



cariboo college

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMPUTERS TO IMPROVE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

Computer-Assisted Instruction (CAI in computer language) in the home is becoming more and more popular. People who purchased computers along with a games package for Christmas are looking for a better return on their investment. In mid-February, Cariboo College is offering a workshop to make parents aware of how computers can be used in the home to improve homework assignments, to practice skills, and to study for tests.

While the market is flooded with software, parents are often confused as to what they might buy that will actually assist the kids with their school work. Cariboo's Computer-Assisted Instruction workshop will focus attention on what criteria to look for in purchasing long-term usable software. There will be demonstrations of some software packages, what to look for and what to avoid, and participants will have a chance to create and load data files that they might make for their children.

Instructor for the course is Alice Charbonneau who, along with her husband Arthur L. Charbonneau, designed and developed a language arts software package that has been used in schools and by individuals in the home. Charbonneau received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education at the University of Minnesota, going on to specialize in the teaching of reading. She has had 15 years of experience as a reading instructor for children and adults and is presently the Learning Assistance teacher at Logan Lake Secondary School.

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Charbonneau feels that parents must become more responsive to their children's educational needs and provide opportunities that may not necessarily be available to them in schools. With so many people owning computers today, it is time, she feels, that they are being put to better use. Parents have discovered that children respond immediately to computer games; now is the time to capitalize on this motivation and turn the computer to educational use.

The CAI workshop will be offered Friday evening, February 15, and all day Saturday, February 16, 1985. For more information and registration procedures, please contact the Extension Services office, Cariboo College, at 374-3661.

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For further information please contact:

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