

Capstone Project Idea: Dana Payne
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Project Title: Mobile Learning Support Tools to Improve Literacy

Problem: An illiteracy rate of 50% is problematic for those growing up and living in Castroville, CA. There are many contributing factors in combating illiteracy, including high turnover rate of volunteers serving as English and Spanish literacy instructors, lack of adequate learning centers and/or operating hours to serve as literacy training stations for student on-site learning, as well as unpredictable and inconsistent funding. Currently, programs are supported by grants and donations. The sources and amounts of grant monies available changes from year to year.

Target Users: Motivated illiterate students in Castroville, CA.

Proposed Solution: Identify candidate, off-the-shelf, mobile learning support tools with the goal of enabling students to further their literacy training when local literacy learning centers are not available and work with community officials and organizations in Castroville to develop a pilot program to test the effectiveness of the best candidate technologies for reducing illiteracy in Castroville.