

Starfish Thrower



THERAPIST NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY FUNDAMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

APRIL 2020



A message of love, perseverance and dedication.

In Wichita, in 30 days, shelter in place will be a memory and not the reality of our daily lives. We'll all look back and have stories to tell. The Fundamental Learning story will be one of love, perseverance and dedication to our students and teachers and children with dyslexia.

Today our story, like all of your stories, is one of protecting each other and the ones we love by being careful and following the recommendations set forth by our local, state and federal governments and our own common sense. It's been with much sadness that we've lost our daily touches with students, parents and each other. But, we are using this time to clean and sanitize the building for everyone's safe return when we can all be together again.

I am so proud of what Fundamental Learning Center is accomplishing in the midst of this chaos. And I want to share with you the steps we are taking to keep our mission moving forward while keeping everyone safe. We remain dedicated to our Rolph Literacy Academy students, our Teacher Training students, parents and kids who are struggling to read. Using that dedication we've found ways to ensure all of our students are still learning when the rest of the world seems at a standstill. Here's what FLC is doing to ensure that the story you tell about us in 30 days is the story of love, perseverance and dedication.

Fundamental Learning Center, the building, is closed.

- Our phone system is forwarding to Sydney and she is answering phone calls, taking messages and ensuring that all lines of communication remain open. Please, if you have a question or need to connect, call us.

Fundamental Learning Center, our heart, is open. I am humbled by the dedication, love and willingness our teachers and staff have shown to find a way to continue the growth and education of all our students.

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20 YEARS
Providing
clarity and hope
for kids with dyslexia



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- Virtual Rolph Literacy Academy, VRLA, opens Monday, March 30. Our teachers worked incredibly hard this week to create a virtual learning plan and learn Zoom and Flipgrid to open their virtual classrooms to our students. Teachers will be teaching Alphabetic Phonics and other curricula through the end of the school year. Our kids will not lose the fundamental reading skills they have acquired this year.

- RLA continues to accept enrollments for students in our summer programs including Science/Froebel Camp, STEAM Camp and Reading Fundamentals Summer Camp.

- We are processing parent contracts for the 2020-2021 school year including current and new students.

- We are fortunate we utilize distance learning with WhizIQ for teacher training. We marvel daily at how fortunate we are this portion of our business will not be disrupted by COVID-19 but will continue on as planned.

- Our assessors are using Zoom to minimize any disruptions to our scheduled assessments of children. Many parents wait months to have their child assessed and we are keeping their appointments and working with them and their children to help them find answers. How rewarding it is to be able to help during this time.

- Our Garden Party has been rescheduled for June 20. Between now and then we are creating an online auction to support funding our scholarships and have a little fun. Stay tuned for more information coming on a signature cocktail to drink while bidding.

- We will continue to keep all of you in our FLC family informed of the steps we're taking to ensure the success of our common goal, All Children Reading, All Children Succeeding, in these most challenging times. Please stay tuned and be on the lookout for more letters from me.

There is so much going on at FLC and VRLA that these next 30 days will fly by! Nevertheless, we will keep everyone in our thoughts and prayers as we face this difficult challenge and look forward to the day when we can all be face to face again.

Love, Jeanine

Here is a poem by Kitty O'Meara being shared around the world that has given me inspiration the past few days. I just wanted to share it with you and hope you enjoy it.

“And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced.

Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently. And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.” – Kitty O'Meara

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Become a Dyslexia and Literacy Interventionist

Friends University and Fundamental Learning Center (FLC) have joined forces to effectively prepare teachers to teach those with reading difficulties. The joint partnership will allow teachers pursuing their Master of Education at Friends University to apply their elective hours toward the new Dyslexia and Literacy Interventionist Concentration.

Beginning summer 2020, specific graduate credit courses will be offered through FLC.

Every school will need a Dyslexia and Literacy Interventionist. Be the one who makes an impact on the success of your students.

Visit our Literacy Interventionist web page at funlearn.org/literacy-intervention-specialists and access the Professional Dyslexia Intervention Course Guide 2020.

CHOOSE
LITERACY
INTERVENTION
SPECIALIST
OR
TAKE FLIGHT
COURSES FOR
NEW!



Alphabetic Phonics Review Workshop

Distance learning on the Zoom platform is available for our April Alphabetic Phonics workshop. This workshop reinforces what an exciting time it is for using structured literacy to teach children how to read. Change is coming in Kansas for students learning to read, so join us at FLC to strengthen your teaching practice with our Alphabetic Phonics (AP) workshops.

Alphabetic Phonics Review Workshop, Friday, April 24, 2020 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

In this distance learning workshop we'll review all aspects of Alphabetic Phonics including the philosophy, related research and the AP procedure strip. Bring your questions, we've got the answers. Email Robin or Tammy to register for any of these workshops, other classes or for more information.

2020 Introductory Workshops

Contact Robin for Distance Learning on all of these Workshops and Classes.

Introductory Workshop #2

May 8 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Introductory Class

June 1 – 12 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Next Advanced Class

June 15 – 26 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

November 9 – 20 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

2020 Advanced Workshops

Next Advanced Class

June 15 – 26 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

November 9 – 20 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Advanced Extended

July 6 – 10 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Robin Meyen
rmeyen@funlearn.org

Tammy Kofford
tkofford@funlearn.org

Tips on using Zoom to work with your students

Tammy and Robin are offering an online class demonstrating how to use Zoom to teach Alphabetic Phonics (AP). Email Tammy or Robin to register and receive your login information and link to the class. Then login on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 1:30 p.m - 2:30 p.m. to learn about tools and features in Zoom that make teaching AP online to your students easier.

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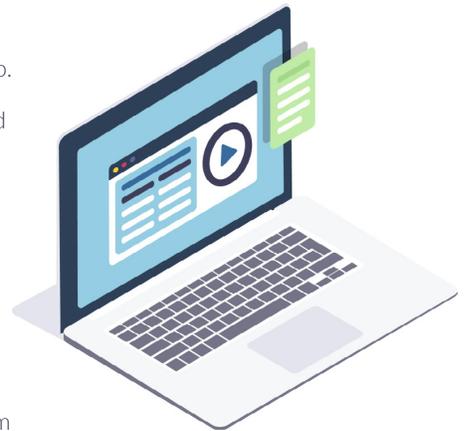
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Tips & Tricks: Teachers Educating on Zoom

Starting a Class

- If it's your first time using Zoom, visit the Educating Guide: Getting Started on Zoom and complete the steps in advance of your class to get you set up.
- Schedule your class in the Zoom application for your desired date/time and copy the invitation details to send to your students.
*Please note that students will not need to register for an account to join.
- Join your class a couple minutes early to ensure a proper connection then follow the below tips for a quality online learning experience.



Tips and Tricks for Virtual Lessons

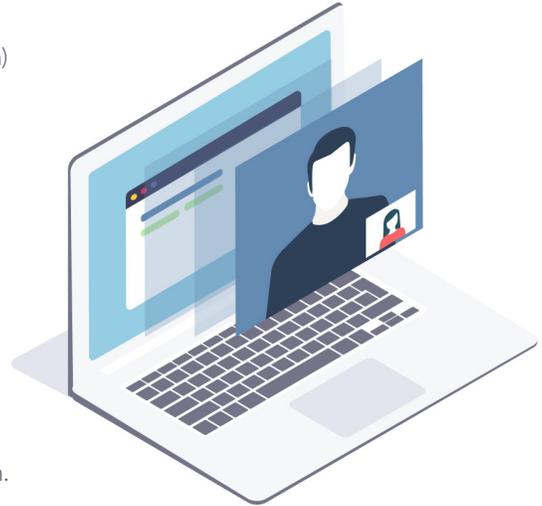
- For your first class, set aside some time to introduce your students to Zoom and ensure that they're able to connect their audio and video.
- Give an agenda or plan for each class by Screen Sharing a document or slide at the beginning of class. This gives students a clear idea of how the class will progress, what will be covered, and the activities they'll engage in.
- Discuss online etiquette and expectations of the students in your first virtual class and periodically revisit the topics.
- Utilize the Whiteboard or Annotate a shared document and let your students engage as well. When sharing a whiteboard, document, screen, or image, try whiteboarding math problems or have a student use annotation to highlight items such as grammar mistakes in a paper you're sharing.
- Take time to promote questions, comments, and reactions from your class. Give a minute to allow your students to utilize reactions, write their questions in chat, or be unmuted to ask their questions live.
- Divide into smaller groups for a discussion on a certain topic. You can use Zoom's Breakout Room feature to either pre-assign or auto-assign students into groups for a short period of time so they may discuss things together.
- Have students be the presenter and share projects with the class. This allows your students to show what they're working on while practicing their presentation skills. It also allows students to hear from one another.



Tips on using Zoom to work with your students:

Teaching Over Video - Delivery Tips and Tricks

- Pre-set your meeting to mute participant's microphones upon entry. This helps to avoid background noise and allow your students to focus on your lesson.
- Look at the camera to create eye contact with your students. This helps to create a more personal connection while teaching over video.
- Take a second to check chat or your student's video (if on camera) to check-in with your students and get feedback.
- Speak as if you're face-to-face with the class while ensuring you're at the appropriate distance from the microphone for the best audio experience.
- When delivering a presentation, sharing images, files or video, give your students a moment to open or take in what you've shared.
- Embrace the pause. Take a moment after the end of your comments and allow for students to engage before continuing on.



Great Tools Built into Zoom for Engagement

- Attendee Attention Tracking: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115000538083-Attendee-attention-tracking>
- Polling: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/213756303-Polling-for-Meetings>
- Breakout Rooms: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206476093-Getting-Started-with-Breakout-Rooms>
- Non-verbal Feedback: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115001286183-Nonverbal-Feedback-During-Meetings>
- Virtual Backgrounds: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/210707503-Virtual-Background>
- Sharing a Screen: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362153-How-Do-I-Share-My-Screen->
- Whiteboard: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205677665-Sharing-a-whiteboard>
- Annotation: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115005706806-Using-annotation-tools-on-a-shared-screen-or-whiteboard>
- Transcription of meetings: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004794983-Automatically-Transcribe-Cloud-Recordings->
- Chat: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/203650445-In-Meeting-Chat>

Additional Resources

- [Outschool](#), a marketplace for live online classes, has made available [Free Remote Teacher Training Webinars](#) showing how to adapt teaching practices and curriculum to a live video chat classroom. These webinars are led by Outschool's experienced teachers who have transitioned from in-person to online teaching. Educators can sign up and find available times/dates here: https://success.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Twxi9n0qQ5WwdtWOxy6JHQ

