

[Family Literacy Month](#)



November is National Family Literacy Month—an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the important role that families play in the education of their children. This month we encourage you to explore our literacy resources and visit the Library with your family!

Family Literacy Month Giveaway

One of our favorite sets of children's book characters is the timeless Frog and Toad. Arnold Lobel wrote and illustrated countless children's books and received several awards for his work, including a Caldecott Medal, two Caldecott Honors, and a Newbery Honor.

In support of Family Literacy Month, we're giving away 40 copies of the classic early reader, Frog and Toad are Friends. We are also giving away two gift cards for a pair of one adult and one child tickets to [Cardinal Stage's upcoming production of A Year with Frog and Toad!](#) [Read more about Family Literacy Month](#)

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[Indiana's High School Equivalency Testing Changes](#)



Preparing for the High School Equivalency Test

What is a High School Equivalency Credential?

In the United States, adults who leave high school before graduation have another way to secure a high school equivalency credential. Through testing, you can demonstrate you have the same skills and knowledge as a high school graduate.

The [High School Equivalency \(HSE\)](#) is a high school diploma alternative aligning to current Indiana high school academics, preparing you for continuing education or employment. The assessment is based on five subject areas: math, reading, writing, science, and social studies. Workers with this credential earn an average of \$10,000 per year more than those without, helping them create a whole new future.

[Read more about Indiana's High School Equivalency Testing Changes](#)

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[Barb Fisher, VITAL Volunteer](#)



Barbara “Barb” Fisher, a dear friend of the VITAL program, passed away on April 1, 2021. Barb’s love of reading led her to VITAL in 2008, when she participated in training to teach English as a New Language to Bloomington newcomers. Over the next 12 years, Barb was a regular fixture at VITAL. As a one-on-one tutor, she volunteered with nine different English language learners, helping them improve their language skills and confidence while adjusting to life in the US. As an office volunteer, she welcomed new faces at the VITAL front desk and assisted with clerical work. As a Quiz Bowl player, she matched wits with Bloomington’s finest trivia brains, competing under the titles “Infosyndics” and “VITAL Statistics” among other creative monikers. Finally, as a generous donor and supporter, she anonymously sponsored teams and encouraged many to take part in the annual fundraising and advocacy event. Barb was one of a kind, and she was certainly “vital” to us. [Read more about Barb Fisher, VITAL Volunteer](#)

Posted by Paula G.O. on April 19, 2021 [Connect](#)

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[April 18–24 is National Volunteer Week](#)



National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to recognize and thank the volunteers who lend their time, talent, and voices to make a difference in our community! We are fortunate to have so many volunteers who are passionate about the Library's mission and generously share their skills in a variety of long-term and short-term commitments. [Read more about April 18–24 is National Volunteer Week](#)

Posted by Paula G.O. on April 16, 2021 [Bookstore](#)

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[Learn Basic Computer Skills with Northstar Learning](#)



The internet is everywhere, allowing you to work, play, and complete daily life tasks wherever there is WiFi. This is especially helpful in the age of physical distancing and mask-wearing.

For those with WiFi access, barriers may still exist. Some community members experience frustration with email and online forms, and concerns about internet safety, leaving them feeling increasingly isolated from social connections and workforce opportunities.

Do you have a friend or family member that could use a little help? VITAL's [Northstar Online Learning](#) teaches the basic computer skills needed to communicate using computers. Its free, self-paced courses offer step-by-step instruction, practice, and review for: [Read more about Learn Basic Computer Skills with Northstar Learning](#)

Posted by Aubrey D. on January 27, 2021 [Computers & Technology Help](#)

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[Downtown Library](#) | [812-349-3050](#)

303 E. Kirkwood Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47408

[Ellettsville Branch](#) | [812-876-1272](#)

[Tutoring](#)[VITAL](#)[Think Library](#)[Adults](#)[VITAL - Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners](#)

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[VITAL Receives \\$25,000 Donation from the Estate of Robert Klausmeier](#)



Last fall, [Volunteer in Tutoring Adult Learners \(VITAL\)](#) said goodbye to Robert (Bob) Edward Klausmeier, a long-time VITAL tutor and advocate, who passed away at the age of 93. Over the course of 23 years, Bob worked with

at least 30 learners, providing one-on-one tutoring to help adults achieve their personal literacy goals. This fall a \$25,000 donation from the estate of Bob Klausmeier was gifted to VITAL, ensuring that generations of future learners will benefit from his generosity. [Read more about VITAL Receives \\$25,000 Donation from the Estate of Robert Klausmeier](#)

Posted by Aubrey D. on September 18, 2020 [Library News](#)

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[VITAL Services Online](#)



The global pandemic has closed classroom doors around the world, but adult literacy and language services remain essential during this time of health crisis and uncertainty. According to [Proliteracy](#), over 36 million adults in the United States cannot read, write, or do basic math above a third grade level. Adults lacking these essential skills have increased vulnerability to COVID-19, and are at greater risk for financial instability and other social issues.

[Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners](#) (VITAL) provides learning opportunities for adults who want to improve their reading, writing, math, or English-language skills. In order to safely continue services, VITAL services online provides distance learning opportunities that are flexible and can adapt to changing circumstances. [Read more about VITAL Services Online](#)

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(function() { var x = document.createElement("script"); x.type = "text/javascript"; x.async = true; x.src = (document.location.protocol === "https:" ? "https://" : "http://") + "libraryh3lp.com/js/libraryh3lp.js?14734"; var y = document.getElementsByTagName("script")[0]; y.parentNode.insertBefore(x, y); })();
```

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