

The Reading2Connect® Program

Enhancing Social-Emotional Well-Being Through Age/Dementia Friendly Books

Our innovative, one-of-a-kind program offers staff members and support partners the materials and training necessary to facilitate resident-directed, independent reading. Adapted for this time of Covid, our specialized, age/dementia-friendly books (printed in multiple languages) are available in three forms:

1. hardcopy on washable, tear-resistant paper
2. as eBooks
3. as audio books

Via our coach training, staff, families, and volunteers learn to use our books to:

- Facilitate resident-to-resident social connections, even when physically distanced.
- Augment events, holidays, and activity themes.
- Incorporate comedy, trivia, singing, skits, and spirituality in elder-led activities.
- Enrich visits (remote and in-person) from families and volunteers.
- Design volunteer and intergenerational programs.
- Enhance media and multi-sensory experiences.
- Offer compassionate responses to older adults feeling distressed.
- Promote diversity and inclusion in your care community.
- Integrate reading into the daily lives of aging adults beyond programming.

Our training incorporates dementia care best practices, Montessori-based principles, and a Peer Interaction Model unique to Reading2Connect®. Participants acquire skills and tools that can be applied to all social and care situations with aging adults.

The Reading2Connect® Program includes:

- 25 Single Washable Print Books
- 50 Group Washable Print Books (10 sets of 5)
- 10 E-Books
- 10 Audio Books
- 16 Washable Book Stands
- One Voice Amplifier
- A Reading Assessment Screen
- Instructional User Guide
- Online Coach Training
- Reading2Connect® Certification
- Three NCCAP-Approved CEUs



Thank you for your interest!
Please contact us for more information.

BOOKS CREATED FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

1. Reading2Connect® Books at Reading2Connect.com *
2. Two-Lap Books by Lydia Burdick
3. Blue Sky, White Clouds by Eliezer Sobel
4. Through the Seasons by Cynthia R. Green
5. Shadowbox Press Books at shadowboxpress.com
6. Simple Pleasures for Special Seniors by Don Koffman
7. Books for Dementia Patients by Emma Rose Sparrow
8. Share-Time Pictures by Judy Parkinson (in Australia)
9. Read a Bit, Talk a Bit books by Denton-Cook (in Australia)
10. Reading Roundtable books at The Myers Research Institute
11. Let's Look Together by Rae-Lynn Cebul Ziegler
12. The Carry On Reading Series at Dementiability

* The Reading2Connect® books are available within the Reading2Connect® Coach Training Program. Please contact us for more information.

SHARED READING VIDEO TECHNIQUES

Video Recommendations

- Good quality sound
- Simple background
- No distractions
- Horizontal orientation is usually best
- Face the camera directly, so as not to create a distorted or slanted image
- Center yourself
- Minimal movement
- Bright but not harsh lighting, few shadows

General Communication Strategies to Consider

- Introduce the topic, elaborate on the topic a bit, give them time to orient
- Good eye contact, not overly intrusive
- Pleasant tone of voice and facial expression
- Use short sentences (one-element sentences)
- Not fast speech
- Pause time between sentences
- Not overly animated

Tips to Consider When Sharing a Book via Video

- Orient first, eg, introduce yourself, make a social connection
- Introduce the topic and the book
- Show the cover of the book, with minimal movement
- Allow time to process
- Show the image of the first page, allowing time to process
- Read aloud the first page
- Show the first page image again, allowing time to process
- Comment or ask a question
- Show the first page text, allowing time to read
- Comment or ask question
- Continue onto next page
- No need to finish the book, especially if conversation is flowing.

NOTE:

There is no formula to this. Each resident is unique and you have your own style. Apply the guidelines above as you see fit, in your own way.

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