



LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF KENT COUNTY

JUNE 2026



THIS ISSUE

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RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

Newsela Lite

We are sorry that we are unable to provide Newsela's full capabilities, however you're still able to use your Newsela account to access Newsela Lite!

This allows teachers to:

- Access to 4 pre-selected news articles at a time offered at 5 reading levels.
- See alignment and state standards.
- Assign, review and respond to student quizzes, write prompts, and annotations.

We hope that you're still able to utilize Newsela for new content with your student!

TEACHING AND READING POETRY WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

BY KRISTINA ROBERTSON

Even though poetry gets a lot of attention during Poetry Month in April (as it should), it is fun to teach any time of year! I must admit that I am drawn to fiction, and teaching poetry seemed daunting at first; but I have discovered the joy of poetry while exploring it with my English language learners, and my students have been very enthusiastic about our poetry units. Here are some of the reasons why I've enjoyed teaching poetry so much with my ELLs:

Versatility

Poetry is so versatile, which makes it a great form to use in the ELL classroom. There are so many types of poetry and so many different forms that eventually, each student is bound to find a poem or poet he or she enjoys!

Language

Poems can be used to introduce or practice new vocabulary, language structures, and rhyming devices, and shorter poems often give ELLs a chance to explore an idea while working with a more manageable amount of text than a short story or essay.

Culture

In addition, many ELLs come from cultural backgrounds rich with poetry and folktales. From the epic poems of ancient civilizations to more modern political poems written during the 20th century, poetry opens an interesting historical and cultural window, and students may already be quite knowledgeable about the poets and poems that are an important part of their heritage.

Find the link to this article at coventrylibrary.org/learning-resources.

coventrylibrary.org/lvkc

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU, BILL & NANCY

LVKC would like to thank Bill Rogers and Nancy Abood for over 25 and 22 years, respectively, of service to the Literacy Volunteers of Kent County! Bill started as a tutor, while Nancy started as a tutor and assessor. Both served in various positions on the Board of Directors and speak very highly of their time with LVKC. We are sad to hear of their retirement from the organization, but we wish them the best in this next chapter of their lives!

URGENT NEED FOR BOARD MEMBERS

LVKC is in need of board members to fill open positions on our board. Board Members are vital to keep our organization running and is a great opportunity to further help make a difference in the community.

Board members have a real voice in decision making and future planning for LVKC. They develop a true sense of accomplishment by belonging to a vital, effective organization. Board members develop concrete skills in working with others to achieve specific goals. They earn respect in the community for their commitment and concern, and they enjoy the friendship and support of other members of the Board.

Please consider joining our board of directors to make a difference in the lives of our LVKC family. For more information on how you can help, please contact us at lvkc@coventrylibrary.org

CONVERSATION CLASS

LVKC and the West Warwick Public Library are holding conversation classes at the West Warwick Public Library in the language room! English language learning (ELL) students are welcome to join us. Our next meeting is June 5, 2026 at 11 AM. Announcement of more classes is pending. If you're looking for more information on the class, please reach out to lvkc@coventrylibrary.org OR maria@wwpl.org.

NEW LITERACY ROOM

We are moving rooms at the Coventry Town Hall Annex! LVKC is getting a new program room thanks to the Coventry Public Library and the Town of Coventry! Please look forward to our next event in the Annex!



IN MEMORY OF JERRY YOUNG

LVKC would like to extend its condolences to the family and loved ones of Gerald (Jerry) Young. Jerry was a longtime tutor and assessor with the Literacy Volunteers of Kent County for over 20 years. His commitment to his students and the community was admirable, and changed so many lives. Thank you Jerry for your service!

coventrylibrary.org/lvkc

SUPPORT LITERACY

LVKC is able to take donations online through PayPal! Go to coventrylibrary.org/lvkc_donate or follow the QR code below!



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