Youth Services

This class is presented by the Public Library Academy and sponsored through a grant from IMLS.

Class Objectives

- Apply brain development to programming
- Plan programs for various age groups
- Conduct a Reader's Advisory interview
- Understand social role of libraries for youth

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Agenda

- Early childhood development
- Effective library skills that enhance development
- Understanding and working with children and teens
- Reader's advisory
- Educational classes & activities that promote growth

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Words that Describe What we Do

- **Program –** we'll use class, seminar, workshop, event, project, curricula

- **Storytime –** we'll use preschool class or children's class

- **Reference -** we'll use research or instruction

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Why Libraries are Important to Children

- Research shows that being exposed to reading aids in brain development, especially in the first five years of life.

- The brain is the only organ not fully developed at birth. It develops in the world not in the womb and it is constantly working to build connections.

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Understanding the Brain

- The brain is made of brain cells called neurons
- Brain cells make connections called synapses
- A baby forms 700 neural connections per second in the first years of life

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Experiences Build Brain Architecture

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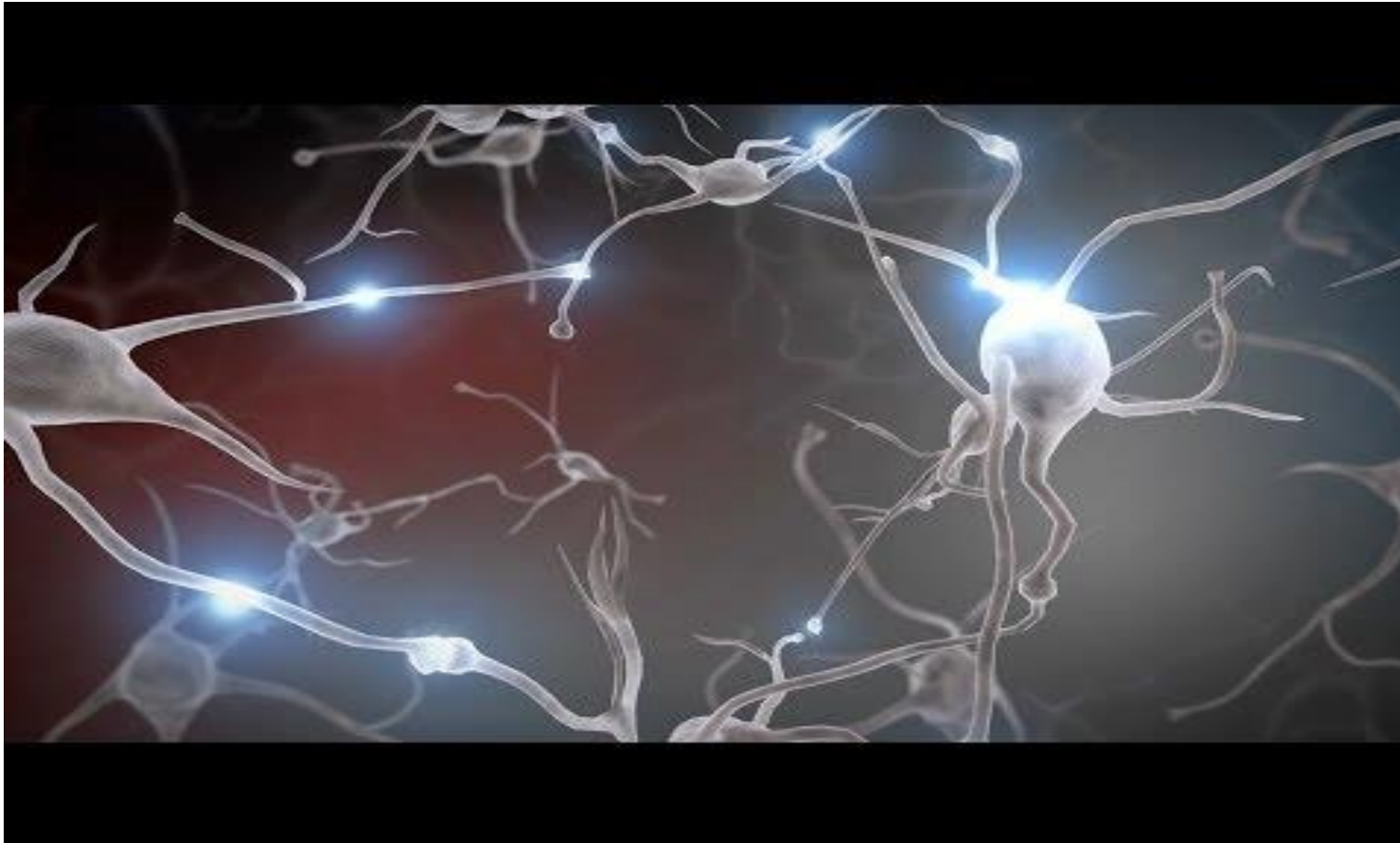
Experiences Build Connections

- Early experiences physically determine how the brain is wired and create new synapses

- Repetition of experiences strengthen them

- Touch, sound, sight, taste, and smell all build connections

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What can babies do?

- Hearing is well developed but can't hear some low, quiet tones

- Sense of touch is developed

- Sight changes dramatically during the first 7 months

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Developing during this stage:

- Habits
- Hand-eye coordination
- Object Permanence (knowing something exists without seeing it)
- Experimentation and creativity
- Trial and error experiments
- Reflexes

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Things that Give Children the Best Start

- Interaction
- Touch
- Safe environment
- Self Esteem
- Communication
- Play
- Music
- Reading

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The Library's Role at this Stage

- Libraries provide free, safe environments that offer repeated exposure to positive interactions during those critical years from birth to age 2.

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Lapsit Classes for the Very Young

For Babies and Toddlers:

- Singing
- Reading
- Moving
- Playing

For Parents and Caregivers (show them how):

- Sing
- Read
- Move
- Play to encourage learning and literacy

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Lapsit Basics

- Sit in a circle facing each other
- Every child has an adult
- Short and sweet
- Music is important
- Rhymes and rhythm
- Few short books with little text
- Play time
- Printed page for adults to take home

Songs, Bounces, and Fingerplays

Songs, Bounces, and Fingerplays

Creating a Lapsit Class

1. Welcome song
2. Introduction time using a name rhyme or song
3. Action rhyme. Rhythm is important
4. Fingerplay
5. Short book
6. Bounce to a song
7. Fingerplay
8. Short book
9. Action rhyme
10. Closing song
11. Play time!

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An Example

Mix It Up! Lapsit

Sing!
The More We Get Together
The more we get together, together, together,
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.
For my friends are your friends and your friends
are my friends.

Name Game!
Bumblebee
Rickety Tickety Bumble Bee
[clap to the beat on your laps]
Rickety, Tickety, Bumble Bee
Can YOU say your name for me?
Hi! (Child's name)

Bounce!
Popcorn
Popcorn, popcorn, sizzling in
the pan.
Shake it up, shake it up, as
fast as you can!
Popcorn, popcorn, now it's getting hot,
Shake it up, shake it up, Pop, pop, pop!
Repeat!

Sing!
I'm a Little Teapot
I'm a little teapot...short and stout,
Here is my handle ...here is my spout
When I get all steamed up, then I
shout,
"Tip me over and pour me out!"

Story!
THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR
by Eric Carle

Fingerplay!
Friendly Caterpillar
The friendly caterpillar
Made his cocoon one day
He turned into a butterfly
And quickly flew away!
Repeat!

Sing and Play
Itsy Bitsy Spider
The itsy-bitsy spider
Climbed up the water spout.
Down came the rain
And washed the spider out.
Out came the sun
And dried up all the rain.
And the itsy-bitsy spider
Climbed up the spout again.

Bounce!
Baby's Fingers
These are baby's fingers.
These are baby's toes.
This is baby's belly button.
Round and round it goes.
Repeat

Story!
SHEEP IN A JEEP
by Nancy Shaw

Ending Song!
If You're Happy
If you're happy and you know it, clap your
hands
If you're happy and you know it, clap your
hands If you're happy and you know it, then
your face will surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.
If you're happy and you know it, wave goodbye, bye
bye
If you're happy and you know it, wave goodbye, bye
bye)If you're happy and you know it, then your face will
surely show it
If you're happy and you know it, wave goodbye, bye
bye)

See you next time!

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Group Work

What Doesn't Work

- Class that lasts too long
- Too many books and books that are too long
- Flannel boards and props with pieces
- Long and complicated songs
- Expecting babies and toddlers to pay attention and be quiet
- Expecting toddlers to sit still

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Ages 2 to 5 Development

- Egocentric
- Language develops – thinks in words
- Play is instrumental in learning
- Pretend play is crucial
- Learning at a rapid rate
- Often believes inanimate objects have feelings
- Lacks logic

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Library's Role at this Stage

- Libraries provide preschool classes which provides the opportunity for children to develop a love of books and reading - the most fundamental skill for learning.

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Planning a Children's Class

1. Choose your books
2. Check for length (it really matters), language, diversity, level of excitement
3. Add opening and closing songs, musical instruments, flannel board, extension activities, etc.

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Ages 6 to 12 Development

- Learn to cooperate in group settings
- Develop lasting friendships & begin to handle peer pressure
- Demonstrate growing independence
- Use problem-solving, negotiating & compromising skills with peers
- Become sensitive to what others think of them
- Become self-critical & begin to self-evaluate
- Can be quite sensitive & overly dramatic
- Changes emotions quickly

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Teen Development

- **New Experiences** – looks eagerly for this
- **Consequences** – sometimes struggles with this
- **Values** – sense of right and wrong is heightened
- **Influences** - desperate for friends and highly susceptible to peer pressure
- **Decision-making** – skills are developing
- **Identity** – working out who they are & where they fit in
- **Independence** – continually growing
- **Responsibility** – willing to take on more

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Libraries as "Third" Places

- More than lending books
- Point-of-contact for so much
- Navigators

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Children and Teen Services

- Old School Thought: give them what **we think** they need i.e. books, stories, 'check them out, keep them quiet and see ya later'
- Today's Thinking: what can we provide that will enhance learning, make it fun, engage young people and make them return for more?

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Children and Teen Services

- Understand their needs
- Have concept of how they think
- Help them understand how the library works

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Offering Good Library Experiences

- Be approachable
- Know how to talk to children and teens
- Realize importance of reference interview
- Reading levels vary
- Stay abreast of current literacy trends
- Know your pop culture
- Understand latest technology
- Leave the library jargon behind
- Have a sense of humor
- Listen to them

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Reader's Advisory for Children and Teens

- Customer centered library service where informed and non-judgmental library staff put books and other library materials into the hands of young readers.

Reader's Advisory for Children and Teens

- Make the Reference Desk inviting
- Listen, be patient and positive
- Be conscious of your body language
- The first request may not be what they need or want
- Keep asking questions
- Involve children/teens as you search
- Include parents....or not
- Walk with them to find the item
- Let them know your suggestions are only suggestions
- Stay current with what they are reading and watching

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5 Big Genres

- Romance
- Mystery
- Fantasy
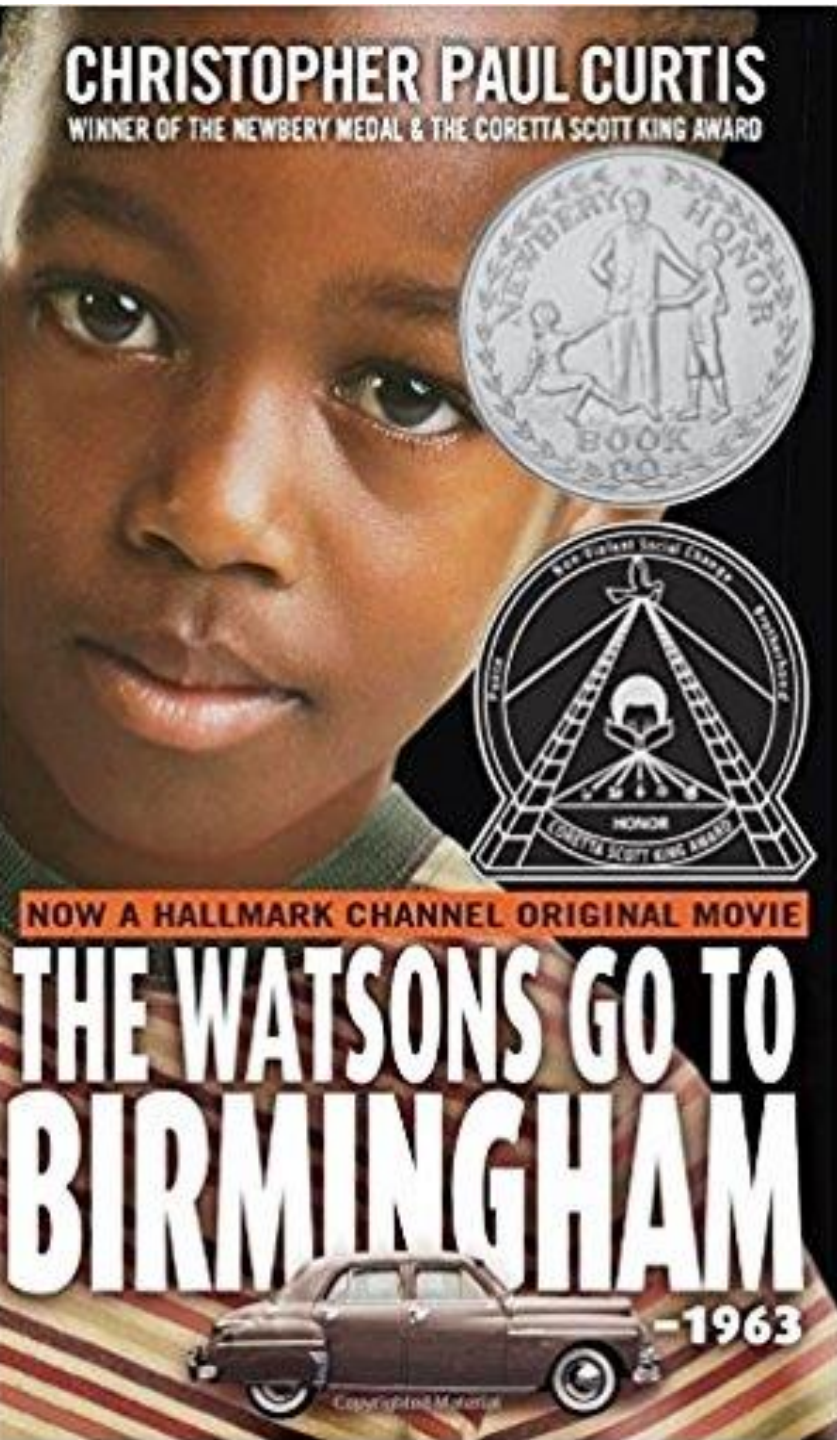- Science fiction
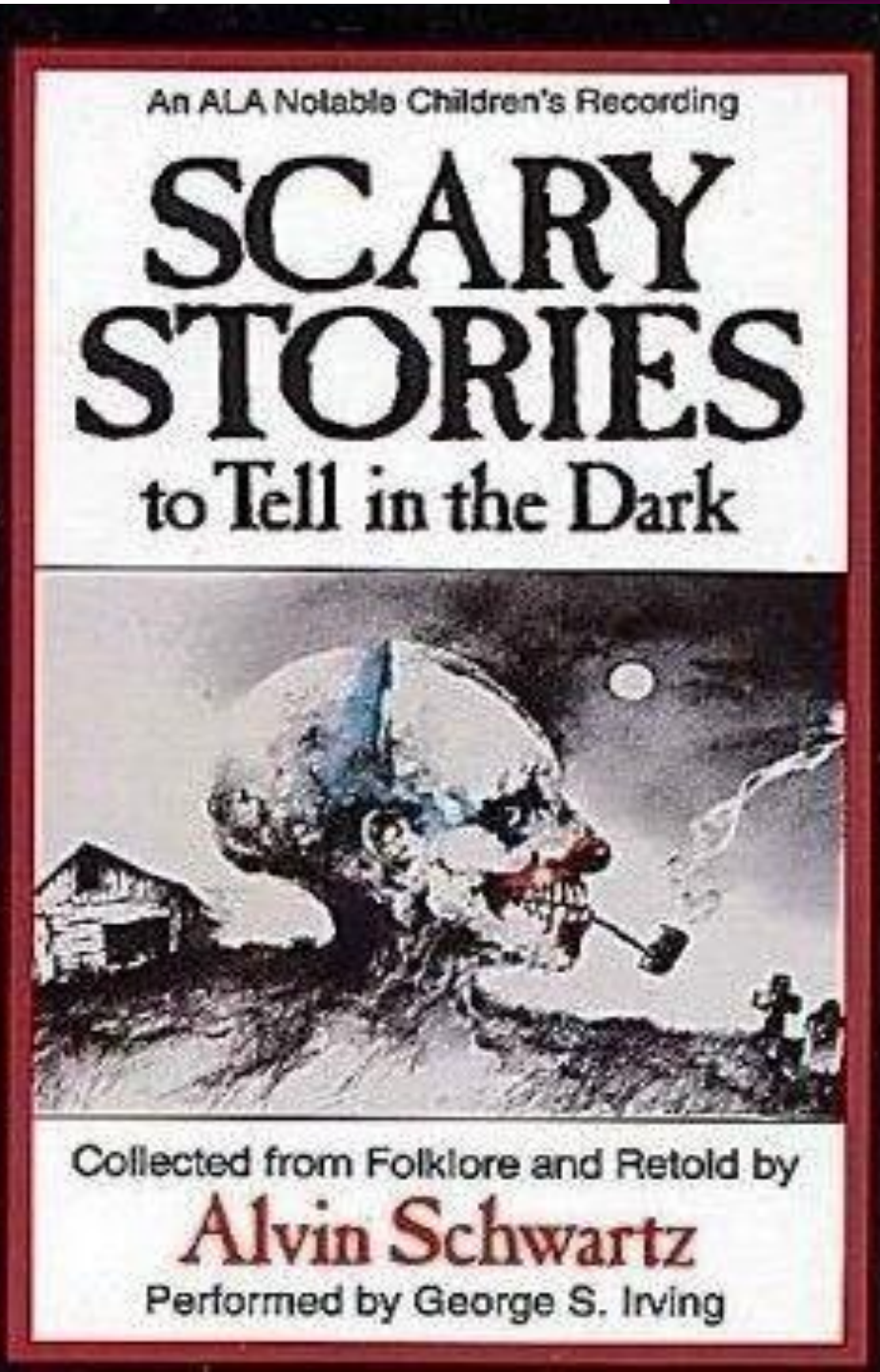- Adventure

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Sub-genres

- Classics
- Crime
- Fable
- Fairy Tale
- Folklore
- Historical fiction
- Horror

- Humor
- Magical realism
- Meta fiction
- Mystery
- Mythopoeia
- Realism
- Suspense
- Western

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Name a Title

- Horror
- Historical Fiction
- Humor
- Suspense/Thriller
- Dystopian
- Classic

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CHRISTOPHER PAUL CURTIS
WINNER OF THE NEWBERY MEDAL & THE CORETTA SCOTT KING AWARD

NEWBERY HONOR BOOK

NOW A HALLMARK CHANNEL ORIGINAL MOVIE

THE WATSONS GO TO BIRMINGHAM —1963

NAME THE GENRE

An ALA Notable Children's Recording

SCARY STORIES to Tell in the Dark

Collected from Folklore and Retold by
Alvin Schwartz
Performed by George S. Irving

NAME THE GENRE

NEW YORK TIMES AND USA TODAY BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Denise Grover Swank

ONE PARIS SUMMER

NAME THE GENRE

THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING SERIES

FABLEHAVEN

BRANDON MULL

Cinder
THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
The Lunar Chronicles
SPECIAL BONUS short story inside!
marissa meyer

Name the genre

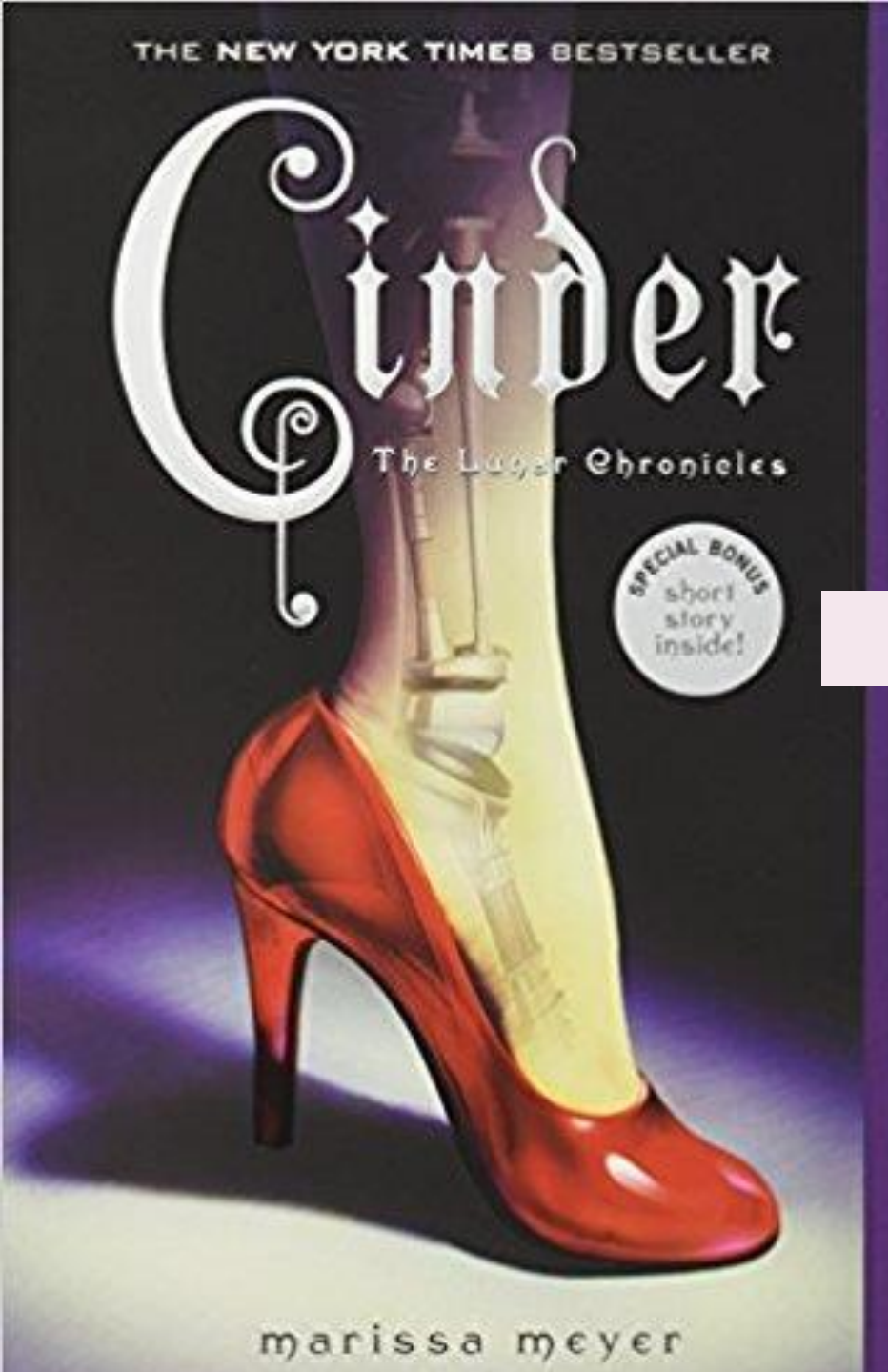FROM THE MIXED-UP FILES OF MRS. BASIL E. FRANKWEILER
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TWO-TIME NEWBERY MEDAL WINNER
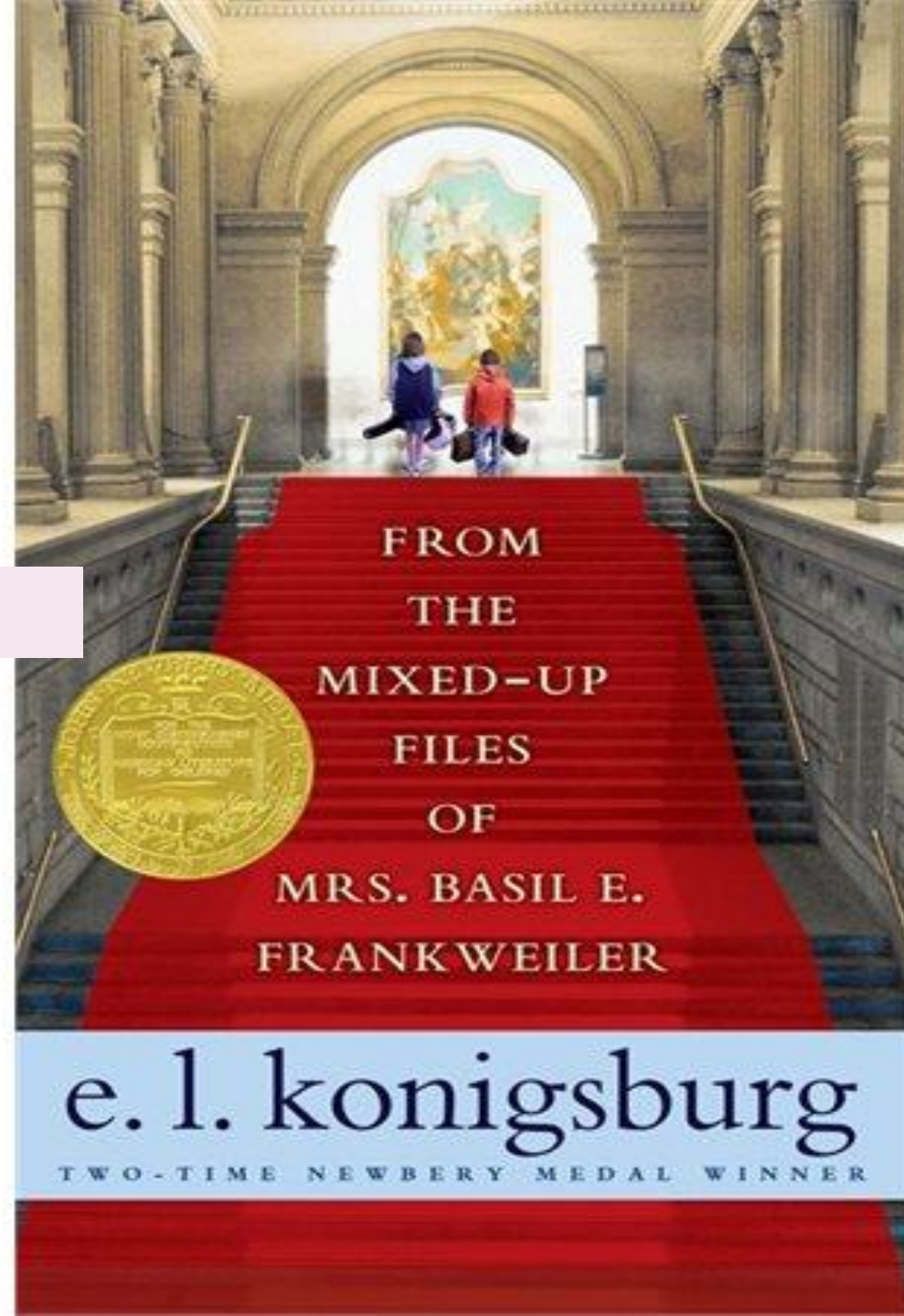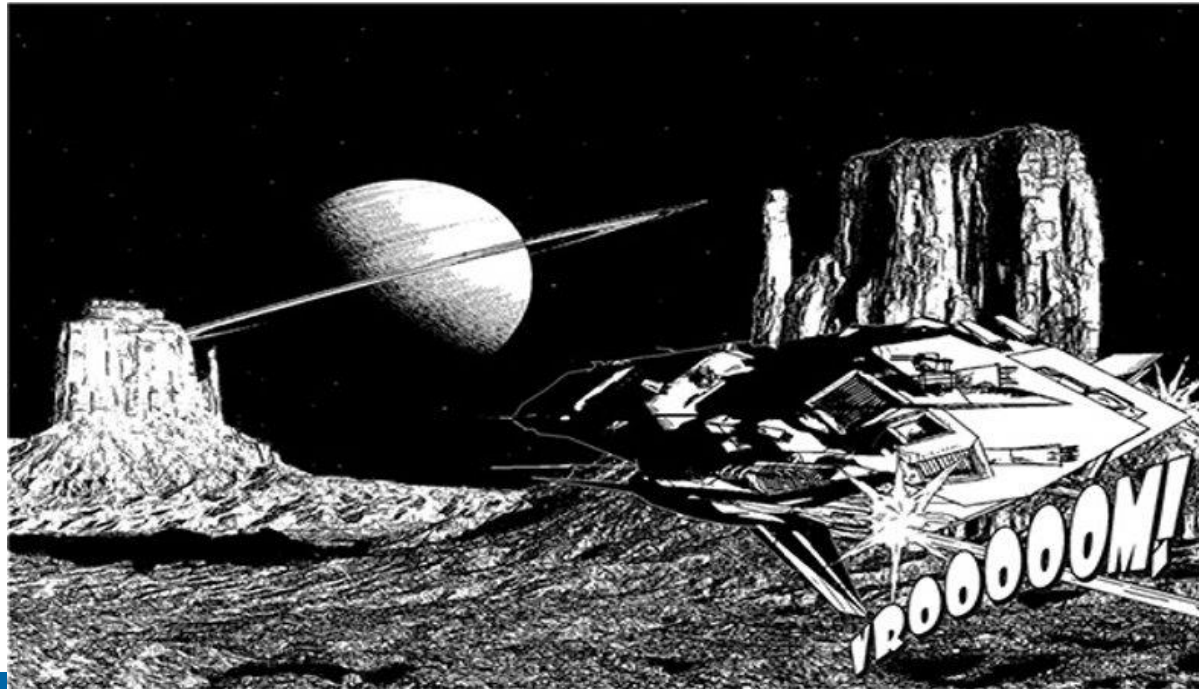
Graphic Novels

- Graphic novels are real books and should be promoted to children and teens

- When students read visual narratives, the activity in the brain is similar to how readers comprehend text-based sentences. However, when students learn to read graphic novels with an analytical eye, depth and complexity are added to the reading process

- Images, just like text, can be interpreted in many different ways, and can bring nuances to the meaning of the story. In this form of literature, the images and the text are of equal importance—the text would not fully make sense without the images, and the reverse is true as well.

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Graphic Novels

- In graphic texts, students must analyze the images, looking for signs of character development or for clues that help build plot. All of this experience developing textual and visual reading skills contribute to students understanding of their world.

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5 Reasons to Read Graphic Novels

1. The images give you an overview of the story
2. They are fast paced
3. The images reinforce not replace the language
4. The language is high quality
5. They can be read over and over...and over

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Reader's Advisory Interview

- Can you tell me about a book you read recently and enjoyed?
- Do you have a favorite author?
- Do you like books that are true and fact-based (non-fiction) or do you like books that are created from the author's imagination (fiction)?
- What are your favorite movies?
- What kind of characters do you like?
- Do you like books with pictures or drawings?

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Post-Interview

- Pull books that might be of interest as you talk
- Escort them to the materials
- **Do not point and send**
- Show them read-a-likes
- Assist with additional resources that may be helpful – booklists, bookmarks, databases, on-line groups…
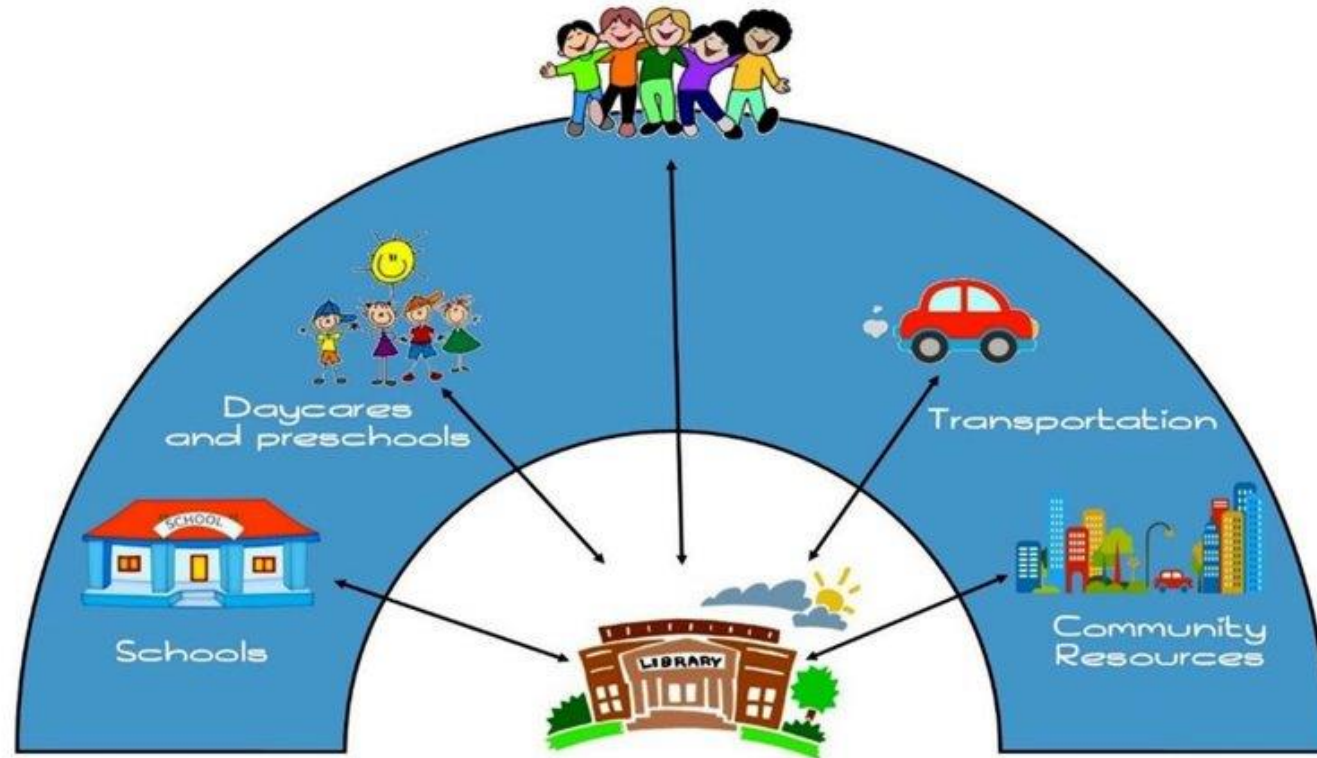
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Research/Reference Interview

- Can you tell me what you want to learn about?
- Do you want to tell me how you will use this information? (in a report or term paper)
- What do you know about databases?
- What resources, if any, have you already used?

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Research/Reference Interview

- Approachability
- Interest
- Listen
- Interview
- Search
- Answer
- Follow-up

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Getting Children to the Library

Daycares and preschools

Transportation

Schools

Community Resources

LIBRARY

WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN?
HOW DO THEY GET TO THE LIBRARY?
WHO IN THE COMMUNITY CAN HELP?

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Learn about Your Community

- Assess your community – find out where the kids are

- What are your community resources – who can help?

- What's being offered in your community?

- What is the population of your community?

- What kind of community? Rural, city, metropolitan

- How large is your library service area?

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Learn about Your Community

- How many schools are in your service area?

- How many children are enrolled in the schools?

- What activities are offered by the schools?

- Do businesses or faith-bases organizations offer children's activities in your area?

- What cultures are represented?

- What languages are spoken?

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Learn about Your Community

- What local agencies in the area serve children?

- What are the economic levels in the community?

- Are there elected officials who would be interested to hear of the library's work with children?

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Projects, Activities, Events, Classes

Also known as programs

- Connects young customers to new information, in new formats
- It encourages children to spend increased time with books
- Plays an important role in the reading achievement of children who lack access to books and other reading material in their daily lives
- Provides a role in educational development
- Provides new ways to engage
- Interactive programs help develop social skills
- Provide access to new ideas and opportunities

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Technology Classes

- Information and Community
- Children's tech skills
- Library's free access to technology
- Library as a place of making, doing, and learning

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STEM Classes

- STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
- Libraries are places of exploration and a natural place to support STEM
- Libraries are viewed as community technology centers
- Library spaces have changed to meet the needs of expanding technology making it more attainable and usable
- STEAM = STE Art M
- Check the Youth Services webpage for all things STEM/STEAM

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Group Work

Lovely, Oklahoma

The sleepy town of Lovely is situated in a lower socio-economic area with little industry and is home to 2250 people. The school is the town's largest employer. The town of Busy, a 15 minute drive from Lovely, is home to the most businesses in a two county area. There are multiple in-home daycare providers all of whom always have a waiting list. Many students that attend Lovely Schools are transfers in from other communities and 525 children in grades 1 through 12 are enrolled. Lovely Schools is the recipient of the 21st Century Learning Grant that provides after-school educational opportunities for children grades 1 through 6th grade Monday through Thursday during the school year. The Choctaw Nation provides a free 4 week summer school for children in 2nd and 3rd grades and the schools participate in the Summer Food Service program. Local Head Start programs for 3 and 4 year old children are housed within the school and those students are entitled to bus transportation.

There is a large computer lab at school but oftentimes there's no technology teacher. The school does not provide free wireless Internet for students.

There is one local civic group in Lovely and one Boy Scout troop in Lovely.

Lovely Public Library

You work in youth services at the Lovely Public Library in Lovely, Oklahoma. There are 3 full time and one 20 hour employees. You are open from 9 am until 6 pm Monday - Friday and from 9 am until 2 pm on Saturday. Funding is stable but there isn't a large budget for educational activities. There is a small meeting room. The Lovely Library offers standard children's activities such as Lapsit and preschool learning classes, and other family reading times. It also hosts a Coding Class for Kids weekly and provides Summer Reading Program annually. You have the following resources to work with: arts and craft supplies, a smart TV, laptops, screen and projector, a small 3D printer, a large supply of Legos, Kinex, 2 microscopes, a medium sized telescope, and a beginners robotics kit. You have outdoor space to host events and classes in mild weather. Your supervisor is supportive of new educational ideas and willing to work with you to bring these new ideas to fruition.

Mental Health

- Suicide
- Depression
- Physical Abuse
- Neglect
- Anxiety
- Eating disorders
- Substance abuse
- Hunger

CHILD HUNGER

OUT OF 77 COUNTIES, 32 ARE FOOD DESERTS

61%

425K

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SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)

- Serves $\leq$18 years

- >1.5 million snacks & meals served

- About 700 sites

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O K L A H O M A

The Challenge
Underserved areas need more sponsors & sites

SFSP IN OKLAHOMA 2018

51st

- **100:5** accessed free summer meals

- Most summer school sites close by July

HUNGER ★ FREE OKLAHOMA

A Solution

Libraries are logical partners

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SUMMER MEALS PARTNERS

- Promote Sites

- Offer Programming

- Share Services

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SUMMER MEALS SITE LOCATIONS

>50% of children qualify for FRPL

- Schools
- Apartment complexes
- Community centers
- Boys & Girls Clubs

- WIC clinics
- YMCAs
- Churches
- Libraries

- Parks
- Farmers Markets
- Camps
- Other?

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LIBRARIES CAN HELP!

Accessible
Welcoming

Retention
Low-Cost

Cross-
Promotion

https://vimeo.com/258132146

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LIBRARY STORIES

"Hosting a summer nutrition program will not only boost your numbers for summer programs, but it is rewarding all in itself due to helping others and filling a need: hunger"
– Julie Pederson, Anadarko Community Library

"A success story is that kids thrive in the summer because they aren't starving. Impact is if I'm feeding them all summer and they come back in the winter."
- Paula Nelson, Director, Allen Public Library

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HungerFreeOK.org

Devin Schroeder
Tulsa Program Manager
Hunger Free Oklahoma
Devin.Schroeder@hungerfreeok.org
(918) 340-9082

Candace Macedo
Oklahoma City Program Manager
Hunger Free Oklahoma
Candace.Macedo@hungerfreeok.org
(405) 420-6658

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The Library as a Safe Space

- What does it mean to be a safe space?
- Connect with Safe Place @ 502-635-3660
- TXT 4 HELP is a nationwide, 24 hour text-for-support service for teens in crisis
- If you're in trouble or need help, text SAFE and your current location (address, city, state) to 4HELP (44357) for immediate help.

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We Talked About

- Early childhood development from a library perspective
- Effective library skills that enhance development
- Understanding and working with children and teens
- Reader's advisory
- Planning curricula that promotes growth
- How to help

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