

The School Library System Newsletter

October 2007

Pat's Desk Talk

Stretching One's Budget with the SLS & PPD Professional Collections

With budgets getting tighter year after year, no one can really afford to buy all of the professional books they would like. Deciding where to put your dollars is challenging at the best of times and most of us choose to put it where it will serve our students first. Considering the limited audience for professional books in one's district, they won't be as high a priority as the newest great novel or best non-fiction resource. Individual teachers cannot afford all of the resources they want to use, either. Many already dip into personal funds for classroom materials while paying tuition for classes. Adding books to that already expensive list can be difficult.

This is one area SLS and PPD may be able to help you and the teachers in your district to stretch your budget dollars. Encourage staff members to search CIDER for professional materials before forking over money for the purchase. Some books you know you just have to have for your own collection because you will use them a lot or because you like to mark them up with notes and tips as you go. But for the times you want content but not ownership, encourage everyone to try borrowing them instead. Both the SLS and the PPD Professional Collections are growing. It only takes a moment to browse the catalog before heading out to the store to buy the book if it's not in CIDER. Gain the information without losing the dollars.

If someone recommends a relevant title that they would like to see in CIDER we will do our best to get it. We cannot buy textbooks for college classes but we will be delighted to buy teacher resource books and materials related to curriculum work. We may not be able to fill every request but we prefer to buy requested material that we know will be used instead of random purchases that no one checks out. It is a no-lose situation for all of us. We build a strong collection that we circulate through CIDER. You and your colleagues get the books you need and save money! Help us spread the word...drop your colleagues a note, put up a sign in the teacher's lounge, offer to take staff members on a CIDER tour. And keep those requests coming!



Kenn's ILL Notes:

Requests for Recently Published Titles

When making an Expanded ILL request for a recently published book (copyright 2006 or 2007), please keep in mind that the title may not be available through this process. Many lenders have a six month lending hold on new publications; others have a one year hold policy. However, if the book is held by Mid York, it may be possible to borrow the title as a private patron using a library card, even though it is not available through the EILL process.

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Notes from Anne:

Did you know that I can include information about an item in the “notes” field? For example, you might want to give the name of the person who donated a book or point out that a CD, DVD, booklet, or map comes with the book.

I’ve been doing some original cataloging lately, and I’d like to share some of the resources that I use. An electronic resource that I have been using lately is the Cataloguer’s Toolbox. You can access it at:

<http://staff.library.mun.ca/staff/toolbox>

This page is a collection of links, divided into categories. In the “Marc Documentation” section, there are three letter geographic location and language codes, for use in the MARC 008 field.

The “Quick Reference” section features helpful information on cataloging DVD’s, serials, and websites.

Another website that I use when I am cataloging CD’s is the Mary Riley Styles Public Library site:

<http://www.falls-church.lib.va.us/TSD/catmusic.html>.

They’ve created a chart that gives the field tags, a short description of each field, and an example. It also tells where on the CD itself to look for information.



Calendar for Fall 2007:

October 30
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Surveys 101 Workshop
with
Eric Machan Howd
502 Court St., Utica



Mary’s Wellness Notes:

Time for a Sick Day?

Cold and flu season is knocking at the door, and this is a good time to prepare. One important thing we all need to consider is the question of when we should just “suck it up” and go to work and when we need to stay home. This is a sensitive topic in many work environments, and sometimes it seems that there is not much common ground in terms of opinions, only in shared work areas. We can all very likely agree that in the case of severe trauma we should stay home – beyond that, opinions vary between the “If I can walk I can work” camp and the “My nose is pink – no one should be forced to look at this disaster” school of thought. Perhaps it is time for some objective advice on the subject!

Web MD has a list of questions that will help the most stalwart make a good

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decision about when it is time to stay home. Dr. Sharon Hoersch, from the Emory University School of Medicine offered the following check list:

Sniffing:

- Not achy, no fever, feeling fine otherwise? Put down that remote control and get to work!
- Sniffing, achy, tired, fever? You are likely coming down with a cold or the flu, and you are contagious in the first few days. Do everyone a favor, and stay home.

Chills, Sweats:

- You very likely have a fever, and an infection. Drink fluids and consider seeing doctor.

Coughing:

- If it's a tickle in the throat that feels more like postnasal drip, and you are free of other cold symptoms, it is probably allergies. Off you go!
- If the cough feels deep, makes you short of breath or is bringing up discolored mucus, it could be more than a common cold. It is time to see the doctor.

Sinus Pain:

- Pain around the eyes, cheekbones, top of the forehead, even the top of your teeth could be symptoms of a sinus infection. It is best to see a doctor. Sinus infections aren't typically contagious, but they shouldn't be ignored. You should be back at work the next day.

No one wants to be a slacker, but going to work when you are sick is unwise. Even if you are able to function at a moderate level, you may be spreading

your illness to others. Remember too that we are all in contact with people who may have less robust immune systems, and for whom a cold could be the start of a very serious illness. Be a good citizen, and stay home if you are not well!



Grant Opportunity

The National Endowment for the Arts and the American Library Association are teaming up to sponsor two grant opportunities for school and public libraries. "Created Equal" is the theme of the We the People Bookshelf grant. 2,250 libraries will receive a collection of books about equality, along with a "history in a Box" resource kit that will focus on Abraham Lincoln, in honor of his 200th birthday. For more information and a link to the online application, go to: www.wethepeople.gov/bookshelf. The We the People "Picturing America" grant initiative is meant to "promote the teaching, study, and understanding of American art and history in K-12 schools, and to facilitate interdisciplinary partnerships between school library media specialists, art teachers, classroom instructors, and other educators." For more information, go to: www.publicprograms.ala.org/picturingamerica.

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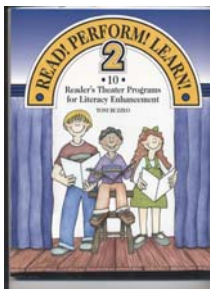
October 2007



New! New! New!

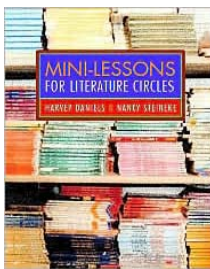
October 2007

**Professional Collection
Additions at the School
Library System**



Buzzeo, Toni. *Read! Perform! Learn! 2: 10 Reader's Theater Programs for Literacy Enhancement*. Upstart Books, 2007.

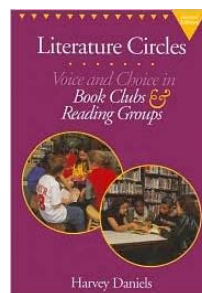
A resource for LMSs and teachers who want to extend the use of books into the content areas while meeting learning standards. Each chapter includes an introduction to the book and script, an author interview, the reader's theater script, and a set of standards-based learning activities with accompanying standards.



Daniels, Harvey and Nancy Steineke. *Mini-lessons for Literature Circles*. Heinimen, 2004.

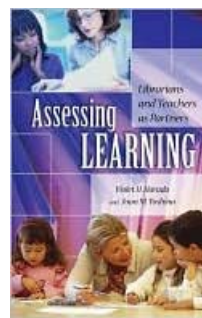
Harvey Daniels' Literature Circles introduced tens of thousands of teachers to the power of

student-led book discussions. Nancy Steineke's Reading and Writing Together showed how a teacher can nurture friendship and collaboration among young readers. Now, Daniels and Steineke team up to focus on one crucial element of the Literature Circle model; the short, teacher-directed lessons that begin, guide and follow-up every successful book club meeting.



Daniels, Harvey. *Literature Circles: Voice and Choice in Book Clubs & Reading Groups*. Stenhouse Publishers, 2002.

In this thoroughly revised and expanded guide, you will find new strategies, structures, tools, and stories that show you how to launch and manage literature circles effectively. Advanced variations are explored and include alternatives to role sheets and flexible new guidelines for their use. With detailed examples provided by twenty practicing teachers, Harvey Daniels offers practical and concrete suggestions for each aspect of book club management and proven solutions for problems that arise.



Harada, Violet and Joan Yoshina. *Assessing Learning: Librarians and Teachers as Partners*. Librarians Unlimited, 2005.

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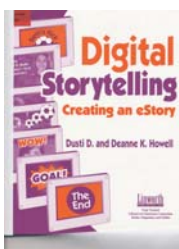
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Presenting doable, practical methods, this in-depth analysis for the school library field will help LMSs become involved in the assessment of student learning. This book addresses the practical application of assessment: purpose, essential elements, knowing what to assess, multiple methods of assessment, and using and communicating assessment results.



Howell, Dusti and Deanne. *Digital Storytelling: Creating an eStory*. Linworth, 2003.

A guide for PC users in building digital stories. Learn to find and use digital videos, digital sounds, and digital images to create stories on computers. Adaptable projects and ideas to facilitate collaboration between teachers and LMSs.



DDC22: Dewey Decimal Classification (ed. 22). OCLC, 2003

The unabridged four-volume set for classifying books with the Dewey Decimal System. Set may be checked out for two week period at a time.

Krista's Korner:

Greetings, everyone! I watched a documentary on video the other night that I think you would all find interesting. It's called "The Pioneer of Rural Schools" (Plattsburgh, NY : Lucid Productions, c2002). The small rural community of Chazy, New York, with the aid of a wealthy philanthropist, organized and established a school system in 1916 that became a model for rural schools in the United States. You would not believe how beautiful and ahead of its time this school was! It would make some school districts envious even today. If you haven't seen this 57-minute film, you're in for a treat. It's available to check out at the MVCC Utica Campus Library or for purchase through North Country Books (<http://www.wpbstv.org/NorthCountryBooks/HomePage.htm>) for \$24.95. I highly recommend it!

Well, I don't plan to be the bringer of sad news in every column, but I just found out that author Lloyd Alexander died on May 17th of this year. His children's novel, *The Black Cauldron*, was a Newbery Medal honor book in 1966, and another novel, *The High King*, received the Newbery Medal in 1969. His series The Prydain Chronicles is still popular with readers today. His last book, *The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio*, was published just this August, and got a starred review in *Library Journal*. I for one will miss his wonderful fantasy books.

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Speaking of books, have you seen Uzo Unobagha's new book, *Grandma, How Do You Say I Love You?* (Adonake Books, Inc., c2007)? I loved this story of a young girl who learns an important lesson from her Nigerian grandmother. Her previous book, *Off to the Sweet Shores of Africa and Other Talking Drum Rhymes*, was written in 2000 and is still in print (and now in paperback). Uzo lives in New Hartford and, if you haven't met her, invite her to your school. She's super nice! You can contact her as well as purchase the book from her web site: <http://www.adonakebooks.com/>. The web site also contains tips for teachers on incorporating the book into various curricular areas.

Don't forget to celebrate Melville Dewey's birthday on December 10th. He was born in 1851 in Adams Center, New York, just north of us in Jefferson County. See the following web site for an interesting biography on this eccentric character as well as links to other information on Dewey: <http://www.booktalking.net/books/dewey/>.

Happy fall!



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