**Tutoring Services**

If you’re considering hiring a tutor, most likely your child is not getting what they need from school. Classroom teachers must follow a state adopted curriculum and are accountable to the school/district for teaching certain things in a certain order. Unfortunately, not all children will succeed following such a rigid plan.

If your child understands the concepts, yet needs more time and practice, the classroom is not flexible. Children who need just a little more exposure learning a certain skill are left behind, without mastering it. They are pushed on to the next harder skill, which builds on the one they never fully learned. They may also be introduced to concepts that are too advanced, such as creative writing, while their basic, foundational reading skills are forgotten.

My tutoring sessions are individually planned each time, based on the current needs of the child. After each session it takes me about an hour to sit down and go over the diagnostic notes I take during their lesson. I use those detailed notes to plan the next sequence of skills. Because I review their strengths and weaknesses after every lesson, my results are faster than any regular tutoring can provide.

My background in the public schools gives me the advantage of knowing the skill sequence and speed in which a child can be successful. We go “as fast as we can, and as slow as we must”. That wonderful quote comes from Anna Gillingham, co- developer of the Orton Gillingham approach. Developed in the early 20th century by Samuel Orton and Anna Gillingham, the OG approach is the foundation for many successful reading instruction programs, including Wilson Reading, Fundations, Barton, and Sonday.

However, OG is not a packaged curriculum like those used in our schools, but rather a method of teaching. Orton-Gillingham trained instructors, such as my self, tailor each lesson to the individual student by identifying the next skill they need to learn, and practicing and reinforcing it until it is mastered. This is what’s known as a “systematic and cumulative” approach and it’s part of what makes OG reading tutoring so successful. We are constantly reviewing previously learned skills, so nothing is left behind. It is also referred to as structured literacy.

Because it’s not a packaged curriculum, I can use OG principles to teach beginning readers who are still learning letter sounds, as well as help older learners fill gaps in their phonics knowledge and develop strong vocabulary and spelling skills. OG’s diagnostic approach means I am always assessing students’ skills in every tutoring session, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and adjusting instruction as needed to reinforce concepts or fill gaps.

My rate is $45 per session for one-on-one tutoring, with weekly or monthly billing. Sessions are typically 50-60 minutes, with options for shorter sessions on a case-by-case basis to best meet the student’s needs. Discounts are provided for scheduling more than 2 sessions a week, which is recommended, and will show faster progress. Please contact me for a free 30 min phone consultation to see how tutoring can help your child succeed.

Kimberley Cobb

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Finallyfairtutoring.com