

#NspirEDlit

April 2020

Digital Learning

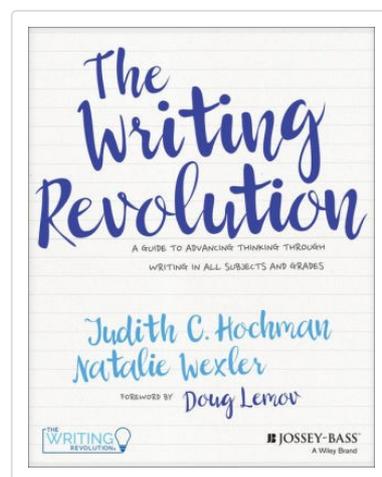
We are all in unprecedented territory in trying to figure out the best way to maintain our high expectations for students and learning while also allowing our communities to cope with the daily challenges that are constantly evolving. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is looking for ways that we can help Hoosier educators during this time. This edition of our INspirEDlit newsletter is a curation of online learning platforms and resources you can use with elementary and secondary students.



Literacy Updates from IDOE

The Writing Revolution Book Study

We have had a lot of great feedback from the field on the effectiveness of the writing strategies presented in The Writing Revolution. We are going to extend the book study, through the end of May, to allow for educators to continue to seek professional development opportunities. Completion of the book study will result in 30 PGPs. If you want to sign up, follow this [link](#) and search for the course: The Writing Revolution. Once you find the course, use the access code, TWR2020 to join!



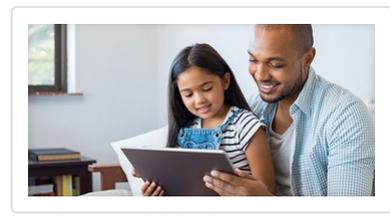
The modules are also currently available on the IDOE website under the "writing" section of supports. Check them out [here](#)!

Ideas and Insight

Elementary eLearning Resources

[Book Creator](#)

This website provides a series of ebooks, made in Book Creator. Experienced educators share their tips, ideas, and resources to help you supercharge your Book Creator lessons!



[Storyline Online](#)

Storyline Online provides stories for children, parents, caregivers, and educators worldwide. Each book includes supplemental curriculum developed by a credentialed elementary educator, aiming to strengthen comprehension and verbal and written skills for English-language learners.

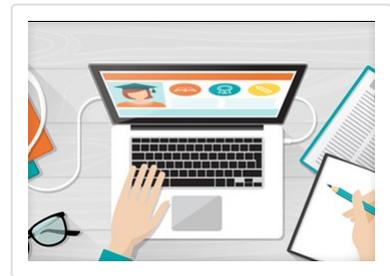
[Florida Center for Reading Research](#)

Here you can find activities in the Student Center for use in kindergarten through fifth grade classrooms. Accompanying these Student Center activities is a Teacher Resource Guide that offers important insights on differentiated instruction and how to use the Student Center materials.

Secondary eLearning Resources

[PBS Learning Media](#)

This platform is managed by PBS. They have created lessons for all grades and subject areas that provide high-interest reading materials often times accompanied with videos for students to engage with various subject matter. There are lessons covering all topics from current events, literary summaries, and writing supports. Teachers can assign reading or writing activities through the PBS Learning Media page and it syncs directly with Google Classroom. This is great for teachers in all subject areas so feel free to share! PBS Learning Media is a free service and students have the option of creating an account or teachers can send students links to lessons without an account.



[Kelly Gallagher's Article of the Week](#)

Kelly Gallagher is a high school English teacher in California. He believes there is a knowledge gap in his students and has embedded an article of the week every Monday in his classes to help students fill in that gap. This resource provides access to the weekly article that he reads with his students. At the bottom of each article, there are questions that can be used for discussions in online platforms or writing assignments.

[Listenwise](#)

Listenwise is a free platform (premium version available during COVID-19 closures) that is aimed at developing the listening comprehension of students. Listenwise has thousands of short stories, narrated by NPR, that cover all different subject matters. Stories can be anything from an interview with an author to a current event. There are several supplemental activities of which students can engage. They can read additional information, they can have discussion based on questions provided, and there is a quiz students can take aligned with ELA standards.



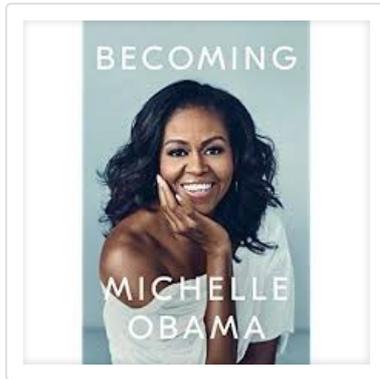
Literacy Framework

The [Literacy Framework](#) is a tool you can use to curriculum map and plan throughout the school year. Does your school utilize a curriculum map, scope and sequence, or pacing guide? Use the Literacy Framework to dive into each standard through "I can" statements, question stems, practical examples, and digital resources!

Have special requests for support? Feel free to reach out to us at any time. That's what we are here for!

Book Suggestions

For the book suggestions this month we wanted to provide books that you might be interested in reading for yourself. We know that everybody is going through a stressful time trying to transfer their teaching materials into digital platforms. We want to encourage you to take time for yourself and read a book that has been on your to-read list for awhile. Below are suggestions we each enjoy.

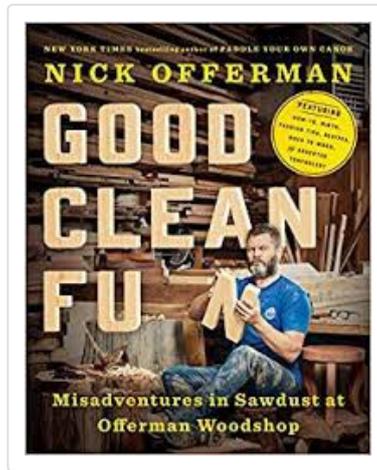


Becoming

By: Michelle Obama

Becoming is a memoir written by former first lady, Michelle Obama. In her memoir, she recounts her life growing up on the south side of Chicago, beginning college on a Ivy League Campus, and how her life began to change after meeting her husband, Barack Obama. It is a story of challenge, inspiration, and honesty as she allows the reader to see all that has developed her into the American Icon she is today.

Recommendation by Kelly Waller

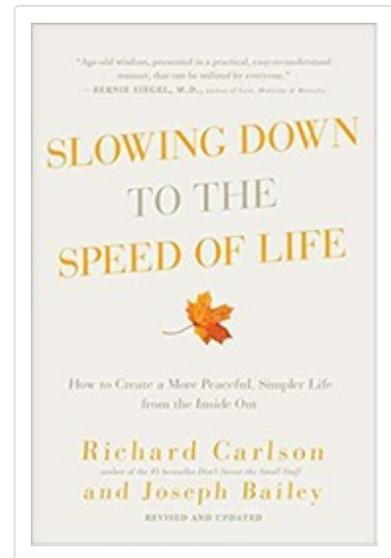


Good Clean Fun

By: Nick Offerman

Learning to work with your hands and create something that is useful and meaningful sometimes feels swept to the side: like old sawdust. Good Clean Fun, by Nick Offerman gives insights into woodworking shop procedures to create items from household tools to fine wood furniture. The step-by-step instructions use humor, philosophy, and good 'ol American elbow grease to teach novice and experts alike what it means to make use of your mind and hands to create something worthwhile and take pride in your work. So lace up your boots, build up calluses, and create some dust (and fun) with this book!

Recommendation by Joe Risch



Slowing Down to the Speed of Life

By: Richard Carlson and Joseph Bailey

Reading Reconsidered looks at what types of literacy instruction students need for today to read rigorous topics in all subjects. This book also focuses on fundamental reading instruction techniques like vocabulary, interactive reading, and student autonomy through clear, easy-to-implement approaches and practical tools for educators.

Recommendation by Rose Tomishima

Educator Opportunities to Check Out!

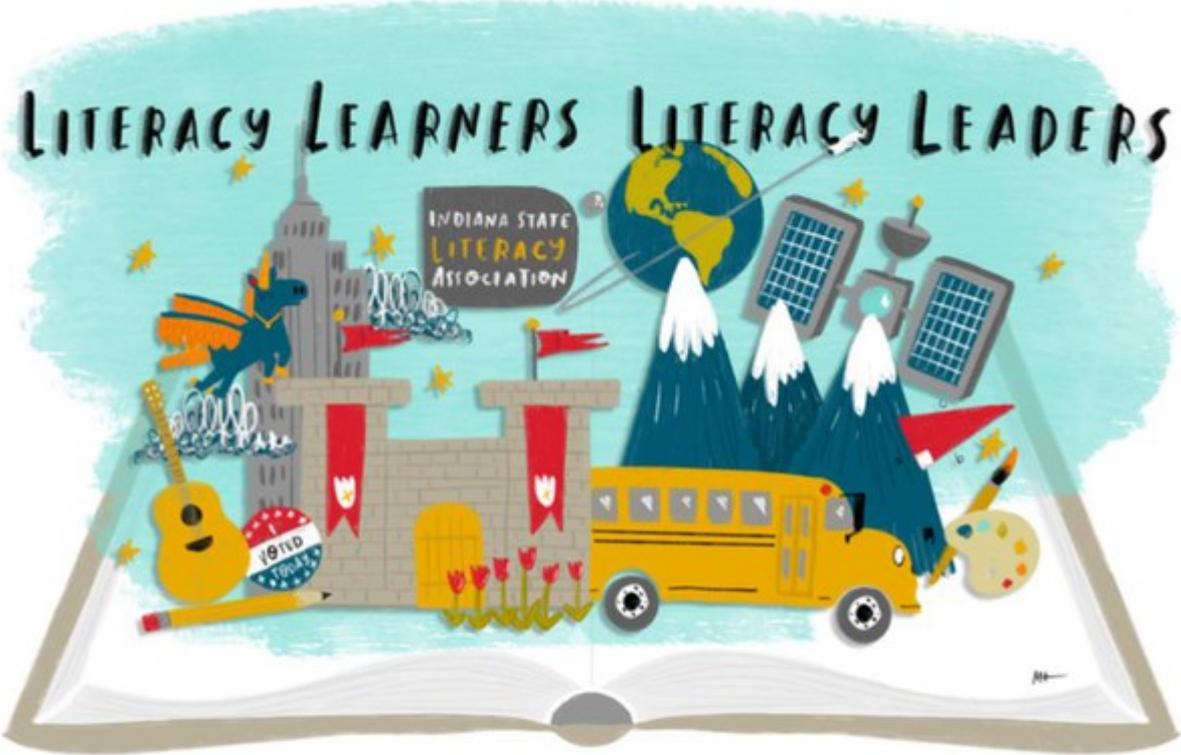
IDOE Website Created For Schools to Support Participation in the Upcoming Census



The upcoming U.S. Census will determine the federal funds schools receive. Click [here](#) to access IDOE's census resources for superintendents, principals, teachers, and families.

Indiana State Literacy Conference

Join the Indiana affiliate of the International Literacy Association for a great day of learning. Register [here](#).



The graphic features the text "LITERACY LEARNERS LITERACY LEADERS" at the top. Below it is a central illustration of an open book containing various icons: a yellow guitar, a blue and orange dragon, a yellow school bus, a globe, a smartphone, a tablet, a paint palette, a pencil, a mountain range, a city skyline, and a sign that says "INDIANA STATE LITERACY ASSOCIATION".

INDIANA STATE LITERACY CONFERENCE 2020
September 12, 2020 | Noblesville High School
Register at www.indianareads.org | #ISLA20 | @IndianaReads



Literacy and Tech: Thought of the Month!

[Home Safari](#)

We wanted to provide a tech tip for those of you who are trying to be teachers to both your students and your own children right now. The Cincinnati Zoo is providing virtual safaris everyday at 3 p.m. EST. Following each lesson, there are activities and a quiz students can take to apply what they have learned. You can sit with your child and talk to them

about the animals and they have a real world learning experience. Remember, a big part of literacy is speaking and listening. This is a great opportunity to practice listening to the video and having a follow-up conversation.

Connect on Twitter!

It's been reported that over four million educators use Twitter for professional conversations. As educators, there is so much we can learn from each other. We invite you to connect with us and each other!



1. Tweet about all things LITERACY using #INspirEDlit
2. Follow the hashtag and connect with other coaches and educators
3. Follow @EducateIN for the latest updates from Indiana Department of Education
4. Follow your IDOE Literacy Team: @RoseTomishima, @KellyKWaller, & @JMRisch1

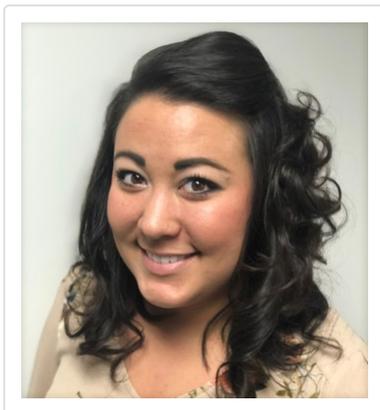
Literacy's Who To Follow:

Who: Teach Write

Handle: @TeachWriteEDU

What: Teachers who write make the best teachers of writers. Providing education, inspiration, and workshops.

Want to join our Literacy Community of Practice? [Click here.](#)

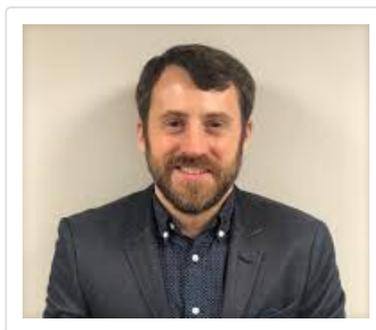


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Indiana
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION