

## Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement (M4RA) News 4 You

October 2014

*"The Mentors are reinforcing skills that the trained experienced Teachers have already taught in the classroom", Deborah Theirl, English Language Arts Curriculum Consultant K-12/SST8 Consultant*

**Upcoming M4RA Professional Development:** go to [M4RA Upcoming Professional Development](#). A complete listing is at the end of this edition of News 4 You.

**Finding the newly uploaded *Tutoring and Mentoring Packs* on [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com)**

- Go to [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com) and enter your Member Login.
- On left side of home page, place your cursor on "Resources"
- At the bottom of the drop down window place your cursor on "Instructional Uses".
- The window opens to the right and click on Tutoring and Mentoring Packs.

**Single Session Packs on [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com):** Alphabet, Phonological Awareness, and High Frequency Words will remain Single Session Packs available on [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com)

**Additional Packs:** 190 Multi-Session Packs are now available on [www.readinga-z.com](http://www.readinga-z.com)

**Fluency Passages B-E:** Fluency passages for readers below a mid-first grade reading level are available here: [M4RA Fluency Passages B-E](#)

**Single Session Reading-tutor Packets:** For those still using the Single Session Packets there are 134 packets for Levels aa-Z. These packets will only be available for a limited time on [www.Reading-tutors.com](http://www.Reading-tutors.com)

**Reading Mentoring Partnership:** Please email [amy.freeman@m4ra.org](mailto:amy.freeman@m4ra.org) if you would like support for your mentoring program. There is **no school agreement or contract** required for any school or organization.

**Unsubscribe:** Please reply to this email and type "*Unsubscribe*" in the Subject area if you would like to be removed from our database for future mailings.

**Reminder to Create Your Own Name:** All schools that would like our support are strongly encouraged to create their own name for their mentoring program in order to sustain their program into the future. Students, staff, parents, and community will relate to the program as belonging to their district. Following are some of the names that schools are using: "*The Reading Zone*", "*Bobcats PAWS 2 Read*", "*Mentor a Pirate*", "*Inspire*", and "*WILDCAT READERS*", "*Pirate-2-Pirate*", "*R.A.D. Read and Discover*", "*Readers 2 Leaders*", "*CATS Read*", "*B.A.R.K. Building Achievement by Reading with Kids*", "*Project Pride*", "*Falcons SOAR Students for Outstanding Achievement in Reading*" and "*MSS Middle School Success*"

**Name Your Mentor Program Contest:** A school shared they were having a contest for naming their mentoring program. Students submitted ideas and logos to name their mentoring program and a panel of judges (including community members) will select the winning entry.

**Upcoming Trainings Available from the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD):**

November 6, 2014 - OCECD's 12th Annual Partnering for Progress Conference "*You Can't Fight the Frontal Lobe!... What ALL Adult Brains Should Know About All Children Brains*" Register here <http://www.cvent.com/d/94qvcc/4W>

**Entrance Criteria:** Schools can determine their own entrance criteria based on the population of students reading below grade level that they want to serve.

**Annual License Fee:** Schools requesting our support can receive a reduced annual license fee for the [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com) website. This annual license fee is \$79.95. Please contact [amy.freeman@m4ra.org](mailto:amy.freeman@m4ra.org) or toll free 844.220.1647 for this reduced rate.

**Upcoming Trainings:**

**M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #1**

The M4RA Mentoring Instruction Session #1 is the initial session to learn about the M4RA mentoring program. During this professional development, participants will be instructed on the research and value of 1:1 reading mentoring for students with disabilities and students at-risk for reading failure. Participants will learn ways to involve the community, parents, and school peers to help students improve their reading and self-confidence. Administrators are encouraged to attend with those chosen to coordinate/help plan the beginnings of mentoring in their school(s) and/or organization. Attendees will receive 6 contact hours.

**Goals:** Attendees will gain an understanding and functional knowledge to implement a 1:1 reading mentoring program.

**Objectives:**

- Attendees will be instructed in the overview of M4RA and [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com).
- Attendees will be given ideas about how to select, assess and track students.
- Attendees will learn about [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com) materials including Alphabet, Phonological Awareness, Phonics, High Frequency Words, Comprehension and Fluency/Comprehension Packs.
- Attendees will be instructed how to make and use individualized lesson plans that correlate to the needs and pace of each student.
- Attendees will be instructed about ideas for recruiting mentors and how to train mentors by Role Playing a mentoring session.
- Attendees will be shown ideas to spread information about its Mentoring Program to teachers, parents, administrators, school board, and community members.
- Attendees will be instructed how to use the [www.M4RA.org](http://www.M4RA.org) and [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com) websites.

**->Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at SST11/Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (ESCCO), 2080 Citygate Drive, Columbus, OH 43219. Room 145**

8:45-9 Registration

9-3:00 M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #1

There will be a 30 minute working lunch which will be provided.

Please bring your own beverages.

To register: email Debby Ambroza at [debby.ambroza@m4ra.org](mailto:debby.ambroza@m4ra.org) by October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to reserve your space. Please send names, school districts/organizations, and positions. Also, send a contact cell/home number in case there are any last minute changes.

**->Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at Bowling Green City Schools, TBD, Bowling Green, OH 43402.**

8:45-9 Registration

9-3:00 M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #1

There will be a 30 minute working lunch which will be provided.

Please bring your own beverages.

To register: email Debby Ambroza at [debby.ambroza@m4ra.org](mailto:debby.ambroza@m4ra.org) by February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 to reserve your space. Please send names, school districts/organizations, and positions. Also, send a contact cell/home number in case there are any last minute changes.

## **M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #2**

The M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #2 is a follow up to the initial Instruction Session #1. During this professional development, participants will review the research and value of 1:1 reading mentoring for students with disabilities and students at-risk for reading failure. This 3 hour session is to review the Resource Guide Book, answer questions, and share the knowledge learned from each other. Role play of a mentoring session is included. Those working with the school's/organization's mentoring program are encouraged to attend. Attendees will receive 3 contact hours.

**Goals:** Attendees will review to gain an understanding and functional knowledge to implement a 1:1 reading mentoring program.

**Objectives:**

- Attendees will review and discuss ideas about how to select, assess and track students.
- Attendees will review and discuss [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com) materials including Alphabet, Phonological Awareness, Phonics, High Frequency Words, Comprehension and Fluency/ Comprehension Packs.
- Attendees will review and discuss how to make and use individualized lesson plans that correlate to the needs and pace of each student.
- Attendees will review and discuss ideas for recruiting mentors and how to train mentors by Role Playing the second mentoring session.
- Attendees will review and discuss ideas to share information about its Mentoring Program to teachers, parents, administrators, school board, and community members.
- Attendees will review and discuss how to use the [www.M4RA.org](http://www.M4RA.org) and [www.Readinga-z.com](http://www.Readinga-z.com) websites.

**->Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at Marion City Schools, Harding High School, 1500 Harding Highway E., Marion, OH 43302. The Community Room**

8:45-9 Registration

9-3:00 M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #2

Please bring your own beverages.

**To register:** email Debby Ambroza at [debby.ambroza@m4ra.org](mailto:debby.ambroza@m4ra.org) by November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to reserve your space. Please send names, school districts/organizations, and positions. Also, send a contact cell/home number in case there are any last minute changes.

**->Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at Wheelersburg Elementary School, 800 Pirate Drive, Wheelersburg, OH 45694. Classroom 2215**

8:45-9 Registration

9-3:00 M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #2

Please bring your own beverages.

**To register:** email Debby Ambroza at [debby.ambroza@m4ra.org](mailto:debby.ambroza@m4ra.org) by November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to reserve your space. Please send names, school districts/organizations, and positions. Also, send a contact cell/home number in case there are any last minute changes.

**->Thursday, December 4, 2014 at Bowling Green City Schools, Administrative Offices, 137 Clough Street, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402. Parking is across the street.**

12-12:15 Registration

12:15-3:15 M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #2

Please bring your own beverages.

**To register:** email Debby Ambroza at [debby.ambroza@m4ra.org](mailto:debby.ambroza@m4ra.org) by November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to reserve your space. Please send names, school districts/organizations, and positions. Also, send a contact cell/home number in case there are any last minute changes.

**->December: (To Be Determined) at SST8/Summit County Educational Service Center, 420 Washington Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221**

Registration

M4RA Reading Mentoring Instruction: Session #2

Please bring your own beverages.

**To register:** email Debby Ambroza at [debby.ambroza@m4ra.org](mailto:debby.ambroza@m4ra.org) by ??, 2014 to reserve your space. Please send names, school districts/organizations, and positions. Also, send a contact cell/home number in case there are any last minute changes.

**->Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at SST11/Educational Service Center of Central Ohio (ESCCO), 2080 Citygate Drive, Columbus, OH 43219. Room 145**

Noon- 12:15 Registration;

12:15-3:15 M4RA Mentoring Instruction Session #2

Please bring your own beverages.

**To register:** email Debby Ambroza at [debby.ambroza@m4ra.org](mailto:debby.ambroza@m4ra.org) by Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to reserve your space. Please send names, school districts/organizations, and positions. Also, send a contact cell/home number in case there are any last minute changes.

Amy

Amy Freeman

Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement

Program Director

[amy.freeman@M4RA.org](mailto:amy.freeman@M4RA.org)

1.844.220.1647 (toll free)

Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities

**Amy Freeman, Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement Program Director:**

Amy has worked with students and adults with disabilities for 36 years. She was the co-director of a 1:1 reading mentoring program for 15 years including training and professional development support for 300 schools. She collaborated in creating the Readinga-z.com reading mentoring materials that schools use to help their students reading below grade level. Amy has also worked as a: teacher, sheltered workshop director, behavior specialist, superintendent, state-wide preschool reviewer and regional DD program consultant. Amy has a B.S. and M.Ed. in Special Education from Bowling Green State University.

**Debby Ambroza, Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement Reading Mentoring Specialist:**

Debby has worked with and for students with disabilities for over 40 years. Her K-12 grades of students had IEPs for Intellectual Disability (CD), DD, MD, ED, SLD, At Risk, etc. Debby piloted a 1:1 reading mentoring program in her classroom using the materials from [www.readinga-z.com](http://www.readinga-z.com) that were created for the Mentors to use. Debby saw her students make quicker and more substantial progress in reading, as well as more gains in self-confidence, than she had previously experienced. She worked as a training consultant for a 1:1 reading mentoring program for 9 years. Debby has a B.S. in Special Education from the Ohio State University.