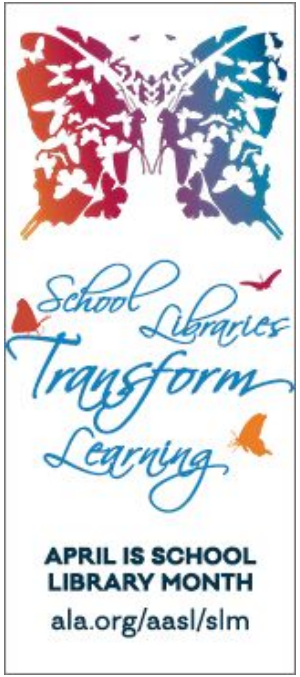
Arlington Public Schools Library Program

April 14, 2022 | View this presentation online at www.tinyurl.com/apslibraries2022

April is School Library Month!

Tonight we are excited to share:

- MSLA 2022 Virtual Influencer award
- APS Libraries program updates



2022 Virtual Influencer Award

STACY KITSIS

LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST, ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

The Arlington High School Library website informs, educates and supports students, staff and families through a selection of relevant, engaging, age-appropriate resources with an emphasis on user-focused language and accessibility.

MSLA
Massachusetts School Library Association

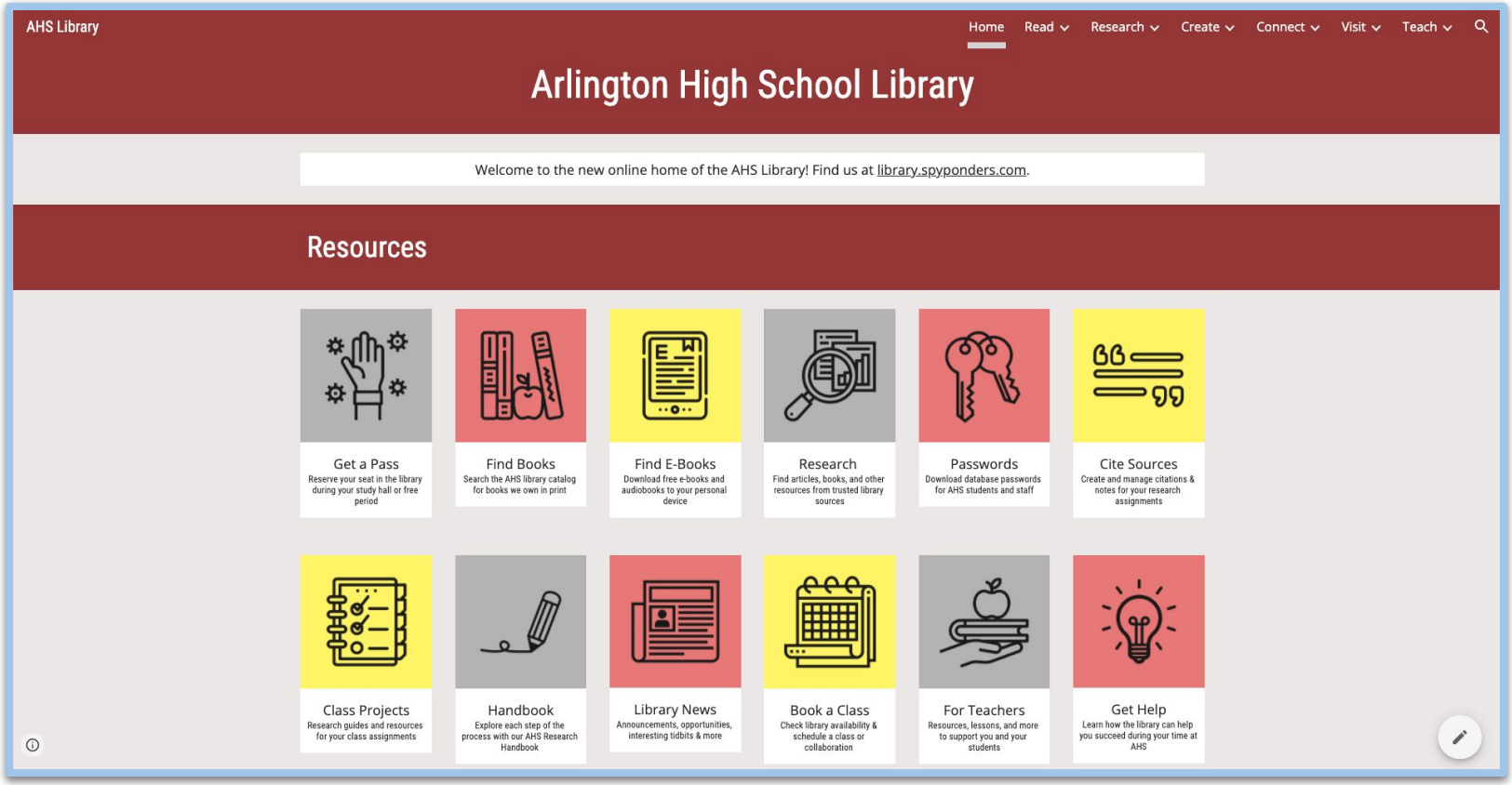
Part I: Welcome to the AHS Library Online

Design Principles

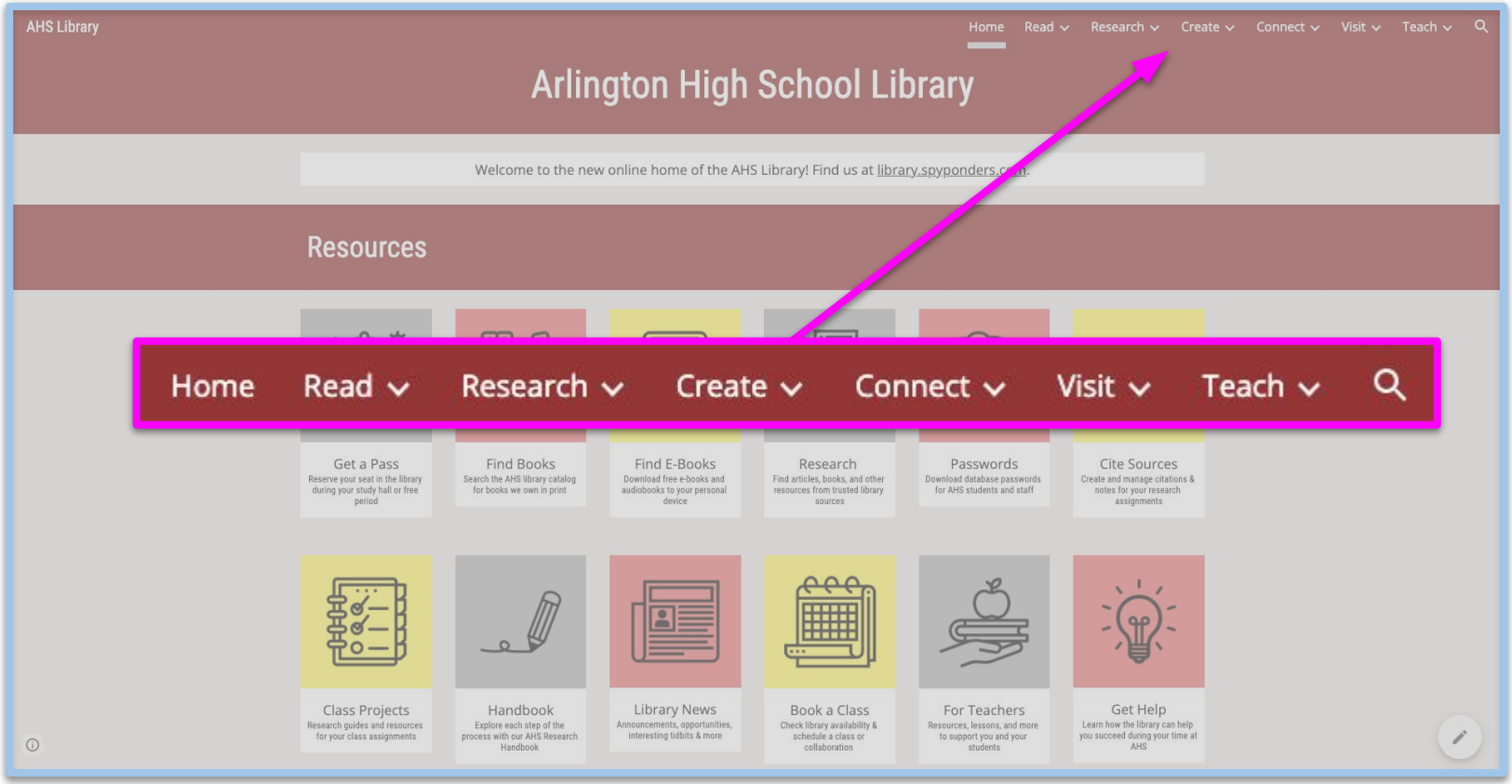
Design principles to increase accessibility, usability, and visual appeal

library.spyponders.com

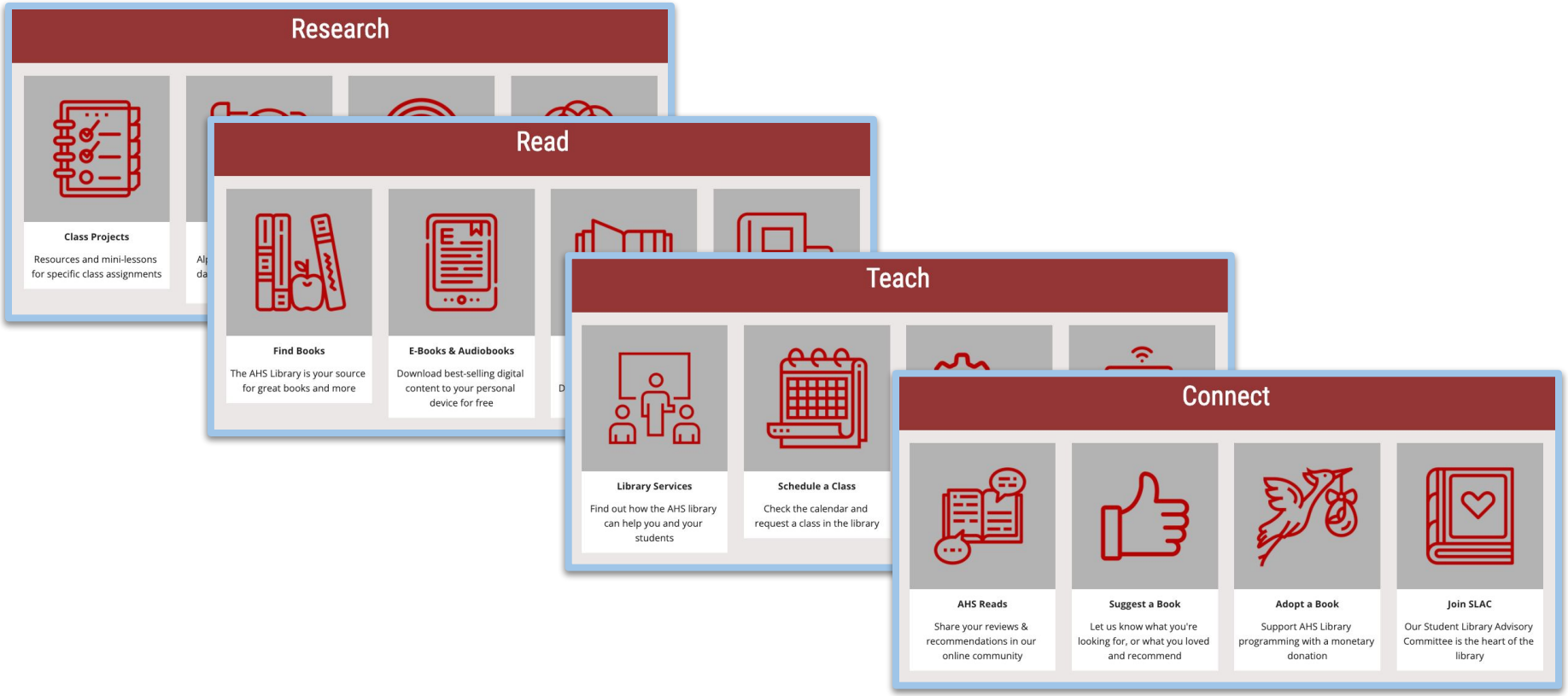
New shortcut provides memorable, quick access



Consistent and appealing color palette and layout



User-friendly, active language: read, research, create, connect, visit, teach



Visual icons used for navigation throughout the site

News

Poster by the Student Library Advisory Committee

Poetry Open Mic @ Your Library

Posted by Stacy Kitsis | March 29, 2022

Celebrate National Poetry Month with your fellow classmates and teachers!

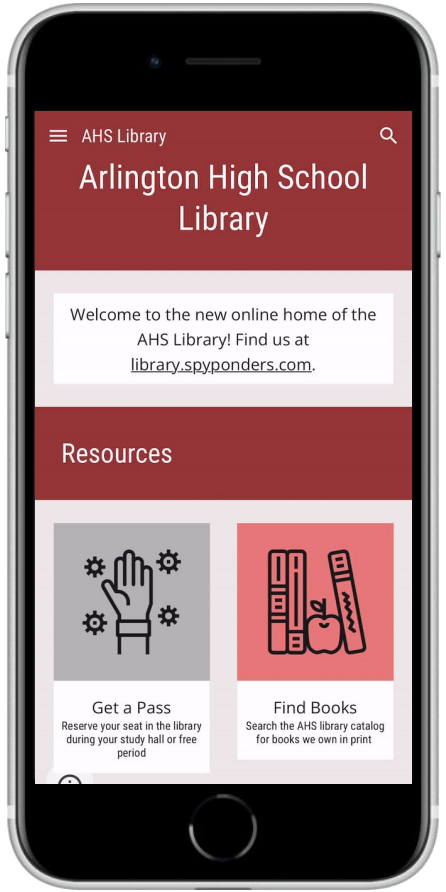
The Student Library Advisory Committee's annual POETRY OPEN MIC @ YOUR LIBRARY will be held on Monday, April 11 at 3pm in the AHS Library. We'll have snacks to tempt the tummy and poetry to tempt the heart and mind. Read your own original work, share a favorite, or just come to list

Read more library news ...

Quick Links

Destiny Look for books in our online catalog	Sora Find and download ebooks and audiobooks	Gale Databases & reference ebooks for research	Infobase Research databases for your assignments	EBSCO Ebook collection with good nonfiction	NoodleTools Cite sources, take notes, organize ideas
Britannica Encyclopedia great for background research	Boston Globe Full text from 1980 to the present	NY Times Full text from 1985 to the present	Robbins Visit the public library of the Town of Arlington	BPL All MA residents are eligible for BPL e-cards	AHS Visit the Arlington High School homepage

Homepage also features library news and quick links

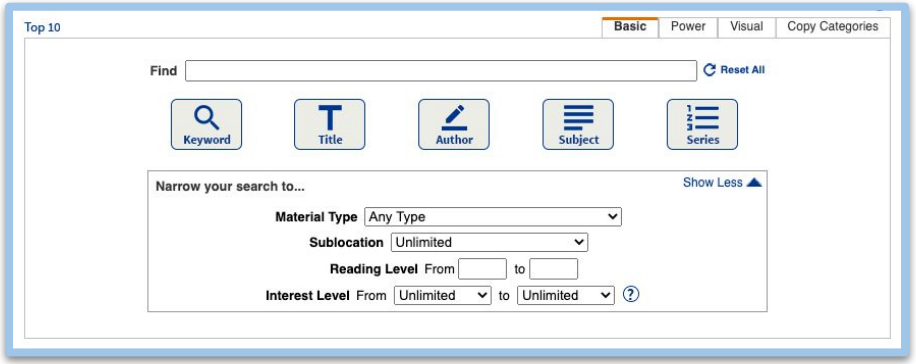


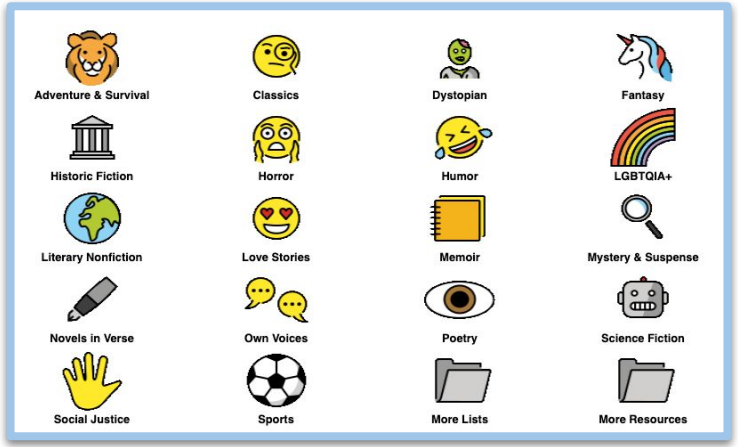
Mobile-friendly formatting brings the library to ALL our devices

The Library Is Open 24-7 (Online!)

We are here in person and online for reading, researching, teaching, and learning

What Should I Read Next?





What Should I Read Next?

Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman

It is important to understand first-person perspectives when hearing stories about trauma and its effects. In the novel *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, written by Gail Honeymoon the protagonist Eleanor leads readers through her healing journey. I was really excited to read this book because I was intrigued by the themes of friendship, which were definitely present. However, as I

American Sniper by Chris Kyle

Picture this, you are under fire in an intense, life threatening combat situation and it is up to you to protect your fellow soldiers from losing their lives. In *American Sniper* by Chris Kyle with Jim DeFelice and Scott McEwan this is another day at the office for the soldiers fighting in the Iraq War. The book is one of the most exciting, compelling and moving books I have ever read and proved to be a true page turner. American Sniper consists of the Story of Chris Kyle (a Navy SEAL) and his

The Sword of Summer by Rick Riordan

If you've ever been interested in Norse mythology, you may want to consider reading Rick Riordan's *The Sword of Summer*. Rick Riordan has always written compelling books, and *The Sword of Summer* does not fall far from the tree. The novel is centered upon Magnus Chase, a homeless teenager who can't seem to stay out of trouble. When his mysterious uncle tracks him down, Magnus is thrown into a world of

Inheritance Games by Jennifer Lynn Barns

A girl stuck in a mysterious mansion with 4 charming grandsons for a year. What could possibly go wrong? The Inheritance Games by Jennifer Lynn Barns is an exciting page turner. Our main character is Avery Kylie Grambs. She is smart though she doesn't try much in school, and she comes from nothing and lives with her older half sister after her Mom died. For some reason Avery is told she was put in the will

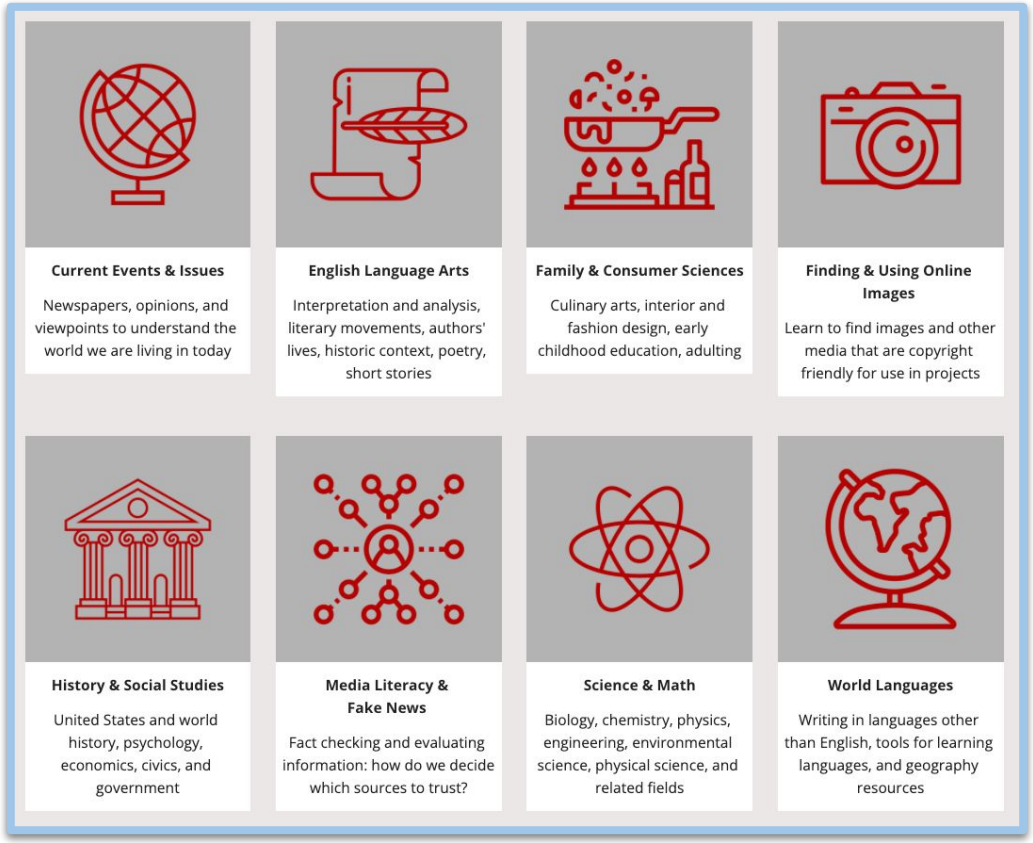
Not sure what to read next? We've got you covered! Fill out this form to let us know what you like and we'll provide you with a customized list of recommendations.

Always Have a Book in Your Pocket with Sora

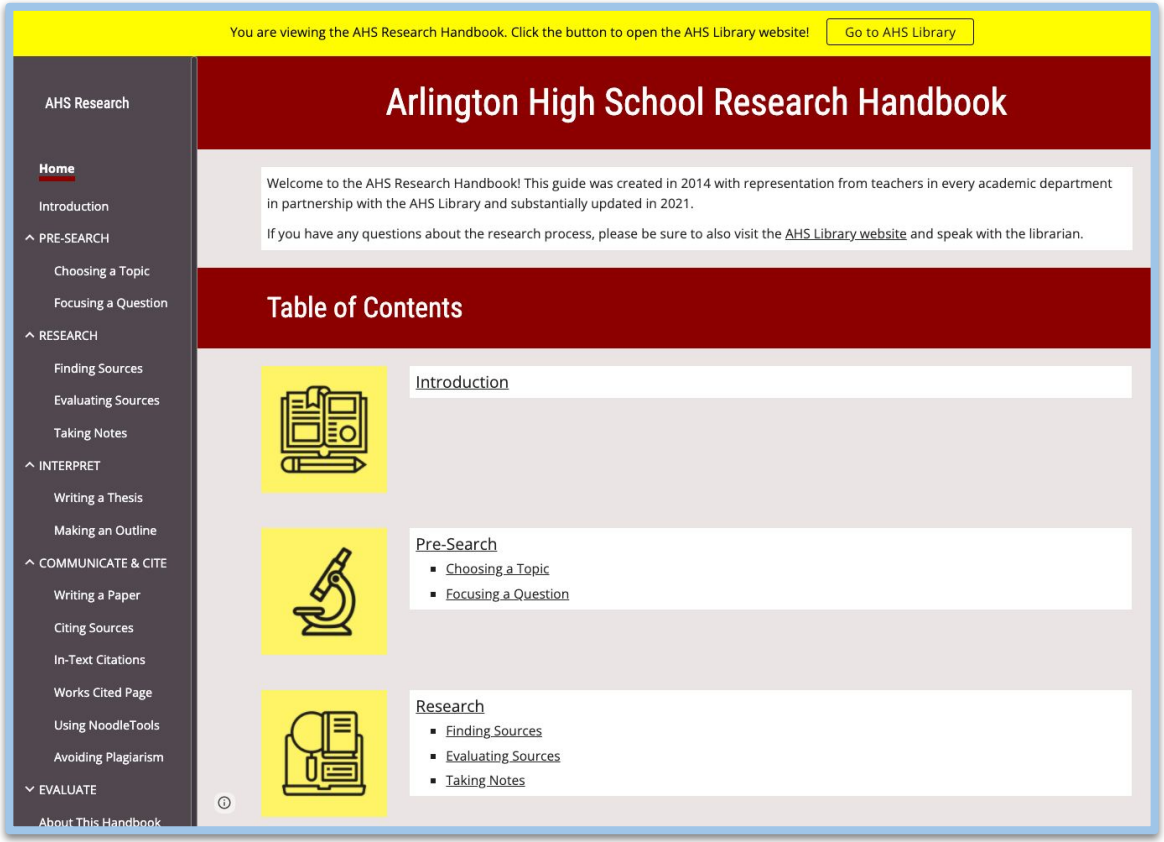
Research Resources

The AHS Library website provides multiple points of entry and support for research:

- Class Projects
- Resources A-Z
- Resources by Subject
- Research Handbook
- Interlibrary Loan (articles)
- Citation Support



Multiple entry points for student research



AHS Research Handbook companion site with interdisciplinary skills instruction

You are viewing the AHS Research Handbook. Click the button to open the AHS Library website! Go to AHS Library

AHS Research

- Home
- Introduction
- PRE-SEARCH
  - Choosing a Topic
  - Focusing a Question
- RESEARCH
- INTERPRET
- COMMUNICATE & CITE
- EVALUATE
- About This Handbook

Pre-search

Guiding Questions

- How do I choose a topic that will allow me to be successful?
- How do I write a statement of intent?
- How do I write a focused research question?

During PRE-SEARCH you will browse sources in order to gain a more global understanding of your subject. This will allow you to develop a focused research question.

Source: Globe by Steve Cadman under a Creative Commons license

Overview

Research begins with questions. During PRE-SEARCH you will choose a topic to learn about (or one may be provided by your teacher) and identify a specific focus for your work. You may brainstorm, talk about your topic with other people, and conduct preliminary research. By the end of this stage you will have developed a research question worthy of exploring within the guidelines of your assignment.

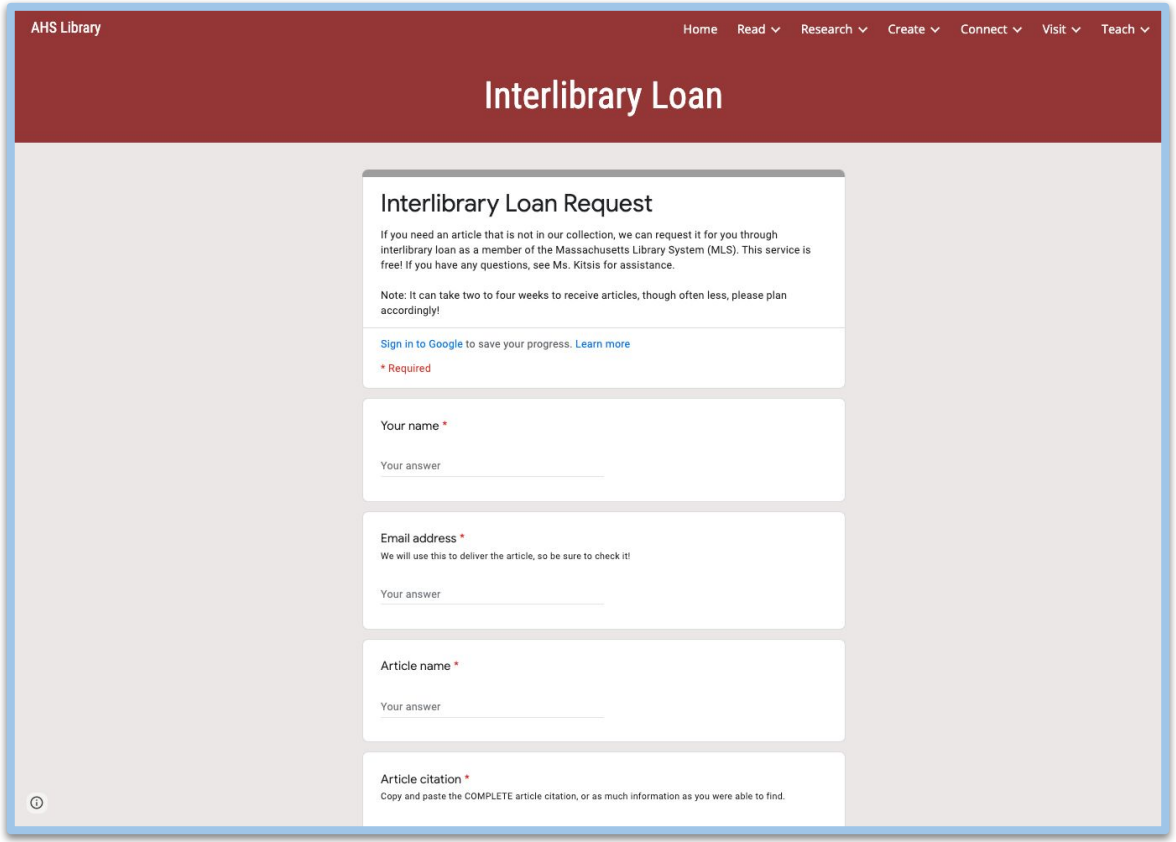
You could also say the P stands for PREVIEW and PURPOSE. Spending time upfront exploring your topic and focusing your approach will make you more successful and efficient during the entire research process. Plan to spend a good amount of time reading (or at least skimming) to gain a better grasp of your subject so that you can ask a meaningful and manageable question. Much of what you read may not even be included in your end product, which is why it's actually better not to take too many notes at this stage.

Tool Tips

Tools you might use during this stage:

- Assignment sheet, rubrics, checklists provided by your teacher (get started in the right direction, and refer back throughout)
- Mind mapping tools to brainstorm areas of interest
- Explain EDU (on school iPads)
- Popplet
- MindMeister

Guiding questions and tech tools support researchers each step of the way



We like to say, “If we don’t have it, we can get it”

Teaching Ideas

Name:
Period:

Book Tasting Menu

Directions: A tasting menu is a collection of several dishes in small portions, served as a single meal. Today we are going to explore books for your independent reading project by sampling or tasting them online through Sora, our school's primary ebook and audiobook collection.

To complete the tasting menu:

- Pick a book you are interested in using the tasting menu to guide your choice
- Preview it through Sora or Google Books (read the first few pages or listen to the first several minutes)
- Fill out the tasting menu with your reaction to the book
- Repeat until you have filled in about 3-4 spaces **AND** you have found the book you want to read this term as your independent reading book.

Ways to pick your book:

- Ask for recommendations from friends, classmates, family members, teachers
- Use our Genre Lists to browse the catalog
- Fill out this Book Recommendation form to get advice from Ms. Kitsis (or chat with her during class!)
- Use NoveList (available through Robbins Library) for read-alike recommendations
- Use Goodreads, etc. for more recommendations

Ways to get your book:

- Request through the AHS Media Center catalog for Wednesday afternoon curbside pickup or during shifts
  - See step by step instructions and video online
- Download the ebook or audiobook through Sora
- Request through Robbins Library or Boston Public Library (print book for pickup, Libby, or Hoopla)
- Purchase it on your own at the Book Rack or bookstore of your choice, borrow from a friend, etc.

After you have FINISHED your book tasting, please complete the reading plan below before the period ends.

My Reading Plan	
My name is ...	
I plan to read ...	
(book and author, it's OK if this changes!)	

Ms. Kitsis
AHS Media Center

Writing a Book Review

Book reviews are a great way to share the books you love and discover new favorites. Here are a few suggestions for writing an engaging and useful review for the AHS READS community.

In the beginning of your review:

- Catch the reader's attention (strong thesis, intriguing idea, quotation, question)
- Name the title and author
- State your thesis (your opinion of the book)
- No assignment header, please! (for AHS READS community)

In the middle:

- Provide a brief summary (without giving too much away)
- Support your opinion of the book with concrete examples and evidence

At the end:

- Finish with a recommendation (who would enjoy this book or not, with clear reasoning)

And throughout:

- No more than 1,000 characters or one well-developed paragraph (for AHS READS community)
- Clear and concise, with a style that makes the review interesting
- Firm and assertive, not wishy-washy, with concrete details to support YOUR opinions (positive or negative, as long as you can back it up!)
- Factually correct
- Gives nothing away that would spoil the reader's experience
- Free of errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar

Not sure what to talk about? Consider these possibilities:

- Theme: life lessons taught, big ideas, questions raised
- Connections: to other books, your own life, or the world
- Style: describe the author's voice, what you liked or disliked about it
- Characters: believable or not, give a sense of personalities through words or actions
- Setting: compare and contrast to our world
- Plot: share enough to interest the reader without giving anything away

Name:
Date:
Teacher:
Block:

Directions: For each square, write the title of the book, author, page number (if available), panel number, and a note to help you remember what you've seen so you can describe it to others.

GRAPHIC NOVEL BINGO				
Panel representing a flashback or other break in chronology	Panel where the image alone advances that story (wordless)	Panel featuring striking use of color	Panel that relates or breaks the regular layout (horizontal or vertical)	Panel that relies on realistic visual style or characterization
Two-page spread that uses layout to show a change in setting or action	Panel with striking use of white space or lack of color	Panel creating an effect similar to that of a special camera lens (fisheye/wide angle/etc)	Panel from a semi-autobiographical text or memoir	Panel featuring non-diegetic or extra-diegetic features (forms if you didn't have to look that up!)
Fight sequence	A splash	Panel that makes you want to keep reading this book!	Panel illustrated or panelled by a female artist	Panel that illustrates or conveys the effect of a "close-up" or "insert shot"
Panel featuring a character who has appeared in another text/genre/time period(s)	An example of allusion conveyed through imagery	An example of a symbol or metaphor conveyed through imagery	A blood	Panel that relies on caricature or an exaggerated visual style
Panel that illustrates or conveys the effect of a "long shot"	Panel using point-of-view framing (showing what a character sees)	An example of ornamental or graphic	Panel where words and image contradict or tell two different stories	Panel featuring a character who breaks the fourth wall (addresses the audience)

Ms. Kitsis
AHS Media Center

Twitter Style Book Review

Directions: Writing a concise and quality book review is not easy! Your challenge is to write a short book review in the style of Twitter. Hint at the story but don't give too much away, let the reader know what you think, and end with your rating of up to ***** (five stars!). Rating a book down to 140 characters and a rating forces reviewers to get to the essential appeal or flaw of the work being reviewed.

Some examples:

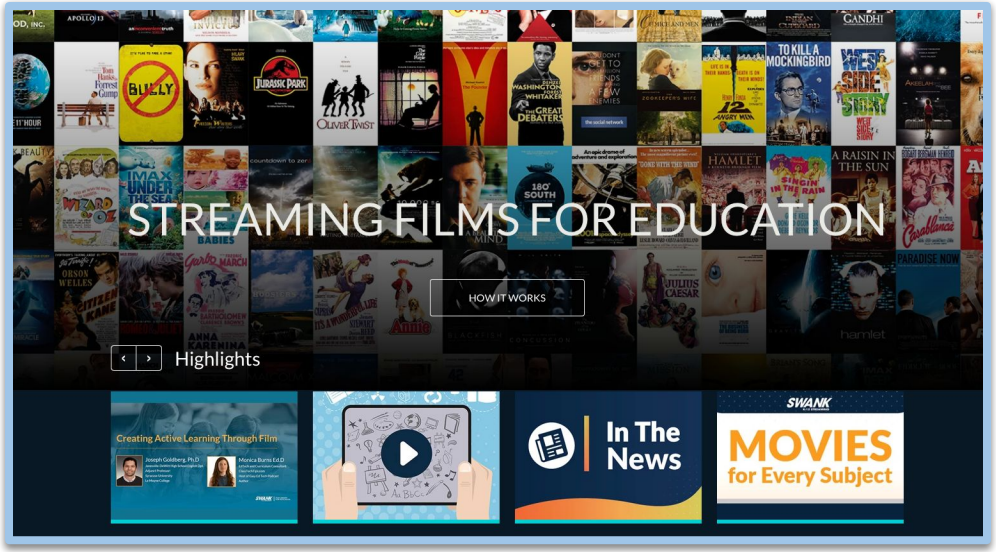
Book Reviews in 140 @books140 · 21 May 2009
Lord of the Flies - William Golding's classic reads like a psychological thriller. Read it and weep for humankind ***** http://bit.ly/aZHLG
4h · 13 · ♥ · ···

Book Reviews in 140 @books140 · 21 May 2009
Resistance - Poignant tale of struggle and hope in the Welsh borders of 1944, a time of uncertainty and change *** http://bit.ly/dZWKY
4h · 13 · ♥ · ···

Book Reviews in 140 @books140 · 21 May 2009
The Secret Life of Bees - Set in 1960s South Carolina, a novel of mystery and family secrets. Sweet yet not sicky. **** http://bit.ly/GAO9v
4h · 13 · ♥ · ···

Follow these steps:

- Draft your book review of under 140 characters: www.charactercounter.com
  - End with a rating of up to ***** and the hashtags #ahsreads #missingvoices
  - You have permission to cheat and not include the above in your character count!
- Generate your fake Tweet: http://dirtybird.com/generator/twitter/tweet
  - Upload a profile photo so people don't tease you for being an egg
  - Use your first name and a made-up Twitter handle
  - Paste your review text (with rating and hashtags) in the message box
- Take a screenshot and copy it to the clipboard
  - On a Chromebook, press Ctrl+Shift+Window Switcher Key and draw the box around your Tweet, then select Copy to clipboard
- Go to your assigned slide in the class deck: http://bit.ly/... and center it on the slide
  - Paste your Tweet screenshot from the clipboard (Ctrl-V) and center it on the slide



Schedule a Class

Check the calendar and request a class in the library

Borrow Tech

Teachers can reserve a variety of tech through the library

Teacher Resources

Professional resources, tip sheets, ideas for lessons, and more

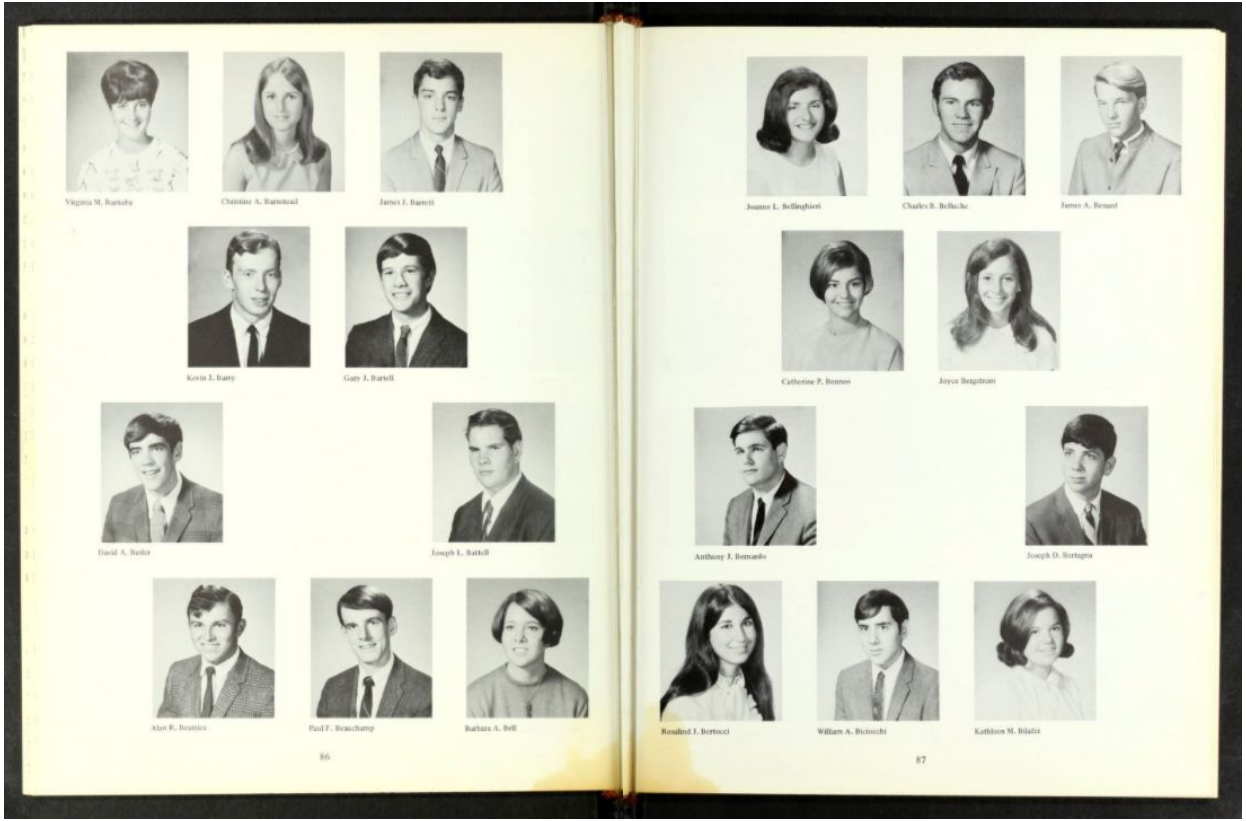
Engaging with the Library

Promoting connection and community

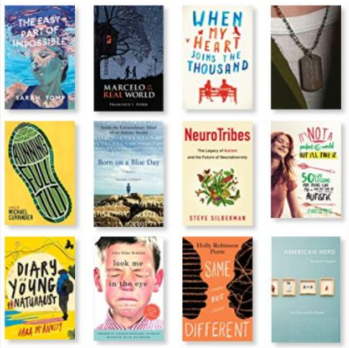
Tools for Engagement

The AHS Library website is a conduit for community and connection:

- Get a Pass (self-service from website)
- AHS Reads (community book reviews)
- Suggest a Book
- Adopt a Book
- Student Library Advisory Committee
- Intergenerational Book Club
- Historic Yearbooks
- AHS Library News



Historic yearbooks digitized with help from our Student Library Advisory Committee



April is Autism Acceptance Month

Posted by Stacy Kitsis | April 7, 2022

It's time to celebrate Autism Acceptance Month with a great book from your AHS Library! This reading list of fiction, nonfiction, memoirs, and graphic novels can get you started.

Curious about the name change from Autism Awareness Month to Autism Acceptance Month? This brief article has more information.

Misinformation

Posted by Stacy Kitsis | Feb 10, 2022

This infographic from the News Literacy Project is designed to help you get your bearings in the misinformation landscape:

> *Why do people share misinformation? What is the difference between misinformation and disinformation? What are some of the different types of misinformation people regularly encounter online? What are some "red flag" phrases and other signs of dubious content that can help people recognize when to remain skeptical and proceed with caution.*

Take a look and share responsibly!

Poetry Open Mic @ Your Library

Posted by Stacy Kitsis | March 29, 2022

Celebrate National Poetry Month with your fellow classmates and teachers!

The Student Library Advisory Committee's annual POETRY OPEN MIC @ YOUR LIBRARY will be held on Monday, April 11 at 3pm in the AHS Library. We'll have snacks to tempt the tummy and poetry to tempt the heart and mind. Read your

Button, Button, Who's Got the Button?

Posted by Stacy Kitsis | March 4, 2022

We've got the buttons! The Student Library Advisory Committee made pronoun buttons at our last meeting. Stop by the library and take what you need!

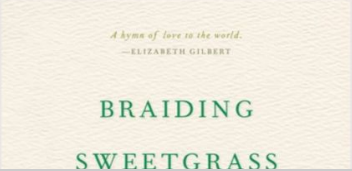
Curious about pronouns? Learn more from this Guide To Gender Identity Terms from NPR.

Make Your Mark

Posted by Stacy Kitsis | Nov 1, 2021

Are you an artist? Ever wish you could draw inside a library book? Please don't do that. But please DO enter our Bookplate Design Contest by submitting your artwork to Ms. Kitsis in person or by email by Friday, November 12.

We use these bookplates to commemorate donations made for our annual Adopt a Book fundraiser. Click the link to learn more about the fundraiser and see past winners!



Arlington Reads Together

Posted by Stacy Kitsis | Feb 9, 2022

The library's annual community read program, Arlington Reads Together (ART), returns in March 2022. This year's selected title, *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer is a New York Times bestseller focusing on indigenous peoples' understanding of the natural world, and the intersection between indigenous

Library news brings our activities and collaborations to life online

Part II: Arlington Public Schools Library Program Highlights

AHS Library's Top Three for SY21-22

Reinventing our online presence

Moving to Old Hall

Reconnecting as a community

Our new AHS Library home for January 2022 through June 2023

Reconnecting @ Your AHS Library

Classes and clubs are back in person!

Collaborations with student groups:

- Pronoun buttons with the Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA)
- Book displays with the Anti-Racism Working Group (AWG)
- Supporting the Asian American Coalition (AAC) on multicultural books

Launching Wellness Wednesdays series to promote social and emotional health*

Student volunteers at an all-time high

*With support from the AEF

District Collaborations

AAC/Loving Little Minds

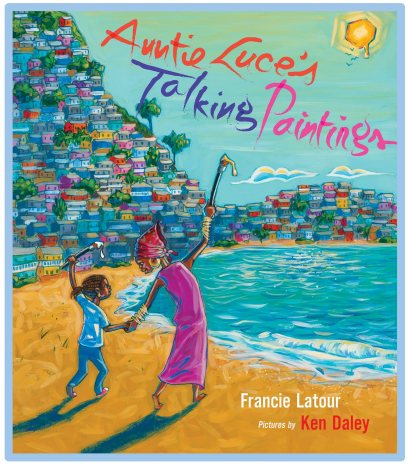
Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) work

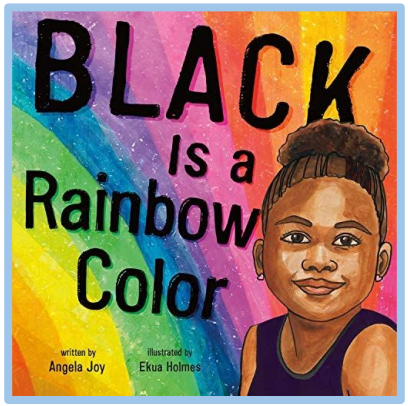
APS History Department

Building level collaborations

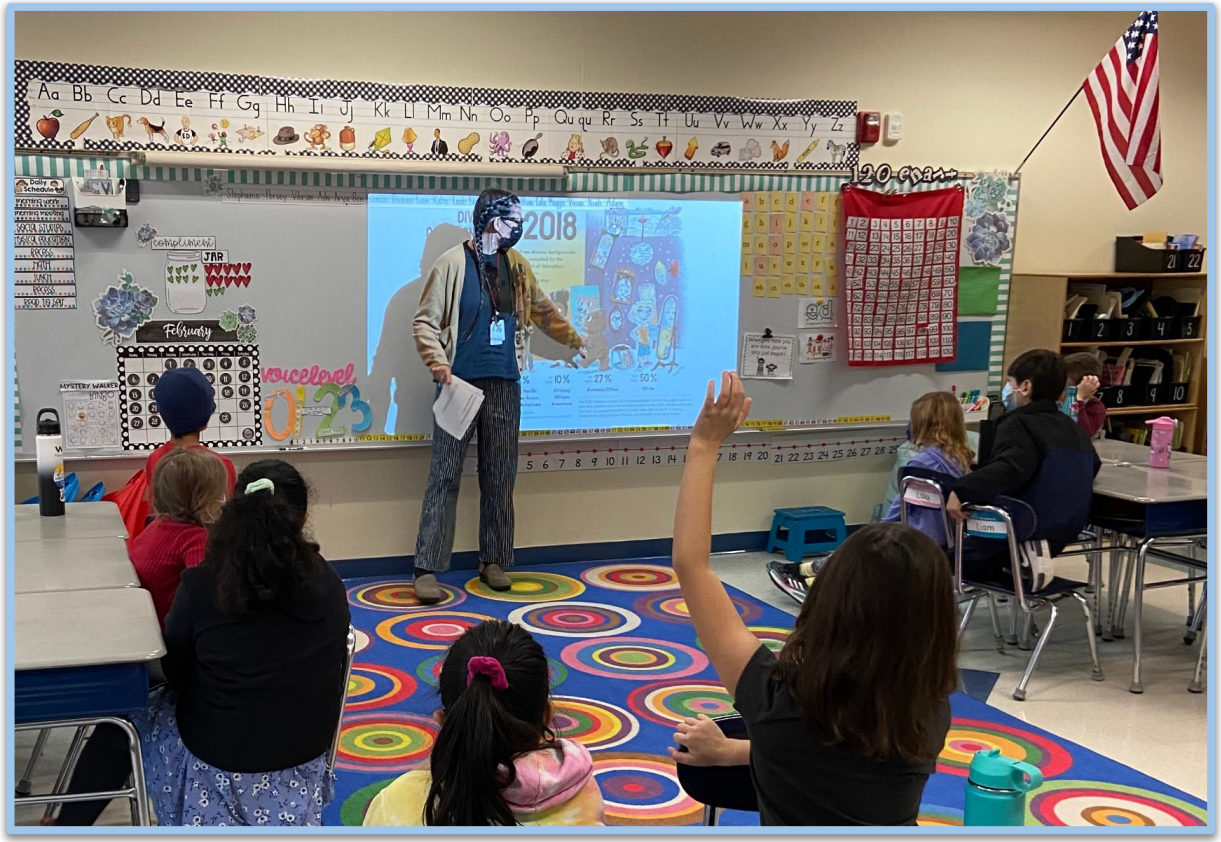
Literacy Core Team

APS Equity Audit Team





The “Rainbow of Us” project at Dallin



More staff = more opportunities for classroom visits and co-teaching

APS Library Resource Cafe

Main Courses

Daily Special

K-8 Library Resources Home Page

Our artisanal selections will keep you coming back again and again for more! Information, guides, and links to all of the research tools available to Arlington K-8 staff and students

CultureGrams

New to Arlington, this rich database offers a fresh and zesty cornucopia of concise, accurate, and timely cultural information about hundreds of countries, provinces and states, designed for educational use.

$ How-To Guide $ Link

Massachusetts Library Databases

Now that we have certified professional library staff at the elementary and middle school levels, the state provides access to a refined selection of mind-nourishing databases including Britannica, dozens of Gale resources, Boston Globe archives, and more.

$ Tips & Tricks $ Link

NoodleTools

A robust research, citation, and notetaking suite. Freshly updated for 2021, this full-bodied tool can be customized to meet your students' needs.

$ Features $ Link

Professional development "menu" allows teachers to work at their own pace

K-8 Outreach & Programming

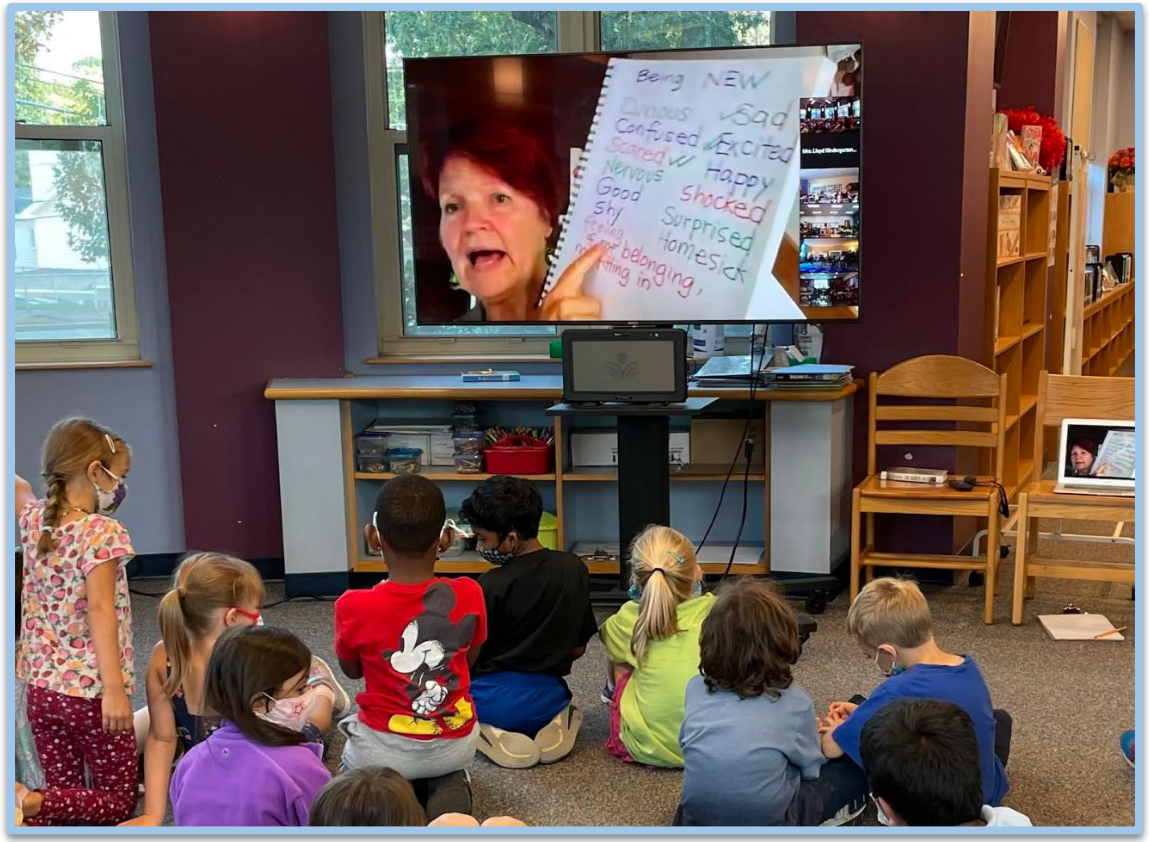
Library Listings website

AEF Welcoming School grant at Peirce

Author visits

Book fairs

The K-8 librarians regularly share suggested books and talking points



Author Anne Sibley O’Brien speaks with Peirce students

New Resources Taking Root

Elementary book circulation up 59% comparing SY19 to SY22

New online resources in wide use:

- Commonwealth eBook Collection and Public Library Connect on Sora
- PebbleGo and PebbleGo Next
- CultureGrams
- Massachusetts Library System databases

Over 500 new books added to every school library collection

Sora eBook Usage K–12

2,682 books accessed per month

91% ebooks
9% audiobooks

25,000+ titles available

PebbleGo Page Views

4,318 page views per month

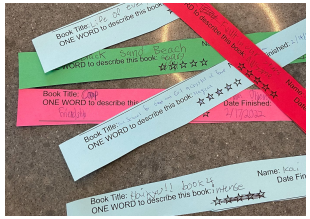
Book Circulation

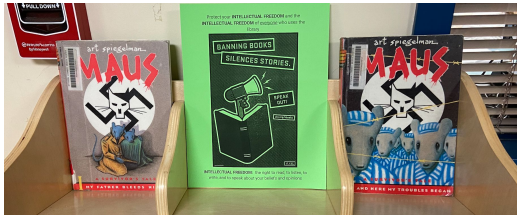
2.7 books checked out per student per month (up from 1.8 in SY19)

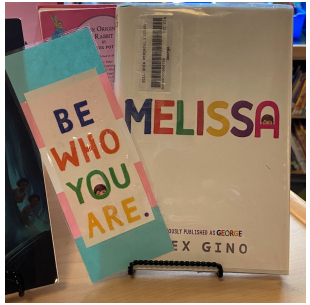
CultureGrams Usage

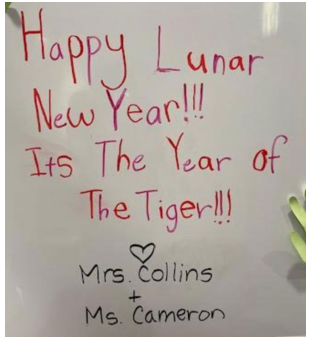
2,921 articles, videos, photos and audio clips accessed per month

Staff and students are eagerly using our new books and tools









Take a look into our libraries

Looking Ahead

Greater availability of professional staff in all K-8 buildings

Collaborative instruction

Relationship building

Continued collection development

Rashmi Pimprikar
Director of
Digital Learning

Stacy Kitsis
AHS Librarian & K-12
Library Lead Teacher

Jennifer Lauchlan
K-8 Librarian

Renae Nichols
K-8 Librarian

Liz Phipps-Soeiro
K-8 Librarian

Alison Vaishnaw
Bishop Library
Paraprofessional

Justine Bloch
Bishop/Hardy Library
Paraprofessional

Nancy Alfonso
Brackett Library
Paraprofessional

Rebecca Aaronson
Dallin Library
Paraprofessional

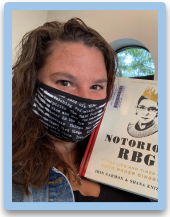
Danielle Jensen
Hardy Library
Paraprofessional

Coming Soon
Peirce Library
Paraprofessional

Chrissie Collins
Stratton Library
Paraprofessional

Doreen Cameron
Stratton Library
Paraprofessional

Debra Murray
Thompson Library
Paraprofessional



Nicole Doliner
Gibbs Library
Paraprofessional

Judy Uffer
Ottoson Library
Paraprofessional

Grace Hoglund
AHS Library
Paraprofessional

Arlington Public Schools Library Team