[CØde DΛk]

In this month's installment of CodeDak, we're going to look at some robots, books, and games you can incorporate in your library's coding club to help make computer programming more relatable, concrete, and fun. Even if you're not running a coding club (though you should be!), everything mentioned here could still be used in a variety of engaging educational programs at your library. As a side note, the State Library intends to develop circulating kits around many of the interactive 'bots below, though these aren't anticipated to be in circulation until early 2018. We'll provide more details as plans gel!

Robots and games, no computer required:

Circuit Maze: A single player game that teaches logic and sequential reasoning in an electrical engineering framework. Play pieces on the game board within the constraints of a challenge card, complete the circuit, and light things up: http://www.thinkfun.com/products/circuit-maze/

Code & Go Robot Mouse Activity Set: Tap instructions into the back of a plastic robot mouse to steer it through a maze you build yourself. Appropriate for even very tiny people. Good times! https://smile.amazon.com/Learning-Resources-Robot-Activity-Pieces/dp/B01A5YMCH4/

Cubelets: Intelligent cubes that stick together with magnets. Different color cubes have different sensors, behaviors, and capabilities. The cubes you choose and how you piece them together determine what the thing you build will do. These are honestly a bit difficult to describe, but they're super cool so you should go here to see them in action: http://www.modrobotics.com/cubelets/ Did I mention that you can incorporate LEGO with these? Oh, and if you have a computer and you're ready for some next-level stuff, you can even reprogram the cubes.

Khet 2.0: An abstract strategy board came with lasers and mirrors. Supposedly, it's like chess, but with lasers and mirrors. What's not to love? http://khet.com/

Ozobots: Small self-propelled robots with a sensor to discern colors. Different color patterns provide it with different instructions. In other words, they're tiny robots you program by drawing lines with markers. Cool! Of course, there are also ways to program them with a tablet, though doing so may cause seizures: http://ozobot.com/

News and Thoughts...

from Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

Recently, School and Youth Services Specialist, Carmen Redding and I attended the ND Afterschool Network's Out-of-school Programming Summer Conference. The event was filled with lots of great sessions on a variety of topics. The keynote speaker was Matthew Emerzian, founder of the Every Monday Matters movement. Matthew was an energetic and interesting keynote speaker who made us laugh, pushed us past artificial limits, and asked us to think about why we matter.

Every Monday Matters (EMM) is a movement devoted to helping people realize why other people matter. For more information on the Every Monday Matters initiative, visit http://everymondaymatters.org. The EMM philosophy believes that we can change the world in big ways by doing small things for others. Matt's story was quite engaging, full of twists and turns, which led to him writing a book of the same name with co-author Kelly Bozza. The book has 52 ideas for small things a person can engage in to make the world a better place. The 33rd Monday is read a book; you know I love that one! The three actions are to read a book you've never read before, join a book club or start one with friends or co-workers and give books to people as gifts. All great ideas!

While EMM started with a book, it grew to include curriculum for schools, professional development for businesses, and a year-long partnership with Oprah that featured material on oprah.com. A few years ago, after a very moving experience with a group of prisoners that were studying his book, Matt made another change and EMM became a not-for-profit dedicated to encouraging positive change by one action, one Monday at a time.

I found Matt's message so compelling that it became the basis of the ice breaker we used at the 2017 Summer Summits by taking one of his activities and adding a library element. The idea of helping people realize that they matter touched me in so many ways, including my inner librarian. Libraries are dedicated to helping people learn new things throughout their life, connecting people with resources, other people and organizations.

I believe that EMM has a deep place in the library world. It's a philosophy that we can support with our programs, services, and our collections. Although Matt told me not to read his book because it's 10 years old and out-of-date, I of course placed a hold while in his small group session. I like the book so much that I'm going to add it to my personal library. I think there are great ideas in the book that can help us make a difference in the world but even more importantly, I think it serves as a reminder to identify how and why we matter as individuals and why other people matter.

Libraries have long realized that people matter. We are one of the few institutions that truly serve anyone and everyone that walks through our doors. I think we can use the idea of Every Monday Matters in a larger way to call our community to action. I love the idea of a community-wide initiative, led by the library, which focuses on helping others through small acts, such as picking up trash in the park, reading to seniors in the nursing home or rocking babies in the local hospital. You matter, your patrons matter, your community matters. Let us, as librarians, lead the charge to help people know that they matter.

Mary Soucie •msoucie@nd.gov • (701) 328-4654

ONLINE LIBRARY RESOURCE
CONSUMER HEALTH COMPLETE

This database is great for health and wellness research without getting overwhelmed with medical terminology. The database is one of the many from EBSCO, but it features some popular magazines as well as legitimate medical research for students. It has a wide range of appeal so no matter if you are a student working on a project or just a regular patron looking for information this source will have something available. Of particular interest are the Images and Diagrams that the database offers. These are high quality medical diagrams that are perfect for any health and wellness course. They are also the ones that are made for doctors' offices so you know that the information is accurate and can be cited properly. Check out this helpful database the next time you or a patron has a medical question!

Robots requiring a computer, tablet, or smartphone:

Codeybot: When a company's motto is "Coding Begins with Having Fun" you can expect great things. Codeybot is a darling little wedge on wheels with a configurable display, internal speaker, and pre-programmed dance moves. Oh, and apparently you can outfit it with a laser, because what good is a fully-programmable robot that can't shoot you with a laser? http://www.codeybot.com/

Dash and Dot: A pair of rugged companion robots that are uber-kid friendly and have some colorful interactive bits and bobs including a xylophone and a catapult: https://www.makewonder.com/

Finch: Ever want to program a flightless bird? I've got just the thing for you! Meet the Finch robot: http://www.finchrobot.com/

LEGO WeDo 2.0: Look, you can never really have enough LEGO. WeDo is a LEGO robotics kit that allows kids to build their own programmable robots, combining engineering with computer science. The only drawback is that the kit includes 280 bricks, which can mean a whole lot of parts to keep track of: https://education.lego.com/en-us/elementary/shop/wedo-2

Sphero: A lovable programmable robotic ball with sensors and lights. Notably, it's one of the few robots dogs can fetch (please don't do this, though). Sphero also makes robots that tie-in to popular franchises such as Spider-Man, Pixar's Cars, and Star Wars, so they can be a way to entice reluctant coders: http://www.sphero.com/

Books:
Look, there's simply tons of great books out there geared towards inspiring kids and teens to learn to code and which feature young coders as relatable inspirational characters. This is only a taste, but it'll get you started:

1. Code your Own Games!: 20 Games to Create with Scratch by Max Wainewright
2. Coding Games in Scratch by Jon Woodcock
3. Computer Coding for Kids by Carol Vorderman
4. Computational Fairy Tales by Jeremy Kubica
5. Electronics for Kids: Play with Simple Circuits and Experiment with Electricity! By Oyvind Nydal Dahl
6. Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, and Getting it Done by Andrea Gonzales and Sophie Houser
7. Invent your Own Games with Python, 4th ed. by Al Sweigart
8. Hello Ruby: Adventures in Coding by Linda Liukas
9. Hello Ruby: Journey Inside the Computer by Linda Liukas
10. How to Code in 10 Easy Lessons by Sean McManus
11. Kids Get Coding series by Heather Lyons
12. Little Brother by Cory Doctorow
13. Secret Coders series by Gene Luen Yang and Mike Holmes
14. Ruby Wizardry: An Introduction to Programming for Kids by Eric Weinstein

BOOK CLUB KITS

We have added or will be adding several new Book Club Kits to our collection. Our kits can be checked out through KitKeeper, http://bit.ly/1tgOGKP or by contacting the North Dakota State Library at 1-800-472-2104 or statelib@nd.gov.

As a reminder, please have the Book Club Kits back by their due date. When they are returned late, that often delays the next patron in the holds queue from getting the kit on time, which could delay the next patron and so on.

NEW KITS AVAILABLE

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
Inheriting Edith by Zoe Fishman
The Women in the Castle by Jessica Shattuck

COMING SOON!

The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
After Ever After by Jordan Sonnenblick
Jane Doe January by Emily Winslow
The Secrets of Flight by Maggie Leffler

NEW LIBRARIAN RESOURCES AT THE STATE LIBRARY: CODING EDITION

- Hello Ruby : adventures in coding
- Ruby wizardry : an introduction to programming for kids
- Coding for kids for dummies
- How to code in 10 easy lessons
- Coding games in Scratch
- Kids get coding. Online safety for coders
- Kids get coding. Coding, bugs, and fixes
- Kids get coding. Learn to program
- Kids get coding. A world of programming
- Rosset : my life in publishing and how I fought censorship
- Empire of illusion : the end of literacy and the triumph of spectacle
- Printer's error : irreverent stories from book history
- Chicken story time (picture book)
- Revenge of the evil librarian (YA fiction)
- Code your own games : 20 games to create with Scratch

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING – GET WHAT YOU NEED!
By Christy Schafer

Did you know your library can use State contracts to purchase goods and services?

Cooperative purchasing is a FREE service and an effective tool you can use to leverage time and cost efficiencies.

State Contract #291 – AED (Automated External Defibrillator
Does your library have an AED or in need of an additional one? Check out State Contract #291 which has 3 contractors offering AED's. The OMB website has detailed information regarding the pricing and how to order the units. If you have further questions please contact Rebecca Pollert at rpollert@nd.gov or 701-328-2690.

State Contract #26 – Fire Extinguishers
The state contract for fire extinguishers includes ABC and Class K units. There is also pricing for annual and six year maintenance inspections and hydrostatic testing. The contractor is Summit Companies located in Fargo and they provide service to all major cities in North Dakota. If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Bostyan at jbostyan@nd.gov or 701-328-4912.

You can find more information about all the State Contracts on the OMB website at http://bit.ly/2io8kXG. If you have any questions, please contact the State Procurement Office at 701-328-2740 or infospo@nd.gov.

Let's do more with less!

Librarian for the Day

Welcome back to school, school librarians! Just before the end of the school year, I did a Librarian for a Day (L4D) visit to three different schools. Since it was so close to the end of the year, I wanted to wait to share about them until our school librarians were back.

My first visit was to Wyndmere School. What a fun visit! School Librarian, Jennifer Manstrom, greeted me and promptly gave me a tour of their school, including the greenhouse, the community space and the community gym. I should've packed my workout clothes! We spent the morning talking all things library, which is always a fun way to pass the time. In the afternoon, I welcomed the parents, students and teachers to the annual Battle of the Books. Although I've been aware of the Battle of the Books for a long time, I've never participated in one before so that was really neat. I assisted Ms. Manstrom with handing out the trophies to the winning team. A final wrap-up in the library ended our day together.

My next visit was to Turtle Mountain High School. Former librarian, Carmen Redding, welcomed me to the library with a tour. We talked about various topics including weeding. I gave presentations to two classes on fake news; the teacher and I had an interesting conversation in the second presentation. I really enjoyed being in a classroom again. After a delightful lunch, Carmen and I set out to weed a particular Dewey section in the library. Between the two of us, I think we emptied about four shelves of books that were outdated. I love to weed so this was a fun way to conclude our visit. Ms. Redding then accompanied me to the Rolla Public Library where I visited with the new librarian Rebecca Sheridan and a trustee, Rebecca Albert. We talked mostly about different ways to shelve the children's collection and to utilize space differently in the library. That was a 2-for-1 L4D which was fun.

I also visited Light of Christ Academy in Bismarck. Librarian Kari Stromme and I talked about how she might incorporate a makerspace into the library at the academy and about the library at the new high school being built. I gave three presentations on fake news to the 8th grade classes. It was particularly fun to have my niece in one of the presentations. The kids were very engaged and asked some great questions. In one of the presentations, one student exclaimed, "I always share this stuff on Twitter!" If I can help one student stop sharing stuff on Twitter then my time was well spent.

I also did a L4D visit to the Underwood Public Library with director Harmony Higbie. I assisted kids with making Eiffel towers out of toilet paper tubes, yarn and lots of glue and then concluded by reading a book about architecture. I also did some reader's advisory for a few patrons which is always fun.

Thank you to Jennifer, Carmen, Kari, and Harmony for extending the invitation and for the direct interaction with the children. It's always fun to get back to my youth services roots!

If you'd like to extend an invitation for me to visit your library, please contact Cheryl Pollert at ndsladmn@nd.gov or at (701) 328-2492. Each L4D visit is unique and can be whatever you would like it to be. I look forward to visiting your library.

BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDERS

For school media specialists, especially those who are new to their position, we would like to remind you a couple of things:

1. For ordering materials, renewing materials, database questions, and other general inquiries, you can call us at 1-800-472-2104 or e-mail us at statelib@nd.gov.

2. The North Dakota State Library has been using e-mail for initial overdue notices and a courtesy upcoming due date notice. If the e-mail address for the school library or library staff have changed, please notify us with the corrections.

3. Check the access for your databases. We have discovered that sometimes over the summer the telecoms and/or ITD have been rearranging IP ranges and we don't always hear about it. This causes problems with the AUTHGATE that allows access to the ODIN databases. If you are being prompted to log into the databases from wired school computers, please contact us and we'll make sure that the ODIN office has the proper outside IP address.

4. Your school has a remote access barcode and password that can be given out to students so they can use the databases from home. That barcode starts with 23125… The State Library Card barcode for the school to use for requesting materials starts with 23105…. Don't give this one out. If you need your remote access number, contact us and we'll provide it to you.

5. LittleBits kits are inspected by our staff before they are shipped out and the components are checked to make sure they are in working order. If you receive a kit with nonworking parts, please notify the State Library by e-mail and let us know which parts aren't working. Borrowers of littleBit kits may be charged for lost or damaged components. All kits, including littleBits kits, Display kits, and Book Club kits, need to be returned by their due dates. Any delays in returning a kit will delay the patron who is next on the hold list.

6. Hi to all media specialists! I am the newly-hired School and Youth Services Specialist with the State Library. I'm on staff to serve as your advocate and information resource for credentialing; for afterschool programming, for STEM promotion and Makerspace creation supported by your school library; for summer reading programs; and for general school library topics/issues. I will also be your state rep to YALSA. My name is Carmen Redding. I am a former educator of 39 years. You can reach me at 701-328-4676 or credding@nd.gov.

LIBRARY VISION 2020 GRANTS

Grant applications for the Library Vision 2020 Grants will be open from August 28 through October 20. Applications will be submitted via Counting Opinions and are open to publicly funded school, public, academic, and special libraries. In order to assist libraries with preparing their grant applications, the State Library has been holding a series of webinars. With only one of the webinars left, don't fret if you missed the others. You can access the webinars through the State Library's YouTube page or through the Grants page at library.nd.gov/grants. The webinars that are recorded are for the Makerspace Grant and the Collection Development Grant. Check out these webinars and sign up for the final one. If you have any questions, please contact Angie at ndsltrain@nd.gov.

Library Vision 2020 – OCLC Resource Sharing Grant
When: Wednesday, August 23, 2017 1:30pm-2:00pm (CT)

This grant offered by the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council is for the retrospective conversion of your library's catalog. The webinar will discuss what retrospective conversion is, what the grant will cover, and why it is important to be a part of OCLC.

Register for the webinar through our calendar.

FREE TRAINING WEBINARS

These webinars are free, live, and interactive. You will connect to audio using a headset or speakers. If you do not have a microphone, you can use chat to ask questions.

Girls in STEM: Creating a New Era (edWeb.net)
Register: http://bit.ly/2f1daxS
Thursday, August 17 (1:00-2:00 PM CT)

This edWebinar will be presented by two high school students with a strong interest in pursuing careers in the STEM fields, dedicated to getting more girls to participate in STEM.

Good Reads for Reluctant Readers (Booklist)
Register: http://bit.ly/2qdFgaR
Tuesday, August 22 (10:00-11:00 AM CT)

Finding the right book for a daunted or disinterested reader can be tough. These books will open the door for even the most reluctant. This webinar features representatives from Black Rabbit Books, Lorimer, Chooseco (Choose Your Own Adventure), and Running Press Kids, who will discuss their upcoming titles, perfect for your reluctant readers in grades 3 - 12.

5 Common Legal Traps for Nonprofits and How to Avoid Them (Wild Apricot)
Register: http://bit.ly/2w6xTUh
Wednesday, August 23 (11:00-12:00 PM CT)

Have you ever worried your organization could have some hidden legal risks? Often it's what we don't know that can come back to haunt us. This is why we've invited Erin McClarty, nonprofit attorney and strategist, to present a free webinar on the most common legal issues she sees nonprofits face, and what to do about them.

Ask Me Anything! Copyright Edition (NDSL)
Register: http://bit.ly/w3pTgC
Thursday, August 24, 2017 1:30-2:00 PM CT
Presented by Shari Mosser, Interlibrary Loan Coordinator

Ask Me Anything! I have studied copyright and been a librarian at the State Library for 18 years. I am also willing to answer questions on ILL, programming, story times, gaming, and stealth geek questions. Or we can just chat. I like chatting too. But no Game of Thrones spoilers!

But if you want accurate copyright information (and not just off the cuff "I'll have to get back to you" answers), please send your questions to ndsltrain@nd.gov by Friday, August 18th.

DISCLAIMER: The presenter is not a lawyer and this session is intended to be informational only. It is not a substitute for actual legal counsel.

Networking: A Survival Guide for Introverts (NDSL)
Register: http://bit.ly/w3pTgC
Thursday, September 21, 2017 1:30-2:00 PM CT
Presented by BreAnne Meier, Library Development Specialist

Networking... Does that word make you cringe or feel overwhelmed and exhausted? People who are introverted can have a really hard time when it comes to networking at conferences and other events that require them to be around and talk with other people. This webinar will include strategies on how to make the most out of networking, while also ensuring you don't get burned out in the process.

DISCLAIMER: There must be at least 5 participants signed up for the webinar by Monday, September 18th.

DISCLAIMER: The ND State Library highlights third-party webinars as a way to alert the library community to training opportunities. By doing so, we are not endorsing the content, nor promoting any specific product.

SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM   DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15

As part of its ongoing commitment to rural communities across the country, the Foundation for Rural Service provides annual grants for communities served by NTCA members. The goal of the program is to support local efforts to build and sustain a high quality of life in rural America. Grants will be concentrated in four major areas: business development, community development, education, and telecommunications. Grants can range from $250 to $5,000.

Read their guidelines and apply at: http://bit.ly/1HsT8lp

DOOSAN DISCOVERY GRANT   DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 18

Doosan Bobcat is offering grants of $500 to accredited middle schools to support STEM Education in communities where it has operating plants or offices (re: Bismarck, Gwinner, Wahpeton, and West Fargo). Projects dealing with science, technology, engineering, or math will be considered. Projects must be completed during the 2017-2018 academic year. Educators for grades 5-8 are encouraged to apply.

Full details and application are available at: http://bit.ly/2uocBjH

LOWE'S TOOLBOX FOR EDUCATION GRANT   DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 29

Lowe's Toolbox for Education grants fund improvements at public schools throughout the United States. Projects should fall into one of the following categories: technology updates, tools for STEM programs, or facility renovations and safety improvements. Grant requests can range from $2,000 to $100,000.

Eligibility requirements and the application are available at: http://low.es/2vtymCR

STATE FARM GOOD NEIGHBOR CITIZENSHIP GRANT   DEADLINE: OCTOBER 31

State Farm grants focus on safety, education, and community development. Charitable funding is awarded to educational institutions and eligible nonprofit organizations. Grant amount requested must be $5,000 or more.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/1rkkWld

REGIONAL STEM DAYS FOR STUDENTS   DEADLINE: DECEMBER 29

ND STEM is looking to encourage educational entities and business/industry partners to participate in STEM activities and projects for K-12 students. K-12 districts, Area Career and Technology Centers, REA's, Universities, and other entities who directly impact K-12 education are eligible to apply. Grant requests may not exceed $4,000. Funds may be used for presenter travel and fees, activity supplies, transportation of students, and facility rental, but not to supplant state and local funds nor to fund existing programs.

Find out more and apply here: http://bit.ly/2hrh18d

If you have applied for a grant you found in The Flickertale and received it, please let us know!

North Dakota Library Tidbits

- Grand Forks Public Library is hosting Prairie Churches, a 26 panel exhibit sponsored by Preservation North Dakota, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the State Historical Society

- Valley City Barnes County Public Library wrapped up their teen summer reading program with a Cosplay Party

- Wallace R. Goulet, Jr., was hired to serve as the Chief Operating Officer for the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation

- The Margaret Fraase Public Library held a scavenger hunt during Shuffle off to Buffalo weekend

- Morton-Mandan Public Library's recent adult programs have included parenting classes through the NDSU Extension Service, a community connections movie for adults with disabilities, and the Books 'n' Brews book club

- Friends of the McVille Community Library provided treats all summer for the weekly picnic in the park event held by the Nelson County Health Services Foundation

- Numerous public libraries throughout the state are giving out safe viewing glasses for the historic August 21st solar eclipse

- Cavalier Public Library received a grant from Thrivent to purchase a popcorn popper for use at events and fundraisers

- Williston Community Library held their first annual Brick Building Bonanza at which a whopping 193 kids from 3 different age categories exhibited LEGO creations; the program was supported by a grant from the Robert E. Herman Family Foundation

- Carrington Public Library is hiring an assistant library director

- Fargo Public Library offered basket weaving classes for children

- Mott Public Library held a program where children learned to measure, saw, and assemble the component parts of birdhouses

- Mayville Public Library had a water party on the library lawn with bubbles and blasts from a fire hose

- Ellendale Public Library received a Pilcrow Foundation Grant to purchase new hardcover children's books for the library

- McVille Community Library received a North Dakota Humanities Council grant supporting a storytelling/ concert/book signing event with folk artist Jessie Veeder, commemorating the library's 6th anniversary

- Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library participated in Bismarck's Urban Harvest by offering a story time that included a puppet show

- The city of Mandan is discussing downtown renovation projects on west Main Street that include moving the library into a new location

- Carnegie Regional Library in Grafton offered free genealogy help in their new Genealogy Nook.

- Rolette City Library hosted a presentation by a firefighter and Speed Fire Safety Bingo. Kids were also able to explore different parts of the fire truck.

Camp Half-Blood

Valley City Barnes County Public Library held a Percy Jackson Party where kids got to make crafts, swords, and shields, while earning beads of the gods and eating blue food.

What's Inside Technology?

Underwood Public Library held a program where kids were able to take apart a printer, television, computer monitor, and other old technology to figure out what is inside.

End of Summer Ice Cream Social

The Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library hosted an End of Summer Ice Cream Social. The event celebrated the summer reading participant's hard work and prizes were awarded. The social was open to all ages and offered free ice cream and live music.

Sing-Along Fun

Grand Forks Public Library had a musical, magical storytime. The Grand Forks Summer for the Performing Arts (SPA) came to visit and sang songs from Beauty and the Beast, Frozen, Moana, and Tangled with the kids.

DIGITAL DELIGHTS

This postcard from around 1919 shows a smiling soldier who is holding his rifle and showing off his boot bottoms at Camp Upton, N.Y.

Credit: State Historical Society of North Dakota (11063-144)

Check out Digital Horizons at: http://bit.ly/2t3Dbmq

Please submit library news and Flickertale "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" requests to ndslpa@nd.gov.