

PACT PROGRESS

The newsletter of Parents and Children Together  Volume 11, DECEMBER 2006

The 2006 year is off to a great start with the arrival of our PACT manual "Reading is NOT Enough!" This 450 page book outlines the PACT program and is filled with practical information. The basic premise of the book is that if children learn, and adults go back and relearn, the fundamental academic basics to the point of *mastery*, they will become **confident, independent** learners. Some of these basics include: penmanship, sight words, phonics, structure in writing, math basics, and comprehension. "Reading is NOT Enough!" is a valuable resource for all educators and is useful for therapeutic, remedial, and enrichment purposes. It is excellent for homeschoolers and makes a great gift from grandparents.

Table of contents for Reading is Not Enough

assessments, teaching material, teaching procedures, games, questions and comments, timetables

- Chapter 1 - Evaluation - *Have I mastered the basics?*
- Chapter 2 - Mastering Penmanship - *Do people want to read my writing?*
- Chapter 3 - Mastering Sight Words - *Speed and accuracy are needed!*
- Chapter 4 - Mastering Concept Words - *Basic comprehension concept words*
- Chapter 5 - Mastering Phonetics - Key Sounds - *Primary decoding tools*
- Chapter 6 - Mastering Phonetics - Alphabet Team Mastery - *What are my choices?*
- Chapter 7 - Mastering Phonetics - Word Endings - *The final touches*
- Chapter 8 - Mastering Phonemes - Sound Discrimination - *Improve your ear!*
- Chapter 9 - Mastering Basic Spelling Rules - *Good spelling is impressive!*
- Chapter 10 - Mastering Syllables - *Become a superb word decoder!*
- Chapter 11 - Mastering Irregular Verbs - *A must for ESL students!*
- Chapter 12 - Mastering Basic Sentence Openers - *There are more than subject openers!*
- Chapter 13 - Mastering Basic Sentence Dress-Ups - *Add colour to your sentences!*
- Chapter 14 - Mastering the Narrative Story Model - *Tell a good story!*
- Chapter 15 - Mastering the Essay Model - *End the temptation to plagiarize!*
- Chapter 16 - Mastering Comprehension - *Making sure I understand what I read.*
- Chapter 17 - Mastering Math Basics - *Overcome the fear of solving word problems.*
- Chapter 18 - Theme approach - *Mastering the basics through themes I enjoy.*
- Chapter 19 - Timetables - *Record keeping*



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Mastering Education Basics
for Parents and Children Together



Developing JOY in Sharing!

A letter from our Founder and Director, Hellen Codling:



JOY in Sharing

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. Children look forward to receiving gifts and we, as parents, enjoy the process of buying gifts for them. We put a lot of thought and effort into these gifts (as well as money). Giving to our children is something we gladly do even when it means going without ourselves. We like the adage:

"It is better to give than to receive."

In what ways can we begin to help our children understand and incorporate this action of giving and sharing into their lives? We can discuss with them ways they might share, but what is their understanding of sharing and giving? Are they only interested in giving away their "cast offs" and old things? Would they like to make things with their own hands to give, or would they rather shop for gifts using money they have earned or saved? Each child is different and will be at a different stage of development than another, so work on the concept of sharing with each one. We can help our children to think of ways they can share with someone else in the home, in the neighbourhood, at school, in their church, at the hospital or at a distance?

Since many people celebrate the Christmas season in many different ways, this time can be an opportunity for us to focus on others and learn about their traditions. We can also share the things that we have learned. Joy in learning and sharing is a gift which is lasting.

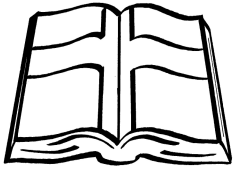
As we enter this new 2007 year, we at PACT look forward to meeting new people and encountering new adventures while we seek to help children achieve academic excellence. Children love to learn but do get frustrated and discouraged. When we help children get past this frustration and discouragement and see that love of learning return, seeing the smiles on their faces and the sparkles in their eyes are the gifts we receive.

May the truth and wonder of Christmas be in your thoughts and actions throughout this joyous season of sharing.

Sincerely,

Hellen Codling

Bible Alphabet Mastery



Kk

Kk - Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
- Exodus 20:8

Aa - Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find. - **Matthew 7:7**

Bb - Be still, and know that I am God. - **Psalm 46:10**

Cc - Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you. - 1 Peter 5:7

Dd - Discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid. - Proverbs 12:1

Ee - Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. - Psalm 145:13

Ff - Honor your Father and your mother. - Exodus 20:12

Gg - Give us today our daily bread. - Matthew 6:11

Hh - The Lord looks at the heart. - 1 Samuel 16:7

Ii - Choose my instruction instead of silver. - Proverbs 8:10

Jj - Shout for joy to the LORD all the earth. - Proverbs 8:10

Kk - Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. - Exodus 20:8

Bible Alphabet Suggestions:

- Review the bible verses for the letters Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee, Ff, Gg, Hh, Ii, and Jj.
- Students love to point at each word with a flashlight or laser light.
- Review the colors of the rainbow. Clap a rhythm as you say this verse:
- Red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. Don't forget indigo and violet too.
- Teaching Idea: Teach the days of the week. Older children can learn the spelling of each. Break up the word into syllables: **Wed - nes - day** This makes it easier to spell. Name the syllables: **C C VT** (Refer to the Syllables book if necessary.)
- Complete this story:

This year Christmas Eve is on Sunday, which is also the Sabbath Day. In our house
