



THE OG UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2024

WELCOMING OUR NEW ORTON-GILLINGHAM COHORT

(submitted by Kate Quijano, Senior Program Director)

In August, we welcomed a new cohort of trainees who will be studying the Orton-Gillingham approach with us throughout this school year in order to ultimately receive their associate level certification by next summer. They completed their initial 30 hours of training which introduced them to the OG approach, the components of the lesson plan, and early OG skills.

This year's cohort is of particular importance to me because I had the pleasure of running the training. This is my final year training to become a Fellow of the Orton-Gillingham Academy and thus I will be delivering all of the training this year. It was an interesting transition over the past 6 years to go from trainee to observer/mentor to actually delivering the training myself this year and deciding how I wanted to organize everything and share the information with my trainees. I had a great week getting to know everyone and developing my own presentation/training skills. I was impressed by their focus and engagement over the course of the week and how well they picked up on new skills.



After the initial week of training, our trainees were matched with a student who they will tutor throughout the school year for a total of 100 sessions of practicum where they will receive observations and feedback from Karen and myself. They will also meet for an additional five weekend dates in order to finish the rest of the required 70 hours of training for their associate level certification. It was a pleasure meeting all of these enthusiastic, dedicated Orton-Gillingham trainees and we can't wait to see them meet their students and start putting the new skills they learned this summer into action.



The students who were matched with our trainees are part of our unique donation based tutoring program, which allows families to receive OG services at a rate they can afford. It provides a dual purpose of helping students learn to read and helping our trainees get experience in order to fulfill their practicum requirements and obtain OG certification.

(MEET THE COHORT; ON NEXT PAGE)

Mark Your Calendars!



OG Donation Based Tutoring Sessions begin on Monday, September 16.

OG Parent Virtual Orientations September 12 at 7pm OR September 14 at 9am

NEW OG COHORT IN TRAINING



Before we opened our doors to our new cohort on August 19.



Training is now in session. Kate checks in with each small group.



OG trainees participated in a modeled lesson.

MEET OUR NEW ORTON-GILLINGHAM COHORT

We asked our new cohort of OG tutor trainees to tell us why they want to become certified in Orton-Gillingham. Here is what they said:



Andrea: As a dedicated special educator of 27 years and the mom of 2 college age young adults who have learning differences, including dyslexia, I am super excited to be part of the OG training. I am very passionate about teaching reading and I am ready to learn how to best help my students grow throughout their reading journeys.



Marcella: As an educator and mother to three children with disabilities, I am very excited for this learning opportunity. My daughter was diagnosed with dyslexia and through the OG approach she has made amazing progress. It has inspired me to learn more so that I can help other children just like her!



Mary: I am an educator with over 30 years of experience. I enjoy teaching others to develop skills and strategies for reading success. I am so grateful for this opportunity and look forward to learning and working with others at Literacy Nassau to obtain Associate Level Certification.



Gina O.: As a teacher of 26 years, I have been passionate about finding effective ways to help my students become successful readers. I have worked with struggling readers in my classroom and I have found that the multi-sensory approach is a very effective method. I am looking forward to expanding my knowledge by getting my OG Certification.



MaryEllen: I was a Police Medic Coordinator and retired after working for the NCPD for 27 years. I have two children and my youngest child has dyslexia. I have struggled to find him appropriate help through the public school system. The Orton-Gillingham approach helped my child tremendously so I have decided to become certified in order to help other children become skilled and confident enough that they learn to love reading.



Gina C.: As a special education teacher for the past 12 years, I am always looking for new lessons and strategies to help my students. OG is the most effective approach for me to use so that I can help my students progress as readers. I am looking forward to learning all that I can this next year at Literacy Nassau.



Annmarie: I am a teacher and mother of two wonderful boys. My family has been affected by dyslexia so I understand the struggles a student may encounter while learning to read. I'm looking forward to applying the OG approach, as I believe this will be a game changer for those having difficulties reading.



Lisbeth: I have been an early childhood teacher for over 25 years. I am semi-retired from the NYC Department of Education and I am currently a substitute teacher. Teaching children to read has been the most rewarding part of my career. I look forward to being part of the OG cohort so I can grow as an educator and help students become confident learners.



Megan: I have been working with individuals with disabilities for the past 17 years. I currently work with as a high school special education teacher at District 75 in NYC. As a special educator, I noticed that my students' biggest barrier to success was often their lack of reading proficiency. After a friend told me about her son's profound success at Literacy Nassau, I decided to become a part of the solution through certification with the Orton-Gillingham Academy.

