

THE MEDIA CENTER-- YOUR SOURCE FOR CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

10 Top Reasons To Provide Classroom Libraries

10. *Collaborative sense: materials for a unit, a project, or an observable outcome.*
9. *Movable sense: a group of books shared by more than one classroom (move the books).*
8. *Readability sense: a variety of reading levels on a topic—"with dignity and ease".*
7. *Environmental sense: a better literary environment with wide variety of 'reads'.*
6. *Dollar sense: one good collection vs. many small limited groups of books.*
5. *Management sense: circulation through the library/media automation system.*
4. *Curricular sense: every unit has exactly what the students need to learn.*
3. *Timely sense: change the books with unit, season, topic, or desire for something new.*
2. *Circulation sense: statistical records show the value of a good central collection.*
1. ***KID SENSE: Kids like having lots of books to read and love to choose for the class!***

10 Ways To Make Classroom Libraries Easier On the LMS

1. Use a variety of containers: bins, baskets, tubs, carts, boxes and pans WHATEVER!
2. Color code by type, grade level, subject – KIDS HANDLE THIS WELL- ADULTS LESS SO.
3. Make each collection a "patron" in circulation system EASIER TO IDENTIFY THE LOST.
4. Print a listing of materials and tape it to container EASIER TO IDENTIFY THE PRESENT.
5. Make a research cart: encyclopedias (2 sets), books, articles HOUR PER CLASS DAILY.
6. Overdue lists have book prices totaled for classroom PRINCIPALS UNDERSTAND \$\$\$.
7. Have selection teams each month: KIDS KNOW WHAT KIDS WANT TO READ.
8. Have selection teams round up last month's books KIDS KNOW WHERE THINGS ARE!
9. Keep the bibliographies/lists for next year IT ALL COMES AROUND AGAIN.
10. Keep a good attitude KIDS + BOOKS + BOOKS + KIDS = HAPPY LIBRARIES!

THE ULTIMATE 5 SURVIVAL TIPS

1. *Recycle the books by sorting to tables instead of re-shelving.*
2. *Have classroom libraries/ DEAR Bins in the School Improvement Plan.*
3. *Say 'thank you' to teachers and make it easy for them to help you.*
4. *Document the usage of collection when asking for book funds.*
5. *Know that there will be some loss but shelf-sitters never get lost and who cares if those books last forever.*

**READ EVERY DAY @ YOUR CLASSROOM LIBRARY
THE MEDIA CENTER—YOUR SOURCE FOR
CLASSROOM LIBRARIES!**

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D.E.A.R. BINS @ YOUR LIBRARY

(Drop Everything And Read Classroom Libraries)

SELLING POINTS: * Creates a new and interesting literacy environment * Allows for a large range of interests and reading levels * Fresh, seasonal, curriculum related materials every 4-6 weeks * Helps to prevent loss of materials (because they come back before more goes out) * Increases use of materials and moves some "shelf sitters" into the spotlight * **KIDS READ MORE WHEN NEW MATERIALS ARE IN THE ROOM!** * **STUDENTS PROMOTE THE BOOKS THEY SELECTED FOR THE BIN TO OTHER STUDENTS** * Even Pre-K can choose books for BINS with a little help.

WHAT IS A DEAR BIN? A big container with 35 books inside. The BIN is checked out to each room or area and is changed every 4-6 weeks. All books are from the collection and checked out through circulation system. DEAR BIN books do not go home or into the desk—the whole class is responsible for the BIN books.

TIPS FOR CIRCULATING DEAR BINS: * Make a "patron" in your circulation system for each room or area * Encourage teachers to send a 'wish list' with the selection committee (5-6 students) * Rotate the members of the selection committee from the room to give all students a chance to pick books for the class * Assign each student to a small range or section (allows good variety of materials) * Make a formula (example 2 fiction and 2 non-fiction for each selector) * Give an overdue list to selection committee if books missing from last month (give short bin (20 books) if can't locate 5+ books cumulative) * Put books returning out on tables "yard sale" style and recycle instead of re-shelving * Always put some from the shelves in the Bins to keep them fresh * Put special collections or holiday books (before and after the holiday) on a cart and let each class have a share * At end of year or when doing a large amount of shelving separate on tables to Dewey hundreds then separate to Dewey tens - faster shelving * Print the overdue list for DEAR BINS and give to teachers—thank them for helping to locate books * Show price on overdue list. Principals pay attention to \$ amount lost * Change materials at least every 6 weeks * ENJOY the excitement of finding "new books" hiding on the shelves * YES there are some lost books but the reading environment is worth the effort (I had about 3% lost last year)* Two older children can swing the BIN between them younger children just carry 5-6 in arms back to the BIN in classroom * A treat for classroom with all books in helps*

DEAR TIME: The time when everyone in the school reads for 15 minutes. This teaches children that all humans read for information and pleasure. It models reading as an activity that is enjoyable. It is not for a grade, for class standing, or a prize - It is Drop Everything And Read. (Also called BEAR PAWS, Be Excited About Reading, Hooked on Reading and other names that suit your fancy)