



The Literacy Resource Directory  
was compiled by the

*Literacy Task Force of Schenectady  
County*

2011-2012

For questions, please contact

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Literacy New York Greater Capital Region  
99 Clinton St., Schenectady, NY 12305

452-3383

The directory may be found on the following sites:

Cornell Cooperative Extension, Schenectady Co.

[www.cceschenectady.org](http://www.cceschenectady.org)

United Way of the Greater Capital Region

[www.unitedwaygcr.org](http://www.unitedwaygcr.org)

Schenectady County Public Library

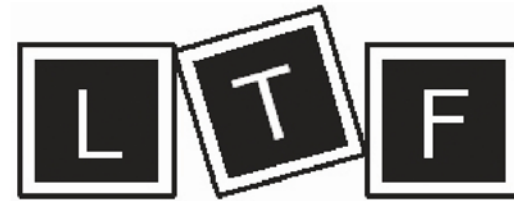
[www.scpl.org](http://www.scpl.org)

Schenectady City School District

[www.schenectady.k12.ny.us](http://www.schenectady.k12.ny.us)

Literacy New York Greater Capital Region

[www.literacynycap.org](http://www.literacynycap.org)



Literacy Task Force  
of Schenectady County

## Literacy Resource Directory

2011-2012

A resource of literacy programs in  
Schenectady County, including  
emergent literacy, tutoring/homework  
help for children and youth, family  
literacy, financial literacy, and adult  
literacy programs.



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# NOTES

This Literacy Resource Directory of Schenectady County is a resource for community members, parents, service providers, and educators.

The following questions, along with the list of community organizations on the next page, may help you find the resources you are looking for.



Do you have a baby or pre-schooler who needs assistance?

See page 4.

Could your family use help with literacy activities? See pages 5 - 6.



Do you think your child is not doing well in school and could use extra homework help? See pages 7-13.

Are you an adult who needs reading help or assistance with further education?

See pages 14 -16.



Does your child need a mentor? See pages 16-17.

Do you need help creating a budget, managing your money, or buying a house? See pages 18 -19.



A listing of the school districts and a map can be found on pages 22 - 23.

Addresses and phone numbers of the Schenectady County Public Library branches can be found on page 24.



## More Literacy Resources Websites

**International Dyslexia Association**  
[www.interdys.org](http://www.interdys.org)  
*Dyslexia resources*



**National Center for Learning Disabilities**  
[www.ncld.org](http://www.ncld.org)  
*Information about learning disabilities*

**Making Connections**  
[www.sals.edu/literacy](http://www.sals.edu/literacy)  
*Information for student practice and tutor lesson planning*

**National Institute for Literacy**  
[www.nifl.gov](http://www.nifl.gov)  
*Serves as a national resource on current, comprehensive literacy research, practice, and policy.*

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## Emergent/Early Literacy

**Agency** Parsons Child and Family Center

**Program** Parsons Early Head Start

**Address** 125 Bigelow Ave., Schenectady 12304  
108 Erie Blvd., Schenectady 12305

**Phone number** 346-5360      **Website** www.parsonscenter.org

**Contact** Wendy Hopkinson hopkinw@parsonscenter.org

**Service provided** Early Head Start offers both a center-based (child care) program and a home-based program. To qualify, a family must have a child under the age of 3, or be pregnant; live in Schenectady County; be at or below poverty level; homeless; on SSI; or have a foster child. The program works with parents to promote self sufficiency, family literacy, and early literacy skills for children.

**Hours** Day Care: 7:00am to 5:15pm; Home Base: 9:00am to 5:00pm

**Fees** For extended day care only.

**Agency** Schenectady County Public Health Services

**Program** Healthy Schenectady Families

**Address** 107 Nott Terrace, Suite 300, Schenectady 12308

**Phone number** 386-2828      **Website** www.schenectadycounty.com

**Contact** Peggy Sheehan peggy.sheehan@schenectadycounty.com

**Service provided** Literacy education is individualized for each family's needs and integrated throughout each home visit. Schenectady County parents are eligible with enrollment occurring prior to child turning 3 months of age.

**Hours** Home visits; flexible scheduling.      **Fees** None

**Agency** Capital District Child Care Council

**Program** The BELL Project

**Address** 91 Broadway, Menands 12204

**Phone number** 426-7181      **Website** www.cdccc.com

**Contact** Patricia Skinner pskinner@cdccc.org

**Service provided** Training for child care teachers to assist them in supporting children in early literacy and social emotional wellness.

**Hours** Monthly trainings and ongoing teacher support.      **Fees** None

## Literacy Resources Websites

**The National Center for Family Literacy**  
www.familit.org  
*Tips for parents*



**Literacy Cyberspace**  
www.families.owc.edu  
*Family literacy instruction*

**US Department of Education**  
www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/reader/part5.html  
*Activities to help your child become a reader*

**Ready\* Set\* Read for Families**  
www.ed.gov/Family/RSRforFamily/index.html  
*Literacy activities for different age groups*

**Reading is Fundamental**  
www.rif.org  
*Parent resources*

**Reading Rockets**  
www.readingrockets.org  
*Parent/child information and resources*

**Public Broadcasting Service**  
www.pbs.org/parents  
*Resources and information for parents*

## Schenectady County Public Libraries

**Central Library**  
99 Clinton St.  
Schenectady  
388-4500

**Niskayuna Branch**  
2400 Nott St. East  
Niskayuna  
386-2249



**Duane Branch**  
1331 State St.  
Schenectady  
386-2242

**Quaker St. Branch**  
Bull St. & Route 7  
Quaker St.  
895-2719

**Glenville Branch**  
20 Glenridge Rd.  
Glenville  
386-2243



**Rotterdam Branch**  
1100 N. Westcott Rd.  
Schenectady  
356-3440

**Hamilton Hill Branch**  
700 Craig St.  
Schenectady  
386-2244

**Scotia Branch**  
14 Mohawk Ave.  
Scotia  
386-2247

**Mont Pleasant Branch**  
1026 Crane St.  
Schenectady  
386-2245

**Woodlawn Branch**  
2 Sanford St.  
Schenectady  
386-2248

## Family Literacy



**Agency** Capital District Child Care Council  
**Program** Born Learning~Life Long Learning  
**Address** 91 Broadway, Menands 12204  
**Phone number** 426-7181 **Website** www.cdcccc.org  
**Contact** Mary Miranda mmiranda@cdcccc.org  
**Service provided** Monthly workshops for parents and caregivers about early learning, parenting, and adult life skills.  
**Hours** Evening workshops, 6:15-7:45pm **Fees** None

**Agency** Cornell Cooperative Extension, Schenectady County  
**Program** Parents Involved in Education, Family Rooms  
**Address** 107 Nott Terrace, Suite 301, Schenectady 12308  
**Phone number** 372-1622 **Website** www.cceschenectady.org  
**Contact** Tina Gamache  
**Service provided** Planned educational opportunities for parents/caregivers that build knowledge and skills in the Duaneburg Central School District, and through the Family Room in the Scotia-Glenville Central School District.  
**Hours** Varies; monthly calendars are available. **Fees** None

**Agency** Schenectady Day Nursery  
**Program** Parent Education Program  
**Address** 25 Lafayette Street, Schenectady 12305  
**Phone number** 374-6319  
**Contact** Diane Fisher diadaycare@aol.com  
**Service provided** The Parent Night Education Program provides a year-long monthly dinner session held on site where parents can learn about parenting issues that focus on literacy, financial literacy, computer literacy, and interpersonal skills as well as information on community resources.  
**Hours** Once a month from Sept. through June. **Fees** None

## Family Literacy



**Agency:** WMHT Public TV and Radio

**Program** Ready To Learn Services offer workshops for parents and childcare providers of children age 2 through early elementary.

**Address** 4 Global View, Troy, 12180

**Phone number** 880-3484 Website [www.wmht.org](http://www.wmht.org)

**Contact** Barbara Lukas [blukas@wmht.org](mailto:blukas@wmht.org)

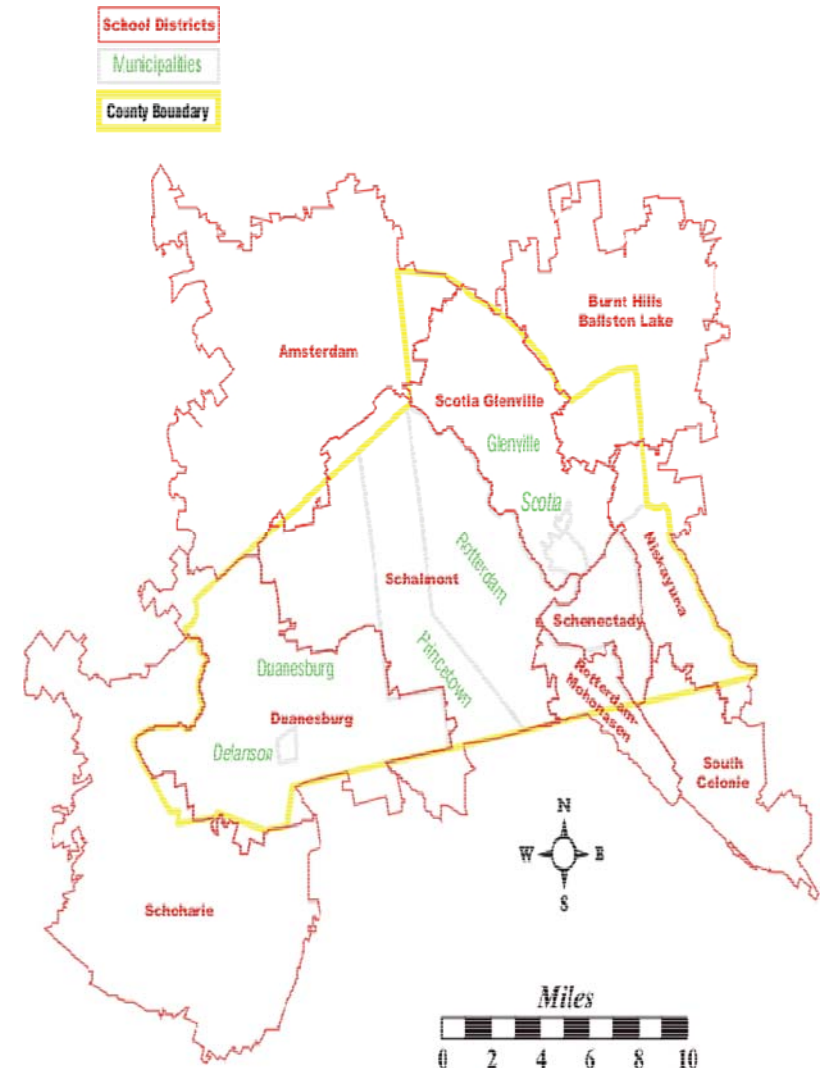
**Service provided** WMHT works in partnership with various community agencies and school districts providing workshops to help parents, childcare providers and educators enrich children's learning with books, activities, and PBS educational resources.

**Hours** Flexible, day and evening **Fees** \$200-\$250 per workshop

### Family Literacy Activities

- Write a letter to your child and have your child write back.
- Go on a scavenger hunt. Give your child a newspaper and let them find things in it such as four words that begin with the letter 'M'.
- Make dinner with your child including planning the meal, shopping, measuring, reading, and following the steps in the recipe.
- Create a family story. Write the first sentence and then pass it on to other family members to add to it. Start the story at breakfast and share the story at dinner.
- Plan a family game night.
- Create an acrostic poem. Put your family name (or child's name) vertically on a piece of paper. Use each letter to describe the family or person (e.g. T=talented)
- Visit the zoo (or museum or farm) and take pictures. Make a book using the pictures and write about the pictures.
- Make word searches for each other using new words you and your child have learned.
- Read together!

## Schenectady County School Districts



## School Districts in Schenectady County




Greater Amsterdam School District	843-3180
Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Central Schools	399-9141
Duanesburg Central School District	895-2279
Niskayuna Central School District	377-4666
Mohonasen Central School District	356-8200
Schenectady City School District	370-8100
Schalmont Central School District	355-9200
Scotia Glenville Central School District	382-1215
South Colonie Central School District	869-3576

## School Help Hints for Parents

- Send your child to school every day, well-rested, fed, and with a positive outlook.
- Take an active interest in your child's schooling. Ask specific questions about what happens at school each day.
- Set a regular time every day to do homework. This can be any place in your home; you don't need a special room.
- Stay in regular contact with your child's teachers.
- Don't do your child's homework for them. Help them learn how to do it themselves.
- Praise your child for doing well.
- Show your child that you think homework is important.


## Tutoring/Homework Help for Children & Youth

<i>Agency</i>	A Different Way In Reading Center	
<i>Program</i>	Intensive remedial reading/writing program for struggling readers, especially those with dyslexia.	
<i>Address</i>	8 N.Church St., Schenectady, NY	
<i>Phone number</i>	See below	<i>Website</i> www.adifferentwayin@gmail.com
<i>Contact</i>	Kathy Jensen, 377-5387 or Roberta Read, 489-1938	
<i>Service provided</i>	A multi-sensory remedial reading program.	
<i>Hours</i>	Usually 3 one-hour sessions a week <i>Fees</i> Call	

<i>Agency</i>	Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady	
<i>Program</i>	Power Hour	
<i>Address</i>	At various Boys & Girls Club sites around the city	
<i>Phone number</i>	see below	<i>Website</i> www.bgcschenectady.org
<i>Contact</i>	Please call individual club house	
<i>Service provided</i>	Homework assistance, including math and English enrichment, is offered at each of the branches of the Boys & Girls Club: Craig Street (370-5591), Mont Pleasant (372-7040), Rotterdam (355-7440), Steinmetz Homes and MacGathan Townhouses (372-3620), and Yates Village (372-3583).	
<i>Hours</i>	Approximately 3:00-6:00pm <i>Fees</i> \$5.00 per year	

<i>Agency</i>	Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady	
<i>Program</i>	Computer Education	
<i>Address</i>	At the various Boys & Girls Club sites around the city	
<i>Phone number</i>	See below	<i>Website</i> www.bgcschenectady.org
<i>Contact</i>	Please call individual club house	
<i>Service provided</i>	Computer classes such as Web Tech and Digital Arts, among others, are offered at each club house: Craig Street (370-5591), Mont Pleasant (372-7040), Rotterdam (355-7440), Steinmetz Homes and MacGathan Townhouses (372-3620), and Yates Village (372-3583).	
<i>Hours</i>	Approximately 4:00-6:00pm <i>Fees</i> \$5.00 per year	

## Tutoring/Homework Help for Children & Youth

<i>Agency</i>	Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady	
<i>Program</i>	Elementary School Homework/ Computer Assistance	
<i>Address</i>	Academy of Culture and Communication at Pleasant Valley, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Math Science Technology and Invention Magnet School, and Woodlawn Elementary School	
<i>Phone number</i>	See below	<i>Website</i> <a href="http://www.bgcschenectady.org">www.bgcschenectady.org</a>
<i>Contact</i>	Please call Central Services at 374-4714 for more information or contact the school directly.	
<i>Service provided</i>	Homework help, computer education, and financial literacy is offered at each school.	
<i>Hours</i>	Approximately 3:30-5-30pm	<i>Fees</i> Free

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<i>Agency</i>	Carver Community Center	
<i>Program</i>	Latimer Education After-School Program	
<i>Address</i>	700 Craig Street, Schenectady, 12309	
<i>Phone number</i>	372-1825	
<i>Contact</i>	Elaine Oden, Program Director	
<i>Service provided</i>	After-school tutoring/homework is available to children in grades 1-8 who attend Schenectady City schools. Help is offered at Carver Community Center (4:00-5:30), and at Yates Village and Steinmetz Homes (3:30-5:00).	
<i>Fees</i>	None	

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<i>Agency</i>	Children of Our Community Open to Achievement (C.O.C.O.A House)	
<i>Program</i>	After-School Tutoring, Mentoring, and Life Skills Enrichment Program	
<i>Address</i>	869 Stanley Street, Schenectady, 12301 Mailing: PO Box 712, 12307	
<i>Phone number</i>	377-4977	<i>Website</i> <a href="http://www.carvercc.org">www.carvercc.org</a>
<i>Contact</i>	Sabel Bong, Executive Director	
<i>Service provided</i>	Services are offered to students in grades 3-6 (grades 7-12 are seen by appointment only) in the Hamilton Hill area. Field trips and special activities on Fridays.	
<i>Hours</i>	Monday-Thursday, 3:00-5:30pm	<i>Fees</i> None

## Additional Services

<i>Agency</i>	Schenectady County Public Health Services	
<i>Program</i>	Children with Special Needs	
<i>Address</i>	107 Nott Terrace, Suite 306, Schenectady, 12308	
<i>Phone number</i>	386-2815	<i>Website</i> <a href="http://www.schenectadycounty.com">www.schenectadycounty.com</a>
<i>Contact</i>	Lynn Streifert <a href="mailto:Lynn.streifert@schenectadycounty.com">Lynn.streifert@schenectadycounty.com</a>	
<i>Service provided</i>	Services include speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, among others. Literacy activities are integrated into therapy sessions.	
<i>Hours</i>	Vary according to families' schedules.	
<i>Fees</i>	At no cost to parents	

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<i>Agency</i>	Schenectady County Youth Bureau	
<i>Program</i>	Page by Page	
<i>Address</i>	797 Broadway, 3rd floor, Schenectady, 12305	
<i>Phone number</i>	386-2211	
<i>Contact</i>	Grace O'Connor <a href="mailto:grace.oconnor@schenectadycounty.com">grace.oconnor@schenectadycounty.com</a>	
<i>Service provided</i>	Page by Page is a volunteer opportunity program for teens to read books to young children throughout the community at sites, including local community organizations, after-school programs, parks, etc. Training for teens is provided.	
<i>Hours</i>	Flexible	<i>Fees</i> None



## Additional Services

**Agency** Cornell Cooperative Extension  
**Program** Eat Smart New York  
**Address** 107 Nott Terrace, Suite 301, Schenectady, 12308  
**Phone number** 372-1622 **Website** www.cceschenectady.org  
**Contact** Sandra Butts scb22@cornell.edu  
**Service provided** Eat Smart New York is a nutrition education program for individuals who are eligible for and/or receive food stamps. Staff meet with individuals, families or groups either in their homes or other locations.  
**Hours** Various times **Fees** None

**Agency** Early Childhood Direction Center  
 c/o Capital Region BOCES, 900  
**Address** Watervliet-Shaker Road, Suite 102, Albany, NY 12205  
**Phone number** 464-6356  
**Contact** Ellen Burns eburns@gw.neric.org 464-6377  
 Nancy Hampton nhampton@gw.neric.org 464-6379  
**Service provided** ECDC staff provides support and referral services to assist families in accessing pre-school special education programs, early intervention services, therapy services, and other related programs and services.

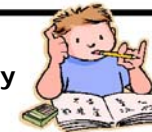
**Hours** Monday-Friday **Fees** None

**Agency** Schenectady County Public Library  
**Address** 99 Clinton St., Schenectady, 12305  
**Phone number** 388-4540 Children's Room  
 388-4511 Reference Desk **Website** www.scpl.org  
**Contact** Serena Butch sbutch@mvlis.info  
**Service provided** The library offers a number of programs, including pre-school story hours, book clubs, computer classes, and after-school programs.

**Hours** Vary by branch. (Phone numbers in back of directory).

**Fees** None

## Tutoring/Homework Help for Children & Youth



**Agency:** Duanesburg Area Community Center  
**Program** After-School Program  
**Address** 221 Victoria Dr., Duanesburg, 12053  
**Phone number** 895-9500 **Website** www.dacc.info  
**Contact** Betsy Lupian blupian@dacc.info  
**Service provided** An after-school program is offered for children in grades K-12 in the Duanesburg School District.  
**Hours** 2:40 to 6:00pm  
**Fees** \$165/month grades K-5; \$85/month grades 6-12

**Agency** Friendship House  
**Program** After-school Enrichment Network  
**Address** 955 State Street, Schenectady, 12307  
**Phone number** 393-8749  
**Contact** Westoria Poole  
**Service provided** After-school tutoring and mentoring.  
**Hours** Tuesday-Thursday, 3:30-5:30 pm **Fees** None

**Agency** Furman Street Learning Center  
**Program** Furman Street After-School Program  
**Address** 35 Furman Street, Schenectady, 12304  
**Contact** Jamie Daus Dausj@schenectady.k12.ny.us  
**Service provided** Homework help and tutoring is offered in the Trinity Lutheran Church to elementary school students in the Central Park, Vail, and Upper State St. areas.  
**Hours** Tuesday-Thursday 3:30-5:00pm **Fees** None

## Tutoring/Homework Help for Children & Youth



**Agency** Girls Incorporated of the Greater Capital Region

**Address** 962 Albany St., Schenectady, 12307

**Phone number** 374-9800 **Website** www.girlsinccapitalregion.org

**Contact** Meaghan Nichols megsyankees@yahoo.com

**Service provided** After-school programs include homework help, computer and economic literacy classes.

**Hours** Monday–Thursday, after school to 5:30pm

**Fees** None

**Agency**

**Program**

**Address**

**Phone number**

**Website**

**Contact**

**Service provided**

**Hours**

**Agency** Jewish Community Center of Schenectady

**Program** After-school Program

**Address** 2565 Balltown Rd., Schenectady, 12307

**Phone number** 377-8803 **Website** www.schenectadyjcc.org

**Contact** Ellen Carpenter ellenc@schenectadyjcc.org

**Service provided** After-school tutoring is available to children in grades 3 through 6, primarily for children attending Niskayuna schools.

**Hours** Monday-Friday 2:30-6:00pm **Fees** Annual fees apply

## Financial Literacy



**Program** Creating Assets, Savings, and Hope (CASH) of the Greater Capital Region

**Phone Number** 456-2200

**Website** www.cashgreatercapitalregion.org

**Contact** Beth Levine BLevine@unitedwaygr.org

**Service provided** CASH is United Way supported coalition serving Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie counties. CASH is a coalition of community, social, faith-based, educational, business, financial, and government organizations dedicated to promoting financial stability and asset building for individuals and families. CASH, which leads the Volunteer Income Tax assistance (VITA)/AARP tax aide program, seeks to increase awareness about the availability of tax credits for working individuals, families, and seniors.

## A new service for consumers: 2-1-1

United Way 2-1-1 Northeast Region provides information and referral to community services within a 12 county region of the Greater Capital Region. Callers are provided with basic information and contact numbers for services in housing, food, income supports, rental assistance, utility payment assistance, heating assistance, aging services, mental health, health insurance, youth services, disaster services and more. Community members can access the center by calling 2-1-1 if they live within the following counties: Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Saratoga, Columbia, Green, Schoharie, Montgomery, Fulton, Warren, and Washington.



## Financial Literacy



**Agency** Better Neighborhoods, Inc.  
**Program** Homeowner Education and Counseling  
**Address** 986 Albany St., Schenectady, 12307  
**Phone number** 372-6469 *Website* www.better-neighborhoods.org  
**Contact** Ellie Pepper epepper@better-neighborhoods.com  
*Service provided* Homeownership counseling and education, including financial literacy and default/foreclosure counseling.  
**Hours** Workshop times vary *Fees* None

**Agency** Schenectady Community Action Program  
**Program** Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program  
**Address** 913 Albany St., Schenectady, 12307  
**Phone number** 374-9181 x228 *Website* www.scapny.org  
*Service provided* SCAP provides no-cost income tax preparation services and linkages to financial literacy and other supportive services for low and moderate-income individuals/families.  
**Hours** By appointment *Fees* None

**Agency** Union College Kenney Community Center  
**Program** VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program  
**Address** 257 Park Pl., Corner of Nott St., Schenectady, 12308  
**Phone number** 388-6652  
**Website** www.union.edu/Community/Community\_Center  
**Contact** Angela Blair  
*Service provided* VITA sites assist low-income families in filing tax returns. The Kenney Community Center works with the Economics Department to run the VITA site at Union College.  
**Hours** Weekday evening appointments *Fees* None

## Tutoring/Homework Help for Children & Youth



**Agency** Quest, Inc.  
**Phone number** 527-1784 *Website* www.Questkids.net  
**Contact** Judy Atchinson Judy@questkids.net  
*Service provided* Quest has a variety of literacy enhancement programs, including weekly poetry workshops; book reading contests; memoir and journal writing; and a program for "tweens" to read to 5/6 year-old children.  
**Hours** After school *Fees* None

**Agency** Union College Kenney Community Center  
**Program** Homework and Skills Development Program  
**Address** 257 Park Pl., corner of Nott St., Schenectady, 12308  
**Phone number** 388-6609  
**Website** www.union.edu/studentlife/community/programs.php  
**Contact** Angela Tatem  
*Service provided* The program provides a safe place for elementary school-age children to receive assistance from Union College volunteers with help completing homework.  
**Hours** Tuesday-Thursday, immediately after school to 5:00pm  
**Fees** None

**Agency** Union College Kenney Community Center  
**Program** Science Club for Kids  
**Address** 257 Park Pl., corner of Nott St., Schenectady, 12308  
**Phone number** 388-6609  
**Website** www.union.edu/studentlife/community/programs.php  
**Contact** Angela Tatem  
*Service provided* A hands-on science program that introduces boys and girls in grades 4-6 to the wonders of science and technology.  
**Hours** Thursdays, immediately after school to 5:00pm

## Tutoring/Homework Help for Children & Youth



<i>Agency</i>	Union College Kenney Community Center
<i>Program</i>	The Science and Technology Entry Program
<i>Address</i>	257 Park Pl., Corner of Nott St., Schenectady, 12308
<i>Phone number</i>	388-6609
<i>Website</i>	www.union.edu/studentlife/community/programs.php
<i>Contact</i>	Angela Tatem
<i>Service provided</i>	Designed for 7th–12th-grade students historically under-represented in the sciences and technology professions and also for economically disadvantaged students who show an interest in science, math, and technology. Participants work with Union College mentors on science research projects, attend classes taught by Union College faculty, attend educational field trips, and receive tutoring. The program also has a three-week summer camp in July.
<i>Hours</i>	Saturday workshops 10:00am – 1:00pm, and are held at least four times per trimester. Tutoring is on an individual schedule. <span style="float: right;"><i>Fees</i> None</span>

<i>Agency</i>	Union College Kenney Community Center
<i>Program</i>	S.A.I.L. (Studying Arithmetic in Literature)
<i>Address</i>	257 Park Pl., corner of Nott St., Schenectady, 12308
<i>Phone number</i>	388-6609
<i>Website</i>	www.union.edu/studentlife/community/programs.php
<i>Contact</i>	Don Austin
<i>Service provided</i>	S.A.I.L. is a reading-to-math program designed to improve students' grades on the 4th grade NYS math standardized tests. Tutorials are used that will allow students to better understand math word problems by improving their ability. Union college tutors conduct the program in Yates and Elmer Avenue Elementary schools.
<i>Hours</i>	MLK Magnet School: Mon./Wed. 3:30-5:00pm Elmer Ave.: Tues./Thurs. 3:30-5:00pm <span style="float: right;"><i>Fees</i> None</span>

## Mentoring



<i>Agency</i>	Boys & Girls Club of Schenectady in partnership with Schenectady City School District
<i>Program</i>	PROMISES School-Based Mentoring ~ <i>Building Futures Having Fun</i>
<i>Address</i>	Various Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady sites and Schenectady City schools
<i>Phone number</i>	374-4714 x29
<i>Website</i>	www.bgcschenectady.org
<i>Contact</i>	Jerrine Wyman JWBGCS@gmail.com
<i>Service provided</i>	One-to-one, site-based mentoring with an adult volunteer from the community. Help with social skills, academics, and relationship building. Tons of support and fun field trips.
<i>Hours</i>	Two hours each week
<i>Fees</i>	Free with BGCS membership (\$5 per year)

### WHAT IS DYSLEXIA?

Dyslexia is a learning disability that stems from a different wiring of the brain. It usually makes decoding (reading) single words difficult. Some dyslexic people have an easier time reading, but experience great difficulty with spelling and writing. Most people with dyslexia have average or above average intelligence and are often quite talented in other areas. Although they may appear not to be trying, they are usually not lazy or unmotivated; they simply are not able to easily learn reading, writing, and spelling using traditional methods.

#### Reading Characteristics:

- Difficulty learning that letters make specific sounds and that those sounds are what makes up words.
- Difficulty blending sounds into words.
- Sometimes confuses letters, sounds and words.

#### Spelling and Writing Characteristics:

- Difficulty hearing syllables within words and sounds within syllables.
- Difficulty remembering and applying spelling rules.
- Difficulty picturing a word in print.

## Adult Education



**Agency** Wildwood Programs, Inc.  
**Program** Adult Education Services  
**Address** 1190 Troy-Schenectady Rd., Building #1, Latham, 12110  
**Phone number** 640-3352 *Website* www.wildwood.edu  
**Contact** Melinda Burns mburns@wildwood.edu  
**Service provided** Classes are offered in literacy, financial education technology skills, interpersonal skills, health, exercise, nutrition, and the arts.  
**Hours** Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm *Fees* Vary with course(s)

## Mentoring



**Agency** Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region  
**Program** Big Brothers Big Sisters  
**Address** 1492 Central Ave., Albany, 12205  
**Phone number** 862-1250 *Website* www.bbbscr.org  
**Contact** Liz Chipman liz@bbbscr.org  
**Service provided** One-to-one mentoring at Golub Corporate headquarters and Union College. Bussing for participants is provided.  
**Hours** Vary *Fees* None

**Agency** Union College Kenney Community Center  
**Program** America Reads  
**Address** 257 Park Pl., corner of Nott St., Schenectady 12308  
**Phone number** 388-6609 *Website* www.union.edu/community  
**Contact** Angela Tatem  
**Service provided** America Reads provides mentoring and reading programs for Schenectady youth. A main focus of the club is instilling a love of reading by having Union College student volunteers meet with young reading partners each week to read and understand books.  
**Hours** Fridays, 4:00-5:30pm *Fees* None

## Tutoring/Homework Help for Children & Youth



**Agency** YMCA, Schenectady  
**Program** Before and After-School Y's Time Program  
**Address** 13 State Street, Schenectady 12305  
**Phone number** 374-9136 *Website* www.cdyymca.org  
**Contact** Kerri DiCaprio kdicaprio@cdymca.org

**Service provided** After-school homework help programs are offered in the following school districts: Mohanassen, Schalmont, Schenectady City, and Scotia Glenville.  
**Hours** Vary by school *Fees* AM (FT) \$155/month, AM (PT) \$120/month, PM (FT) \$195/month, PM (PT) \$155/month, AM/PM (FT) \$295/month  
 \$10 discount for second child; \$35 non-refundable registration fee

### Tips for Reading with Your Child

- **Read with your child every day**  
 Select a place that is cozy and quiet. ■ **Read for enjoyment**  
 Let children choose books they are interested in. Let them touch the books and turn the pages.
- **Stop reading when your child loses interest**  
 Short reading sessions are best.  
 Read your child's favorite books as often as they want to hear them!
- **Be expressive**  
 Give different voices to different characters. ■ **Be patient**  
 Take time to answer your child's questions. ■ **Participate**  
 Let your child repeat phrases.  
 Leave out an occasional word and let them "fill in the blank."
- **Visit the library**  
 A library card is a free way to invest in your child's future.





## Adult Education

**Agency** BOCES, Capital Region

**Program** Adult Education Program

**Address** 1015 Watervliet Shaker Rd., Albany, 12205

**Phone number** 862-4707 *Website* capregboces.org

**Contact** Kim Brizzell kbrizzell@gw.neric.org

**Service provided** Classes are offered in GED instruction, ELL, and Pre-GED. GED Home Study in English or Spanish and ELL Home Study programs are also available.

**Hours** Monday-Friday, day and evening hours. *Fees* None

**Agency** Literacy New York Greater Capital Region

**Program** One-To-One Tutoring

**Address** 1450 Western Ave. Albany, NY

**Phone number** 452-3382 *Website* www.literacynycap.org

**Contact** June O'Connor joconnor@literacynycap.org

**Service provided** One-to-one tutoring and small classes in reading, writing, and speaking English. Students must be over 16 and not in secondary school. Tutors must be over 21.

**Hours** Times agreed upon between tutor and student.

**Fees** None for students; tutors pay \$35 for training materials

**Agency** Northeast Parent and Child Society

**Program** Youth Build Schenectady

**Address** 120 Emmons St., Schenectady, 12304

**Phone number** 337-0237 *Website* www.neparentchild.org

**Contact** Sharon Reyes

**Service provided** YouthBuild Schenectady is a six-month alternative school and construction training program where young adults ages 18-24 earn a GED while learning job skills.

**Hours** Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm *Fees* None



## Adult Education

**Agency** Schenectady County Community College

**Address** 78 Washington Ave., Schenectady 12305

**Phone number** 381-1315 *Website* Sunyscc.edu

**Contact** Maria Kotary kotarymc@gw.sunysccc.edu

**Service provided** GED Prep, GED Prep-Adult Basic Education, ESL, and Basic Computer classes are offered. Students must be at least 17 years of age to take GED prep classes.

**Hours** Various times

**Fees** \$85 for series of classes, plus workbook fees

**Agency** Washington Irving Educational Center

**Program** Adult Education Services

**Address** 422 Mumford St., Schenectady, 12307

**Phone number** 370-8220 *Website* Schenectady.k12.ny.us

**Contact** Jesse Roylance roy lancej.schenectady.k12.ny.us

**Service provided** Classes include GED preparation, ESL, Adult Basic Education (ABE), computer classes, home study, and Certificate of Employability and nutrition classes. Satellite locations include Schenectady County Job Training Association, Family Investment Center at Steinmetz Homes, Schenectady County Public Library main branch, Schenectady High School, Schenectady County Correctional Facility, B'nai Brith

**Hours** Various times

**Fees** None for students over 21 or students 16-20 who are residents of the City of Schenectady.

