

VITA and Work Ready U

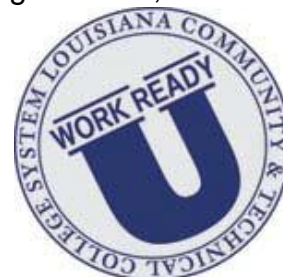
During the regular legislative session of 2010, governance for adult education programs was transferred from the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS). This action is a result of a multi-year conversation within the education community concerning adult education's

goals and better meeting Louisiana's current and future adult education needs. Louisiana Work Ready U is adding work readiness and employment to adult education goals of literacy and high school equivalency diplomas.

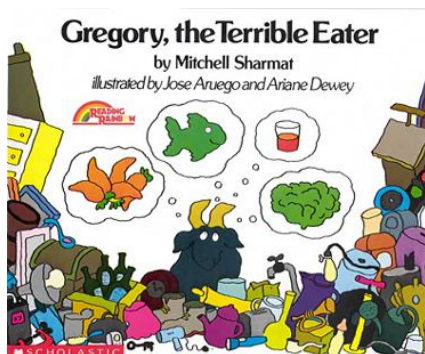
Three basic ideas stem from this decision:

1. Place adult education with LCTCS whose core mission is workforce education,
2. Provide least educated

- citizens a path to work, and
3. Focus the state's limited adult education funds on more than 600,000 adults who do not have a high school equivalency diploma. Much of VITA's focus falls under these guidelines, and the staff looks forward to the new partnership.



VITA Participates in Alice Boucher Elementary Wellness Fair



Children's book given out at Alice Boucher Elementary Wellness Fair.

On Saturday, April 16, 2011 Alice Boucher Elementary School held a Wellness Fair, in which VITA took part. As a family literacy partner, VITA gave out VITA literature and the book *Gregory, the Terrible Eater* by Mitchell Sharmat.

Gregory is an unusual goat because he's a very picky eater.

His mother becomes worried, and Gregory and she eventually reach a compromise that he will eat a balanced diet.

In addition to VITA books being handed out, members of the Boucher community participated in Walk to Win. Informational booths and games were manned by other community sponsors.

Student Appreciates Help from VITA

It's a very ancient saying
But a true and honest thought
That if you become a teacher
By your pupils you will be taught
The King and I
"Getting to Know You"

Many of our VITA students come and go so quickly, but they leave lasting impressions. So it is with Mary Lagarde, who joined our program two years ago after Hurricane Katrina.

She studied The Laubach Method with Evelyn Hackett, her tutor, and in the computer lab she studied *Ultimate Phonics, Language Clues and Learning 100*. At VITA, Mary had a very positive attitude toward learning and was always ready to extend her reach. While at VITA, she raised her reading level by two grades.

What did she teach us? A great smile, a good attitude and great zeal for learning contribute much to success. We will miss her greatly as she moves to her new home in Baton Rouge, but she assures us she will continue her studies at Adult Literacy Advocates in Baton Rouge.

By Audrey Martin