

ESL Newsletter

Appalachia IU8

Volume I, Issue 5

March/April 2004

What is an “LEP?”

A limited English proficient (LEP) student is a child ...

- Not born in the United States, and comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant;
- Or whose native language is a language other than English and comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant;
- Or is a Native American or Alaska Native who is a native resident of remote areas, and comes from an environment where the language is not English, and this has had a significant impact on the child’s level of English language proficiency;

• Or is migratory, and whose native language is not English and comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant; and who has sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language, and whose difficulties may deny such individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms or to participate fully in our society where the language of instruction is English.

An Interesting LEP Fact

Did you know that in the 2000 census there were over 3 million LEP students in the United States?

Technology Focus: www.esl-lounge.com

This website contains a wealth of information for ESL teachers and content area teachers who have ESL students. The focus of the entire site is getting students to learn more effectively. If you are a teacher or administrator, you may sign up for their free online newsletter.

The website also contains links for materials available for purchase, but it also has free lesson plans, quizzes, tests, board games, flashcards, etc. that are easily printed out. There are reading comprehension and writing activities, as

well. All the activities are based on grade level or proficiency level. There is also a section that will assist you in finding the proper teaching materials for your ESL students.



Appalachia Intermediate Unit 8

Board of Directors

Arlene DeSalvo
President

Walter Betar
Vice President

B. Wayne Lohr
Assistant Secretary

Ridley Banks

Mary Gouse

Jeffrey Haggerty

Douglas Henger

Dorothy Hershberger

Laurie Lafferty

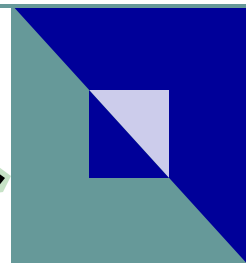
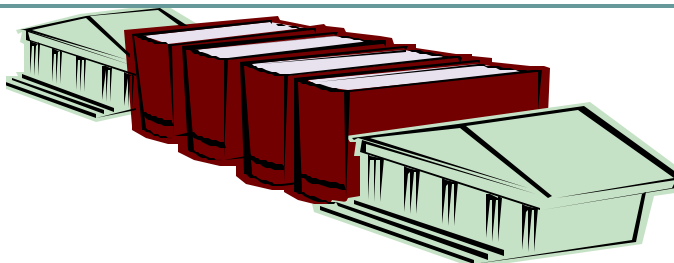
Edward Pruchnic

John E. Shaffer

Gerald Slick

Louis Tuscano

Appalachia IU8



Curriculum, Training and Development Services

Dr. Kay Meyers

Assistant Executive Director
814-940-0223 (ext. 356)
akm@iu08.org

Laura J. Toki

Assistant Director of Curriculum
814-940-0223 (ext. 338)
toki@iu08.org

Leonard J. Shurin

Curriculum and Staff Developer
814-940-0223 (ext. 339)
ljs@iu08.org

What is an “Immigrant?”

Immigrant children and youth are students who:

- Are aged 3 through 21
- Not born in any U.S. state
- Have not been attending school in the U.S. for more than 3 full academic years.

In 1982, the Supreme Court ruled in *Plyer v. Doe*, 1982, that under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, all immigrant children, even if here illegally, cannot be deprived of a public education. This ruling, of course, has had a major impact on education in the U.S.

Feature Teacher Spotlight



Our featured teacher for this newsletter is Mary Ann Flynn, a talented teacher in the Somerset School District.

Mary Ann teaches Spanish and ESL as

part of her duties. Currently, she is busy working with 14 LEP children!

Besides teaching, she is the coordinator of the Foreign Language Department, and has also been an Advisor for the National Junior Honor Society and a Spanish Club Advisor. Mary Ann has even taken students on a field trip to Mexico.

This is not surprising for Mary Ann, who has studied abroad in Spain and Mexico. She also tutors privately for Latino students who are learning Spanish, offering a much-needed service in the community. Mary Ann enjoys

helping LEP students adjust to our culture, and she also enjoys learning the cultures of the students.

Mary Ann is a Pennsylvania native. She was born in Pittsburgh and grew up in Erie, although she now lives in Somerset Borough, close to the school where she teaches.

Mary Ann is a caring teacher, and her students are thrilled to be in her classroom. She works tirelessly to provide a quality education to her students.

On the personal side, Mary Ann loves people. She has a pet cat that she loves, too. Mary Ann likes to sing, and she believes that humor is important in everyone's life. The Somerset community is very fortunate to have a fine educator like Mary Ann Flynn!



ESL Humor

What is the longest word in the English language?

SMILES
It has a mile between its first and last letters!