Energize Your Program: Collaborating Across the Curriculum

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http://eduscapes.com/sessions/energize

What do you do for fun? Do you get up on Saturday morning and plan a day of math and social studies? Or, are you more likely to listen to music, take a walk, or work on a home improvement project? Why not extend those "real world" times to the school environment by turning the library media center into a place that brings learning alive for students.

Whether it's a book that stimulates a great idea for a skit and video or a discussion with the media specialist that helps a student brainstorm for an inquiry project, the school library provides the bridge between the curriculum and the rest of the world. Let's make school engaging through authentic, meaningful activities. This means turning the library into an exciting learning laboratory filled with resources, tools, spaces, and places for sharing. Energizing your program means creating synergy. Synergy is created by combining resources with exciting, inquiry-rich learning environments. Idea - ArtsEdge from Marcopolo - http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/

Visual Art

School library media specialists, technology coordinators, and classroom teachers can work together to design environments to release the artistic energy of children. Bring art into your center. Develop ongoing, art-based activities. Display student work in showcases, bulletin boards, and easels. Invite the art teachers to collaborate on ways to make your center visually rich.

Inspiration and Exploration

Escrapbooking http://escrapbooking.com/
The Love of Monsters http://aardvarkelectric.com/gargoyle/
Internet Resources on Fine Arts http://eduscapes.com/tap/tapart.html
4explore: Fine Arts http://42explore.com/42explorearts.htm

Tools of the Artist

Explore ways to enhance your center through artistic connections.

The Artist's Toolkit MIA http://www.albrightknox.org/artgames/
Art Studio Chalkboard http://www2.evansville.edu/studiochalkboard/

Connections: Art+

Build books, videos, pieces of artwork, and tools of art into center displays and activity areas.

All Subjects Rockwell's America http://www.childrensmuseum.org/
Artists Jan Brett http://janbrett.com/
English Saint George and the Dragon http://www.nga.gov/kids/rogier/rogier1.htm
Library Dragon http://www.booksprogram.com/readalong/library_dragon.htm

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Performing Arts

From music to theatre, the performing arts are attractive to many of our students. Whether it's holding a poetry slam in the library or building a music area in your center with an electronic music keyboard, bring the center alive through the performing arts. Turn your school library media center into a learning laboratory where students can explore all aspects of performance art. Provide a performance area including costumes, puppets, and other resources to encourage exploration and creation. Consider playing a variety of background music in your center and encourage students to meet and share their ideas about performance art in your center.

Inspiration and Exploration
Many books, websites, and other resources can encourage students to learn about music.

Arizona Opera http://www.azopera.com/learn.php
San Francisco Symphony http://www.sfskids.org/
New York Philharmonic http://www.nyphilkids.org/main.phtml

Tools for Artists
Save the Music Foundation http://www.vh1.com/partners/save_the_music/home.html

Connections: Performing Arts +
All Subjects Yo-yo Ma http://www.silkroadproject.org/
ArtsEdge http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/content/2349/

Reading Highlight books with CDs such as the books by John Denver and John Lithgow.
Songwriter's Hall of Fame http://www.songwritershalloffame.org/

History Music with Buddy, Not Buddy; Crispens; Soldier's Heart
Jazz in the Schools http://media.jalc.org/nea/home.html
I Hear America Singing http://www.loc.gov/rr/perform/ihas/ihashome.html
American's Story http://www.americaslibrary.gov/

Geography Secret of the Andes; Nory Ryan’s Song
River of Song – Mississippi http://www.pbs.org/riverofsong/index.html

Sociology Endangered Music http://www.rykodisc.com/
Experience Music Project http://www.emplive.org/
Save our Sounds LOC http://www.saveoursounds.org/
Sounds from the Vault http://www.fieldmuseum.org/sounds/chooser.html
English  Reader's Theatre  http://www.aaronshep.com/rt/RTE.html
          Storytelling  http://www.storyarts.org/classroom/index.html
          Poetry 180 from LOC  http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/
          Cue Sheets  http://www.kennedy-center.org/education/cuesheets/home.cfm

Health and Physical Fitness

Health and physical fitness can literally energize your center. Whether it’s hosting the morning yoga club or coordinating the safety fair, consider ways to get physically active students into your center and promote healthy living.

Inspiration and Exploration
          Physical Education Best Practice Ideas  http://www.pecentral.org/bp/index.html
          A Dancer's Journal  http://artsendge.kennedy-center.org/marthagraham/index.htm

Tools for Health and Physical Fitness
          Discovery Health  http://health.discovery.com/
          WebMD Health Tools  http://www.webmd.com/medical_information/health_tools/default.htm
          Partnership for a Drug-free America  http://www.drugfree.org/Portal/drug_guide/
          It's My Life  http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/index.html

Connections: Health and Physical Fitness
          KidsHealth  http://www.kidshealth.org/
          Sports Illustrated for Kids  http://www.sikids.com/
          Nick Gascasters  http://www.nick.com/all_nick/gas/
          The Science of Baseball  http://www.exploratorium.edu/baseball/
          PowerPoint + Drugs, Vegetarians

Communication  Blogging  http://central.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/athleticsgoodnews/

Applied Arts

The applied arts are about thinking, problem solving, collaborating, exploring, creating, and tinkering with ideas. How are you encouraging students to be creative and critical thinkers?

Inspiration and Exploration
          Inventors at Play  http://www.inventionatplay.org/
          CampSilos  http://www.campsilos.org/

Connections: Applied Arts +
          Subjects  GPS Project  http://teachers.esu10.k12.ne.us/gswingle/stories/storyReader$4
          History  Museum of Costume  http://www.museumofcostume.co.uk/

Think different! Look for ways to get ALL children, young adults, and teachers involved with the exciting things happening in the school library media program.