

tary school library can (count them!)

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graph or record the books and decide which is their favourite. Teachers will come up with some great ideas to keep track of the popularity of each of the books. There is a special voting day in the library. A suggestion is to include the principal or vice-principal as returning officers. An assembly is a good venue to announce the winner and have certificates for each participant. Inviting neighboring schools to participate in this program encourages the sharing of great ideas.

4. GUEST READERS

Invite retired teachers, mayors, local sports heroes, principals, superintendents, resource

teachers, grandparents, older brothers and sisters to come into the library and read aloud their favourite stories to primary, junior or intermediate students. This strategy allows students to see the enjoyment that reading brings to everyone. It usually proves to be a positive experience for the guest reader and students are exposed to many reading styles and voices.

Invite authors to visit and share their books. This is more expensive than inviting community members to read but usually is wholeheartedly supported by school councils and administration.

5. BOOKS FOR LUNCH BUNCH

Promoting literacy at the student level is important but it's just as important to promote literacy on your staff as well. Two or three times a year set up an opportunity for teachers to bring titles/books that they have read and wouldn't mind sharing during lunchtime. This works well just before holiday time when teachers have time for personal reading. Professional books can be shared during this time to support school initiatives and professional growth.

6. ARCHIVES THAT CAN BE VIEWED BY ALL

Creating scrapbooks of yearly events held at the school can be a task for either classes or individual students. Pictures, stories, newsletters can be added to the scrapbooks and then displayed in the library for reading. The students find it great fun to look back on events from previous years. These should be well protected or laminated as they get a lot of use.

7. READERS THEATRE

Using novels or picture books, groups of students along with the teacher-librarian create scripts that they then can rehearse and act out for other classes or in an assembly. Students cre-

President's comment:

Super Conference, January 31 - February 2, 2002.

You will get even more ideas and be able to discuss how your peers have implemented them at this unparalleled education event. Close to 1,000 school people are part of the 3,500 who attend. There is no better way to maintain your knowledge and skills. And bring your principal as your guest free! It is part of OLA advocacy.

Photo: Russell D. Barber Public School in Mississauga. Also: Page 8.

