

Research Announcements (p.1)

[English as an additional language \(EAL\) study](#) p.1

Research Reports (p.1)

[Adult Literacy](#) p.1

[Arts and Literacy](#) p.2

[Community Education](#) p.2

[Embedding – Apprenticeship](#) p.2

[Numeracy](#) p.3

[Seniors](#) p.3

[Workplace Literacy and Essential Skills](#) p.4

[Young Adults](#) p.4

Keywords (p.5)

Announcements

English as an additional language (EAL) study

[NIACE](#) is carrying out research in the UK, commissioned by the [Skills Funding Agency](#) (SFA), on the impact of recent changes to ESOL (ESL) funding and fee remission. They are asking SFA-funded ESOL providers to fill out a questionnaire (available online) by November 11, 2011.

http://www.nrdc.org.uk/news_details.asp?NewsID=382

Keywords: English as an additional language (EAL); Funding; Government policy; National Institute for Adult Continuing Education (NIACE); Skills Funding Agency (SFA); United Kingdom

Reports

Adult Literacy

Adult Literacy Instruction: A Review of the Research is a follow-up to the original review of Adult Education (AE) reading instruction, *Research-Based Principles for Adult Basic Education Reading Instruction*, published in 2002. It presents findings based on studies that have been evaluated by the authors. The review has sections on reading assessment, alphabetics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.

Kruidenier, J. R., MacArthur, C. A., & Wrigley, H. S. (2010). *Adult Education Literacy Instruction: A Review of the Research*. Washington, DC: National Institute for Literacy. http://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/adult_ed_2010.pdf

Keywords: Fluency; Phonemic Awareness; Reading assessment; United States; Vocabulary

Arts and Literacy

Creating digital stories to enhance vocational learning

A New Zealand pilot study by [Ako Aotearoa](#) tried to improve the vocational learning and literacy development of learners using digital storytelling. The study found that having learners create their own digital stories supported their vocational learning and literacy development.

Alterio, M., Woodhouse, A. (2011) *Creating digital stories to enhance vocational learning*
<http://ako.aotearoa.ac.nz/digital-stories>

Keywords: Digital technology; New Zealand; Vocational education

Community Education

The Irish adult learning organization [Aontas](#) commissioned a study on community education in 2009, to examine the impact of community education in furthering three goals set for it by the Irish government: enhancing learning; fostering empowerment, and contributing to civic society. The study, which included a survey, case studies and interviews, found that community education achieved civic and social engagement (social capital) outcomes such as strengthening of social networks and of interpersonal trust and tolerance.

Community Education: more than just a course
<http://www.aontas.com/pubsandlinks/publications/community-education-more-than-just-a-course/>

Keywords: Community literacy; Social capital outcomes

Embedding – Apprenticeship

College Sector Committee for Adult Upgrading (CSC), & Durham College of Applied Arts and Technology (2011). *The State of Integrating Academic Upgrading into Pre-Apprenticeship Programming in Ontario's Colleges: Final report*. Retrieved October 12, 2011, from http://www.nald.ca/library/research/csc/integrating_au/integrating_au.pdf

This report comes out of a [College Sector Committee for Adult Upgrading](#) project. The project aim is to ensure that pre-apprenticeship students in Ontario's colleges get an "Academic Upgrading" (AU, or Essential Skills) component tailored to their trade and seamlessly connected to the trade component of the program. The report shows the current state of integration between AU and Apprenticeship for Pre-Apprenticeship programming. It also describes effective practices that are being used by AU faculty. The researchers surveyed AU heads in all 24 of Ontario's community colleges and also interviewed 10 AU faculty experienced at integrating AU into pre-apprenticeship

programs. They found that the most successful strategies involved strong communication and collaboration between the AU and pre-apprenticeship components of programs and using trades-relevant materials in AU.

Keywords: Apprenticeship; Canada, Embedding; Ontario; Postsecondary education; Vocational education

Numeracy

[Tackling the challenge of low numeracy skills in young people and adults](#)

[Olfstead](#) (UK) did a study of the quality of numeracy instruction for post-16-year-olds by 59 providers including colleges, independent providers, local authority providers, prisons and Probation trusts. It found that the most effective provision involved having good arrangements for initial assessment and clear strategies for promoting numeracy, and that instruction that was well integrated into vocational programs were the most successful. Successful providers of discrete numeracy instruction were those who targeted their instruction to particular groups of people.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/surveys-and-good-practice/t/Tackling%20the%20challenge%20of%20low%20numeracy%20skills%20in%20young%20people%20and%20adults.pdf>

Keywords: Embedding; Numeracy; Program assessment; United Kingdom; Vocational education; Young adults

Seniors

Literacy, Numeracy and Disadvantage among Older Adults in England

This [NRDC](#) report is based on research on the relationships between the literacy and numeracy levels of older adults and the extent of disadvantage in later life. The research consisted of a literature review and analysis of data from the [English Longitudinal Study of Aging](#) (ELSA). The review found that there was a lack of research information on various aspects of the literacy levels of adults aged over 65. The data analysis found that literacy and numeracy proficiency tended to decline with age, and that moving into retirement was not linked with proficiency once other factors had been controlled for. The researchers found that lower literacy was associated with low pay, and with poorer physical and mental health.

http://www.nrdc.org.uk/publications_details.asp?ID=187#

Keywords: England; Literacy proficiency; Literature reviews; Seniors; United Kingdom

Workplace Literacy and Essential Skills

Cameron, Marie, Hipkins, Rose, Lander, Josie, & Whatman, Jenny (2011). *The Transfer of Literacy, Language, and Numeracy Skills from Learning Programmes into the Workplace [Literature Review]*. Retrieved October 12, 2011, from http://www.nald.ca/library/research/transfer_skills/transfer_skills.pdf

This literature review is the first stage of a two-stage research project by the [New Zealand Council for Educational Research](#) (NZCER) for the Department of Labour. It examines the concept of learning transfer and how to find

evidence of it, and outlines what is known about factors that promote or constrain learning transfer in the workplace.

Keywords: Learning transfer; Literature reviews; New Zealand; Workplace learning

Young Adults

Factors linked to young adult literacy

What factors could explain variations in the literacy levels of young adults (aged 16-24) in New Zealand? These Ministry of Education published studies, based on the [ALL survey](#), found that home computer use was positively correlated with literacy levels, that there was no difference between native and immigrant New Zealanders (in contrast to a very large difference in the 25-65 age group), and that people who watched 5 or more hours a day of TV or video had lower literacy on average, as did people who never used a library.

Chris Lane (2011). *Factors Linked to Young Adult Literacy: Comparing the skills of the young with their elders*. New Zealand Ministry of Education. <http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/literacy/factors-linked-to-young-adult-literacy>

Chris Lane (2011). *Literacy skills of young adult New Zealanders: An analysis from the Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey*. New Zealand Ministry of Education. <http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/literacy/literacy-skills-of-young-adult-new-zealanders>

Keywords: Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey (ALL); New Zealand; Youth

Keywords

Aboriginal peoples
Adult education
Adolescents
Apprenticeship
Arts
Assistive technology
Book donations
Book reviews
Call for proposals
Case studies
Children's development
Children's literacy
Communication technology
Community literacy
Conferences
Digital skills
Digital technology
Disabilities
Easy to Read materials
Embedding
E-learning
English as an additional language (EAL)
Essential skills
Evaluation
Events
Family Literacy
'Financial literacy'
Fluency
Funders
Funding
Government policy
Health education

Health literacy
Health literacy curriculum
Immigrants
Informal learning
Labour education
Language learning
Learning disabilities
Learning transfer
Libraries
Literacy organizations
Literacy proficiency
Literacy promotion
Longitudinal studies
Mental health
Newsletters
Online portals
Periodicals
Phonemic Awareness
Pilot projects
Policy
Portfolios
Post-secondary education
Prison
Professional Development
Professionalization
Program Assessment
Publications
Reading
Reading assessment
Seniors
Social capital outcomes
Socioeconomic conditions
Teachers

Transformational learning

Vocabulary

Vocational education

Webinars

Workplace Literacy and Essential Skills (WLES)

Workplace learning

Workshops

Youth

Name keywords:

ABC Life Literacy Canada

Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey (ALL)

Alberta

Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC)

Australia

British Columbia

Canadian Apprenticeship Forum

Canadian Association for Prior Learning Assessment

Canadian Council on Learning (CCL)

Canadian Library Association (CLA)

Canadian Society for Training and Development (CSTD)

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

Centre for Workplace Skills

China

Collaborative Development Approaches (CODA)

CMEC

Community Literacy Ontario (CLO)

English Longitudinal Study of Aging (ELSA)

Family Literacy Day (FLD)

Frontier College

Good Reads [series]

Grass Roots Press

Health Literacy Missouri (HLM)

Health Literacy Month

Health Literacy Out Loud (HLOL)

Learn Canada 2020

Learn@Work Week

Learning Progressions series

Lifespeak Inc.

LINCS

Literacy Now

Manitoba

National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER)

National Institute for Adult Continuing Education (NIACE)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

New Brunswick

Northeast Edmonton Literacy Network

Office of Literacy and Essential Skills (OLES)

Ontario

Ontario Literacy Coalition (OLC)

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Prince Albert Literacy Network

People, Words & Change

Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)

Skills Funding Agency (SFA)

Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC)

United States