

DECEMBER 2016

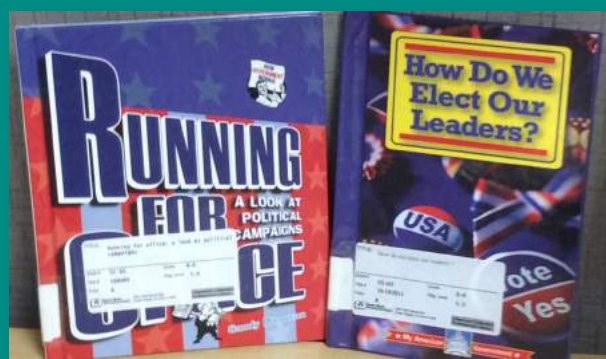
GRANT WOOD AEA

INFO@

Monthly information for teacher-librarians
and media contacts



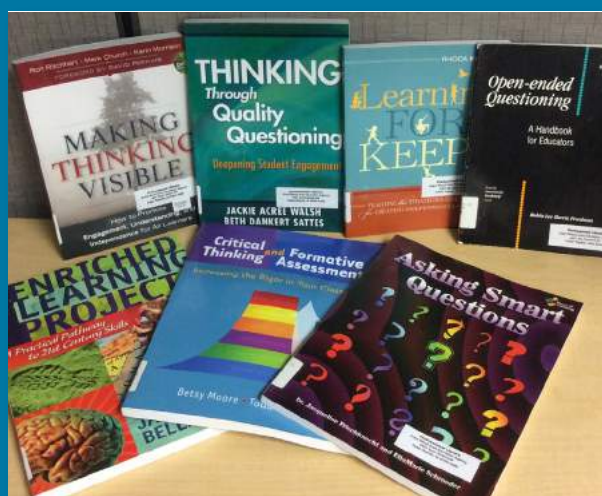
[Click here to read all full-length stories](#)



CRITICAL THINKING RESEARCH LESSON IDEA

Inauguration Day offers lots of opportunities
to practice the critical thinking process.

[Click here to read more.](#)



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE

Preparing K-5 grade students for research using
critical thinking. [Click here to read more.](#)

STUDENT BOOKS TO SUPPLEMENT VAST KITS

Over 100 new titles.
[Check it out!](#)



ONLINE RESOURCES



ONLINE RESOURCES FEATURE: TRUEFLIX

TrueFlix provides many resources for critical
thinking projects. [Click here to read more.](#)



GRANT WOOD AEA HOLIDAY HOURS

Grant Wood AEA will close on Friday,
December 23 at 3 P.M. and will reopen
on Tuesday, January 3 at 7:30 A.M.



“THINK, MAKE, INNOVATE”: FAMOUS PERSON NIGHT USING AURASMA

Join Jason and Amber for the 2nd season
of the **Makerspace Challenge Show**.

Boxed Book COLLECTION

AVAILABLE AT GRANT WOOD AEA

SHARE BOXED BOOKS AND BOXED BOOK MULTIPLES WITH YOUR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

[Click here to see the full infographic](#)
on the various boxed book sets that we have
available for your classroom in the Grant
Wood AEA Media Center.



MEDIA CENTER LATE START AND SNOW DAY PROCEDURES

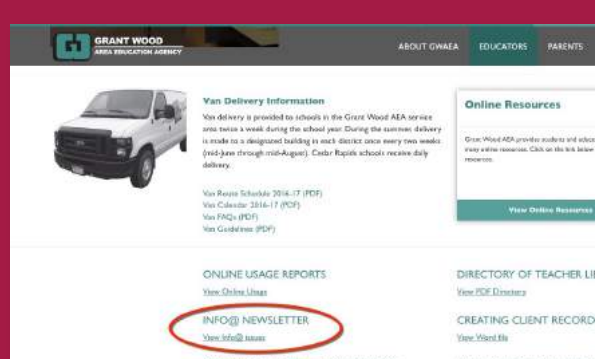
In the event of a Late Start or Snow Day...
[Click here to learn more.](#)

WHAT'S NEW IN THE MEDIA CENTER?



WHAT'S NEW IN THE GWAEA MEDIA CENTER?

JUST ADDED: New resources in the Grant Wood
AEA Media Center. [Click here to find out.](#)



ARCHIVED ISSUES OF INFO@

Archived issues of Info@ can be found after
December 19 at this [link](#).



COURSE FOR GRADUATE OR RECERTIFICATION CREDIT

Integrating the AEA Online Resources into
your Classroom. [Click here to read more.](#)



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US IN THE MEDIA CENTER

Wishing you a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year from the Grant Wood AEA Media Center Staff.



GRANT WOOD
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

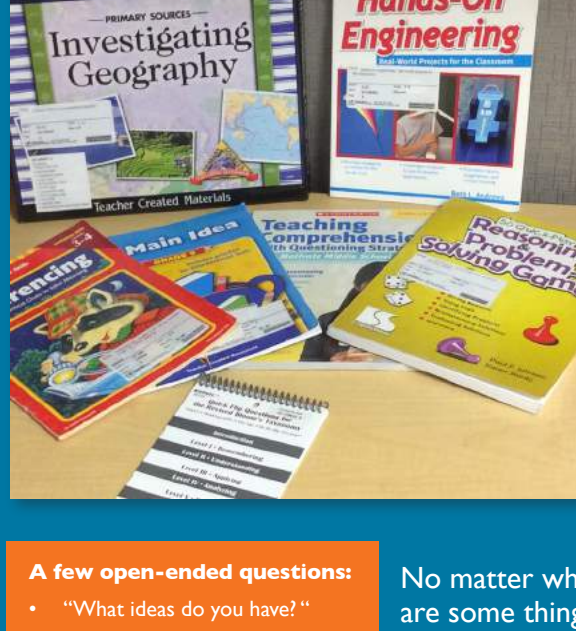
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PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE

For many teacher librarians, their week includes working with students on research skills to prepare students for their futures.

How does one incorporate other 21st century skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, communication and creativity into the research process?

This month Deanna suggests ways to build critical thinking into the research process for students in grades K - 5.



A few open-ended questions:

- "What ideas do you have?"
- "What do you think is happening here?"
- "Tell me why you think that."
- "How would you solve this problem?"
- "Where do you think we might get more information about this problem?"

No matter which approach you use, here are some things to keep in mind:

Provide opportunities to play. It is during play that children test their thinking. This informal process of testing how things work is crucial to critical thinking.

Help children view themselves as problem-solvers and thinkers by asking open-ended questions. Don't solve all problems immediately for children. Instead ask some questions and provide enough information so

children don't get frustrated, but not so much information that you solve the problem for them.

Help children develop hypotheses. This will encourage children to explore and dig deeper into their inquiries.

Questions to encourage new ways of thinking:

- "What are some other ideas we could try?"
- "Are there any other possible solutions?"

Encourage thinking in new and different ways. By allowing children to think differently, you're helping them hone their creative problem solving skills.

Support the child to research further information. You can help children develop critical thinking skills by guiding them toward other resources.

Questions to encourage hypotheses:

- "If we do this, what do you think will happen?"
- "Let's predict what we think will happen next."

Questions for further exploration:

- "Now how could we find out more?"
- "Your dad knows a lot about this topic. Why don't you ask him?"
- "Let's try searching on the computer?"

And finally, what is it about critical thinking that makes it a great fit for teaching the research process? For starters, students who are in grades K-5 learn to:

- Test how things work.
- Find solutions to problems.
- Explore and dig deeper.
- Work with others toward a common goal.

Check out these resources to help you get started in helping your students to develop critical thinking skills.

"Critical thinking is a key skill that our students need to have in order to become life-long learners and self-advocates for themselves." (Stacey Lange)

CRITICAL THINKING RESEARCH LESSON IDEA

Grades: K-2 or 3-5

Brief Description: Students develop questions that a reporter might ask during an interview with the new president.

Objectives: Students will:

- Define the words reporter and interview.
- Use critical thinking skills to develop questions that a reporter might ask when interviewing the new president.

Vocabulary Words: inauguration, president, interview, questions, reporter

Lesson Plan (Click here to view the lesson plan)

- Ask students what a reporter does and the different types of reporters (e.g newspaper reporters, television reporters, magazine reporters, or online reporters.
- Discuss the meaning of the word interview.
- Have the students work individually to identify the questions they would ask the new president.
- Solicit students' responses and write them on the board or on chart paper.

Pair this lesson with an activity like the "I Do Solemnly Swear" poster. This poster was created with materials from the Work Center. If you are interested in finding out more about this poster, contact **Jayne Kamberling** for more information.



STUDENT BOOKS TO SUPPLEMENT VAST KITS

Are students excited about what they are learning through the VAST kits? Do your teachers need books to supplement the NGSS? (Next Generation Science Standards)

The Science or VAST collections in the Media Center has been updated with **recommended titles** to supplement the VAST units.



"THINK, MAKE, INNOVATE": FAMOUS PERSON NIGHT USING AURASMA

"Think, Make, Innovate" is the Grant Wood AEA Digital Learning Team's makerspace challenge show.

In the 4th episode of their 2nd season, GWAEA Technology Consultants Jason Marshall and Amber Bridge partner with students at Strawberry Hill Elementary in Anamosa. Students create **Famous Person projects** using Aurasma.

Check out the Grant Wood AEA Digital Learning Team's website for lesson plans and photos and videos of schools that have accepted this challenge.

Have Fun Making!



MEDIA CENTER LATE START AND SNOW DAY PROCEDURES

In the event of a late start or snow day, here are the procedures Grant Wood AEA staff will follow regarding the delivery and return of materials.

DELIVERIES

Grant Wood AEA van drivers will make every effort to deliver to schools that have a late start.

If they are not able to get into the school and make the delivery, materials will be returned to the GWAEA Media Center.

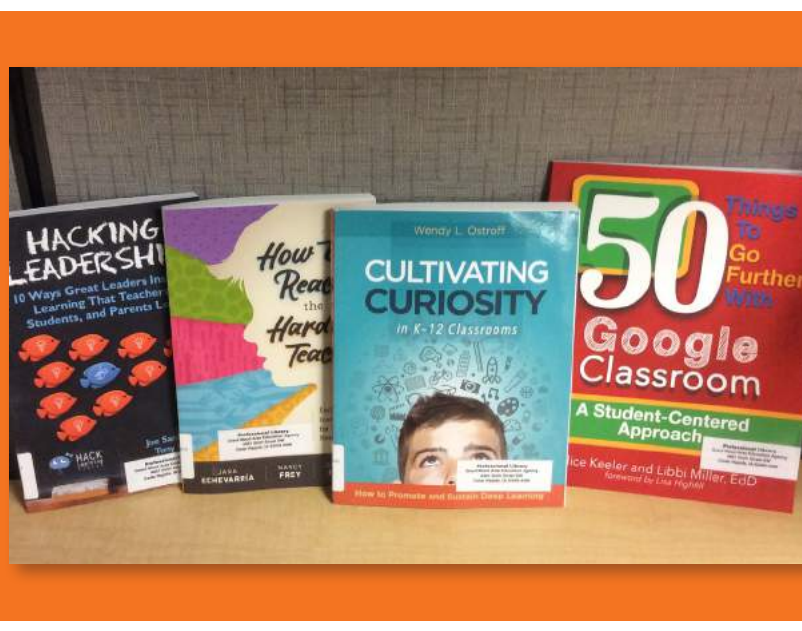
Materials will be delivered on the next van date.

RETURNS

The due back date for any materials that should have been returned but were not due to a late start or snow day will be extended to the next van delivery by GWAEA Media Center staff.

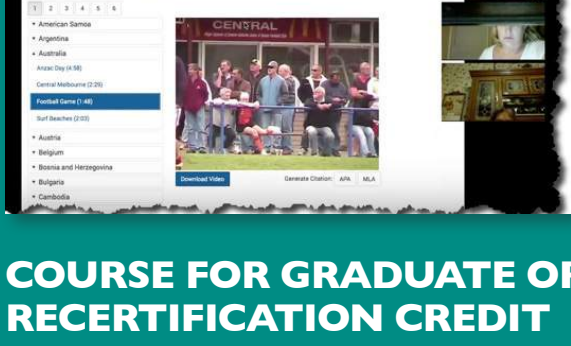
It is not necessary to call and request an extension unless more time is needed.

For questions or assistance, please contact Kim Novotny at 319-399-6838 or 800-642-4107.



WHAT'S NEW IN THE GRANT WOOD AEA MEDIA CENTER?

Click here to see the new resources in the Grant Wood AEA Media Center.



COURSE FOR GRADUATE OR RECERTIFICATION CREDIT

Do you want to enhance your curriculum or a specific unit of study? Do you want to "freshen" your content with resources that are current and up-to-date? Then this course is for you! This course will be offered again starting in March 2017. For further information, go to: **Integrating the AEA Online Resources into Your Classroom.**

"I have been able to share these great resources with all teachers, but especially with our new staff. Kathleen was a great instructor who explained everything very well and adapted her course to the learners she had."

Julie Hill,
Lisbon Community

"This course offered great ideas for how to use the AEA resources. I would strongly recommend this class to others. I have actually used many of the tools in both my Speech reading course."

Ann Fry, Linn-Mar

"The AEA Online Resources course is a must for anyone in education! The resources can be adjusted to different learning levels and combined to fit classroom objectives."

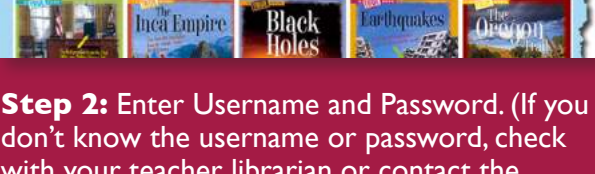
Dana Rembold,
Washington CSD



ONLINE RESOURCES FEATURE: TRUEFLIX

Are you looking for project ideas to challenge your students' critical thinking? TrueFlix includes 20 subject areas which feature people, places, history, science and nature. Within each TrueBook, students have access to a project idea and additional website for furthering their knowledge.

Step 1: Login to **TrueFlix**.



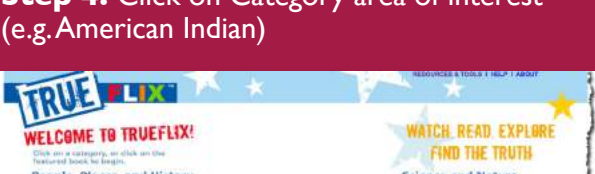
Step 2: Enter Username and Password. (If you don't know the username or password, check with your teacher librarian or contact the Grant Wood AEA Media Center at 319-399-6754 or 800-642-4107)



Step 3: Click on the blue "GO" star.



Step 4: Click on Category area of interest (e.g. American Indian)



Step 5: Click on Book cover of interest (e.g. The Apache)



Step 6: Click "Open" button to read the book OR play button to watch the video.



Step 7: Click on Project Idea or Explore Web for additional resources. If you have questions regarding TrueFlix or any of the Online Resources, contact **Kathleen Goslinga**.

