



# SOUTHSHORENOW.CA

Everything you need to know about Nova Scotia's South Shore

Home Site Map Contact Us

Search Text

Submit Query

Home

Online Edition

Digital edition

News archives

Business directory

Classifieds

Community calendar

Education

Employment

Subscriptions

See all pages

Contact us

News

Newsletters and Alerts

Video

Announcements

Community

Design Studio

Shopping

TV Listings

Weather

About

Advertise with us

Today's Blogs

RoadDog  
by Lisa Brown

Frugal & Greenish  
by Carolyn Ekins

Oh Brothers!  
by Tina Hennigar

Sour Kraut

Take Two  
by Cheryl Pickens

Worth the Weight  
by Shawna Chetwynd

The Gourmet Cupcake  
by Megan Blumenthal

South Shore Reports

'Driving' me crazy!  
by Dave Patton

Heart & Seoul  
by Cindy Cook

Council of Canadians

Paws for Thought  
by Wendie Patrick-Pride

## Reading recovery program among North America's best

by Stacey Colwell

COUNTY - The South Shore Regional School Board's reading recovery program has been recognized as one of less than three dozen exemplary sites by the Reading Recovery Council of North America.

"How wonderful that so many children in your region have benefitted from the success brought about by such dedicated educators," said Heather Janes Pederson, Atlantic division co-ordinator of the Canadian Institute of Reading Recovery.

Reading recovery is an early intervention for Grade 1 students who are at risk of not achieving the required literacy skills needed to keep up with their classmates.

The program provides intense, daily, one-on-one instruction with specially trained teachers. The goal is to have the children reading and writing at their peer level within 12 to 20 weeks, at which point they could work at an average level in a regular classroom without additional support.

"If there's a cliff, you put a fence up, you don't let the kids fall off," said Gretchen Gerhardt, the local board's teacher leader for the program.

"Basically, we're catching them before it's too late - before they fail at reading and writing."

Approximately 20 to 25 per cent of students in the board annually enter the program, and of those, approximately 79 per cent have successfully discontinued it the past two years, compared to a provincial average of about 60 per cent.

"We have a common vision in our schools that children are going to have a chance to read and write, and everybody knows it - from the principals to the teachers and all levels of support - everyone knows this is important, that we want to get them early and that we believe in it."

Ms Gerhardt said once students complete the program, their progress is carefully tracked annually.

"Starting in the fall of Grade 2 and then twice a year, every year, just to make sure they don't fall behind, so it's not like we say, 'Here, they're done.' We work as a team to make sure everything is still working."

Ms Gerhardt said reading recovery helps more than the students' reading and writing skills.

ADVERTISEMENT

Click here to find your next pre-owned vehicle

WWW.IANSAUTOMOTIVE.COM

"The thing that always gets noticed [by parents and teachers] is the self-esteem of these kids ... It really changes the child. You just wouldn't believe it."

For more information, check on-line at <http://www.readingrecovery.org>.

posted on 12/01/09

Echo 0 Items

Admin

Social Networking by

[Leave a comment](#)

Print  
Text Size M L  
Post  
Get Photos  
Share |

Comments (0)  
E-Mail  
Republish  
More>

Headlines

[Council helps fund Pathfinders trip](#)

[Seniors' home expansion gets green light](#)

[Hotel, town offer aid to Inn from the Cold program](#)

[Flu centre closed](#)

[MP sorry for calling province's unemployed, 'no-good bastards'](#)

[Operation Christmas launched](#)

[Bells to ring in support of climate change](#)

[Lunenburg confirmed as site of Bluenose II restoration](#)

[Motorcycle stolen in Bridgewater](#)

[New policy directs RCMP to use discretion when writing winter tickets](#)

Sections

- News | Sports | Business
- Lifestyle | Comment | Young Readers
- Social Notes | Letters | Features
- Arts and Entertainment
- In Brief | Court Report
- Classifieds | Milestones

Navigation

- Archives
- Current Issue
- Search

Earth Friendly News Edition

Digital edition - free trial

View The Complete Edition





[Subscribe](#) • [Send feedback](#) • [Privacy Policy](#) • [Add RSS Headlines](#)  
 © 2009 Lighthouse Media Group



- HOME >**
- Tearsheets
  - Business directory
  - Classifieds
  - Community calendar
  - Education
  - Employment
  - Subscriptions
  - Testimonials
  - Contact us

- NEWS >**
- Digital edition
  - Online Edition
  - News videos
  - News archives
  - Special supplements
  - Regional media
  - Subscription
  - Follow us on Twitter

- ABOUT>**
- About us
  - Meet the team
  - Contact us

- VIDEO >**
- 3 on 3 — Local Sports
  - About — Real People
  - Face to Face
  - On Business
  - U-Vid — Youth Video
  - S-Video Festival
  - Video Archive
  - What's Cookin'
  - Advertising videos
  - Community
  - Festivals and events
  - News now
  - Take me home
  - Streeters

- DESIGN STUDIO >**
- Web design
  - Video production
  - Print design
  - Print work

- SHOPPING >**
- Business directory
  - Shopping deals
  - Store flyers

- ADVERTISE WITH US >**
- Ad rates
  - Online classifieds
  - Newspaper classifieds
  - Web advertising

- COMMUNITY >**
- Blogs
  - Events
  - Facebook
  - Forum
  - Our social network
  - Guestbook

- ANNOUNCEMENTS >**
- Obituaries
  - Contact to make announcement

- TV GUIDES >**
- Earth friendly news
  - Printable Guide
  - TV Passport

- USEFUL PAGES >**
- Auto guide
  - Education
  - Employment
  - Gardening
  - Gas prices
  - Greatest Loser
  - Green Pages
  - History
  - Seniors
  - Sports
  - Stormwatchers
  - Tourism

- NEWSLETTERS >**
- Breaking news
  - General news
  - Entertainment
  - Online subscriber notification

- FUN & GAMES >**
- Contests
  - Captain Lighthouse
  - Crosswords
  - E-cards
  - Entertainment
  - Horoscopes
  - Lottery
  - Sudoku