



# TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC. NEWS

## April 2015

Changing our World by Educating Kids  
Our hope is to see our Kids Moving Forward



*Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process by responding to school requests for direct classroom tutoring in reading, math, writing, and science as well as family support and activities that enhance the educational environment leading to scholastic achievement.*

**Ready for next year?** Classes are near the end. Let your school captains know if you are planning to return and if you want to stay with your teacher or change to a different grade or teacher.

**Tutor Applications for Fall 2015-2016** Your application depends on the county where you tutor. Here are the procedures for each county.

**Lake County** – if you have been approved your approval level is good for 3 years. If you are new to Lake County send us an email and we will send you the instructions.

**Marion County** – Requires a new application form each year. These will be published in August 2015. If you have told your school captain that you are returning to Marion County, we will email you the form as soon as it is ready.

**Sumter County (Wildwood)** – Requires a new application each year. **NOTE** we need to get you a form **ASAP**. To get a head start, we will submit them in June and have them processed in July. Remember Wildwood starts first week of August.

**New Schools for the Fall** – Yes, there are two new schools in Lake County requesting tutors for next year. They are both close to 90% Title One students. The schools are:

**Beverly Shores Elementary** – located on Griffin Road just before the split of SR 27 and 441. At the traffic light in front of Ramshackle's Restaurant turn left and go about 300 yards down on the left.

**Leesburg Elementary** - Located on SR 44 about 6 miles from the southern end Morse Boulevard.

Like all of our schools these two have described desperate academic situations that need our help. Please talk to your neighbors, friends, and groups about the need. Let us know their contact information, and we will do the rest.

**Middle School in the Fall** – Last year a few of our tutors wanted to work with middle school students. We are approaching Wildwood Middle School as a possibility. If you are interested let us know.

**End-of-the-Year Books** – Plan now for our final book distribution. We have a new supply of books. Since we have 275 tutors, we need some guidance and times.

**Book guidance** – If you are the only tutor in your class or your school captain has asked you to pick up books below is the schedule (if you haven't heard from your captain, it means you are the only tutor, and are the automatic delegate to get books).

### Days and Times for Book Pick-up

#### Wildwood

Tuesday, April 14, 9 – 12

Wednesday, April 15, 2-6

#### Belleview, Harbour View, Stanton Weirsdale, Belleview Santos, Marion Oaks, Legacy:

Thursday, April 16, 3 - 6;

Friday, April 17, 9 -12;

Saturday, April 18, 9 – 12;

Tuesday, April 21, 3 - 6

#### Fruitland Park, Villages at Lady Lake:

Wednesday, April 22, 3 – 6;

Thursday, April 23, 9 -12;

Friday, April 24, 1 - 3;

#### Wildwood

Sunday, April 26, 9 -12;

Monday, April 27, 1- 6;

Tuesday, April 28, 3- 6;

Friday, May 1, 1-3.

**If you miss your day, the FINAL DAY** is Tuesday, May 5, 3-6 PM. If you need to make special arrangements for pickup, call Frank and Carolyn at 352-245-9709.

**Village Club Meeting** –Wednesday May 6, 2015 at 3PM in Sterling Heights. A panel of experienced tutors share their triumphs and challenges. Then in grade level groups, share and learn from your peers. Make recommendations on strengthening individual tutoring skills and the Tutors for Kids Organization.

**Strategic Planning** - Our strategic planning committee will hold its second meeting on Tuesday, April 14 at 4PM

**Interesting Websites** – Constance Cordingley, tutor at Stanton Weirsdale and captain, has shared some great websites for you to obtain worksheets, fun games, and good learning tools – check them out on page 2.

### **Tutors for Kids**

**Frank Russo or Carolyn Ruhe - 352-245-9709**

**Website: [www.tutorsforkidsinc.org](http://www.tutorsforkidsinc.org)**

**Email: [tutorsforkids@att.net](mailto:tutorsforkids@att.net)**

## Tips for Tutoring

### Articles:

**Laura Kammer** - in a Washington Post article dated March 30, 2015 talks about local education and the effect that volunteers can accomplish helping elementary school students improve their reading skills She is quoting some of the results from the Minnesota Reading Corp evaluation of several of these tutoring programs.

The link below will bring you to the study. (To get to the link hold the CTL key down on your keyboard and click the link with your mouse.)

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/can-volunteers-help-kids-read-more-proficiently-new-research-says-yes/2015/03/28/7141c57c-c4ec-11e4-ad5c-3b8ce89f1b89\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/can-volunteers-help-kids-read-more-proficiently-new-research-says-yes/2015/03/28/7141c57c-c4ec-11e4-ad5c-3b8ce89f1b89_story.html)

**Minnesota Reading Corps Evaluation.** This is an introductory summary of the article cited by Laura Krammer above. Within the article are multiple links to other studies.

“More than two-thirds of fourth grade students in the United States -- as many as six million children -- do not read proficiently. The problem is most acute for children living in poverty, children of color, English language learners, and children with disabilities.

The implications are profound: Third grade marks the pivotal point when children transition from “learning to read” to “reading to learn.” Children who can’t read by then struggle more with the increasingly complex, multidisciplinary information introduced in later grades. **Those who read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to graduate from high school than those who don’t.**”

### So you think students not knowing fractions is a new phenomenon?

Here is an excerpt from an article by Elizabeth Green in the New York Times July 23, 2014 which we mentioned in the March newsletter

“One of the most vivid arithmetic failings displayed by Americans occurred in the early 1980s, when the A&W restaurant chain released a new hamburger to rival the McDonald’s Quarter Pounder. With a third-pound of beef, the A&W burger had more meat than the Quarter Pounder. In taste tests, customers preferred A&W’s burger. And it was less expensive.

A lavish A&W television and radio marketing campaign cited these benefits. Yet instead of leaping at the great value, customers snubbed it. Only when the company held customer focus groups did it become clear why. The Third Pounder presented the American public with a test in fractions. And we failed. Misunderstanding the value of  $\frac{1}{3}$ , customers believed they were being overcharged. Why, they asked the researchers, should they pay the same amount for a third of a pound of meat as they did for a quarter-pound of meat at McDonald’s. The “4” in “ $\frac{1}{4}$ ,” was larger than the “3” in “ $\frac{1}{3}$ ,” it led them astray.”

### Links to Web Sites:

<http://www.dltk-cards.com/>  
<http://handwritingworksheets.org/>  
<http://printstationary.net>  
[www.activityvillage.co.uk](http://www.activityvillage.co.uk)  
<http://www.brainykids.org>  
[www.kidprintables.com](http://www.kidprintables.com)  
[www.k12reader.com](http://www.k12reader.com)  
[www.kidzone.ws/tracers](http://www.kidzone.ws/tracers)  
<http://kidsworksheets.org>  
[www.handwritingforkids.com](http://www.handwritingforkids.com)

### Florida Standards Assessment (replacing FCAT) repeated from March Newsletter:

Use the following links to get to new 2015 Florida Standards educational site: Look around it can be a little confusing.

<http://www.flstandards.org/>  
(To get to the link hold the CTL key down on your keyboard and click the link with your mouse.). Select Teachers. Check out what is being taught in each grade. This month check out the Math section. Also check out the math videos for each grade by going to the “Video Gallery” on the top line. (Note Language Arts is not ready yet).

**Learning Farm** - Florida has adopted the Mathematics Florida Standards (MAFS) and Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS). The Florida Standards Assessments will be used in schools during the 2014-2015 school year.

This is the link to their site: (To get to the link hold down the CTL key and click on the link with the mouse).

<http://www.learningfarm.com>

Select ‘product tour’. Select Florida as the State, Select “quick test drive”. Select Third Grade Math exercise.

**Look at a sample of multiplication- division exercises for each grade to help you understand what is coming in the next grade for your student.**