

Media News



Inside this issue:

Boys and Reading-Resources You Can Use	2
New DVD Series on Reading	2
Media Academy is Off to a Great Start	3
New Professional Resources on Reading	3
Agency Information	4
Online Database Information	4
Brand New Books for Guys	4

Mark Your Calendar

- Media Academy: Dec. 1, Feb. 16, April 12
- ICN Booktalks: Feb. 23, 2005
- National Library Week, April 10-16, 2005
- ALA Annual Conference, June 23-29, 2005, Chicago
- AASL Conference, October 6-9, 2005, Pittsburgh

Boys and Reading— What Do We Know?

Lately much attention has been given to the subject of why boys read significantly less than girls. A recent article in *School Library Journal* (Aug. 2004-“Why Johnny Won’t Read”) is the most recent entry in this discussion. In this article, author Michael Sullivan cites several reasons for the 1.5 year difference in boys’ and girls’ reading skills:

- Boys are aware that adult male role models read less than adult females.
- Librarians— who are mostly female— do not respect boys’ tastes in reading materials.
- Librarians often fail to

actively and enthusiastically promote boys’ books.

Sullivan offers a few suggestions to encourage boys to read:

- Give boys (and girls) multisensory ways to respond to a story— have them act out the plot or draw a mural.
- Tailor your reading program to match boys’ interests.
- Read to kids at every opportunity.
- Give boys the chance to choose the type of reading materials they want.

For more details, read



A rare species??

Photo from <http://schools.clipart.com>

the SLJ article available in the magazine, or online in the EBSCO database, <http://search.epnet.com>.

What Do Boys Like To Read?

According to author Jon Scieszka, boys need special attention when it comes to reading. He says that boys tend to like “books that have humor, short chapters, cliffhanger endings, and some funny or

slightly gross things that make them feel what they’re reading is a bit subversive. (This is no surprise to most librarians!) Once they are hooked that way, it’s easy moving them into more sophisticated sto-

ries.” As you select books for your library, consider informational books, graphic novels, and books about hobbies, sports, and activities that boys might be interested in doing.

Boys and Reading— Resources You Can Use

To learn more about boys, reading, and what librarians can do, check out these resources from our Professional Library:

- *Even Hockey Players Read: Boys, Literacy, and Learning*, by David Booth. #RE92799
- *Connecting Boys With Books: What Libraries Can Do*, by Michael Sullivan. #LI93235
- *To Be a Boy, To Be a Reader*, by William Brozo. #RE90297

Websites:

- <http://www.guysread.com/>

Jon Scieszka's site to connect boys with books they will want to read.

- http://www.teacherlibrarian.com/tmag/v_30/v_30_3_feature.html
Teacher Librarian magazine article entitled, "Overcoming the Obstacle Course: Teenage Boys and Reading" by Patrick Jones and Dawn Cartwright Fiorelli.

<http://www.ericdigests.org/2003-2/boys.html>

Article entitled, "Helping Under-achieving Boys Read Well and Often" by Wendy Schwartz.

- http://www.reading.org/publications/rty/0408_boys.html
Reading Today magazine article entitled, "Boys and Books" by Jane McFann.
- <http://www.teachingbooks.net>
Lots of thematic booklists for guys, plus author interviews, discussion guides, and more.
- <http://www.neutralbay-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/library/bibboys.htm>
Web Site for boys and reading.
- <http://www.geocities.com/taletoldtall/BooksforBoys.html>
Michael Sullivan's list of books boys will love.

Also: Janice Carr's list of books for boys developed as part of her Media Action Research Project, at http://www.aea9.k12.ia.us/04/action_research_proj.php

Have you spotted one of these lately?



Photo from
<http://schools.clipart.com>

It's not that boys can't read. They just don't.

Michael Sullivan



A brand new series of DVD's for use with K-4th grade students is now available in our Media Center. Each DVD is 23 minutes long

New DVD Series on Reading

and includes a teacher guide and a Spanish language track. The six titles in this series from Schlessinger Media are:

- How a Book is Made
- Identifying Letters and Sounds
- Identifying Words

- Reading Aloud
- Reading Comprehension
- Reading Fiction and Non-fiction

These titles are so new that at "press time" they have not yet been processed for check-out. Please call 344-6464 to be put on a waiting list for check-out.

Media Academy is Off to a Great Start!

More than 50 librarians from AEA 9 schools attended the first session of the 2004-05 Media Academy on Sept. 9th. Group activities included constructing a consensus-gram on online database marketing and use; a demonstration of IMPACT software by Kim Foley-Sharp of North High School; a presentation on the "read aloud" reading strategy; a demonstration of and hands-on practice with Teaching-Books.net, our new online database; and analysis of 2003-04 media resources usage statistics. The next



Academy participants discuss consensus-gram questions.

Academy session will be December 1st. Hope to see you then! (Pre-registration is required.)

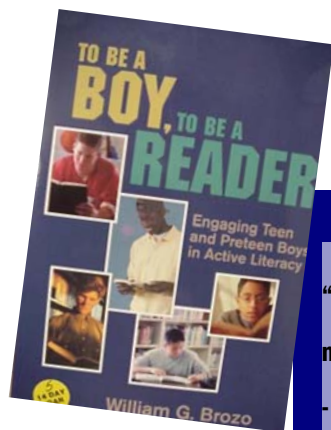
Diana Doetzel (below) of ProQuest taught Academy participants how to create and use electronic Bookcarts in the eLibrary online database.



New Professional Resources on Reading

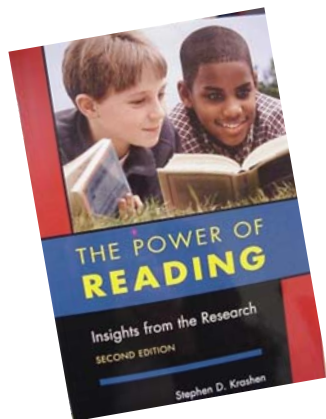
To Be a Boy, To Be a Reader: Engaging Teen and Preteen Boys in Active Literacy. By William Brozo, IRA, 2002. Booking #RE90297

Pilgrim, patriarch, king, warrior, magician, wildman, healer, prophet, trickster, lover. These are the ten positive male archetypes identified by Brozo and are the focus of the literature and the teaching strategies described in this book. This literature has the potential to present boys with a reason to read.



"I have no idea how my parents or someone else could get me to read because I don't like reading."

- A Boy



The Power of Reading: Insights from the Research, 2nd. Ed. By Stephen Krashen, Libraries Unlimited, 2004.

In the first edition of this influential book, Krashen identified free voluntary reading as the key to increasing literacy. This second edition provides the latest research on free voluntary reading and

also explores current research on second language acquisition, reading rewards and incentive programs, and popular electronic reading products.

Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency

729 21st Street
Bettendorf, IA 52722
Phone: 563-359-1371 or 800-947-2329

Nancy McIntire, Assistant Coordinator of Quality Learning
nmcintire@aea9.k12.ia.us 344-6455

Becky Mather, Quality Learning Consultant, Media
bmather@aea9.k12.ia.us 344-6526

Cindy Blinkinsop, Quality Learning Consultant, Media
cblinkinsop@aea9.k12.ia.us 344-6439

Susan Schneckloth, Head of Media Distribution
sschneckloth@aea9.k12.ia.us 344-6460

To book materials:
Http://webmax2.aea9.k12.ia.us
Or call 563-344-6464 or 800-947-2329 x6464

The Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability in its educational programs, services or employment practices. Inquiries concerning application of this statement should be addressed to: Tom Wirtz, Equity Coordinator, 729 - 21st Street, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722. Telephone # (563) 344-6410

Online Resources provided by AEA 9:

- AccuNet AP Multimedia Archive
- AccuWeather
- Atomic Learning
- Clipart.com
- EBSCO
- Electric Library
- Scientific Living
- TeachingBooks
- Unitedstreaming
- World Book



We're on the Web!
www.aea9.k12.ia.us

Brand New Books for Guys

Call 344-6464 for booking numbers .



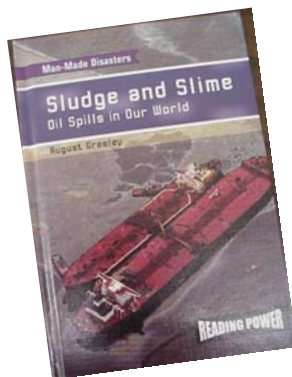
In *Stormbreaker* Alex is forced to assume his uncle's mission after the

secret agent is murdered. Fiction, grades 5-9.

High Tech Vehicles titles include: *Nuclear Submarines* * *Supersonic Jets* *



Titles in this series: *Road Scrapers* * *Dump Trucks* * *Road Rollers* * *Cranes* * *Road Pavers*



Titles in the Man-Made Disasters series:

- * *Toxic Waste*
- * *Burning Up*
- * *Fading Forests*
- * *Fallout*
- * *Poisoned Planet*
- * *Sludge and Slime*

"Zack" and his family are forced to enter the Witness Protection Program—but are they safe? Fiction, grades 5-9

