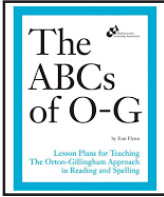


## MY TOP TEN RESOURCES

(submitted by Jane Hartigan, OG Tutor)

As I plan lessons for my students, I try to integrate instruction and practice with student engagement and interests. In addition, the structure of the lesson needs to be flexible and adaptable, ready to be delivered virtually or in-person. Here's a list of the top ten resources (plus one!) that I keep close at hand when I sit down to plan.



1. **The ABCs of O-G** by Emi Flynn: This manual is comprehensive and concise about all things OG. I often thumb through the well-organized table of contents and reference pages to locate the topic my student is working on, use the information to jump start my lesson planning, and then customize according to my student's strengths, challenges, and prior knowledge.

2. **Equipped for Reading Success** by David Kilpatrick: This is an excellent presentation of recent research and activities designed to boost phonemic awareness, phonics, and word recognition.

3. **Making Words, Making Big Words, Making More Big Words, Systematic Sequential Phonics They Use** by Patricia Cunningham: I used the activities in these books often while teaching reading in Long Island's public schools and they've made the transition to my OG lessons. They provide very specific and excellent practice for concept mastery and for blending and segmenting sounds. Best of all, they are a hit with students of all ages and provide opportunities for challenging and engaging hands-on practice.



4. **The Reading Teacher's Book of Lists** by E. Fry and J. Kress: When I just can't bear the thought of looking at another screen, I flip through my well-used copy of this "encyclopedia".

5. Any book or article by Timothy Rasinski. I always try to be mindful of the fact that the end goal of our OG work is not for students to master all of the concepts taught, but for them to apply those concepts so that they can read fluently and understand what they are reading. Rasinski's recommendations for fluency instruction are always useful and thought provoking.

6. The word finder option on The Free Dictionary webpage is great for creating word lists and building sentences and short passages. Go to <https://www.thefreedictionary.com>. The word finder allows you to specify whether the concept letters you are practicing appear in the beginning or end of words--or somewhere in the middle.

7. Wilbooks <https://www.wilbooks.com> has leveled fiction and nonfiction books (Level A through M). They're especially useful for remote lessons. I select a book, copy the link to my Google slides and the student is able to access it and "turn" the pages while reading. Much of the site is free; access to ALL of the on-line books is a steal at \$1.99 per month!



8. Flippity is a popular site; you're probably familiar with it already at <https://www.flippity.net>. Most often, I use it to create on-line index cards or sorting and matching and scavenger hunt games--easy to create and fun and challenging for the students. As an extra special treat, I create a customized quiz show, always a huge hit with students.

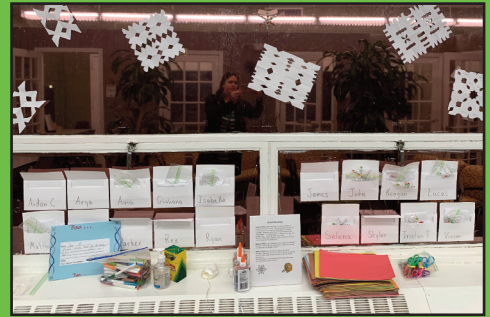
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**January 9:** Training Day for OG Cohort  
**January 17:** Office Closed  
**January 25:** Office Hours with Karen from 7:00-9:00pm ; email for link

## Secret Snowflake Recap

Thank you to First Book for their donation of books for the students' holiday gift.



Our OG tutor, Kaitlyn with her student, Selena receiving her holiday gift of books.

OG student, Arya working on creating her ornament for her "Secret Snowflake".



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JOHN

(submitted by Richard Aizer, OG Trainee)

John is in 4th grade. At our first session in September, John and I got acquainted in our "Get to Know You Activity". In talking with John, I discovered that we had some commonalities including having pizza as a favorite food and also that John likes to participate in plays and watch Broadway shows which is an interest in my family too. John also likes to play and watch hockey. Here are some additional questions I asked John.

**Q: Any other favorite foods / drinks?**

A: Yes, I also like pasta and my favorite drink is lemonade.

**Q: What are your favorite plays?**

A: Peter Pan and Annie.

**Q: What is your favorite hockey team?**

A: N.Y. Islanders.

**Q: Any other favorite teams?**

A: Yes, in baseball, the N.Y. Mets.

**Q: Any other favorites?**

A: Yes, I like to collect and play with action figures. I like dragons.



Over the first two months of OG tutoring, I have enjoyed working with him. So, I asked him a few questions about our sessions.

**Q: What do you like about OG Tutoring?**

A: It is cool!

**Q: What do you find cool about it?**

A: Mr. Richard is nice.

**Q: What would you change about OG Tutoring?**

A: That you can get prizes all the time.

A week before Thanksgiving, John and his family went on an early holiday family vacation trip to Disney World in Florida. I asked John a few questions before he left for vacation.

**Q: What are you looking forward to?**

A: Relaxing and getting time to spend by the pool. Also, dinners with my family.

**Q: Any rides that you are looking forward to going on?**

A: Not really.

**Q: Have you ever flown on an airplane?**

A: Yes.

John's younger sister Seraphina also came in at the end of our session and I asked her the same questions. She responded that she was also looking forward to sitting by the pool and family dinners. She said she is looking forward to going on the dragon ride. I look forward to hearing about John's family trip to Disney and continuing to work with him in our OG sessions.

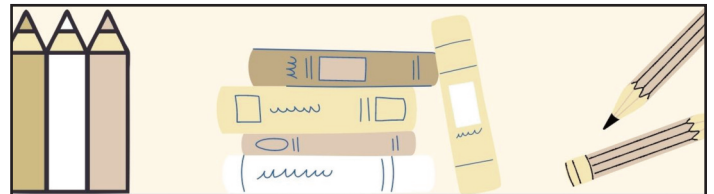
## MY TOP TEN RESOURCES (CONTINUED)

9. I head to Wordwall at <https://wordwall.net> to create practice activities, but invariably find existing offerings on the concepts that we're working on.

10. I subscribe to <https://www.theliteracynest.com> by Emily Gibbons and <https://mrswintersbliss.com> by Christina Winters, as well as a Facebook group for Orton-Gillingham instructors.



Most importantly, I'm lucky enough to have a network of Orton-Gillingham teachers, students, friends and colleagues--absolutely invaluable when planning a challenging lesson, celebrating a successful lesson, dissecting a lesson that didn't go well, finding the perfect chart/game/resource, and for responding immediately to emergency OG questions.



LITERACY NASSAU'S

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Featuring traditional academic instruction, crafts, games, and other activities!

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**9:15AM – 11:45AM**  
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**We will be offering Saturday English classes for children who are non-native speakers.**

**If you know of anyone who may be interested in this program, please have them contact us. We will be holding registration at our office on January 8th from 9am-12noon.**