

# PACT PROGRESS

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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 promotes motivation**



Written by Hellen Codling  
Edited and Illustrated by  
Deborah James

**M**astering Education Basics  
for Parents and Children Together



## Developing **JOY** in Learning!

pact@canwan.com

parentsandchildrentogether.ca

306-484-2255

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## JOY in Learning

### Is there a difference between 'joy' and 'fun'?



Summer is over and school is about to begin. As I reflect on what has occurred over the summer months I have been thinking more about the difference between the concept of 'joy' and 'fun'. The apostle Paul experienced 'joy' in prison but not 'fun'. How do these words relate to our children's academic achievement? Having 'fun' was the chief goal of many students over the summer. In many cases this was fleeting and not very satisfying as they found the times in between 'having fun' boring. However, it was not 'cool' to keep learning over the summer because this was holiday time and not meant for continued learning for many students!

At Arlington Beach Family Camp Doug and I led a seminar in the mornings using the videos on *Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Ted and Paul Tripp. Because our goal is to teach our children to 'obey' and 'work' as unto the Lord from the heart we learned that many of our strategies are not Biblically based and we too need to learn to change our behavior. Nurturing and teaching our children is a process and as parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles etc. we continue to strive to teach our children to serve our Master Teacher in the way that will please Him. Our discussions on Biblical ways of teaching and nurturing were interesting and fruitful.

During the afternoon students came to learn and found 'joy' in mastering concepts and skills needed to achieve academic excellence in learning. Some students wanted to be 'first' to come to the cabin to do assessment test. Others came because of their parent's choice. However, as we worked over the week it was a joy to see the children change in their attitudes and achievement scores as they achieved 100% Mastery.

eg. "Look! This sentence really looks neater today, Mom!"  
 "Wow! I got 100% on the Short and Long Vowel Test!"  
 "Now, I know what a schwa sound is!"

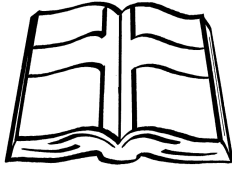
I am sure their 'fun' activities during the day took on a new meaning too!

Yes, learning takes effort (work) but the results bring 'joy' in learning. How wonderful when a student goes home 'bubbling with excitement' because he has achieved mastery! Parents are beginning to realize that learning that always has to be 'fun' has not resulted in academic excellence. Poor spelling skills result in 'embarrassing moments' and inadequate decoding skills result in students preferring to play video games and watching TV rather than reading because they cannot read at an independent level. As a parent, let PACT help you bring "joy in learning" in your children's academic year.

Sincerely,

*Hellen Codling*

# Bible Alphabet Mastery



## Hh

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

## The Bible Alphabet

A - <u>Ask</u> and it will be given to you; seek and you will find. - Matthew 7:7
B - Be still, and know that I am God. - Psalm 46:10
C - <u>Cast</u> all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you. - 1 Peter 5:7
D - <u>Discipline</u> loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid. - Proverbs 12:1
E - Your kingdom is an <u>everlasting</u> kingdom. - Psalm 145:13
F - Honor your <u>Father</u> and your mother. - Exodus 20:12
G - <u>Give</u> us today our daily bread. - Matthew 6:11
H - The Lord looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

### Bible Alphabet Suggestions:

- Review the bible verses for the letters Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee, Ff and Gg. Long term memory is developed through review.
- Review these verses regularly. Any words you do not know you can add to your personal spelling box.

Notice the **red color** used to trace the Bible verse. We are now redoing the pattern of



Red, orange, yellow, green, and blue,  
Don't forget indigo, and violet too!

**Teaching Idea:** Cut out shapes of a heart. Fold a paper in half and draw a 'c' on the fold. On each heart print the fruits of the spirit. (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.- Galatians 5:22 During the week print on each heart how you showed this attribute.  
**Include the whole family and share during family devotions.**