

Library Website

Our library has its own webpage! View it at http://my.uen. org/17583 to find links to many online resources as well as information about our library. You can also access this newsletter online at the same site.



Utah Legislators Visit Whittier Library

We all know that school kids go on field trips, but as it turns out, so do legislators. A "field trip" was planned by Sharyl Smith, a passionate advocate for school libraries, for 6 legislators to visit Whittier Elementary last May. The six who came were Michael Waddups, Gene Davis, David Litvack, Rebecca Edwards, Kraig Powell, and Tim Cosgrove. The goal was to help legislators see what a vital part the library plays in a school setting so that when legislators start deciding on how to spend money, they can see the value in investing in school libraries.

The legislators came and watched Mrs. Watkins' 5th grade class participate in a library lesson on how to do "smart" Google searches. First the students learned some tips on how to refine a search so they can tell Google exactly what they're looking for, and then we played the "Google Game". All students are given the same question. The winner is the one who can find the answer first on the internet AND has the fewest number of hits on Google.

The legislators were very involved during the lesson as they watched 5th graders frantically searching for the answers. Most of the legislators commented after the lesson that THEY had learned something new that day on how to do better searches. Most of them stayed after the lesson about 45 minutes discussing what they had seen and the importance of school libraries. We're fortunate that these 6 legislators are willing to invest their time to find out more about what kinds of things happen in school libraries and their importance in the entire learning environment of a school setting.



Access World Book Online From Home for FREE!

Salt Lake School District has just upgraded its subscription to World Book Online which includes many new databases. And the best part? Students in our school district can access it from any computer, anywhere that has internet access for free!!

Simply go to www.worldbookonline.com

Use the name: saltlakedistrict

Password: student

It has information geared toward grades K-4 in the World Book Kids section and World Book Student is aimed at 4th-8th graders. There are lots of links and videos that correspond with encyclopedia articles. There's a place to look at pre-made timelines or you can create your own timeline. You can translate articles into about 30 languages or have an article read aloud.

There are SO many fun and interesting things to explore on this site! It should also prove helpful for homework if you child needs to research something for class.

Some of Ms. J.'s Favorite Historical Fiction

<u>Hugh Glass</u>, <u>Mountain Man</u>: A mountain man who gets mauled by a bear crawls over 100 miles to get back to a fort looking for revenge on his buddies who left him for dead.

A Single Shard: Tree-ear, a 13 year old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself. When he is sent with valuable pottery to show the king, he is ambushed by robbers. (won the Newbery Award)

<u>Fever 1793</u>: In 1793 Philadelphia, 14 year old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.

-- Henry Ward Beecher

Parents, ask your 3rd-6th grader if they know why on earth Ms. J. would have put this box in the newsletter. Hint: Plagiarism

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