Special Client Needs & the iPad

At a recent Apple workshop that focused on iPads in education, special attention was given to features that make them very user-friendly for your patrons/students with special needs. Voice recognition, utilities that replace tapping requirements with options for those with limited physical movement, and numerous print altering options were showcased. Attendees also were given some excellent Apple App ideas for special students. There were even apps for finding special apps!

Here are a few of the apps recommended by one of the presenters, Assistive Technology Coordinator Sharon Goskoski, from Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES:

- **SNApps4kids**' goal is to explore practical, useful, and educationally sound ways to use Apple and Droid apps with children of all ages and ability levels. Click the link or icon to visit: [http://www.snapps4kids.com](http://www.snapps4kids.com)

- **Autism Apps** is a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. Click the link or icon to visit: [http://touchautism.com/](http://touchautism.com/) [http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/autism-apps/id441600681?mt=8](http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/autism-apps/id441600681?mt=8)

- **APPitic** is a directory of apps for education by Apple Distinguished Educators at [http://www.appitic.com](http://www.appitic.com). more than 1,300 apps have been tested in a variety of different grade levels, instructional strategies and classroom settings.

- **Quixey** is a search engine for finding apps. Explore and review apps for your specific needs: type in “early literacy” or autism and it will provide you with a list of items to meet your needs. Click the link or icon to visit: [http://www.quixey.com/](http://www.quixey.com/)
BULLYING: A Timely Topic

Bullying can happen via several channels, and it is important that students and teachers alike are aware of each way and the effects. These four videos, available on LEARN360, can help you address the various acts of bullying and ways to prevent it.

ENTER THE 21st CENTURY CLASSROOM WITH LEARN360’s WEBINAR SERIES:

Jump into spring with new knowledge! Their complimentary webinar series will help you put your classroom at the forefront of 21st century learning in no time. In addition to their endless list of online resources and activities, they will be sharing new features, including Common Core Standards and 21st Century Learning Skills.

Click the link below:

**March 20, 2012 at 4 p.m. EST**

1. Internet Bullies: Keep Yourself Safe
   Viewers learn the steps to take to stay safe if they are a victim of cyber bullying.

2. 7 Ways to Block a Cyber Bully
   This video details seven effective strategies for dealing with a digital bully.

3. Why is Bullying a Special Education Issue?
   The goal of this professional development video is to help children learn behaviors, so they can advocate for themselves in socially challenging situation.

4. Internet Safety: Pitfalls & Dangers
   This video covers how to safely use the Internet and avoid dangerous Web sites.

LOGIN TO SNAP & CHECK OUT THESE GREAT RESOURCES
We recently purchased two new volumes of Soundzabound. Go to SNAP and click on Soundzabound.

Also of Interest:
NPR (National Public Radio) recently had a broadcast called “Music in Political Campaigns: The Record,” which is about music and copyright law for political operatives. This is a highly informative broadcast about music copyright for all educators and would be excellent to use in a high school social studies, government or ethics class. It ties in current events with musicians kids know and recognize and the ethical use of resources and the idea of protecting your brand (what you stand for). Click the link below:

http://www.npr.org/blogs

Login to SNAP
› Click the Brain POP Jr. icon
› Click Visit Brain POP icon (bottom right)
› Click on FREE BRAINPOP EDUCATORS (top left)
› JOIN FOR FREE!

Once you have signed up you will have access to lesson plans, academic standards, a curriculum calendar, training, featured resources, an educators blog and much more.
Check it out.

WHAT'S NEW?
Our CDs & DVDs!

CD00400 A DOG’S LIFE: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A STRAY
CD00398 CATCHING FIRE
CD00401 INCARCERON
CD00399 LAST SHOT
CD00402 THE RAVENMASTER’S SECRET: ESCAPE FROM LONDON TOWER
DVD1949 13 STRIPE TO 50 STARS: THE GROWTH OF AMERICA
DVD1832 A HEALTHY BODY: NUTRITION AND YOU
DVD1980 ABRAHAM’S CHILDREN
DVD1831 BALANCED DIET: NUTRITION AND YOU
DVD1946 DEALING WITH ANGER: MY BLOG SERIES
DVD1942 DEALING WITH BULLIES AND NO ONE GETS HURT
DVD1983 DOUBLETIME
DVD2259 FAST FOOD NATION
DVD1833 HEALTHY EATING HABITS: NUTRITION AND YOU
DVD1981 HIDDEN TREASURES
DVD1947 HOW TO GET ALONG: MY BLOG SERIES
DVD1943 HOW TO WORK THINGS OUT: MY BLOG SERIES
DVD1972 KING
DVD1984 LET FREEDOM RING: MOMENTS FROM THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT
DVD1982 LUNCH LINE
DVD1948 MAPS AND GLOBES: LET’S TALK GEOGRAPHY
DVD1834 NUTRITION BASICS: NUTRITION AND YOU
DVD1944 THE DANGERS OF TEXTING AND Sexting
DVD1958 WEIGHING THINGS
DVD2119 WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR?
Call for Presenters

Leatherstocking 2012 is just around the corner (maybe a couple of corners), Thursday, October 25. If you have a topic you would like to share with your fellow librarians and teachers, consider doing a sectional presentation at the conference.

There are many great reasons to do a sectional presentation:

1. You have the pleasure of knowing that you have shared great ideas with your peers
2. Your conference fee is waived
3. You have an opportunity to gain experience with presentation skills
4. SLS staff members are Very Grateful
5. You receive a folder of information that is a Special Color, given only to presenters. We know there are brilliant, engaging, cutting-edge people in our ranks: step out of the wood work and shine!

MANUAL EILL REQUESTS TO OUR BOCES ONLY

When placing a manual EILL request through CIDER, please select ONLY our BOCES (Oneida/Herkimer BOCES School Library System) to send the request. By selecting the other two BOCES, the request also goes to them. They will “Reject” your request, knowing it is up to this BOCES SLS to try to obtain the requested item for you. Please do not hesitate to contact Kenn at 793.8506 or krunninger@oneida-boces.org if you have any questions.

EMAILING ELECTRONIC RECORDS

All records submitted to the SLS by e-mail for uploading to CIDER should be sent to: slsdataentry@oneida-boces.org. This includes records you receive from vendors or files you extract from your catalog after uploading them to your local catalog. Please call Kenn at 793.8506 or krunninger@oneida-boces.org if you have any questions.

School Library System Resources: Know Your Tools!

Have you taken some time to explore the newest resources available from your School Library System? If not, now is a good time to gear up!

The Virtual Reference Library has been part of our suite of resources for a few years now, but new titles are added every year. The VRL is made up of resources from three major vendors. It currently contains 145 volumes of Gale titles, the World Book eReference Collection (comprised of Early Peoples, Living Green, and Inventions & Discoveries), and the Tumble Books Library. There are resources for every grade level in the Virtual Reference Library. The Gale resources were recently migrated to a new platform, which makes them more appealing and user friendly. If you haven’t used the VRL recently you will be pleasantly surprised by the new look.

OH! e-Lib (electronic library books powered by OverDrive) is the newest tool in your librarian toolbox. Encourage your students and staff to take a look at the books available, and download titles. If you need help setting up accounts for your students and staff, please contact Aileen Sweeney at 793.6024 or asweeney@oneida-boces.org. There are promotional materials available that can be customized for your library. We will be offering a summer workshop on the OH! Lib, but if you want information of any kind right now, contact us.

e-Textbooks can be purchased for your district through the School Library System co-ser. If you would like information on pricing for specific titles, please contact Mary McCormick at 793.8505 or mmcormick@oneida-boces.org. Not all titles are available in e-format, and pricing varies based on vendor models; contact us for more information. This is a growing service, part of a broader initiative within our division, and we look forward to helping districts meet their needs in this area.
Summer may seem like a long chilly slog away, but really it is just around the corner! We are working hard on setting up the summer training schedule, and coordinating plans between the three parts of our group. We are going to be offering many wonderful workshops, and this seems like a good time to give you a sneak peak.

**Smart Board Training**
We will be offering the full schedule of Smart Board classes, throughout the summer.

**Database Camp**
Back by popular demand! So far we have confirmations for Visual Thesaurus, GaleNet, Learn 360, and Teaching Books, with two more vendors pending.

**Science Content Camp**
Four half-day sessions (½ day K-3; ½ day 4-6) will allow the attendee to learn specific content in a core subject (Living Environment, Earth Science, Chemistry, and Physics) and then apply that information to the existing science kit lessons appropriate for the taught grade level. This discussion and “soak time” will be invaluable as the attendee will bring a higher level science content knowledge to the classroom with guidance from content area specialists.

Attendance for all four sessions is not required.

**SNAP Trainings**
See what’s new, sharpen your SNAP skills, and learn to use this resource to the fullest.

**e-Library Workshop**
Learn how to use and enjoy the School Library System’s OH! e-Lib. Heather Urtz, from Mid York Library, Aileen Sweeney, and Susan Palmieri will share information and help you get acquainted with this newest addition to our suite of resources.

**soundzabound with Barry Britt**
Two-half day trainings, one designed especially for music teachers. Copyright, fair-use, and legal issues as they relate to schools and individuals in a fast changing environment will be explored.

**Literature in the Elementary School**
Jody Hildreth, Sauquoit Valley Elementary School, back for an encore! Come to this workshop for inspiration and information on enjoyable, innovative ways to share and develop a love of literature in elementary school students.

**Search & Seizure**
Get to know the OHM Media and Library Services: preview, vet, and incorporate media content into science kit lessons. In a spirit of paying it forward, any kit specific content links can be added to the Digital Resources of the Science Center for other users to benefit from the time spent previewing content.

**ELA/Science Center Camp**
This professional development center will afford the attendee time to spend time with the books included in science kits to find appropriate ELA connections and activities for these books. Participants will be encouraged to share insights on the Science Center BrainHoney Digital Resource Discussion Board so that others may benefit from the experience.

**Google Docs & Internet Resources**
Two days of training (four workshops) with Leeanne Dooley and Scott Burgess. These classes were wildly popular last summer. Come see what’s new for this year!

**Music Camp**
Three days of training (six half-day sessions). Varied content; this is a melodious work in progress — more information to follow!

**Science Inquiry Camp**
Inquiry in Science: What is it, how do I approach it, what does it look like in the classroom? These hands-on sessions will equip the attendees with the tools to take on the facilitator role as they guide students to the critically important self discoveries in science. Age appropriate activities with a template model will be provided to the attendees.

**Know Your Critters**
Ever wondered how to pick up a crayfish? Are you curious about the emotional life of guinea pigs (aka cavies)? Fascinated by mealworms – or not? Learn about the animals that come to your classroom from the Science Center. You and the animals will be glad you attended this workshop!

**BrainHoney for Elementary Schools**
Utilize the BrainHoney learning management system at the elementary level. This training will be facilitated by elementary teachers currently using BrainHoney. Learn from these practitioners how BrainHoney is used to make the school to home connection, engaging families, students, and educators in one dynamic loop. (Note: this is a professional development opportunity that will have a fee attached. Permission from your school district is required.)

The calendar will be completed very soon, and you will receive all the details on registration and location for our classes. If you have ideas for workshops, or other areas for us to investigate, please share them with us.
Pre-Order Surveys for Ordering Science Kits

Kit ordering will not occur until April. However, it’s not too early to plan the kit schedules for next year.

Surveys have been emailed to each science advisory/building representative concerning kit orders for next year. This online survey is designed to allow the Science Center to better meet the wishes of our component districts. This is not an order, but rather will be used for planning purposes to allow our kit inventory to better meet our schools’ curriculum timelines.

Building Representatives/Advisory Team members can access the survey by logging into their BrainHoney account. They can find this by going to the science center Web site: www.oneida-boces.org/science and clicking on the BrainHoney homepage, entering their user ID and their password (same as in ordering science kits), opening the “Science Advisory Group Information” Course, and locating the folder titled “Kit order information,” expanding and clicking the arrow adjacent to the “Kit Order Information” and then expand the folder titled “Preorder Survey” folders tab at the left.

All information related to the survey can be found there. Please email the science center with any questions.

NEW SCIENCE KIT

A team of six local teachers: Jason Bradley- Westmoreland High, Carla Calenzo-Proctor High, Denise DiSpirito- Utica CSD, Jessica McNair- New Hartford CSD, Adrian Pollock- Clinton Elementary, and Eileen Schreppel- Holland Patent Elementary assembled to establish a new kit and new kit model. The kit, titled “Heat Transfer,” will guide future kit development. After following a prescriptive scope and sequence development that includes a condensed outline, expanded outline, daily lesson plans, and section details, the team focused on how the kit will be student-focused and supportive of teachers with all levels of science background. Upon deciding this, the following were included for the teacher: teacher lesson pages that include links to the presentations, video clips, and homemade instructional tutorial videos on how to use the supplies in the kit. Student documents were included in editable formats so that teachers can personalize worksheets without having to retype them. Lessons will be packed in a bag for quick access and the kit will end with a performance assessment option of a scientific method study or a project oriented/based activity. This kit will expose students to the hard-to-understand concept of heat transfer (conduction, convection, and radiation) by applying it to things with which they would have come into contact: turkey poppers, lava lamps. The kit is in its second round of field testing and will be available for the 2012-2013 school year.

CHANGE IN TIMERS THAT ARE FOUND IN THE KITS

The Mychron Timers which were in the science kits Experimenting, Introduction to Controlled Studies, Data Data Plus Astronomy and Classifying Plants & Animals have been replaced by digital timers. The digital timers are more accurate and less prone to failure than the others, and they contain a battery that can be easily replaced. We hope you find the change to be positive – we think it’s for the better!
Summer Training

Many opportunities for summer training for science are in the works. The calendar will be completed very soon, and you will receive all the details on registration and location for our classes. If you have ideas for workshops, or other areas for us to investigate, please share them with us.

**Science Content Camp:** Four half-day sessions (½ day K-3; ½ day 4-6) will allow the attendee to learn specific content in a core subject (Living Environment, Earth Science, Chemistry, and Physics) and then apply that information to the existing science kit lessons appropriate for the grade level taught. This discussion and “soak time” will be invaluable as the attendee will bring a higher level science content knowledge to the classroom with guidance from content area specialists. Attendance for all four sessions is not required.

**Search & Seizure:** Get to know the OHM Media and Library Services: preview, vet, and incorporate media content into science kit lessons. In a spirit of paying it forward, any kit specific content links can be added to the Digital Resources of the Science Center for other users to benefit from the time spent previewing content.

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The following AIS kits, suitable for advanced fifth and sixth grade students or middle school students who need extra instruction, are available for teachers to borrow:

- **Intermediate Level Life Science Key Idea I:** Cells (Kit 1)
- **Intermediate Level Life Science Key Idea II:** Genetics (Kit 2)
- **Intermediate Level Life Science Key Idea III:** Natural Selection: Survival (Kit 3)
- **Intermediate Level Life Science Key Idea IV:** Reproduction (Kit 4)
- **Intermediate Level Life Science Key Idea V:** Homeostasis (Kit 5)
- **Intermediate Level Life Science Key Idea VI & VII:** Ecology: Man’s Impact of the Environment (Kit 6)
- **Intermediate Level Physical Science Key Idea I:** Astronomy (Kit 7)
- **Intermediate Level Physical Science Key Idea II:** Rocks, Minerals (Kit 8 A or B) and Weather (Kit 8 C or D)
- **Intermediate Level Physical Science Key Idea III:** Chemistry (Kit 9)
- **Intermediate Level Physical Science Key Idea IV:** Energy (Kit 10)
- **Intermediate Level Physical Science Key Idea V:** Force, Motion, Machines (Kit 11)
- **Process Skills:** Life Science and Physical Science (Life Science: Kit 12 A or B; Physical Science Kit 12 C or D)