



The Computer Assisted Literacy Solution (CALS)

The RI Literacy Resource Group's newest project to help people with reading deficiencies

What is CALS?

CALS is:

- A computer based program which teaches foundation skills for reading.
- A method whereby children or adults who can't read can be given individualized help.
- A self paced teaching program which teaches, assesses and motivates the student. A supportive mentor for each student can also play a role.
- A program that was field tested before being adopted by the RI Literacy Resource Group.

What can CALS do?

CALS can:

- Take a student or adult who can't read due to failures to master the basic foundation skills for reading – and enable that person to acquire those skills.
- Enable a child who has fallen behind by a grade level or more to catch up.
- Enable a dyslexic child to overcome the first and most basic barrier to reading.

How are students found and signed up?

Students are found and signed up to participate in CALS through the following process.

- The Rotary club appoints a member to serve as the local CALS sponsor
- The sponsor finds local partners who can identify children or adults in need of CALS and who can provide high speed internet access for the children or adults.
- The local partner signs up individual students and facilitators.
- The local Rotary club sends US\$ 80.00 per student to the CALS service provider.
- The student spends 10 to 50 hours on the computer developing the basic reading skills which were lacking.
- When the student has completed the learning process the local partner reports the results to the Rotary club.

Where can CALS be used?

CALS can be used:

- In a school setting.
- In a public library.
- In an adult literacy program.
- In a program offered by any community group such as the Boys and Girls Club, a local church, the Salvation Army, or the YMCA.
- In a jail, prison or juvenile detention facility.
- In a private home.

What do Rotary clubs do?

Rotary clubs:

- Find a local partner to identify the needy students and provide high speed internet access for each student.
- Appoint a club member to serve as the sponsor.



The Computer Assisted Literacy Solution (CALS)

The RI Literacy Resource Group's newest project to help people with reading deficiencies

How do local Rotary clubs get started?

To find out more about CALS, contact the RI Literacy Resource Group's advisor for CALS, Vince Walter. His contact information is:

Telephone: 905-737-0144

E-Mail: vcw@idirect.com

In planning your CALS project determine the number of needy students the club is able to sponsor. The cost is US\$ 80.00 per student. The club can be the sole sponsor of a student. Or outside groups can participate as co-sponsors.

Once it is clear that the club will sponsor one or more students, contact should be made with AutoSkill, the provider of the computer program used in Rotary's CALS project. The contact person is Peter Cleary. His contact information is:

Telephone: 800-288-6754 ext 227 (North America)

E-Mail: peter.cleary@autoskill.com