



AVKO Educational Research Foundation Newsletter

News from AVKO

November 5th, 2008

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Dear AVKO Subscriber:

We hope that everyone has a safe, festive, and exciting holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

December's Book of the Month is on the Student Response Book for Sequential Spelling. Get 10% off (32.5% off for members) until the end of December.

Also, due to its popularity, we have decided to continue the special on e-books. Get 10% off (10% for members as well) on ALL e-books until the end of December.

See the [Book of the Month](#) page for more information.

Teaching Readings for Comprehension

An Article by Don McCabe

Before we can teach "reading comprehension" we must first understand what it is we want to teach. It certainly is NOT teaching kids to answer a list of ten questions after reading a story or even just a paragraph. What we want to do is to teach our children to THINK as they are reading. Merely hearing a dull monotone voice in our heads does not constitute thinking. It's merely hearing as opposed to listening. Listening is thinking as we are hearing. Comprehending is thinking AS we are reading.

One way to develop the habit of thinking as we are reading (not after!) is to every day have your children read at least one funny cartoon, one joke, one riddle, one good pun, (or even one really bad pun) as in [#20 on the website](#) where it reads: "And finally, there was the person who sent twenty different puns to his friends, with the hope that at least ten of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did."

[Read the rest of this article online](#)

View our Section on [Readings for Comprehension](#) for scores of more

exercises you can use with your children. We also have made reading comprehension exercises that you can use with your children straight out of the Bible! See our [Biblical Reading Exercises](#).

See also [Word Families in Sentence Context](#) for sentences based on [The Patterns of English Spelling](#) and your spelling words from [Sequential Spelling](#).

Member Freebies Updated!

Volumes 6 and 8 of *The Patterns of English Spelling with Word Families in Sentence Context* are now available for download in the members' section of the website. These volumes are still being edited and proofed for accuracy, but they are available for your use all the same. Login to the [membership section](#) now to download and use these volumes with your language arts curriculum.

[Become a member](#) to access these materials and much more, including a 25% discount on every order for a year, or 32.5% on the current [Book of the Month](#).

Get Involved; Join the Fight against Illiteracy

AVKO is looking for "disciples" to help spread the word about AVKO, our mission to fight dyslexia and illiteracy, and all of the resources that we provide to our community and the world with our physical and cyber locations. We will be launching a new section of the website especially for people like you who want to become involved, or already have, but need some direction or more resources.

AVKO is also looking for people who would like to become active, voting board members. There are no qualifications for being a board member other than having a passion for fighting illiteracy and dyslexia; you needn't even physically attend board meetings -- we can utilize technology to communicate. We need people to tell people about AVKO and its services, find new distributors, find donors, and make connections with other non-profits, schools, homeschool resource centers, and literacy centers.

If you are interested in becoming a Board Member, volunteering, or helping AVKO in any way that you can, please [contact us](#) or simply reply to this e-mail.

Ways to Get Involved Immediately:

- Forward this e-mail on to your friends, family, co-workers, teachers, schools, libraries, literacy centers, or whomever else you think would benefit or be interested in AVKO's missions.
- Visit our website if you haven't done so in a while. We are constantly adding more content and resources for our members and the general public.

- Forward the links to specific pages of interest on to your friends, family, etc.
- Contact your local centers that don't carry AVKO materials or have never heard of us, tell them about our materials and how they have helped you and your students/children.
- Blog about AVKO and write reviews on homeschooling and book publishers' websites.

Make Your Last-Minute Tax Deductible Contribution

AVKO is a 501(c)3 non-profit, membership organization. Any contributions that you make to AVKO (including the membership dues) are tax-deductible. With only a week left in the year, there is still time to make your tax-deductible contribution to AVKO and save a bit come tax time in April. See the [donation](#) page to donate online.

Not Sure Where to Start with AVKO Books?

If you are not sure where to start with AVKO's materials for language arts, handwriting, keyboarding, and reference, we have a new section devoted to you: The [QuickStart page](#) shows in a simple matrix the different materials that we have for each subject matter (reading, spelling, handwriting, keyboarding, and reference). The QuickStart page also has a link to the [Information for your Situation](#) page, which gives different scenarios that may match the situation you are in and gives recommendations on where to start based on that.

Send these links to your friends and family who are just learning about AVKO.

Help AVKO out while you do your Holiday shopping

While money's tight this recession-affected Christmas season, you can still help AVKO out as you do your normal holiday shopping online.

Navigate to the [GoodShop](#) site, enter "AVKO" into the "Who[m] do you search for?" text box and click submit. Then click on the store's website (FROM the GoodSearch/GoodShop site) and shop as normal. AVKO will receive a donation with each purchase that you make on the GoodShop affiliate sites.

Sincerely,

Brian McCabe,
Operations Manager,
AVKO Educational Research Foundation

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