

Volume 4, Issue 3

Spring/Summer
Issue, 2005



LEARNING RESOURCES CENTRE

L R C NEWS



GOOD NEWS FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES

On May 17th Education Minister Gerard Kennedy announced a \$158 million secondary school investment, the first details of an \$820 million 2005-06 increase to publicly funded education. "We will dramatically reduce Ontario's unacceptably high dropout rate and give all high school students the ability to succeed in their destination of choice - whether that means a work placement with training, an apprenticeship, or entrance to college or university." It is estimated that 30 per cent of high school students are at risk of not graduating. The spending is said to include "lowered class sizes in specific courses and more resource teachers, such as librarians and guidance counselors that benefit all high school students." Two weeks later, the school library grant became official. School libraries in Ontario are to receive 17 million in one-time funding. For KPR this means \$3510 per school library.

<http://ogov.newswire.ca/ontario/GPOE/2005/05/17/c0443.html>

Source: OLA Headlines. May 17 2005 <http://www.accessola.com>

Libraries play an essential, non-partisan role in providing the information that allows citizens to make informed decisions. Libraries make a difference. Libraries transform lives. — Stephen Abrams, 2005.

True value of libraries.

Stephen Abrams' article on the definitive socio-economic value of libraries summarizes some key facts about libraries for all sectors. Abrams, formerly of Micromedia, is Vice-President of Innovation at Sirsi.

"What's disturbing is that Canadian policy makers are ignoring the findings of literally decades of research that shows why school libraries and qualified teacher-librarians are essential components in the academic programming of any school."

Full article is available on the Sirsi site.

http://www.imakenews.com/sirsi/e_article000396335.cfm

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New Edition of the CIA World Factbook

The CIA announced last month that the 2005 CIA World Factbook is now available.

The Factbook can be reached at <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

New Medianet titles



Online booking of media resources
<http://medianet.kpr.edu.on.ca:8280>

PRIMARY/JUNIOR/ INTERMEDIATE

Alice in Wonderland : a lesson in appreciating differences (L36015) PJI

This video will help students learn to appreciate and understand differences in others. Includes a Disney excerpt in which a bed of flowers belittles Alice for being different.

JUNIOR

Everybody knows (L36003) J

This video deals with issues of prejudice and stereotyping, explains why prejudice is harmful, and discusses ways to reduce and overcome prejudice. Features the book "Molly's Pilgrim" by Barbara Cohen.

JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE

Dear Canada book collection (T21342) JI

Students can explore Canada's past through this collection of historical novels from the "Dear Canada" series. Each novel, set at a different time during Canada's history, is the diary of a young girl, chronicling her life. Contains volumes 1 & 2 of the teacher's guide "Teaching with Dear Canada" which includes discussion questions, activity ideas and reproducible.

JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE/ SENIOR

Historica minutes = Minutes historica (D01004) JISA

This bilingual DVD includes the

entire collection of "Historica Minutes" as seen on television. These one-minute dramatic interpretations of pivotal events in Canada's history are celebrations of courage, innovation and perseverance. (Previously called Heritage Minutes.)

Don't get caught in the web: research strategies for using library resources (L35987) IS

A video dramatization of the library research experience of a student who is trying to do a research paper by only using the Internet. A savvy advisor appears and helps him discover the wealth of resources available in the library and leads him through a basic research strategy.

CORE FRENCH

Aquila jeunesse JI

A series of illustrated, high interest, leveled, thematic readers with real-life texts and dialogues in simple everyday conversational French. Each book includes end-of-book exercises and a lexicon.

Titles in this series include:

Ah! la celebre (H01343), Animaux (H01326), Bons repas (H01338), Cafe Lorraine (H01328), C'est du sport! (H01336), Enfin, l'automne! (H01333), Faisons des affaires (H01342), Fetes l'hiver (H01330), Hiver au

printemps (H01334), Miss Mode (H01340), Mon anniversaire (H01325), Mon ecole (H01324), On joue! (H01327), Progres (H01331), Que! cadeau! (H01341), Sauvons la planete! (H01332), Shopping (H01339), Super sports (H01329), Temps modernes (H01337), Visites (H01335).

TIPS AND TRICKS

"Advanced" searching now available!

The Medianet search screen defaults to a simple search mode. This means your results will include all items matching the keywords entered. You can now search more efficiently with the new "advanced search" mode option which is available by clicking on the "simple search" box and selecting "advanced search". Advanced search supports Boolean searching using the operators and/or/not. (Simply put, using "and" and "not" limits your search, producing fewer hits, while using "or" broadens your search.) For search tips and a more comprehensive description of Boolean searching go to the "Boolean searches" link found on the entry search screen on the Medianet web page.

Themes: Professional Development

Many new professional development resources have recently been added to the Medianet collection. The following are just a sampling of what is available.

Frazzled teacher's health & wellness plan (E01588)

This program will help you learn how to create an effective health and wellness plan and control professional and personal stress. Includes exercises that can be performed at your desk and an implementation guide with 20-30 minute sessions that include video and learning activities.

12 secrets to high self-esteem (E01616)

This presentation will help you better appreciate what you have, help you understand that you can make your life a true reflection of your best qualities, and help you become aware of the inner obstacles that you may have allowed to get in the way of success or happiness. Includes 7 CDs with workbook.

Stand & deliver! (E01567)

This is an entertaining step-by-step guide to improving your presentation skills. The video reveals easy techniques to improve your confidence, vocal skills, body language, content relationship with your audience, management of nerves, and use of technology.

Dealing with different, diverse (and difficult) people (E01618)

This program shows that most people are more different than they are difficult and that they

don't intentionally set out to make your life miserable. It identifies the different people you work with and live with, and then shows exactly how to motivate them and get results with them, even the truly difficult ones. Includes a self-study workbook and 7 CDs.

Booking Department Hours

Mon - Fri. 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Thurs. 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Phone

Caroline McConnell
705-742-9773 x2253
1-877-741-4577 x2253

Fax

705-760-8698

Email

Lrc_Info@kprdsb.ca or
Caroline_McConnell@kprdsb.ca

New teacher training : classroom management to win students over - not win over them,

(elementary edition E01580),
(secondary edition E01581)

These video programs provide valuable help for new teachers, but may also provide ideas that will be helpful to veteran teachers. Includes classroom examples of effective management practices, strategies for bonding and connecting with students, ideas to establish successful routines and procedures, and proactive practices to deal with student misbehaviour. Includes an implementation guidebook .

How to use graphic organizers to promote student thinking (E01612)

This video examines different types of graphic organizers and how to use them effectively. Classroom teachers provide real examples of how graphic organizers can be used to identify information relationships, guide student research and analysis, and enhance critical-thinking skills.

Questioning to stimulate learning and thinking

(elementary edition E01585), (secondary edition E01586)

These video programs take a new look at the practice of asking questions. It shows how effective questioning can be the springboard to powerful learning and higher level thinking.

Successfully using technology as an effective teaching tool, grades K-2 (E01624)

This video demonstrates a variety of ways to successfully use computer technology with primary grade students. The accompanying guide contains a variety of resource materials in the form of blackline masters. These may be reproduced as handouts, overheads, and/or study sheets for use in training sessions and self-study.

Multimedia News



Digital Video Compression Explained

Published: November 1, 2002

By Jason R. Dunn

If you use digital video, file size is an important concern because digital video files tend to take up a lot of storage space on your hard drive. The answer is *compression*—making files smaller.

With text files, size is less important because the files are full of “spaces” and can be compressed very tightly—a text file can be made at least 90 percent smaller, resulting in a high compression ratio (the ratio of compressed data to uncompressed data). Other file types, like MPEG video or JPEG photos, hardly compress at all because they're in a format that's tightly compressed to begin with.

Why Is Digital Video Compressed?

Digital video is compressed because it takes up a staggering amount of room in its original form. By compressing the video, you make it easier to store. Digital video can be compressed without impacting the perceived quality of the final product because it affects only the parts of the video that humans can't really detect. For example, there are billions of colors, but we perceive only about 1024 shades. Since we can't discern the subtle difference between one shade and the next we don't have to keep every color. There's also the matter of redundant images—if every frame in a 60-second video has the same chair in the same spot, why save the data of that chair in every frame?

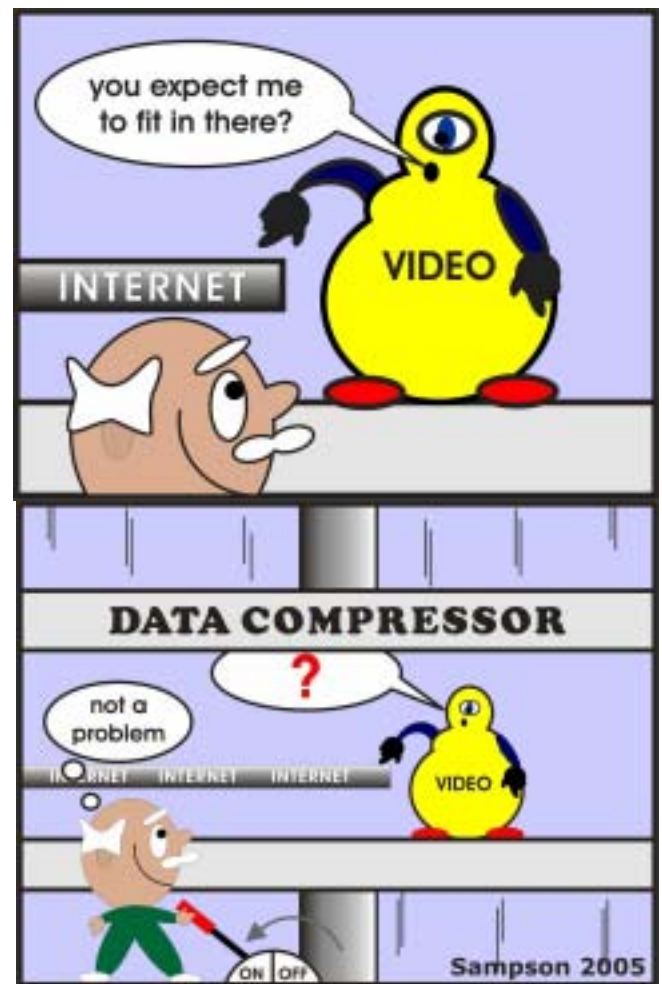
Compressing video is essentially the process of throwing away data for things we can't perceive. Standard digital video cameras compress video at a ratio of 5 to 1, and there are formats that allow you to compress video by as much as 100 to 1. But too much compression can be a bad thing. The more you compress, the more data you throw away. Throw away too much, and the changes become noticeable. With heavy compression you can get video that's nearly unrecognizable.

When you compress video, always try several compression settings. The goal is to compress as much possible until the data loss becomes noticeable and then notch the compression back a little. That will

give you the right balance between file size and quality. And remember that every video is different—some videos look great highly compressed, others don't. You'll have to experiment to get the best results.

For more information check the following URL:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/moviemaker/expert/digitalvideo.msp>



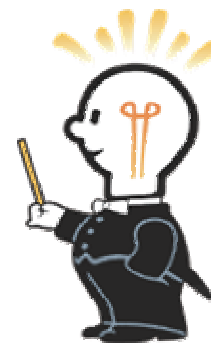
Did you know?

Did you know the KPR warehouse now stocks blank CDs, DVDs, jewel cases and mini digital video tapes?

OESS SOFTWARE SPOTLIGHT

Edison 4 and Tina Pro 6

Released: 2/20/2005
Platform: Win 95/98 Win NT/2000/XP
Grade Level: 7-12
Type: Application, Instrument, Tutorial, Simulation
Language: English, French
Subjects: Broad Based Technology, Physics, Science,
Technological Education



Production Description:

EDISON 4.0 and TINA PRO 6.0 French and English Windows Versions have the following features: Edison Version 4 provides a unique new environment for learning electricity and electronics. Teachers, students and electronics enthusiasts can use digitally scanned photo-realistic components, a solder-less breadboard, virtual instruments, sound and animation to create, test, and safely repair lifelike 3D circuits and simultaneously see the corresponding circuit schematic. Edison also comes with over 100 experiments and problems that teachers and students can use immediately. Create, test, and repair circuits safely and easily with photo-realistic 3D components, and get the schematics simultaneously. Explore the laws of electricity and electronics via multimedia screen with virtual measurements, sound and animation. Full range of analog and digital electronic components. 100+ experiments and problems. Tools to create your own courseware to match curriculum objectives. Fits science, physics and basic electronics curricula. TINA PRO (Toolkit for Interactive Electronic Network Analysis) for Windows is an advanced software simulation for electricity and electronics. It combines analog, digital, symbolic and mixed mode circuit simulation with sophisticated graphic presentation and virtual and real-time measurements. Using a powerful schematic editor and a huge components library, your students can design analog, digital, and mixed circuits, and can measure the results using a number of simulated instruments, including an oscilloscope, function generator, and a digital multimeter. TINA also includes unique tools for testing students' knowledge, monitoring progress and introducing troubleshooting techniques. With optional hardware it can be used to test real circuits for comparison with the results obtained from simulation. TINA RPO now comes with advanced Spice support, user defined components and much more. All Print Materials will be provided in PDF on the CD-ROM.

Shipped to intermediate/secondary school libraries - April 21/05

Library Technical Services

Running an Inventory in Horizon

1. Preparation

You can set up using either mobile or fixed workstation. Follow the steps as listed in Horizon.

Select a Collection to Inventory.

If a full inventory can't be completed in one go, Draw up a schedule to complete inventories for all collections over a three-year period.

Example. Year 1 All Non-Fiction
 Year 2 All Fiction
 Year 3 Professional. Reference. Videos etc.

Check Collection Codes Inventory group for previous Inventory information.

Open Inventory Statistics report

Modify Display to view relevant information.

Total. Total completed inventory.

Current. Current Inventory.

Cumulative. Grand totals. (Ask System Administrator to reset to zero if needed)

2. Start Workstation Inventory. Double Click Icon in Horizon.

Select Location

Select Collection. Call Number Type automatically selected.

Check Yes to Override on Call No Checks

Check Yes to Display Exceptions

Click OK.

3. Scan in barcodes.

Make sure all Checked In items are available.

Inventories should be completed within a short time frame. Less than 2 weeks.

You can stop anytime and restart where you left off. Click Complete and then Exit.

Enter the same parameters to recall an existing inventory.

Counts are not added to Statistics Report until Inventory is *Completed*.

4. Resolve Exceptions.

You can either resolve exceptions on the fly or you can print the exceptions report at the end and resolve the remainder after inventory is done.

Usual exceptions are incorrect collection code or item status.

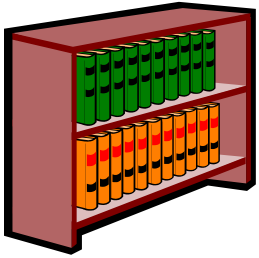
5. Completing Inventory.

Marking an inventory as "complete" does not finalize the inventory cycle. You must run Find Missing Inventory.

Missing Items are set to MI (Missing in Inventory)

Use Report Missing Inventory to check all items with status=MI. Be sure to include your location as a Search term.

Checking In a missing item will change the status.



Professional Library

Check out the new Special Education Material in the Professional Library:

Buron, Kari Dunn. *When my Autism Gets Too Big! A Relaxation Book for Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder.* Autism Asperger Publishing Company, 2003.

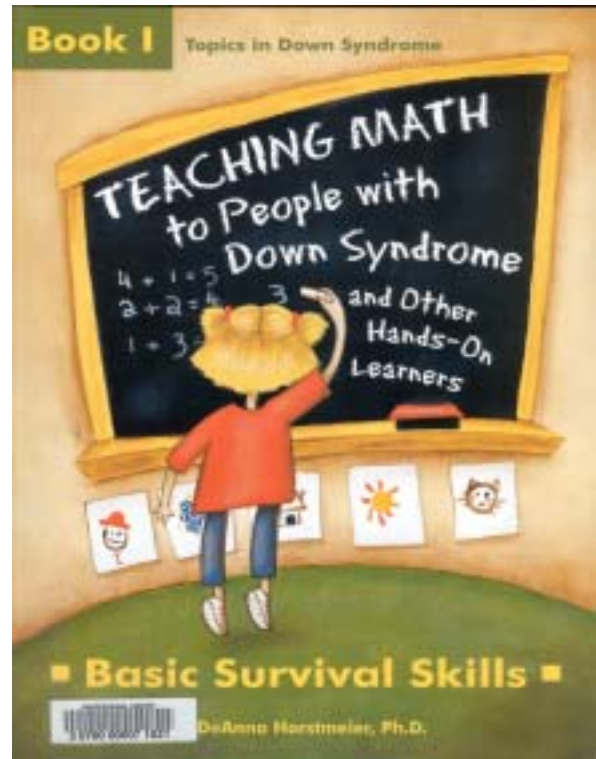
Eckenrode, Laurie. *Tasks Galore: Creative Ideas For Teachers, Therapists, and Parents Working With Exceptional Children.* Tasks Galore, 2004.

Eckenrode, Laurie. *Tasks Galore For the Real World.* Tasks Galore, 2004.

Horstmeier, DeAnna. *Teaching Math to People With Down Syndrome and Other Hands-on Learners.* Woodbine House, 2004.

Myles, Brenda Smith. *Hidden Curriculum: Practical Solutions for Understanding Unstated Rules in Social Situations.* Autism Asperger Publishing, 2004.

Welton, Jude. *What did you say? What did you mean? An Illustrated Guide to Understanding Metaphors.* Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2004.



The end of the school year is fast approaching and I wish to remind everyone that the Professional Library is open in the summer and you are welcome to come and explore. Have a safe and happy summer!

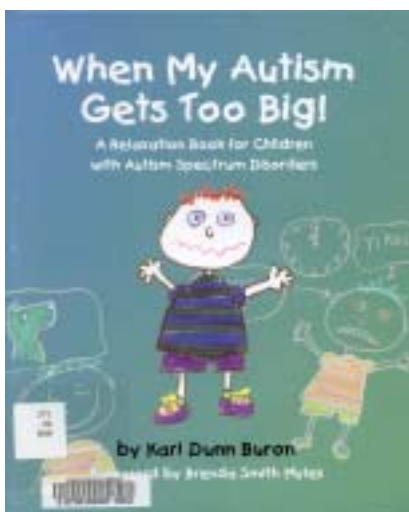
Joan Graham

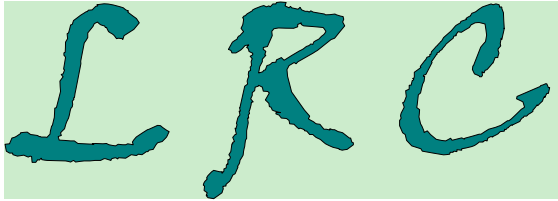
Borrowing materials from the Professional Library

Come in and browse or contact us by phone or e-mail. Materials can be sent directly to schools via the board courier.

Joan Graham x2245

E-mail: Joan_Graham@kprdsb.ca





LRC Contact People and Numbers

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Elizabeth Kerr | Consultant | x2240 |
| Suzanne Ashby | Circulation | x2252 |
| Jane Foley | Circulation | x2248 |
| Joan Graham | Professional Library | x2245 |
| Stan Kicak | Multimedia | x2247 |
| Rosie Lo | Secretary | x2257 |
| Pat Lewis | Circulation | x2250 |
| Caroline McConnell | Media Booking | x2253 |
| Angie Miles | LRC Support | x2257 |
| Jeanne Mounsteven | Technical Services | x2244 |
| Johan Ragetli | Automation/Systems | x2243 |
| Hank Sampson | Multimedia | x2246 |
| Angie Simmons | Circulation | x2254 |
| Sharon Slaughter | Technical Services | x2298 |

LEARNING RESOURCES CENTRE

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1-877-741-4577 x2257
Fax: 705-760-8698
Email: Lrc_Info@kprdsb.ca

LRC HOURS
Monday–Friday 8am–5pm
Thursday 8am–6pm

Visit us on the web for more education links.

<http://www.kpr.edu.on.ca/BoardInfo/Services/Educ/Lrc/index.htm>

Web sites we like

The International Children's Digital Library currently lists 706 books that can be freely read online. Titles represent a wide selection of global cultures and themes. Readers can choose whether to view the scanned images of the books pages right in their browser or load a java application to view them. Some works suffer through poor resolution and other limitations of the format. Nonetheless ICDL is still an interesting and worthwhile project for young readers.
<http://www.icdlbooks.org/>

Passageways : True tales of adventure for young explorers is one of several websites created by the National Library of Canada to

help promote its rich resources for youngsters age 9-13. Here you will find the explorers and their stories organized by the date of their major explorations. See also **Pathfinders & Passageways: The Exploration of Canada** (ages 14 and up)
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/explorers/index-e.html>

Hinterland Who's Who "This is where you'll find in-depth descriptions of wildlife, discussions on issues, actions that you can take to help wildlife, and educational materials that teachers and group leaders can use." This site from the Canadian Wildlife Service is based on the 30-second infomercials produced in the seventies and recently re-launched . Also provides a searchable library of

sound and video clips and information on endangered animals and habitats in Canada.
<http://www.hww.ca/>

Looking for some summer time reading? There are any number of readers advisory web sites and finding a suitable one is enough to make the sweat pour. Well chill out, pour yourself a tall glass of lemonade and let **The Southern Ontario Library Service** help you find the right book. See their list of links to various web sites and you're sure to find something to pass away the warm days.
<http://www.sols.org/links/clearinghouse/collectiondev/literaturefiction.htm>

PROFESSIONAL
LIBRARY

EQUIPMENT
LOANS

MEDIA
BOOKING

JK-8
COLLECTION

LIBRARY
TECHNICAL
SERVICES