

**Teach an Adult to Read**  
**Adult Basic Literacy Education**  
**ABLE**

## Frequently Asked Questions

**I like the idea of teaching someone how to read, but I don't have any experience teaching. How would I know what to do??**

Our tutor training sessions will teach you all you need to know about working one to one with adult learners. The workbooks make it easy for you to teach, and you will have ongoing support from ABLE. You do not need previous teaching experience.

**Where and when would I meet with a student to teach one on one?**

The location and time are up to you and your student. Always meet at a public location---at the public library, at your church, or even at a coffee shop. Some students prefer daytime; some like the evening.

**Who would be my students?**

- A young mother who wants to be more involved in her child's education.
- A GED prospect who can't read well enough to study for the exam
- A young father who wants to better his job prospects.
- A grandmother who wants to feel less dependent on others.
- A retired man who dropped out of school.
- A woman in mid-life who wants to be able to read her Bible.

**Why are there adults who cannot read?**

The reasons are as varied as the individuals we teach. Younger adult learners often had disrupted childhoods in unstable households which resulted in many missed days of school. Many of our older students dropped out of school due to economic hardships when they were young.

**Why not focus instead on youth literacy? Why the emphasis on adults??**

There are already many children's literacy programs in Norfolk. There is no program for adults who read at or below the 4th grade level. Plus literate adults in the home will help children learn to read.

**How are the students evaluated?**

A one to one interview with an ABLE evaluator explores the prospective student's literacy needs and goals. A standardized diagnostic tool will then be administered to gauge the student's reading level. The student will then be matched with the appropriate reading materials and a tutor.

**How often would I teach?**

One hour, twice a week.

**What is the curriculum?**

Laubach Way to Reading, a series of widely used reading workbooks.

**How much time do I need to spend planning a lesson?**

The lessons are prepared for you in your teacher's guide. 10 minutes of preparation time is average.

**What materials do I need?**

Teacher workbooks (\$25) pencils, paper and PATIENCE!

**How do I motivate an adult learner?**

Most commonly, the adult student is very motivated already. The student is grateful for your time and the opportunity to learn a skill that will help better his or her life.