



IBM Reading Companion Grants

The response to last summer's Reading Companion Grant opportunity was so great that IBM has decided to make additional grants available through FLC in 2010!

The Florida Literacy Coalition has partnered with IBM to offer up to ten Reading Companion grants to eligible ABE, Literacy and Family Literacy programs throughout the state of Florida. This grant (valued at \$10,000) provides free access to IBM's Reading Companion software. *Reading Companion* uses innovative speech recognition technology that "listens" and provides individualized feedback to the user, enabling emerging readers to practice their pronunciation as they acquire fundamental reading skills.

The Reading Companion grant is an in-kind donation (valued at \$10,000) of an interactive web-based program that listens, guides and helps children and adults develop their English literacy skills. For more information on the Reading Companion Program, and to view a 4-minute video demonstrating this software, visit <http://www.readingcompanion.org> and click on "explore".

In order for an organization to be eligible for the grant it must have computer equipment that meets the following requirements:

- Windows 2000, XP or Vista
- A high-speed Internet connection (DSL or higher)
- Audio capabilities
- Access to the Internet via Internet Explorer (version 6 or higher)

Applications will be accepted January 5-31.

To access the grant application please go to, <http://fs19.formsite.com/literacy/form887569768/index.html>