Good Ideas!

Compelling Ideas for Administrators, Teachers, PTAs, and School Boards

Banned Books Trading Cards

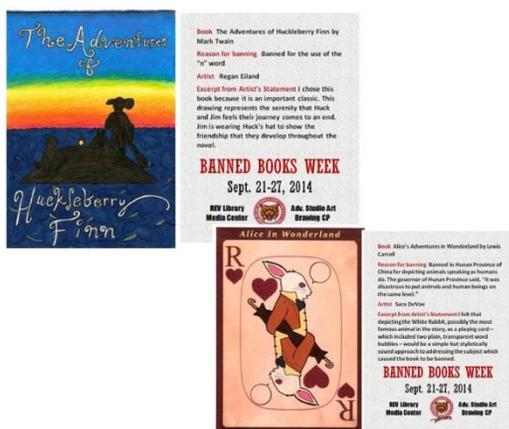Korrie Krohne, Redlands East Valley High School

In this unique project celebrating Banned Books week, Korrie Krohne collaborated with art teacher Tracy Massimiano's Advanced Art classes to create Banned Books Trading Cards. Students explored First Amendment rights and intellectual freedom and selected a banned book to illustrate for a trading card.

Collaborators:

Teacher Librarian: Plan and present lesson on intellectual freedom and Banned Books Week. Create artwork and card backs. Print cards on cardstock and cut and prepare cards. Hang original artwork in library; create posters/bulletin boards of information on Banne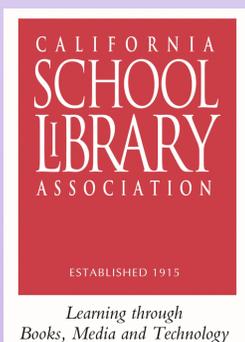d Books Week and cards. Release new cards each day of the week. Engage students in conversation about banned books week and the cards/books that have been banned.

Art Teacher: Direct students in art skills. Collect and digitize student artwork. Design the card back, have students write and word process artist's statement. Create Jpg files of artwork and card backs. Keep students on deadline.

Support staff: Assist teacher librarian in anything needed, including "pushing" the banned books cards and engaging students in conversation about the project. All books that were banned or challenged (from ALA lists) owned by the library were displayed with posters stating "Danger: These books may contain controversial content and may make you think!" All created and assembled by support staff.

Read more at: bit.ly/KKGoodIdeas

CSLA is proud to present "Good Ideas" for creating information literate students.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Learning through Books, Media and Technology

Book Talk Festival

Ellie Goldstein-Erickson, Berkeley High School

Ellie Goldstein-Erickson worked with three teachers whose students were reading multiple years below grade level to collaborate on a book talk project. Students were allowed free choice in reading selections and followed a book talk template to produce posters for the books they read. The culminating activity was a Book Talk Festival where each student presented his or her book.

Project Design:

Ms. Goldstein-Erickson sought out teachers whose student' reading levels were either below grade level and/or had IEPs (Special Ed) to collaborate on a book talk project, with the goal of the students building images of themselves as readers. She scheduled each class in the library for a period to give a demonstration book talk, assisted the students in designing a template for their book talks and partnered with the teacher to help each student pick a book to use for their book talks. The teachers shepherded the students through the reading and producing their book posters with poster paper from the library. Ms. Bell organized the students into groups at tables in the library, each staffed with a teacher to listen, and all staff involved contributed to refreshments after the book talks. Ms. Goldstein-Erickson wrote a grant to a school parent fundraising group for a grant to buy gift certificates at a local bookstore, owned by a Berkeley High parent. She also scheduled the class field trip visits and made sure the paperwork (permission slips, etc.) was in order. The teachers reported back on the students' reading success, universally giving positive feedback and expressing the desire to carry it out twice in the coming school year, once each semester.

Blogging, Digital Timelines and More with Embedded Digital Citizenship

Jane Lofton, Mira Costa High School

In this collaborative partnership Jane Lofton worked frequently with Spanish teacher Anita Rossell on student research projects and developing technology skills. Those skills students acquired, included setting up a blog and personalizing it with design elements and widgets; finding, embedding, and properly crediting Creative Commons images; making videos using tools like VoiceThread and Voki; using html to embed video and other elements; and creating hyperlinks. They learned digital citizenship skills, including respecting intellectual property and giving credit, online etiquette, protecting privacy, and building a positive digital footprint. The knowledge gained of appropriate behavior as an online publisher will serve them as a life skill.

Results:

Anita and Jane met in person or communicated on the phone or online. Anita set her goals in terms of content, and Jane then wrote the blogging assignments and added aspects of digital citizenship and new technology skills to each. They then compared notes to make sure the assignments worked for content needs. For the early assignments, short lessons on digital citizenship topics were incorporated. They jointly walked the students through what was expected, and Jane demonstrated the technology skills needed to complete the posting. As the students progressed, students could follow written instructions themselves, and the two teachers were available as coaches. The students also coached each other when they needed help with technology skills. Anita graded the assignments and Jane offered input for the technology and digital citizenship aspects. Anita and Jane are both very enthusiastic about what students gained from their experience, and they are continuing to have students' blog this year. A number of students from last year's class are continuing in an AP Spanish Literature Class. They also are both working to promote the value of this activity to other teachers.

Learn more at: bit.ly/JLGoodIdeas

Advocate for School Libraries Award
Friends of the Oakland Public School Libraries

Written by Tom Kaun

Photo Courtesy of Friends of Oakland Public School Libraries

Friends of the Oakland Public School Libraries were founded in 2009 to help ensure that all Oakland Unified School District students have access to a quality school library. Public school libraries and professional school librarians had long suffered from budget cuts and neglect. These were at continued risk if funding and support were not provided. Many OUSD school libraries had been forced to close, collections had become outdated or unavailable to students and teachers due to lack of library staff.

Regardless of these challenges, the founders realized that the resources provided by a quality school library are paramount to success in reading, especially in disadvantaged communities. Since 2009, twenty-four OUSD libraries have been updated, renovated and/or restored with the help of community volunteers under the direction of the OUSD District Librarian, Ann Gallagher. The new Library and Information Technology Center (LIT Center) at McClymonds High School opened in the fall of 2014 after being closed for 9 years and FOPSL volunteers provide staffing to keep the Center open during lunch while a search for a teacher librarian takes place. In 2015 the finishing touches were placed on the library at Bella Vista Elementary. Volunteers are also currently working at Fremont High School to develop their LIT Center.

FOPSL works with the local community soliciting grants and donations from various community foundations and recruiting volunteers from local businesses and organizations. Members of Friends of the Oakland Public School Libraries are dedicated to making books and other library resources available to all OUSD students, one library at a time.

Visit their website to find out more: fopsl.org

# Technology Award
Rosemarie Bernier, Hamilton High School

Rosemarie earned this award due to her skills in integrating technology to improve library programs, and teaching her students to learn with it. Rosemarie serves as the CSLA webmaster as well.

One of Rosemarie's technology strengths is WebQuests. She uses these learning activities with students and has achieved impressive learning results. Working with pre-service Teacher Librarian's at California State University Long Beach, classroom teachers and other Teacher Librarian's within the Los Angeles Unified School District and at CSLA workshops and conferences, Rosemarie has shared her expertise and experience in these areas.

A visit to her school library website (bit.ly/hhstgl) shows Rosemarie's commitment to integrating technology at a variety of levels. Her Collaborative Research Lessons reflect that commitment. Her colleague describes her efforts "For me, she made using the internet resources of the library very user-friendly. I am a bit of an anachronist, a technophobe and even a Luddite. I am certainly a late adopter and I believe because she is somewhat of a newcomer to technology she never talks down to me."

As the CSLA webmaster, Rosemarie strives to make the site accessible to members looking for key information as well as to those who visit the site to find out more about California School Libraries.
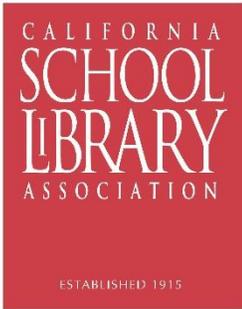
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Good Ideas! is published by the Curriculum and Standards Integration Committee of CSLA, an association of teacher librarians, classroom teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals and others whose mission is to provide leadership to insure that California educators and students are effective users of ideas and information. The association promotes the effective use of learning resources, including print and non-print media and technology in the teaching and learning process.

To nominate a school library and a teacher librarian for the *Good Ideas Award*
csla.net/publications/good-ideas/