

**Do you have the  
Down Low on the  
Curriculum  
library?**

# The DL on the CL

**Volume 1, Issue 1**

**September 2008**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The DL with the Director	1
Rambling on with Risch	1
Top Marks from Marks	2
Stark Raving Suggestions	2
A-Rod's Advice?: What's Up with Touhey?	2
Communication Shouldn't Take a Vacation	3
Deal with the Facts	3
Find It @ the CL: Tips on Using the Catalog	3

## The DL with the Director

Welcome Back to the Curriculum Library. The DL on the CL started with an idea last year about generating a newsletter of the happenings and resources the CL has to offer. So, our work study, Leah Karaffa said, "What if we call it, the DL on the CL!" "It's so us", I said.

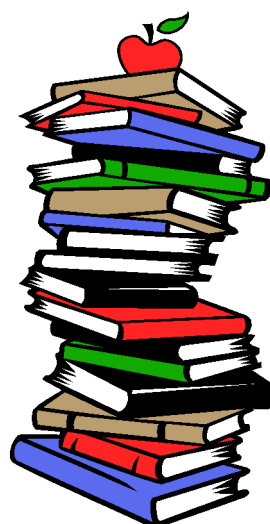
The CL is really a down-to-earth environment where everybody knows your name. This is the place where students converse and ask questions about how to utilize materials in lesson planning and therapy sessions. Our staff is here to help you with whatever your needs may be.

This year we are offering a workshop series on how to utilize your school librarian when lesson planning. School librarians gather information, resources and find great literature to connect to your classroom. The first workshop will be September 23. Please join us for this collaborative conversation.

Have a fun-filled semester!

Take care,

Marisa Gitto



## Rambling on with Risch

Have you noticed a colorful difference in the Curriculum Library? Well, if you connect the dots, you will see that the CL elves have been working hard this summer.

How do you connect the dots you may ask? Look at the spine of any book and match the colored dot to one of the

many keys we have around the CL. It is now much easier to find materials to suit your needs.

Using the Children's Literature Comprehensive Database, each book was assigned a suggested grade level and entered into the catalog. Now, when searching the catalog or looking for a book on the shelf, you will be able to

see the appropriate grade level for each book in the juvenile, easy picture books, fiction and Touhey collections.

So the next time that you need a book for a specific grade level, always remember, connect the dots!

**By: Amber Risch**

## Top Marks from Marks

Are you looking for something great to kick off the school year? Well, I have some fun and useful materials for you!

*The Teacher from the Black Lagoon.* By Mike Thaler (call no. RDG-331). Ages 3-8.

If you are looking for something funny to read to your class on the first day of class to break the ice, this story is perfect. The boy in this story imagines what his new teacher will be like...and gets a little carried away.

*The Best of Building Assets Together: Favorite Group Activities that Help Youth Succeed.* Jolene L. Roehlkepartain. (call no. CLR 155.25.R713b 2008)

Do you need some ice breakers for your middle school or high school students? Roehlkepartain offers numerous group activities which center on building personal skills for students such as: self awareness, leadership, relationships, communication, character, and involvement in community. HOWEVER, if you are looking for ice breakers, there is a whole chapter (chapter 2) devoted

to them. My personal favorites were "Bouncing Questions" and "All About Me." They include discussion questions, material lists, and developmental tie-ins.

**By Alisha Marks**



## Stark Raving Suggestions

CSD majors looking for a way to integrate literacy into a session? Well, look no further. Reading rods are my new favorite item. Reading rods are plastic connecting cubes. Each cube has a letter or sound combination printed on it. The cubes can be put together to make syllables, words, or even sentences. They can be used for vowel sound patterns, grouping rhyming words, identifying initial and final consonants, and introducing sound combinations for early spelling and

reading skills. The particular reading rods that I have found useful are the word families. This is a great way to support phonemic awareness whether in a small group or in the classroom.

Reading rods can be used with a book to introduce word families. Simply by selecting a particular word family to focus upon then use a book that emphasis that particular sound combination. From personal experience when introducing the

"eep" word family I used *Sheep in a Jeep*, by Nancy Shaw. You may have the child create all the "eep" words that appear in the story. There are an endless ways to incorporate literature with reading rods, so check them out!

**By: Megan Stark**



## A-Rod's Advice: What's Up with Touhey?

Many people come & go from the Curriculum Library and only briefly notice the Touhey Collection in the back. Do you really know what the Touhey Collection is? Well, you've come to the right place to find out!

This collection can be used as early as preschool & continue to be used up through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade! There are dozens of African folktales, poems

& songs from Africa, Native American tales, as well as stories dealing with diversity. Even if you are simply teaching a unit on poetry, you can use the typical Shel Silverstein example, but then grab *Brown Angels: an album of pictures and verse* from the Touhey collection to show the differences & similarities between the two! The Touhey Collection also houses several non-fiction books that are terrific

resources for students and teachers alike.

If you're going to be student-teaching or doing field work, you should seriously consider using our extensive multi-cultural Touhey Collection!

**By: Amanda Rodriguez**

## Communication Shouldn't Take a Vacation

### Ideas for Communicating With Parents

One important contribution that parents, caregivers and even older siblings can make to a child's education is to spend time reading. Extra practice at home helps to strengthen kids' reading skills. Start the year off strong with a note home that encourages parents to read with their children.

Some parents probably already have a reading routine in place. For those who don't, it can be difficult to fit reading time in along with homework, after-school activities, meals, chores and getting to bed at a reasonable hour! Just 10 or 15 minutes reading per day

is a great start!

Here are a few suggestions that have worked well for me. Now that my kids are starting to read independently, they enjoy showing off their skills by reading to me. Sometimes the child reads the whole book. Other times we take turns by page. My youngest, who is just beginning to read, likes to read the repeated phrases or the rhyming words. I believe that the most important thing is to keep it fun. Reading isn't a chore; it's an adventure!

I've found that a good way of encouraging extra reading is to allow my kids to stay up for an extra 15 or 20 minutes at bedtime

to read quietly. Occasionally on a non-school night, they can stay up as late as they want, provided they're reading.

Public libraries are a great resource. In addition to lending books, many offer special programs for kids at all age levels. Most publish a monthly calendar that you could send home with your students.

**By Roseann Marlett**

## Deal with the Facts

As many new students/faculty are joining The College of St. Rose they are just beginning to learn about school policies. One of the main facilities that people will become familiar with is the Curriculum Library. This is a great place to find a variety of materials YOU need but before this can happen, there are some things that YOU should know.

First, you must have a Saint Rose ID to check out materials. Second, in order to check out tests you must be on a class list submitted by your professor. Tests and reference materials circulate for 1 week and are not renewable. Books, text books, big books, and kits circulate for 2 weeks. They may be renewed once. The rules are simple to follow so when you

get a chance come and visit us at the Curriculum Library!

**By Shannon Deal**



## Find It @ the CL: Tips on Using the Catalog

The Curriculum Library (CL) and the Neil Hellman Library share the same catalog. So by default, the catalog searches the collections of both libraries at the same time.

To only look for items in the CL, apply limits prior to searching. From the catalog's search screen, click on the "limits" button in the lower right corner. Highlight

"Curriculum Library" from the menu, then "Apply Limits." (There are also limits for Curriculum Library Kits and the Touhey Collection of Multicultural Resources.)

**Note:** Applying limits works with keyword and title searches, but not with subject and author searches. Subject searching lets you browse a list of subject headings; author

searching, a list of authors. Subject headings for many CL materials contain these phrases:

- Juvenile fiction
- Juvenile literature
- Study and teaching

**By Mary Lindner**

## **The Curriculum Library**

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**DO YOU HAVE THE  
DOWN LOW ON THE  
CURRICULUM LIBRARY?**

The Patricia Standish Curriculum Library houses over 12,000 resources and hands-on materials to support undergraduate and graduate studies within [The School of Education](#). The Library offers a circulating reference collection, children's literature, information books, textbooks, kits, manipulatives, readers, and the Touhey Collection of multicultural books.

The Curriculum Library is conveniently located on the second floor of the [Thelma P. Lally School of Education building](#).

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