



Planet School Library

News, events and important topics



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The Countdown Begins...



We are all looking forward to the 6th annual SLS conference, *Perspectives on a Diverse School Library*, this Friday, April 15, 2016!

A few notes & reminders...

- Many sessions involve, in some capacity, integrating technology — please bring a device (laptop, tablet, etc.), if possible!

- At the conference, don't forget to **Tweet** about different experiences, ideas & fun stuff to **#SLSconf2016**. Tweets will be displayed on a free tool called Visible Tweets



- This year, participants will have the opportunity to visit with two authors, for book signings—don't lose your 'Book Coupons!'

- Have your exhibitor card stamped by all 8 exhibitors and be entered for a chance to win a raffle prize at the end of the day!
- Check the conference website the day prior, which is packed with information: <http://libguides.swboces.org/Conf2016>

Finally, we look forward to an exciting day full of learning, new experiences and sharing ideas with all of you!

Dobbs Ferry Welcomes Dobbs!

Annette Gonzalez, librarian at the Dobbs Ferry MS/HS, first came up with the idea of using a NAO (the official name for Dobbs) after attending a session at an annual SWBOCES SLS spring conference. From there, she successfully wrote a grant to bring *Dobbs* - as he's aptly named - to the library!

Why the library above all else? According to Annette, "the reason is because if it's just a couple of classes that use it, then

only a certain amount of kids can. But here, all kids can be exposed to it. That's the hope—that every kid gets a chance to explore it. It's a start."

The robot may be little, but it's a rather big teaching tool. Dobbs will be used for design, math, coding, technology, the STEM program and to stimulate computational thinking. Currently teachers are being trained in how to use Dobbs and students will follow suit. The software program, Choregraphe, is

used to manipulate the robot's movements and sayings. In addition, teachers are learning Python (a programming language) to create their own words and sayings for the robot.

Annette is certainly pioneering the robot field in Southern Westchester, we hope to hear more about the success of Dobbs in the months ahead!



FINAL MEETING!

Communication Coordinator Meeting

Play a vital role in the overall effective operation of the SWBOCES School Library System!

Date: Thursday, **May 12th**, 12:00 - 3:00 pm

Location: 450 Mamaroneck Ave, Harrison, NY 10528

Don't Forget:

Register on My Learning Plan - <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?I=2022230&D=12439>

National Poetry Month

National Poetry Month, which first began in 1996, is celebrating its 20th anniversary this April!

Although poetry can be celebrated and integrated into your curriculum all year round, some of the goals of National Poetry Month aim to:

- Highlight American poets
- Encourage the reading of poems
- Bring poetry into the classroom
- Increase overall attention paid to poetry

There are a lot of resources and suggested activities on the website, visit <https://www.poets.org/national-poetry-month/home>

Check out these resources:

30 Ways to Celebrate - <http://tinyurl.com/hh7bvni>

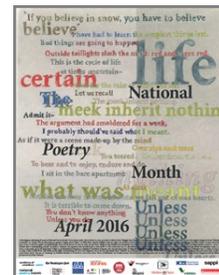
Materials for Teachers - <https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/materials-teachers>

Scholastic Student Poetry Contest (Grades 1-6) -

<http://www.scholastic.com/usagold/>

ReadWriteThink—National Poetry Month - <http://tinyurl.com/24dljx>

BoomWriter Poetry Vocabulary Sheets - <https://boomwriter.com/home/resource/s/>

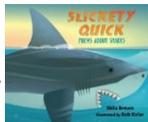


New Poetry Picks!

Interested in adding more poetry to your collection? Consider the following titles below!

Elementary Readers

- *Among a Thousand Fireflies* - Helen Frost
- *I Saw an Invisible Lion Today: Quatrains* - by Brian Cleary
- *Slickety Quick: Poems*



about Sharks - Skila Brown

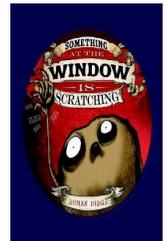
- *Washed up in the Waves* - Margo Solod,
- *Wet Cement* - by Rob Raczka,



Middle & High Readers

- *Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir* - Margarita Engle

- *Night Guard* - Stian Hole
- *Something at the Window is Scratching*—Roman Dirge
- *The Year of Good-byes: A True Story of Friendship, Family and Farewells* - Debbie Levy



Chatterpix App



Chatterpix is an app that can make anything talk - photos of any sort. Users simply take a photo, draw a line to make a mouth and record a voice over. Voila! It's that easy!

I first learned about Chatterpix from my son's first grade teacher. The students were involved in a unit about the solar system. Chatterpix was used

as a quick, easy and fun way to integrate technology. Each student selected a planet of choice to study: took a photo, wrote a short summary and recorded voice. Each Chatterpix was shared via a QR Code. My son's "Neptune" example can be seen here:

<http://tinyurl.com/hc7w4e7>.

Here's a fun way to use Chatterpix in the library...after students read a fa-



vorite book, have students take a picture of a book cover and let them create a quick book trailer for the title. QR codes can be linked to the book trailer and either used as a book display, attached to a book, etc. Be creative and have fun!

Currently, the free app is only available at the App Store. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/o532ql>

Celebrate School Library Month! #SLM16

School Library Month (<http://www.ala.org/aasl/slm>) is the AASL's celebration of school librarians and their programs. First celebrated in 1985, every April school librarians are encouraged to create activities to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role that strong school library programs play in a student's educational career.

The 2016 theme is *School Libraries Transform Learning*. Think of all the ways a school librarian and library program help to transform learning in

the lives of students and the culture of a school. How do YOU transform learning? Share your ideas on the SLM Padlet - <http://www.ala.org/aasl/slm/2016/transform>.

The 2016 spokesperson for the celebration is Megan McDonald, author of the very popular Judy Moody series. She credits her success to her school librarian. She said, "I would not be who I am without the early impact of my school library and librarian. I grew up to become a librarian. I grew up to become a storyteller. I grew up to become a writer. School

librarians not only foster a lifelong love of reading and story, they encourage thinking and creativity. They support curious minds. They inspire young imaginations."

To see a calendar of resources (activity ideas, quotes, professional development, etc.), visit <http://www.ala.org/aasl/slm/2016/ideas>.



Easily Clip & Share Videos

Do you use online videos to inspire conversation, reiterate a lesson or to introduce a new concept? The problem is that sometimes you just want to show or assign a part of a video, not the entire piece.

In Youtube, users can select a start time to edit, but don't have the ability to designate an end point. However, TubeChop <http://www.tubechop.com/> is a great tool that enables users to select a start and end



point—and grab a new URL and/or embed code for the edited video!

Users paste an original YouTube URL in TubeChop's "chop it" box.



Edit the clip to show only what you want to show:



Finally, share the new link! Easy!

Grants, Awards & Other Opportunities



Amber Brown Grant for Guest Author Visits

Any school with the desire and commitment to enrich their curriculum with a guest author or illustrator is eligible to apply. Deadline to apply is 4/15/16. Visit <http://www.scbwi.org/awards/grants/amber-brown-grant/>



Google Science Fair Competition

The Google Science Fair is a global online science and engineering competition open to individuals and teams from ages 13 to 18. Submit a science or engineering project and win unbelievable prizes. Competition is open from 2/21-5/18 2016. For more information, visit <https://www.google-science-fair.com/en/competition>

Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award

This annual award goes to a K-8 school library that has conducted an exemplary program or program series in the humanities during the prior school year. Application deadline is 2/1/16—5/6/16. Visit <http://www.ala.org/programming/jaffarianaward>



Southern Westchester BOCES School Library System






ADDRESS
450 Mamaroneck Ave.
Harrison, NY 10528

Phone: 914- 345-8500
Fax: 914-347-3236

We're on the Web!
www2.lhric.org/lbss

Contact the SW BOCES SLS Team 

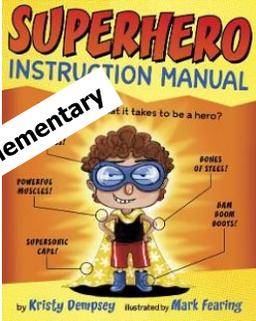
Pam Berger, Director 914-922-3147 E-Mail: pberger@swboces.org	Kate Lalier, Librarian 914-922-3127 E-Mail: klalier@swboces.org
Janet Jamal, Clerk Typist 914-922-3122 E-Mail: jjamal@swboces.org	

April Calendar of Events

◇ Friday, April 15, 2016—**Annual Conference** —8:30 pm-3:00 pm

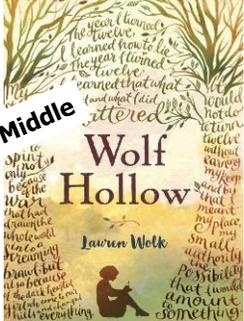
SUPERHERO INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Elementary



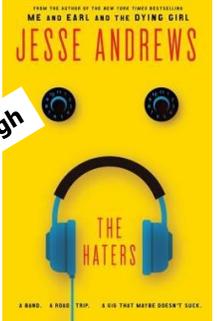
Superhero Instruction Manual - Kristy Dempsey

Middle



Wolf Hollow— Lauren Wolk

High



The Haters - Jesse Andrews

Webinars and Opportunities



SLJ Webinar
Makerspace Magic: Using littleBits in Your Library Makerspace - Find out about the many ways you can use littleBits in your library makerspace. We'll discuss how to guide students through design challenges, fixed stations versus workshops, building a maker community, organizing your Bits, and share tips and tricks. Thursday, April 21st, 2016, 3:00 pm. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/zahdhuk>

EdWeb.net
Computational Thinking: Foundations of Coding - Attendees will learn about the essential components of computational thinking, the critical foundation of coding. Monday, April 25, 2016 @ 3:00 pm. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/zx6vuk>

Booklist
Amping Up Your STEM Program - There is a national push to promote STEM in schools, libraries, and cultural centers. Yet few librarians have STEM backgrounds! This webinar will help

you look at ways to make STEM a more organic presence in your space, programs, and storytime. Thursday, April 28, 2016 2:00 pm. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/has97yl>

TeachingBooks
Visit Teachingbooks.net to see a list of contests and giveaways for April! Visit <http://tinyurl.com/gle2kqq>