



ISTEC and IMGL are pleased to announce our collaboration, sponsorship and endorsement of the distant learning education program known as Mentor Me Now®. It is an extremely affordable and highly successful educational product and service of IMaGine Learning, Inc. ('IMGL').

This distant learning program was initially developed in 2004 as a complementary learning tool for both students and adults who were mono-lingual Spanish speakers, and who wished to learn English. The program was developed specifically to be used after school and weekends and in a family participation mode to get parents and children working together. The US Federal Government No Child Left Behind Act and several school districts with a large Spanish speaking population created a learning assistance need that went beyond what could be achieved in the typical language classroom. The El Paso Independent School District, the 5th largest in Texas, became the proof of concept and testing partner for the program, which was named Familiest1st, under the Mentor Me Now division of IMGL. The 2nd generation of the program used live, real time tutoring/mentoring via the Internet and proved to be so successful that the Board of Trustees for the School District unanimously approved its adoption and expanded use for 4 consecutive years. The program was later made available to students during the school day as an adjunct to the basic curriculum. Additionally, thousands of participants in Ciudad Juarez used the program with the consent and encouragement of the School district. Some 20,000 participants successfully learned English, including the ability to understand, read and write fluently in English. This learning program was also directly aligned with the U.S. National and State of Texas standards. Many testimonials, letters and opinions of the program from participants, their tutors and school administrators can be found within the IMGL website at www.imgl.net.

This 2nd generation curriculum now being offered globally, via ISTE C and other organizations, currently consists of 2 courses in English for mono-lingual Spanish speakers and a course in math and one in science. The first English course is appropriate for beginning children and adults who know no English and have never previously used a computer, or the Internet. These 2 courses have over the past several years successfully developed a true *understanding* of English for participating children and adults. The program was originally designed to be a family participation and learning experience for children and their parents. Parental involvement has of course been shown to be a major positive influence on children's learning..., and in this case the children have often helped the adults learn much faster and with more enjoyment as a family program.



IMGL and ISTE have partnered to make these courses and learning services available to you at an *extremely* affordable rate. Children and adults from all over Latin America and the Caribbean areas of interest and membership are now able to access these lessons in increments of USD \$1.00. One U.S. dollar will allow participants 1 full week use of all lessons. Larger blocks of time can be purchased by sponsors or others who may be able to afford greater participation for children, friends, relatives or business associates.

The next generation of the program, the 3rd generation, will be collaboration between ISTE and IMGL. A few of the many goals for this 3G version include developing a more uniform Spanish language version of the curriculum so it can be more clearly understood throughout the ISTE region; additional and improved content will be incorporated; and training centers will be established in the ISTE region to improve access and create jobs through a live mentoring program with teachers from within the local ISTE regional areas. We strive to help provide quality, affordable learning to all, including those most in need and most at risk; and we seek to sustain and grow our organizations through financial participation which will assist our research and other project development activities.

You may gain access to the courses at www.imgl.net, and then navigate to 'Lessons'. We would like your feedback to improve the content and services in the 3G version writing to evalua@istec.net.