



The Appalachian Reading Center, Inc.

440 3rd Avenue
South Charleston, WV 25303
304/744-8188

Dear Parent,

As you look at tutoring programs for your child, there are many factors to consider: quality of programs offered, your feelings towards staff, appropriate match of environment to your child's needs, scheduling options, cost, and cancellation/make-up policies.

At The Appalachian Reading Center, Inc., both co-directors have masters degrees in Special Education and are certified in The Wilson Reading System (WRS). Wilson is based on the work of Samuel T. Orton, a neurologist who developed a system of teaching sounds and mastering syllables in the 1920s. Orton-Gillingham based methods such as WRS are recommended in publications such as Parenting a Struggling Reader, by Moats and Hall, Overcoming Dyslexia by Shaywitz and The International Dyslexia Association (interdys.org). We also offer instruction using Handwriting Without Tears materials.

If your child has a language-based learning disability, diagnosed or undiagnosed, instruction will be effective when it is consistent and frequent. Over time, your child will make marked improvements in reading and spelling. We do not promise a "quick fix" to reading problems, nor do we claim to "cure" reading problems or dyslexia. With appropriate instruction, hard work and support from highly trained teachers and family, individuals with reading problems can succeed in school and later in life.

Our sessions are 50 to 65 minutes long, and can be scheduled during the day (frequently done for home schooled or college students), afternoons, evenings and Saturdays. We offer both individual and small group tutoring. Students must schedule at least two sessions per week. We offer more intensive instruction during the summer months.

The first step, after reviewing all tutoring options in the area, is to decide whether or not our Center is right for your child. If after reading this information and talking with a Co-director, you decide that this is the best option available, return the enclosed Student Information Form. Once we receive that, we will call to schedule a 45-minute intake evaluation. At that time, we will have your child work on reading, writing and spelling activities to determine strengths and weaknesses. The intake is done in a non-threatening, supportive manner, and is not treated as a "test" or something to be feared. After that, your child will be matched with a tutor as soon as possible. This generally takes two to six weeks depending upon what is right for your child.

We have enclosed a Student Information Form, our brochure and a checklist of items for you to read. Please feel free to call with any questions.

Best wishes,
Jennifer Carriger and Lori Dubrawka

