



# THE OG UPDATE

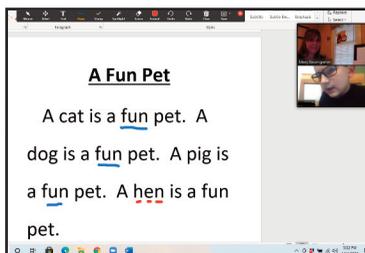
MAY 2021

## ORTON-GILLINGHAM FEE BASED PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Did you know that Literacy Nassau offers fee-based one on one OG tutoring? This is a great option for students who have completed the 100 hours for the donation-based practicum but still want to continue improving their reading and writing skills. Our fee-based program offers flexible scheduling; families and tutors can determine how many times a week they want to meet. They can meet virtually, in-person, or do a combination of both. This is also a good option for new students who can't commit to the requirements of the practicum, but still want a one on one OG experience with more flexibility. Fee-based tutoring is taught by OG practitioners who have already completed their practicum with us and who have received their associate level certification from the Orton Gillingham Academy. To highlight this program, we asked some of our tutors and students to tell us a little more about their work together. Here are some of their stories:

*(submitted by tutor Mary and student Damon)*

The Literacy Nassau family is so happy to have Damon as a new student in our Orton-Gillingham program! He is currently in first-grade. He began participating in virtual OG lessons this February and has been doing a great job learning the routine and structure of the OG Approach. He has done a fantastic job navigating Zoom, which we are using as our virtual platform for lessons. During our OG lessons, Damon and I have been using the screen share feature on Zoom to learn about and practice OG concepts as we read mixed lists of words, sentences, and stories together. We have also been practicing spelling and writing skills via Zoom's annotation feature, which allows Damon to write directly on his i-pad screen. It is wonderful to help Damon develop his skills as he engages in our virtual OG lessons. I hope that the progress Damon makes during our lessons will be an ongoing accomplishment that Damon can be proud of each and every day. It truly has been a pleasure getting to know Damon. I look forward to helping him grow even further! In order to get know Damon better, I conducted this virtual interview:



- Q: What grade are you in?** A: I'm in first-grade.
- Q: Do you have any brothers or sisters? Do you have any pets?** A: I have two sisters. They are older. I have a big dog, and maybe my parents will get me fish soon.
- Q: What do you like to read about?** A: Fish.
- Q: What's your favorite book?** A: I don't have a favorite. I like funny books.
- Q: What do you like about OG lessons on the i-pad?** A: I like writing words on the i-pad screen.
- Q: What is something that you have learned about during your OG lessons?** A: I learned about spelling words.



If you know someone interested in getting more information about our program, Karen will be presenting at the following SEPTA meeting:  
**Hicksville SEPTA Monday, May 24th at 7:00pm**

Send an email to [kmicciche@literacynassau.org](mailto:kmicciche@literacynassau.org) to request the ZOOM link.

## MAY FLOWERS SUBMISSION

Our 1st submission.  
Great Job, Parker!



**LITERACY NASSAU'S OG SUMMER INTENSIVE**

We are excited to invite you to join us for the pilot year of our literacy-based summer program. It is to prevent summer regression for current students through the maintenance of previously taught Orton Gillingham concepts in a relaxed, fun atmosphere.

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July 12 - August 5  
9:15 - 12:00  
Monday - Thursday

Contact us for more information:  
516-867-3580  
[kquijano@literacynassau.org](mailto:kquijano@literacynassau.org)

(submitted by tutor Jennifer and student Matthew)



Matthew is in 5th grade and starts middle school next year! We have been working together since September 2020 on Zoom. Since we are not able to work in person, we have been using the annotation tools offered by Zoom to make our lessons multisensory. Matthew has become an expert at using the annotate function to practice handwriting and spelling. He also uses it to highlight words and sentences as he reads. In addition (and this is Matthew's favorite part!), we are able to play interactive learning games using the different annotation tools. While Zoom has allowed us to meet and participate in multisensory learning activities that are compatible with OG, they are both very much looking forward to the day when they finally meet face to face.

**Q: What is your favorite subject?**

A: Math

**Q: What do you like to do when you are not in school?**

A: Be lazy

**Q: What do you like to do the most when we meet?**

A: Play games

**Q: What are you learning now with Jen?**

A: Vowel y

**Q: What are you looking forward to doing in the summer?**

A: Swimming in a pool

(submitted by tutor Jane and student Parker)

Parker greets me at the beginning of our Zoom tutoring sessions with different on-line backgrounds and props each day! I never know if I'll be welcoming a pirate in front of the Golden Gate Bridge or an alien from outer space, but a smile and a laugh is a great way to start our lesson together. In just a few minutes, we are hard at work. One of the many benefits of our Orton-Gillingham lessons is that our well-established routine allows us to maximize the time spent learning, exploring, and practicing the ins and outs of reading and writing and understanding this crazy language of ours. Parker and I have been working together three days a week for about six months in Literacy Nassau's Orton-Gillingham program and are getting ready to celebrate our 70th lesson! Most of our time together has been through our MacBooks, computers, and iPads, but we manage to get some in-person time during vacation weeks and on special occasions.



We met up recently for a lesson and an interview to get to know each other a bit better.

**Q: Tell me a little more about you.**

A: Well, I'm 8 and in the second grade and I have a pool and trampoline in my backyard!

**Q: And what's something that makes you happy?** A: What makes me happy is to spend time with my family--my mom and dad and my older sister. We play a lot games and I like that, like Life and Monopoly.

**Q: What do you like about our tutoring sessions?** A: I like everything. It's fun. I like the games, especially the matching and sorting games (from Flippity.net) and I like the books, especially the ones about Mike the Monkey (from Wilbooks.com).

**Q: How is the work that you do at Literacy Nassau different than what you do at school?**

A: Well, we do the reading and writing like at school, but there's no other kids around, it's just us, and it's not in a school!

**Q: How do you feel about virtual lessons?**

A: I like them. Sometimes its fun to be on the computer in my house. But it's fun to come here, too. We can play different kinds of games, like card games.

**Q: And...what's the very best part?**

A: The stories! The ones that we make up and write down and read!

**Q: So tell a little bit about them.**

A: Well, it started with a gingerbread person and we called him Karate Gingerman and then there are other characters like Ginger-Pal and Ginger-Bob and they all go to karate school and practice their moves in a clubhouse in a tree!

In an effort to work on connected text, I started writing a story--with Parker supplying the details--about a boy named Parker who finds a gingerbread man on the way home from school. Just a few sentences has blossomed into a great opportunity for fluency practice--and great fun. We're up to Part 30 and titled it "The Adventures of Karate Gingerman." It's a perfect outlet for Parker's imaginative thinking, and it reminds both of us that the purpose of our focus on decoding and spelling is to read and enjoy and understand books--and maybe even write them!

**Q: What would you like to learn more about?**

A: Planets! I'd like to learn about the moon!

**Q: Any thoughts about what you might be interested in doing when you get older?**

A: I'd like to be an astronaut and go to the space station!

**Q: So, what are your plans for the summer when we all might be getting out and about a little bit more?**

A: Well, I may be going to a sleepaway camp, where we do fun things like aerial arts and trapeze. And I'm definitely going to the circus camp at Eisenhower Park. I've been going since I was three years old. It's called I.FLY Trapeze. And maybe, I'll be coming to Literacy Nassau.