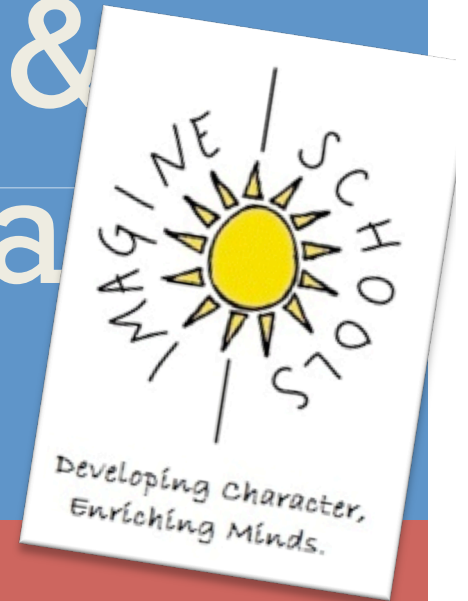


North Florida & South Carolina Region



July 2012 Newsletter

Positive Character Quotes

“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream”

– C.S. Lewis

“The Future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams”

–Eleanor Roosevelt

“Never stop doing your best just because one person doesn’t give you credit”

–Kamari

“Life isn’t about waiting for the storm to pass, it’s about learning to dance in the rain!”

–anonymous



Common Core **TIP** Corner

I know you have all heard the buzz right now about...Common Core State Standards! One shift involves teaching critical thinking skills.

Common core standards lead students deeper into a text but for students to develop these skills teacher must be able to craft meaningful questions that allow purposeful discussions to occur.

This month’s Tip: What makes a good Question?

Although questions will vary depending on the text and participants there is a consistent set of characteristics that define a strong question: open-ended, thought provoking, and clear!

Three Categories of Questions: Opening, Core, & Closing

The opening question is designed to get participants to identify the ideas and values they are most interested in discussing.

The Core questions (usually 3-5) are designed to have participants analyze the text in detail. Early core questions are designed to elicit multiple perspectives, while later core questions often ask participants to synthesize responses based on the text.

Closing questions (usually 1 -at most 2) ask the participants to personalize the ideas and values from the discussion.

Summer Time Professional Development

Without the day-to-day classroom and administrative stresses, you can get creative, think deeply, and ponder the big questions of how to improve your practice and connect with peers!

Join our summer article study on the BLOG!

<http://imagineeducators.webs.com>



~North Florida Region Forum~

Excited to see friends from other schools? Attend workshops hosted by Ed Directors focused on you? Or simply want to win Tug Of War? 😊 Get excited –a day of fun is planned for you!

Who are we? “We are Imagine!”

When?

Friday August 10th
8am – 3:30pm

Where?

Lake Buena Vista
Palace Great Hall North

What?

Awesome workshops including Building Relationships, Interactive Notebooks, Anchor Charts, Science Success, Reading in the Content Areas, Transitions and Fun learning, Great Expectations and Common Core!

Who?

Everyone in the North Florida Region and please dress business casual!

Why?

Because you don't want to miss it!

“Today was good, today was fun, tomorrow will be another one” –Dr. Seuss



Registration and breakfast begins at 7 at the Palace to receive all you will need for the day! Workshop sign up sheets will be at your school the first day of orientation – 13 spots per school for each workshop

In addition to an exciting day full of engaging professional development we will hear from each school on their challenges and successes this year.

There will also be a special presentation from our CEO Dennis Bakke on the State of the Company and be prepared to find out who has won the Six Measures of Excellence Awards and the Joy at Work Award



Classroom Library Management Made Easy... and FREE!!!

By Jennifer Badeaux

If you are anything like me you have a summer project (...or 900) that you would like to get done this summer. And if you're anything like me you've found about 1,000 more projects online by looking at Pinterest and other blogs.

The good news is I sifted through the tons of ideas out there and found a GREAT one. I even tested it out for you all. It's called BookSource's Classroom Organizer and it's free. Yep, free.

My classroom library isn't exactly organized. In fact with changing grades my library is pretty small at the moment but it's growing every day. Currently I have no way of knowing what is even in my library except for getting up and digging through it to find what I need or am looking for. Enter Classroom Organizer!

Classroom Organizer is easy to set up and lets you set up a classroom username and a classroom password. You then also get a teacher password so that you can control the changes. If you have a list of your books in a spreadsheet you can easily import them into the software. And don't worry if you don't. It's still super easy to add them.

The nicest bonus is that there is a free app (yes, I said FREE again!) available to Android and iPhone users that lets you scan the book in using your camera. You click "scan" and "add to library". It's that easy. So easy in fact that my 10 year-old daughter asked if she could make a job out of it. And she did. (Psst... This is easy enough for a volunteer to do too!)

After that you can import your class roster from Excel or just enter the students in manually and then they can check out books. They can check out the books by entering the ISBN # on the book or you can use a SmartPhone to scan the books in and out at a specific library time.

By now you're saying, "All this sounds too good to be true, Jen. Are you sure it's worth it?" And to that I can say yes!! I've tried it. Books were added easily and most of them even had the AR level of the book and points, word count and much more information. It would even allow you to add locations of the book and other information if you needed or wanted it.

The only minor hiccup I found was that some of my books didn't pick up just by scanning them into the system. The reasons I found for this was it was a Scholastic only version, an old version or book that belonged to a larger set without an ISBN number. That problem was easily solved by manually typing in the ISBN number (if applicable) and the author and title. All in all that was less than 25% of my books. In no time at all my entire library online went up to over 250 books. It's so much fun I can't wait to add even more!

"Okay, Jen. I'm sold. Where do I go to get started?"

I thought you'd never ask. <http://classroom.booksource.com/>

There are a few quick videos on their site as well if I didn't give you enough information already.



FUN JULY FACTS

WE ALL KNOW THE BASICS OF THE FOURTH OF JULY, THIS HOLIDAY GOES HAND IN HAND WITH FIREWORKS, PARADES, AND GRILLING TO CELEBRATE THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

BUT DID YOU KNOW THESE FACTS????



- The 4th was not declared a national holiday until 1941
- The stars on the original American flag were in a circle so all the Colonies would appear equal
- Benjamin Franklin proposed the turkey as the national bird but was overruled by John Adams & Thomas Jefferson who wanted the bald eagle
- Approximately 150 million hot dogs are consumed on July 4th
- The Declaration of Independence was signed by 56 men from 13 colonies
- In 1776 there were 2.5 million people living in the new nation..now we have 311 million!

July Birthdays

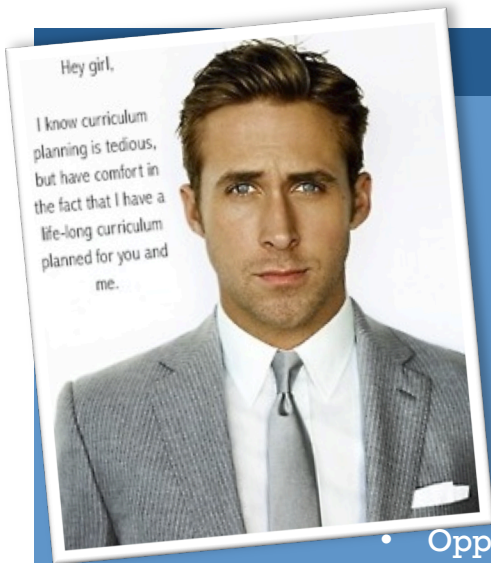
- 1 – Kara Carter
- 1 – Stacey Bogges Cruze
- 5 – Kristen Rossheim
- 8- Diane Beatty
- 11 – Dan Casher
- 19 – Beatriz Cordova
- 20 – Jessica Bowman
- 22 – Erica Harris
- 26 – Stephania Sherman
- 27-Theresa Chubb
- 30- Victoria Mayhew



Enjoy Fireworks! Did you know that 90% of the industry sales are for the 4th of July? In 2007 Firework sales for the 4th of July were at \$930 million!

Important (and not so much) Dates in July!

- 1-International Joke Day
- 2- National Tennis Month
- 3- Stay out of the Sun Day
- 4 – Independence Day
- 5 – Workaholics Day
- 6- National Fried Chicken Day
- 7- National Strawberry Sundae
- 8- Liberty Bell cracked in 1835
- 9- National Sugar Cookie Day
- 10-Teddy Bear Picnic Day
- 11 – E.B. White’s Bday
- 12 – Pecan Pie Day
- 13- National French Fries Day
- 14-Bastille Day
- 15-1st Boeing 707 Flew in 1954
- 16-Apollo 11 lifts off in 1969
- 17- Disneyland opens in 1955
- 18 – National Caviar Day
- 19 – Stick out your tongue day
- 20- First Landing on the Moon
- 21 – National Chess Day
- 22 – Parent’s Day
- 23- 1st Ice Cream Cone 1904
- 24 – Amelia Earhart Day
- 25 – Thread the Needle day
- 26-Jan Berenstain’s Birthday
- 27- 2012 Summer Olympics
- 28- Beatrix Potter’s Birthday
- 29- Sharon Creech’s Birthday
- 30 – National Cheesecake Day
- 31- J.K. Rowling’s Birthday



Seven Components of Effective Core Literacy Instruction

To think about before preplanning!

- Extended Time for Literacy Instruction
- Direct/Explicit Reading Comprehension Strategies
- Direct/Explicit Vocabulary Development Instruction
- Opportunities for Academic Writing in Response to Reading and Learning
- Rigorous Tasks, Activities and Assignments Aligned with Standards and Benchmarks
- Access to both Independent-level and Grade-level Content Area Texts and Materials
- Differentiated Instruction and Support Determined by Ongoing Progress Monitoring

Coming to your school during August Pre-planning!



Meet the Imagine North Florida and South Carolina Region Team

What is your Favorite Patriotic symbol?

Diane Beatty - My favorite patriotic song is The Star Spangled Banner. Every time I hear it I getting a feeling of pure patriotism and gratefulness that we live in this country. I grew up in Maryland and was able to go to DC a lot - my favorite memorial is the Washington Monument. It looks quite beautiful when standing and viewing it from the mall area below.

Jennifer Fornes - Both my grandparents were in WWII so I love that new memorial they have in DC. My grandpa in the photo to the right- Never got to meet him. I also love the statue of liberty and Ellis Island took my daughter there as a graduation trip. I was in awe imagining what my great-grandparents were thinking when they arrived.

Lorna Potter - The National Parks. Every time we visit a park I say a "thank-you" to all of the people that had the forethought to save and preserve such beautiful land for generations of people that they would never know.

Jenny Norris - The Changing of the Guard at Arlington National Cemetery is moving for me; and of course watching a great firework show....who doesn't love fireworks????!!!!

Lisa O'Grady- My favorite patriotic memory is the "walking tour" with Jennifer Fornes and Jenny Norris in Washington D.C.

Mary Briggs – The Arizona in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and the American Flag

Suezan Turknett- I guess one of my favorite patriotic song is of course God Bless America as sung by Kate Smith, but I do love this Land is Your Land by Arlo Guthrie. My favorite national memorial is a tossup between The Viet Nam Wall and the World War II Memorials.

Stephania Sherman –I love all the Smithsonian Museums, the preservation of our history makes me smile and I can spend hours wandering the halls. My absolute favorite is in the American History Museum-the First Ladies Wardrobes!

