

Literacy Leaders

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Happy New Year!!!



Welcome to 2014! The year promises to bring us opportunities to hone our instructional, behavior management, and professional skills. And of course, there may be speed bumps along the way. But you have the support of a cadre of professionals in CCRC who are interested in pupil performance.

Neil Gaiman offers words relevant to teachers:

“I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes.

Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something.

So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life.

Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it.”

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Register now for Dr. Rasinski's Presentation



Dr. Tim Rasinski, professor in literacy at Kent State University, will present *Why Fluency Should Be Hot* on **January 31st** in the large group room at the **BOCES LoGuidice Center** (Fredonia, NY). From 5-7 pm, Dr. Rasinski will document how fluency is essential for reading comprehension. Additionally, he will share engaging methods proven to be effective in improving reading

fluency.

This session is co-sponsored by Scholastic. Refreshments will be provided; raffles will take place after Dr. Rasinski's presentation.

CCRC members and students pay only \$5; non-members pay \$10. Please register now for Dr. Rasinski's presentation by emailing Emily Gollnitz (CCRC Vice President) at egollnitz@triple.wnyric.org.

Byte Me!

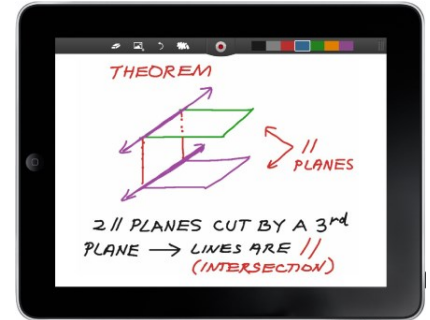


(Microsoft Office, 2010)

Another tidbit offered by Dr. Kathy Gradel for enhancing pupil literacy skills...

ShowMe is an open global online community that catalogues thousands of lessons. The lesson library is organized by contact area. Peruse the lesson library. Videos provide reviews on valuable concepts/skills, such as introducing attention getting openings - hooks; explaining civil disobedience, or calculating the slope of a line.

Both teachers and students can create video productions using *ShowMe* once the free application has been downloaded. Your productions can be saved to your tablet camera roll on Android devices. They may also be added to the *ShowMe* Community (public access) or shared privately via email, Twitter, or Facebook. Productions can also be shared with groups that you established.



(<http://www.showme.com>)

Turn your device into an interactive whiteboard. *ShowMe*'s application can be used to create an interactive whiteboard on your iPad. Although an Android version of *ShowMe* is available, that version does not have full recording as the IOS version does. Check out *ShowMe* at www.showme.com.

Executive Board Member Feature: Sue Arrance



Say "Hello" to Ms. Sue Arrance, the newest Executive Board Member of CCRC. Sue is an AIS Reading/Math teacher at Fenner Elementary (Falconer Central School District).

Ms. Arrance is a graduate of Mayville Central School District.

She was familiar with SUNY Fredonia from her participation in the 3-1-3 Program and continued there to complete a degree in elementary education.

Ms. Arrance began her career as a teacher's aide and served in that capacity in several settings including with students with special needs. She then moved to a second grade position. At the same time, Sue enrolled in the Reading Program at SUNY Fredonia. Her professional expertise includes serving as Temple School's librarian and math specialist. Recently, Ms. Arrance was a member of the committee that reviewed and selected i-Ready for her district.

Ms. Arrance is married and the mother of three children. Her

life will change in April 2014 when the first grandchild is expected to arrive.

Sue Arrance is active in her community. For the past ten years, she has served on the Town of Poland Recreation Committee. In fact, Ms. Arrance chaired this committee for a number of years. She has also directed the Town of Poland Summer Recreation Program in the past.

Ms. Arrance was instrumental in creating Hallquist Park in Kennedy, which has grown since its dedication. Sue stays busy helping to plan recreational events for Kennedy youth: Halloween parties, Santa coming to Kennedy, Easter egg hunts, bowling, open gyms, ice/roller skating, sledding parties, and dances.

Conga Line

We often experience some grayness in Western New York State in January and February. Teachers and students alike sometimes get a case of the “Ho-Hums,” particularly they are in districts with no break until spring. Described here is one way you can beat the “Ho-Hums” in your class and get your students to review critical content.



<http://www.eaglenewsonline.com/news/2011/aug/23/456-kids-teens-take-part-flls-summer-reading-progr/>

Try the Conga Line with your students by following these easy steps:

- Make 2 lines of students facing each other;
- Assign something to review/discuss. For example, “Generate words that can be used in your writing besides *say* or *said*.”
- Pairs share until the teacher starts music (conga music can be used as well as any music of interest to the students);
- One line dances in place while the other line moves down a few places. Misplaced people conga (i.e., dance, stroll, hop, etc.) down the line to find new partners.
- Students then share responses with their new partners until the music begins again. And one line



<http://www.littlepin.com/multicultural-games-from-around-the-world-thanksgiving-family-fun/>

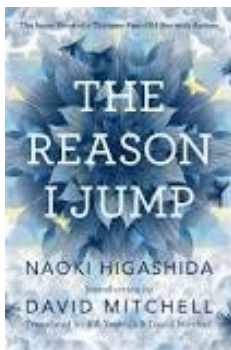
moves while the other remains stationary.

- Students can conga for a predetermined length of time or until responses have been exhausted.

The Conga Line can be employed with any content area and with all ages of pupils. So...dance away the doldrums while reviewing content with Conga Line.

Hot Reads Selections

Two exciting non-fiction books have been selected for our March 4th Hot Reads event.



The Reason I Jump (Naoki Higashida; translated by KA Yoshida and David Mitchell) provides readers with insight into the life and mind of a thirteen year old boy with autism in Japan.

(<http://www.amazon.com/The-Reason-Jump-Thirteen-Year-Old-Autism/dp/0812994868>)

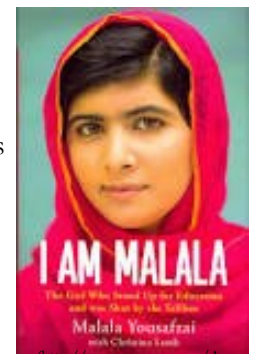
In this book, Higashida presents answers to fifty-eight questions that he believes other people wonder about him. Critics called the text “startling” and “moving.” The *News York Times* dubbed the book the

“Voice of the Voiceless.” What is remarkable is that Higashida wrote the book when he was thirteen years old. Because Higashida was nonverbal, the *Times* reported that “he wrote by spelling out words on a Japanese alphabet letter board” (Tisdale, August 23, 2013).

The second book featured in March’s Hot Reads is *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*. The book retells Malala Yousafzai’s advocacy for education in Pakistan’s Swat Valley and the Taliban’s reaction to her outspokenness. Returning home from school when she was fifteen, Malala was shot in the head

by the Taliban. The book recounts Malala’s miraculous recovery as well as the story of her family’s journey from terrorism. The world recognized the valor of this young woman; she is the youngest nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize. Malala’s story gives the reader insight into the plight of young woman in some Muslim countries.

Get your copies of our book selections for our Hot Reads event in March. Let the reading begin!



(<http://www.amazon.com/I-Am-Malala-Stood-Education-Taliban/dp/0316322407>)

Chautauqua County Reading Council



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Visit us on the web!
<http://chautauquareading.weebly.com>

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact one of the CCRC Executive Board Members:

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Council Events: 2013-2014

Executive Board Meetings

February 25, 2013
March 4, 2014 (after Hot Reads)
April 9, 2014

Scheduled Activities

January 31, 2014 *Dr. Tim Rasinski*
BOCES LoGuidice Center,
9520 Fredonia Stockton Rd, Fredonia, NY 14063
Large Instruction Room

March 4, 2014: *Hot Reads* Location TBA

May 7, 2013: *Annual Spring Banquet*
Webb's, Mayville, Author to be announced

Register
now