

LITERATURE WEB

PURPOSE: “To entangle adults and children with **Wonderfully Exciting Books!**”

A Literature Web, created around a theme, organizes materials and activities around a central topic. A theme provides a natural link between different content areas of the curriculum. Subject areas can be easily integrated.

Students use a variety of theme-related books to gain the background and information necessary for the activities. Quality literature encourages imagination and higher level of thinking. Through literature, students gain new insights and see the world from different perspectives. Students experience events of other times and places and vicariously take part in adventures and emotional encounters – all without leaving the classroom.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR YOUR LITERATURE WEB:

1. Start gathering resources ahead of time. Include a variety of materials:
 - print: (books, new articles, and pictures)
 - non-print: (globes and music)
 - media/audio visual: (computer programs, videos, film strips)
 - resources: (parents, community, and field trips)
2. Manage your literature web effectively. Ideas for storage:
 - Three-ring binders are neat, but can be limited when collecting information over time.
 - File folders (especially color-coded folders) allow multiple storage possibilities – i.e., expandable files, filing cabinets, etc.
3. Include all genres when choosing books.
4. Always be on the lookout for additional material. Adapt and change your literature web as you grow professionally.
5. Start with a specific grade level and expand literature selections:
 - K – 3
 - 4 – 6 or 7-9

C & I 435 WEB Recipe
Worth 50 points

W.E.B. – purpose is to entangle adults and children with **W**onderfully **E**xciting **B**ooks.

Start with a theme or central subject.

Subtopics are placed around the theme.

The threads or spokes link related ideas.

Themes could be a concept or subject area.

Possible topics could be insects, volcanoes, weather, careers, transportation, nutrition, oceans, folktales, monsters, Illinois, etc.

Books should include

- 1) Read Aloud titles
- 2) Individual Reading titles
- 3) Group Discussion titles

Balance books to include poetry, fiction, and non-fiction.

Minimum of 4 spokes or subtopics.

Minimum of 3 books each spoke.

Minimum of 3 activities per spoke.

Activities should represent different aspects of the curriculum: music, art, math, language arts, reading, social studies, science, etc.

Be creative – your objective is to motivate children to become involved in books and find pleasure in print-related activities.

Choose quality books as the core of the web – include all genres if possible.

In Short – a Recipe for a Successful Web Is: Louise Stearns

- ✓ 1 theme or topic
- ✓ 1 grade level (i.e., 3rd – 5th)
- ✓ 1 broad goal
- ✓ 4 or more spokes or subtopics
- ✓ 3 or more quality books per subtopic
- ✓ 3 or more activities per subtopic
- ✓ Variety media (including software)
- ✓ Technology (including web sites)
- ✓ Large quantity creativity
- ✓ 1 complete bibliography children's books
- ✓ 1 complete bibliography teacher resource books
- ✓ 1 complete bibliography of films, records, etc.
- ✓ Assessment

Integrate well with various curriculum areas and genres

Serve with enjoyment

Finished product should be no larger than an open file folder.