Mrs. Trimble's Library Newsletter

Books and Technology

Outline:

When students want to read books, they no longer have to go to a library or bookstore to find them. Books are no longer a collection of pages in between covers. They're much more than images and written words. Books can now be found online in many formats including eBook, video, audio, and even interactively.

Publishers and authors decide whether or not a print book makes it to a digital format. They control the Digital Rights Management (DRM). Some authors, like J.K. Rowling, are adamant that they will never provide their books in digital format.

eReaders:

Digital books can be viewed with an eReader. Many students now own eReader devices that they can use to read eBooks. However, some eReaders are not compatible with the eBook files in the library. Types of eReaders:

- Amazon Kindle
- Barnes & Noble Nook
- Sharper Image Literati
- Sony Pocket Reader (PRS 300)
- Apple iPad
- Borders Kobo
- Sony Daily Reader

What libraries can do:

To avoid student frustration and confusion, and in an effort to provide the best customer service, library personnel should be aware of the capability and compatibility of each eReader. Jason Griffey has a great blog called Pattern Recognition that can help explain DRM and different file types and why some eReaders can download library eBooks and why some can't. You can find his blog at: http://jasongriffey.net/wp/2010/08/25/ebooks-filetype-and-drm/

Television and movie characters:

Some students are reluctant readers. This could be because they struggle with reading or because they haven't really found a topic or genre that interests them. However, most students enjoy watching television and going to the movies. Sometimes all it takes to get a reluctant reader to pick up a book is to show them a book about one of their favorite television characters that they find comforting.

What libraries can do:

By creating book displays and programming surrounding certain television series and/or movies, students will be reminded that there are many different types of books available to them. It will also show students that the library can be a fun and current place for them to discover books!

Websites & Apps:

Many authors have their own websites full of games and interactive components. There are tons of mobile book applications available for students to use at their leisure. Finally, there are many great websites available where books can be viewed and read online and where students can share their book-related opinions, ideas, and thoughts.

What libraries can do:

Every library desktop should include icons that directly link to fun book-related websites for students. Having direct links will facilitate student searches and simultaneously promote reading.

Audio & Video:

Studies have shown that, by the age of three, children of professional parents have heard 30 million more words than children of non-professional parents (e.g. children of poverty hear fewer words = poorer academic performance). Studies have also shown that listening to audio books increases a student's prosody and vocabulary skills as well as develops imagination and attention. With audio books, students can read along with the narrator or can just sit back, listen, and enjoy the story. Videos can also promote reading and encourage further exploration of a topic.

What libraries can do:

By creating book displays and programming around audio books and videos, students, teachers, and parents will be reminded that there are different formats for enjoying books. Libraries can also educate parents on the importance of reading aloud to their children and bring to their attention research findings like the 30-million word gap. Librarians should encourage reading aloud to children by scheduling daily story times.

Bibliography:

Ebooks Online

"Project Gutenberg - free ebooks online download for iPad, Kindle, Nook, Android, iPhone, iPod Touch, Sony Reader." *Project Gutenberg - free ebooks online download for iPad, Kindle, Nook, Android, iPhone, iPod Touch, Sony Reader*. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page>. *Over 33,000 free eBooks. Can search by topic or top downloads. Includes Mobile site.*

"Storynory Free Audio Stories For Kids." *Storynory Free Audio Stories For Kids*. Web. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://storynory.com/>. *Free downloadable eBooks for kids: original stories, fairy tales, classic, educational, and junior. Features unusual stories from around the world and new stories every week.*

Television / Movie Character Books

Howard, Ron, and Nathan Greno. "Kidsreads.com - BOOKS INTO MOVIES." *Kidsreads.com*. Web. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://www.kidsreads.com/features/books2movies.asp>. *This site features a huge list of children's books that have been made into movies including the movie rating, actors, and which book the movie relates to. The list goes all the way back to December 2003!*

"Kids Favorite Television Shows, Children's TV Channels : AllKids." *Allkids Online Parenting Magazine, Children's Shopping and Free Fun Sites : AllKids*. Web. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://www.allkids.co.uk/kids-tv/index.html>. *List of kids' favorite television shows. This list can be cross-referenced to items in the collection to help build displays and programming.*

Author Websites

"Dr. Seuss | Seussville.com." Dr. Seuss | Seussville.com. Web. 09Mar. 2011. *http://www.seussville.com/*. *Fantastic graphics and music allow user to explore information about the author, books, characters, and videos. There is a parent page and teacher page along with tons of games and activities.*

J.K.ROWLING. "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets | Scholastic.com." *Harry Potter | Scholastic.com*. Web. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://harrypotter.scholastic.com/chamber_of_secrets/>. *Explore each of the seven books. Prove your mastery on the trivia challenge, discover your personality, learn the meaning and pronunciation of words in the book, and give your opinions in the polls.*

"Roald Dahl - The Official Web Site." *Roald Dahl - The Official Web Site*. Web. 09 Mar. 2011. http://www.roalddahl.com/. *Users can listen to an interview with Roald Dahl, look at photos, ask questions, and learn about his books. There is also a place for teacher tips, and an area where students can test their knowledge of Roald Dahl books.*

Mobile Book Applications

Bird, Elizabeth. "Planet App: Kids' book apps are everywhere. But are they any good?." School Library Journal 1 Jan. 2011: Print. http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/slj/home/888450-312/planet_app_kids_book_apps.html.csp *This article lists many online applications tested and approved for young children. Consideration was taken for ease of use and interactive quality of apps.*

Readable Books Online

"Children's Books Online: the Rosetta Project, Inc.." *Children's Books Online: the Rosetta Project, Inc.*. Web. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://www.childrensbooksonline.org> *The Rosetta Project – online books are indexed by language and reading level. Books include multi-media and books with audio. Simple graphic design and colorful images make this website visually appealing to young readers.*

Priceman., Marjorie. "The Kennedy Center's "Storytime Online"." The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Web. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://www.kennedy-center.org/multimedia/storytimeonline/>. *Free download of RealPlayer G2 required to listen to the books on this site. Many popular children's books can be found and listened to at this site.*

Audio Books

"Audiobooks For Young Children: A Short Guide ." *DaddyRead: the guide to great read aloud books* . Web. 09 Mar. 2011. <http://www.daddyread.com/audioBookArt.html>. *Website includes recommended chapter books for children by age, recommended toys, and research information about reading to children.*

Print

Anderson, Rebecca, and Ernest Balajthy. "Technology in Literacy Education: Stories About Struggling Readers and Technology." *The Reading Teacher* 62.6 (2009): Print.

Larson, Lotta. "Digital Literacies e-Reading and e-Responding: New Tools for the Next Generation of Readers ." *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy* 53.3 (2009): Print. *Teachers must recognize that student experience all forms of text in their lives, both in and out of school. In an effort to keep students engaged, teachers must expand their instruction to include digital literacy tools (Web 2.0) like electronic books.*

Rozema, Robert, and Allen Webb. *Literature and the Web: reading and responding with new technologies*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2008. Print. This book guides teachers with the implementation of technology into their classroom and reading instruction. Various tools are discussed including Web 2.0 tools and reading with a Feed Reader.