L column) of the chart above. Write down what new things you learned from the reading.

If you would like to read more about health, visit <https://tinyurl.com/LearnHealth>.

## Tutors Together

Want to exchange tutoring tips with other volunteer tutors while eating a snack and having a chat? Join us at Tutors Together!

- *Tutors Together at Todos Santos Farmers Market*, August 19 at 10 a.m.

Meet us at the fountain outside our Concord office (2151 Salvio St.) to walk across the street together and explore the food offered by different local vendors.

- *Tutors Together at Refugio Valley Park*, September 11 at 10 a.m.

Meet us at the picnic tables behind the parking lot, across from the playground (1515 Refugio Valley Rd. across from Pheasant Dr., near the Hercules Library) for a light snack.

- *Tutors Together at Brentwood City Park*, September 18 at 10 a.m.

Meet us at the front door of the Brentwood Library (104 Oak St.) to walk across the street and picnic on a light snack in the park.



## Tutor Skill Ups

Our Skill Ups are on summer hiatus for July and August, but join us again on **Friday, September 5**, from 12-1 pm on Zoom. Chat with your fellow tutors while learning about tutoring resources and ideas from PSC staff. September's Skill Up theme is **"Resources for Teaching Pronunciation."**

To join, go to <https://tinyurl.com/PSCSkillUp>. No RSVP needed. Can't make it? You can find recordings of past sessions in the Learning Community on America Learns. Use "skill ups" as your keyword search.

## Welcome, New Tutors!

Amanda Wayne	Martin Freedman
Brenda Rubino	Melane Nock-Salgado
Brittany Wilkey	Melissa Yap
Carlos Hanze	Michael Blume
Cornelia Shonkwiler	Millie Kudlik
Cynthia Borcena	Patti Doctors
Eric Bubna	Paul Renaud
Guadalupe Marroquin	Phyllis Lammers
James Evans	Roisin Scimonelli
Jerry Dotson	Sarah Hamren
Joanne Mik	Selah Solano
John Bell	Shelley Kromprier
Katelynn Mosier	Stephanie Bonham
Kenneth Lee	Steven Doctors
Lana Wolf	Suresh Gadgil
Manjula Gurram	Vicki Trotter
Marie Del Bove	Yvette Warnock
Marilyn Spingarn	



# Glossary

## Adventure

An exciting experience

## Available

Not busy so they can talk

## Certification

An official document that says someone is allowed to do a specific job

## Charter school

A school that is not run by the state's public school system

## Coordinator

A person whose job is to organize how the work is being done

## Dial

To press the buttons on a phone to make a call

## Easy-going

Not easily upset or worried

## Get a hold of

To communicate with

## Have mixed feelings

To have both good and bad feelings about something

## Incident

An event that isn't usual or normal

## Justice

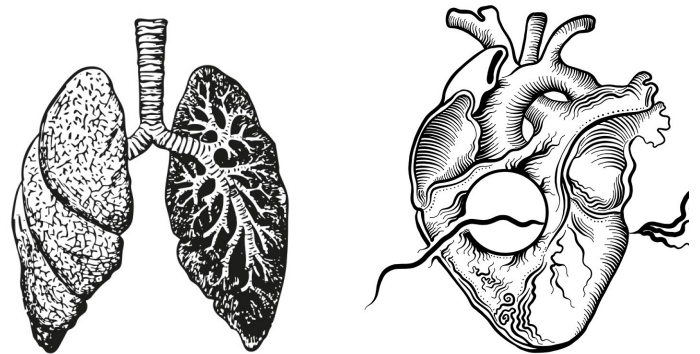
Fairness in how people are treated

## Numerous

Many

## Organ

A part of the body that has a specific purpose



## Pause

To stop speaking or doing something for a short period of time

## Producer

A person who creates things or provides services

## Quarter

One-fourth of a year

## Reserved

Held for a specific audience or purpose

## Schedule

A plan of what someone is going to do and when

## So far

Until now

## Unusual

Not normal