

Workplace Adult Literacy

Lesley Gray's Story

I was a single parent with a child who asked a thousand and one questions and looked to his mum for all the answers. This was fine when he was small but as he grew up **I was finding it hard to give him the answers** and was getting embarrassed to have to say to him to go to his granddad and it was then that I thought I better to something about it. So I went to Riddle's Court for basic learning. It was very good and **it taught ways on remembering how to spell.**

I tried to keep it up but family life took over and once again I just struggled on and it wasn't until I got a job working for a cleaning company called Serco Services doing cleaning at night. I was in the job for a year **when I got promotion which led to doing paper work** so this is when I realised that I was good at talking the job and getting other people to type out the work for me. By boss Marjorie Baley caught on to this and suggested getting help with my spelling and writing. **This is when my life changed for the better.**

I know people don't get it when I say this but as a child I had a bad time at school due to being left handed. Yes, it sounds silly but if you get a teacher standing over you **telling you that you're stupid and weird every day then you start to believe it.**

So when I met Vickie (WEA Workplace Learning Tutor Organiser) for the first time I was scared and nervous but **within five minutes she had put me at ease and that's when my life changed** as I've learnt a whole lot of different things.

But the biggest thing for me is that we all make spelling mistakes but it's not a problem any more. I just move on as I now know that **everyone at some point spells a word wrong so I'm not stupid after all.**

So watch this space as I want to encourage all staff within the company who have felt like me, to show them this path that I am on and that they can walk it too.

