SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM BIBLIO-FILES

In this issue:

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School Library System Updates

- **The SNAP Update is completed!** In SNAP, you can now add items to public and private lists, and batch re-order items. Visit the School Library System Google Drive for tutorials.

- The spreadsheet of available databases for 2013-2014 has been sent to your district's School Library System Communication Coordinator to distribute. If you did not receive this spreadsheet or have any questions, please contact Kathy Harasta.

- Speaking of next year—please let me know how I can help inform you and your administrators about what the School Library System has to offer. I am available to meet with librarians and administrators to share information on our services. If a visit isn't feasible or desired, I can create infographics, a virtual presentation of services, and other supporting documents to share what the School Library System can do for your school.

Common Core Connection

One of the "6 Shifts" in the Common Core focuses on reading closely and supporting answers with text-based evidence. This shift is exemplified by **close reading tasks.**
Close reading is "a careful and deliberate reading and re-reading of a complex text that allows students to think more deeply about its meaning". For a more in-depth explanation, watch these videos from EngageNY, and check out this PDF for step-by-step directions.
Elementary Example
Secondary Example
Close reading tasks are best suited to clusters of related short articles or text excerpts. Be a hero for your teachers, and help guide them to great articles using NOVELNY resources. You can narrow by lexile, length, publication date, and text type. All NOVELNY databases are free for NYS residents. Contact Nicole or Kathy if you need your school's NOVELNY log-on credentials, or if you'd be interested in more information about making the most of these resources to support the Common Core.

Got a great read-aloud to recommend? What about a non-fiction cluster that's working wonders? Share it here!

Please contact Nicole with write-ups, pictures, and/or dates and times of exceptional library programming.

We are doing innovative, important work—let's share our expertise and celebrate the outstanding librarians in our area!

Visit our website!
http://bit.ly/WSjPo4

School Spotlight

This month's "school spotlight" features a few schools: Deposit, Maine-Endwell, Owego, and Whitney Point!

Librarians from these districts, along with teachers from a variety of levels/disciplines/other districts took part in a grant-funded workshop, "Project Look Sharp: Teaching with Primary Sources". Led by instructor Chris Sperry, participants learned the art of media decoding as well as tips and tricks for locating quality resources through the Library of Congress.

Media decoding involves using open-ended questions to guide students to think deeply and critically about a document, image, or video, and to

Stephanie Hodkinson, Kim Becker (Whitney Point) and Phyllis Sanford (Deposit)

provide evidence for their claims. Sound familiar? Media decoding is very similar to a close reading task (see page 1).

For more images from this workshop, see page 4.

Interested in media literacy/decoding? Borrow one of the Project Look Sharp Kits from the Media Library for step-by-step directions and clustered resources!

New Media Library Resources

Kathy Harasta has recently assembled 38 interactive read aloud sets for Grades 5-8.

These book sets are grouped by subject/focus. The following topics are available:

Grade 5
Diaries-Journals | Informational | Memorable Language | Native Americans | Revolutionary War | Westward Expansion
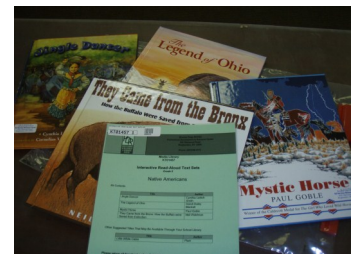
Grade 6
Autobiographies | Author Study-Sharon Creech | Diaries-Journals-Letters | Flight | Historical Fiction | Memoirs-Biographies | Author Study-Gary Soto | Sports | Survival | War | World War II | Writers Biographies

Grades 7 & 8
Ancient Past | Biographies | Challenges | Civil Rights | Egypt | Environment-Nature | Fighting For Your Beliefs | Freedom | Historical Fiction | Holocaust | Information |

Informational Texts | Memoirs-Personal Narratives | Memorable Language | Middle Ages-Renaissance World War II
Author Study-Paula Fox

These sets were formed using the guiding principles of Fountas & Pinnell, and are available to borrow from the Media Library through SNAP.

Advocacy/Grant Opportunities

Advocacy Toolkit for School Librarians:
This Colorado-based site has collected downloadable documents and webpages to help share our stories with key stakeholders:
https://sites.google.com/site/caslsurvive/home/tell-your-school-board
Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grants:
Applicationa are open, deadline is 3/15/2013
More information is available at: http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/minigrant-program/
Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grants:
Applications are now open. More information is available at :
http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/grant_programs.aspx
Scholastic has an entire page devoted to library grants. Find it here:
http://www.scholastic.com/librarians/programs/grants.htm

Conferences, Workshops, and Webinars

Scholarships for the annual New York Library Association Section of School Librarians (NYLA/SSL) Conference are available for school librarians through BT BOCES. Scholarships cover registration and lodging.
Apply here:
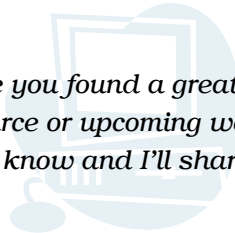http://bit.ly/14OkLA3
Deadline: 3/6/2013 at 4PM

Check out the **TL Virtual Café** for archived and ongoing FREE webinars on a variety of topics:
http://tlvirtualcafe.wikispaces.com/

Have you found a great online resource or upcoming webinar? Let me know and I'll share it here!

School Library Journal offers free webinars on a variety of topics for school librarians.
The best part?
All of SLJ's webinars are archived to view at your convenience:
http://www.slj.com/category/webcasts/

Award Opportunities

Heaven on Earth: Shakers, Religious Revival and Social Reform in America
This weeklong workshop will be held at Siena College in Albany July 7-13 and July 14-20, 2013 (2 separate sessions). Participants will examine the history, culture and legacy of the Shakers. K-12 teachers and librarians are encouraged to apply. Workshop participants will be awarded a $1,200 stipend

towards program costs.
Deadline: 3/4/13
Application & Information:
www.siena.edu/shakerworkshop

Gale/Library Media Connection TEAMS Award:
This award "*recognizes and encourages the critical collaboration between the teacher and media specialist to promote learning and increase student achievement.*"
Deadline: 6/30/13
Application and information:
http://www.galeschools.com/TEAMS/

World Read Aloud Day

March 6, 2013 is World Read Aloud Day. Are you planning any events in your library? Click on the link above for more information on how to register plus activities and recommendations. For a list of authors that have volunteered for free Skype sessions, visit Kate Messner's website. As always, please let me know if you're planning an event—and if there is anything I can do to help support you!

School Spotlight Photo Gallery

Check out more photos from our February 14 Workshop, "Project Look Sharp: Teaching with Primary Sources"

Left: Instructor Chris Sperry works with Phyllis Sanford (Deposit) on modeling a decoding activity.
Below: Sandy Stiles and Stephen McGovern (Owego) work together to plan an activity; Nicole Laura looks on.

Left: Michael Kohler and Carrie Martin (ME) collaboratively plan a media literacy lesson using Library of Congress resources.

Below:
Left: Project Look Sharp Kits
Right: Attendees hard at work.