

# The Tutor-Learner Relationship

Developed by Samantha Letourneau, Literacy Central Vancouver Island



Photo by [Allison Shelley/The Verbatim Agency](#) for [EDUimages](#).

# What's coming ...

- Land acknowledgement
- Introductions
- We are all learners
- Respectful relationships
- Role of the tutor
- Positive learning relationships
- Questions and Comments
- Thank-you

# We are all learners



Photo by [Priscilla Du Preez](#).

## Tutors and learners come with a wealth of life experience



Photo by [Andrey Kuzmin](#).

Who are you?  
What do you like to do?

## Everyone teaches and learns – leadership is shared



Photo by [Rawpixel.com](https://www.rawpixel.com).

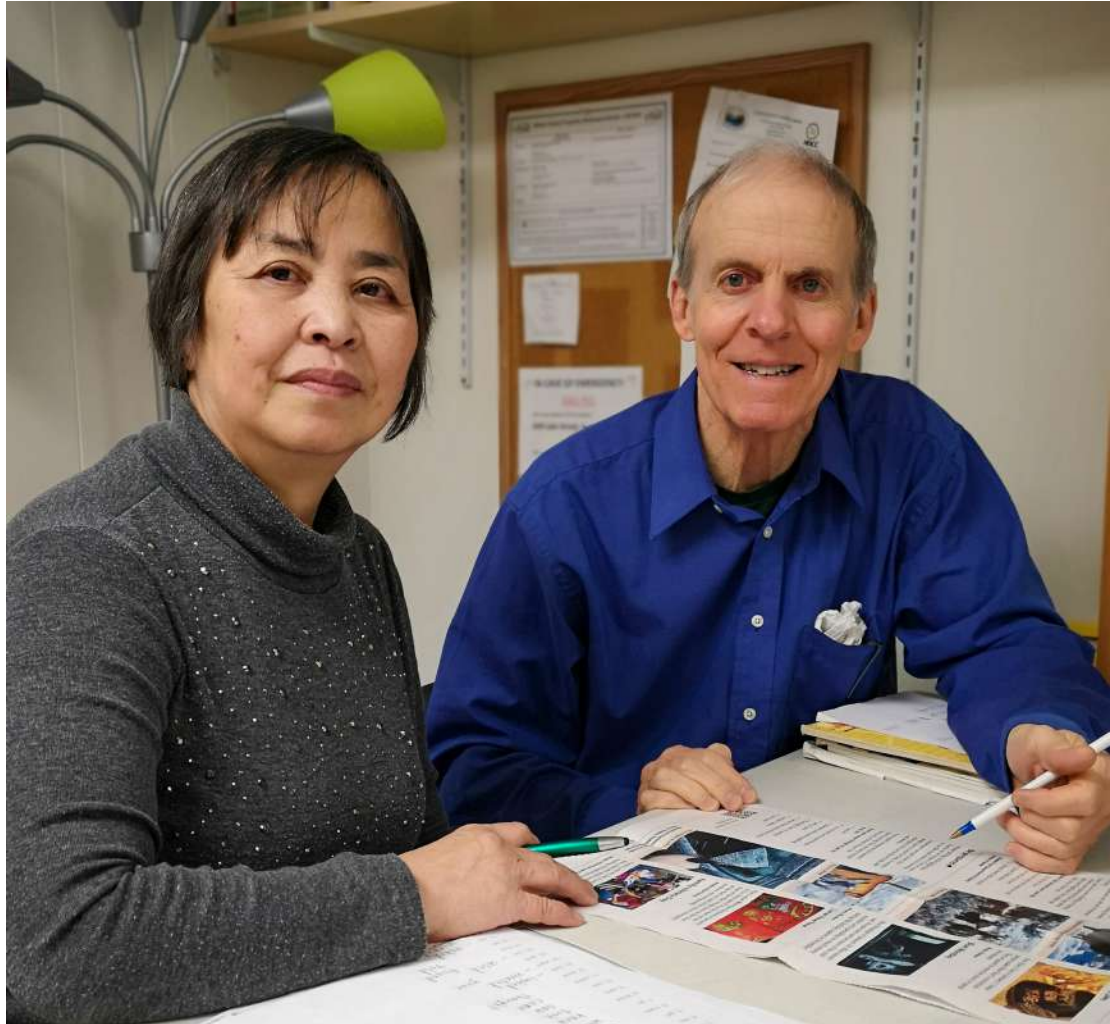


Photo by Joan Exley.

## Discussion

How do you show respect to an adult learner?

How do you want to be respected?

# Respectful relationships are important

1. Show respect for the learner's individuality and experience.
2. Be sensitive to the language you use so that learners are not inadvertently offended.
3. Be open to different perspectives.
4. Adopt a caring attitude and show it.



# Role of the tutor

Complete this statement

Tutors are ...



Photo by Joan Exley.

# Ethical dilemmas

Ethical dilemmas may surface in tutor-learner relationships.

It is critical that tutors understand what their role is and what it is not.

# Barriers to learning



Photo by [Brooke Cagle](#).



Image by Decoda Literacy Solutions.

## Positive Learning Relationships



Photo by [Paola Aguilar](#).

# Positive Learning Relationships

Think of a time when you learned something new.



Photo by [Ivan Kruk](#).

## Discussion

What makes a good tutor-learner relationship?

“Literacy coordinators and tutors are more likely to be effective if they recognize the strengths and abilities of the learners, approach them as equal partners in the learning process and remember that they are adults with outside responsibilities.”

*Marie Elliott et al. in Empowering the Spirit II*

# Thank you

We hope you enjoy your tutoring experiences.

We thank you for your participation and your contribution to literacy!



# References

ABC Life Literacy Canada. <https://abclifeliteracy.ca>

Frontier College Tutor's Handbook. (1997). Toronto. Ontario: Frontier College Press. ISBN 0-921031-20-3

Literacy Alberta's Creating Learning Partners: A Facilitator's Guide for Training Effective Adult literacy Tutors. (2011)

Volunteer Literacy tutor Training Course. (2015). Vancouver Island University.