



## **Citizen Literacy: More than just phonics – an integrated to approach to adult literacy and tutor training using technology**

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Demonstration, Hands-on Exercises, and Discussion

We are developing adult literacy education resources and services to support tutors to help adults improve their reading and writing skills (in English). Our initial motivation has been to address the lack of learning resources suitable for adults, the poor support available for tutors, and to introduce effective digital tools to support tutors and their adult learners.

These resources are fairly unique in combining a highly structured and integrated blend of phonics, grammar, alphabet awareness and punctuation for adults just starting out in literacy learning. Our focus is improving the literacy existing speakers of English. Feedback from ESOL colleagues has indicated that many of our tools and resources will be of use to ESOL literacy learners.

This year we are releasing a free Learner app, Tutor Handbook, Learner Workbooks, and a Tutor Web app to use in class. The Learner app is free with no adverts, and no capture of personal data, and provides, perhaps for the first time, an opportunity for adult learners to engage in a considerable amount of independent literacy learning using a digital device (their smartphone). The app features the effective use of multimedia interactivity, artificial intelligence, voice and handwriting recognition, personalised feedback and a voice driven interface designed to be used by low literacy learners that is (most importantly) not childish looking.

We feel that our work aligns well with all of your conference themes, especially Inclusivity and Social Justice as we believe being able to read and write is a matter of social justice, not just for children but for adults too and it should be viewed as such within adult education policy and provision.

We look forward to sharing best practice with our colleagues.

Delegates can find out more about our work on our website at <https://citizenliteracy.com/>

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