

— This Month in —

OC READ

DECEMBER 2022

Literacy Fact:
Listening to audiobooks develops our active listening skills, critical thinking skills, and our familiarity with a variety of [dialects](#) and accents.



Contact Us:

readoc@occr.ocgov.com

714-566-3070

Mon - Thurs 10 AM to 7 PM

Fri - Sat 9 AM to 5 PM

WINTER SOLSTICE

Candles, lights, and crackling fires illuminate the month of December, gifting us with warmth and comfort during Winter Solstice. This year's Winter Solstice takes place on December 21st, and it marks the start of winter on the longest night of the year.

Solstice comes from the Latin word [sol](#), meaning sun and [sistere](#), meaning stand still. On Winter Solstice, the sun will be in its lowest position, resulting in an average of 10 hours of sunlight, unlike summer solstice where daylight averages 14.5 hours.

Longer, colder nights provide occasions to create your own illumination! Flashlight walks, candles in windows, glowing bonfires, and lighted paths can help make the season warm and bright.



BIOGRAPHY CORNER

The History of OC Read

OC Read began providing adult literacy services in 1991. The program's goal was to support the community by offering one-on-one reading and writing tutoring services to adult residents of Orange County.

Another component of OC Read's service is the Families for Literacy department (the folks responsible for the Family Literacy Events and Family Literacy tip you see in this newsletter!). Families For Literacy assists learners and their family members of all ages as they build lifelong learning and literacy skills.

As of 2022, OC Read has been in operation for 31 years!

EVERYONE HAS A STORY

Want to be included in the biography corner? Send your biography to readoc@occr.ocgov.com.

Share a sentence or a whole paragraph. The choice is yours! All biographies are accepted on a rolling basis and will be featured.



Don't forget your copy of

NEWS FOR YOU

Weekly news for
adult learners!

Free copies are
available.

We have:

- Current issues
- Back issues
- Reading/Writing exercises



To request a copy, call
OC Read at 714.566.3070.

Digital edition:
newsforyouonline.com
Password: Odld44

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deli

These classes are open to OC Read tutors. To register for a class, follow the "To RSVP" instructions below each description.



Beyond Boundaries Tutoring (BBT)

Tuesday, December 6 @ 1 PM

Virtual Meeting

To RSVP, contact OC Read

December's topic will be online resources for learners who want to improve their English literacy (reading, writing, speaking, and listening). We'll look at two websites you can use to add a bit of digital literacy to your English literacy meetings! Please come prepared to discuss other ESL-friendly resources with your fellow tutors.

Device Advice

Monday through Saturday during regular business hours

In-person and Virtual Meetings are available

Call OC Read to schedule an appointment

Device Advice is available to all OC Read tutors, regardless of your meeting status! If you have a tech question, call our office and speak to one of our librarians to schedule a Device Advice appointment. We can help you find the answer to most of your basic technology questions. Keep in mind, we can't help you set up or fix a device, but we can help with things like:

- Creating a new email account
- Learning how to use Google Meet
- Downloading audiobooks from Libby and from New Readers Press
- How to bookmark/favorite websites
- How to attach files, pictures, and other documents to correspondence

... and much, much more! If you don't see your question above, that's okay. Call us anyway and ask if it's something we cover.



Tutoring Tip

Scooping

Does your learner read sentences word-by-word? Do they get [bogged down](#) in trying to have perfect pronunciation? Try the scooping technique! To do this, start by asking your learner to chunk the sentence into meaningful phrases. Have them draw a scoop beneath each chunk. The goal of this activity is to have them focus on reading the chunks with accuracy and fluency. If they make an error in one of the chunks, stop them at the end of the chunk and address the error.

Start with small scoops and as your learner makes fewer and fewer errors and their overall comprehension/expression improves, move to bigger scoops.

For a visual, the scooping technique would look something like this:

Small scoops:

Ben did a great job dusting the benches.

Big scoops:

Ben did a great job dusting the benches.

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resources

- ✓ [How does scooping phrases help fluency?](#)
- ✓ [Continuous Blending: Does your learner struggle to blend letters into words? Read me!](#)

Did you know?

While some people with dyslexia may have reversals (reading letters/words "backward"), it's actually a myth that it's a major indicator. Other factors such as a family history of reading difficulties play a much more significant role.

These classes are open to OC Read learners. To register for a class, follow the "To RSVP" instructions below each description.



Learner Leadership Table

Saturday, December 10 @ 9 AM

Virtual Event

To RSVP, contact OC Read

Become a Learner Leader in this 1-hour Zoom meeting, where you will get to know your fellow learners and pave the way for future adult learners like you. For more details, contact the OC Read office.

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- Creating a new email account
- Typing/Mouse control exercises
- Learning how to use video calling
- Downloading audiobooks
- How to bookmark/favorite websites
- How to add attachments

... and much, much more! If you don't see your question above, that's okay. Call us anyway and ask if it's something we cover.

These events are open to the public. To register for an event, follow the "To RSVP" instructions below each description.




Recycled Book Crafts

Saturday, December 3 @ 10:30 AM
In-Person Event at Tustin Library
345 E. Main Street, Tustin, CA 92780
No RSVP required

Join us for crafting at the Tustin Library! Participants will be making items from recycled books. All materials will be provided. This program is intended for adults and their teenage, or older, family members.



Click on the picture to see the flyer!


Canvas Painting Program

Saturday, December 10 @ 11 AM
In-Person Event at Costa Mesa Donald Dungan Library
1855 Park Ave, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
To RSVP, contact OC Read or the Costa Mesa Donald Dungan Library

Hosted by Orange County based artist, Maria "Chuy" Sandoval. Participants will create a seasonal inspired painting on canvas. All supplies will be provided. Space is limited. This program is intended for participants ages 12 and up.

Click on the picture to see the flyers!



Family Literacy Tip



Breaking Words Down

One strategy that can help someone learn to read is to break words down into smaller, more [manageable](#) chunks. These chunks are known as [syllables](#). Syllables are a way to take a long word apart and just look at one small section at a time.

When learning to read, start with small, one-syllable words first, like "run" or "dog." Then, you can move on to two-syllable words (like "tutor" or "reading"), three-syllable words, and more!

Syllables can have many letters in them, but they only have one vowel sound. Not sure how many syllables are in a word? Try this trick. Put your hand under your chin and say a word out loud. Every time your jaw drops down and touches your hand, that marks a new syllable!

Knowing how syllables work can help you figure out how to both read and spell new words.

[Source](#)

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Examples

When writing out syllables, use a dash between the chunks.

✓ for-est

✓ cal-en-dar

✓ re-spect-ful

✓ ex-tra-ter-res-tri-al

Did you know?

One of the longest words in the English language has [17 syllables](#) and 45 letters in it! That's almost twice the length of the whole alphabet!



READING PRACTICE

Read the article, "For the First Time, A New Coin Honors an Asian American" on News For You, then complete the following exercises for a full reading skills workout.

Article: newsforyouonline.com/for-the-first-time-a-new-coin-honors-an-asian-american

Password: 0d1d44

CIRCLE THE CORRECT NUMBER OR WORD TO COMPLETE EACH SENTENCE BELOW.

1. Anna May Wong started acting when she was (14 / 24) years old.
2. Wong began acting during the time of (color / silent) films.
3. She played a Chinese American (doctor / lawyer) in "King of Chinatown."
4. She acted in more than (50 / 60) films before her death in 1961.
5. Wong's (daughter / niece) is named Anna after her famous aunt.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

If you have a quarter with you, take a look at it. What year is it from?

Have you ever been to the Hollywood Walk of Fame?

What woman would you like to see honored with the American Women Quarters Program?



- **Title:** Waxing On: The Karate Kid and Me
- **Author:** Ralph Macchio
- **Page Count:** 268

- "VERDICT Macchio's book will be enjoyed thoroughly by fans of the movie and those nostalgic for the time in which it was produced."
- - Library Journal Review



BOOK NOOK

Since *The Karate Kid* first crane-kicked its way into the pop culture [stratosphere](#) in June of 1984, there hasn't been a week Ralph Macchio hasn't heard friendly shouts of 'Wax On, Wax Off.' Now, with Macchio reprising his role as Daniel LaRusso in the Netflix show, *Cobra Kai*, Macchio is finally ready to look back at the movie that came to define him and give the fans something they've long craved.

A nostalgic story that will bring readers back to the day they first met Daniel LaRusso, Johnny Lawrence, and Mr. Miyagi, Macchio's memoir offers a fascinating lens into how our pasts shape all of us.

You can find the ebook here:

<https://ocpl.overdrive.com/media/8742771>

Want to take a deeper dive into Waxing On? Click here to listen to Ralph Macchio's interview with Penguin Random House.

(Runtime: 33 minutes).

Word Game

HINT: THIS CLASSIC BOARDGAME WAS ORIGINALLY CREATED IN 1860 AND WAS THE US'S FIRST POPULAR [PARLOUR](#) GAME.

G G J J E H B N V P F U C M P
C B B W P G G V Z L A M D W O
R U E V R K E Z T H M E D Y W
L V X I M R G L P V I J B A D
E J I P Z A E S L R L G X U R
R X Y M L M Z T R O Y C X I A
U I F O O U S A I Z C Z M B O
W C C N N T M C A R E E R V B
S T E R E N N I P S E W M W E
N Y N S X M E H P Q I M B V M
I Z S A Z Y B K A N K L E O A
W A S A L A R Y O W M O M N G
T J Z O E N N N J T Y Q I A T
S A N C G R U P I J Y Y N C G
U G P O V S D F N M S T E K J

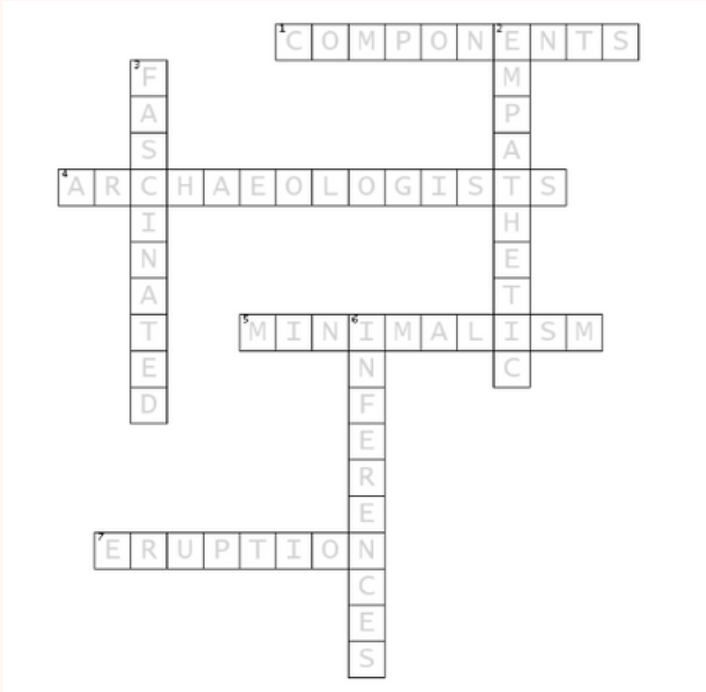
WORD BANK

assets
family
money
spinner

career
gameboard
retirement
token

college
married
salary
twins

Last Month's Answer Key



WORD GAME

Across

1. components
4. archaeologists
5. minimalism
7. eruption

Down

2. empathetic
3. fascinated
6. inferences

READING COMPREHENSION

Mount Vesuvius

1. c. Near Naples, Italy
2. b. A volcano that still erupts today
3. a. At least 21
4. c. As tall as the distance from Anaheim to Mission Viejo
5. b. More than 1600 years
6. a. How people lived in the past

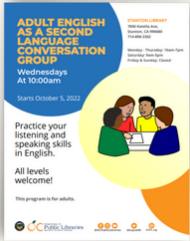
More Programs from OC Public Libraries

Career Online High School



Earn your high school diploma by taking classes online during times that are convenient for you. For more information, click on the flyer, or visit ocpl.org/page/career-online-high-school.

English Conversation Clubs



Join one of OC Public Libraries' many ESL conversation clubs. These clubs are a fun way to meet new people, learn new words, and share your skills. Click on the flyer for more details about the club at Stanton, or contact OC Read to find out if there is an English conversation club at a branch near you.

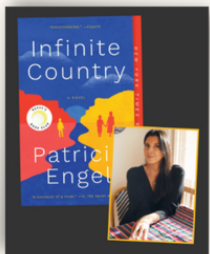
Meet Author Andrew Morton



OC Public Libraries will host Andrew Morton author of *The Queen: Her Life* on Thursday, December 1 at 6:30 pm at the Lake Forest Community Center. No reservations are required. Seating is first come, first served. Attendees will receive complimentary copies of the book, while supplies last.

The Lake Forest Community Center is located at:
100 Civic Center Dr.
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Meet Author Patricia Engel



Meet author Patricia Engel on December 8 at 6:30 pm at the Bowers Museum. Patricia Engel is the author of *Infinite Country*, a New York Times bestseller. No registration is required. Early arrival is suggested. Books will be available for purchase.

The Bowers Museum is located at:
2002 North Main Street
Santa Ana, CA 92706

714-566-3070

readoc@occr.ocgov.com | www.ocread.org