



Learning for Life

ADULT LEARNING IN INVERNESS

April 2016

Read On Get On

Positive Male Role Models – Shared Reading Project in Partnership with Highland Primary Schools

Read On Get On (2014) and **Children: Researching the Links Between Poverty and Literacy** (2007) both highlight the power of male role models (and more specifically fathers) in engaging children through reading for enjoyment. Six Adult Learners, already engaging with High Life Highland, took the next step on their learning journey by using their skills as emerging readers to read each week with Primary 1 and Primary 4 children in Highland Primary Schools. Through the completion of an SQA Volunteering Skills Award, delivered by Adult Learning, the volunteers were supported through sessions on personal experiences of reading for enjoyment and shared reading with children. The volunteers developed their own literacy skills throughout the training programme. Following the training, volunteers visited schools once a week for eight weeks to read with children. During the project the volunteers were encouraged to continually reflect on their own developing literacy skills, their experience as a volunteer, the training they've undertaken and the support that they've received.



Positive outcomes for volunteers and children were measured throughout the project. Volunteers demonstrated an increased confidence in their literacy skills and an increased enthusiasm for

reading for enjoyment. The experience of having a positive male role model for the children encouraged an interest in reading for enjoyment and developed their skills around developing positive relationships, literacy and independent reading skills. The group of six Adult Learners have gone on to achieve accreditations and many are now seeking to develop their skills towards a career working with children.

The project was delivered in partnership with Highlife Highland Libraries and Highland Primary Schools, developing positive links across services to work in collaboration to tackle intergenerational low levels of literacy in the local community.

Volunteer Tutor Training

12 volunteers recently completed Adult Learning Tutor Training: PDA *Supporting Adult Literacies Learning* (SALL) in Inverness. Tutors are now qualified community-based Adult Learning Literacies volunteers and are delivering one-to-one and small group learning to adults in the local community.



Learning for Life

ESOL Skills for Work

A small group of learners aged between 16 and 25 completed an SQA Core Skills: Working with Others as part of a holistic programme of learning delivered in partnership with Barnardo's Works. The project was funded by the Adult Learning Commissioned Classes fund and gave 5 speakers of other languages the opportunity to develop their employability skills, confidence and self-esteem, and English language skills. All 5 learners have now moved towards positive destinations such as full time employment, Modern Apprenticeships, volunteering, and the Employability Fund.



Coming Soon! Summer Programme 2016

A pick'n'mix programme of events including:

- Crafts for Kids – Family Learning
- Healthy Cooking on a Budget
- Get More From Your Smart Tech
- Intercultural Language Café
- Shared Reading
- and much more!

Currently:

- **We engage regularly with 203 Adult Learners**
- **We deliver 95 contact hours per week**
- **22 learners are working towards Scottish Qualification Awards**

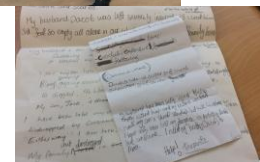
Our Stories



"I worked on skills I haven't thought about since school. It was more than just writing a story." – Jo, Learner

Focusing on themes of citizenship, participation and conflict *Our Stories* explored the tales of Culloden Battlefield by discovering the characters, objects and history of the area through creative writing and storytelling. A group of Adult Learners each developed, through active learning and creativity, a piece of Flash Fiction that speaks of their own experiences of exploring Culloden Battlefield and marks the 270th anniversary of the Battle of Culloden. The group were joined by published author and storyteller, Grace Banks, who delivered 3 inspiring and engaging creative workshops. The project was delivered in partnership with the National Trust for Scotland and was funded by the Adult Learning Commissioned Classes fund and The Scottish Book Trust's Live Literature fund.

The group have produced a display of their work, now on exhibition at Culloden Battlefield, and a publication to mark their achievements.



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