2013 ALSC Charlemae Rollins President’s Program:
Think With Your Eyes!

The resources on these pages offer an extension of the ideas presented at the July 1, 2013 ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program held in Chicago, Illinois. Entitled “Think With Your Eyes!” the program explored the value of visual literacy as a 21st-century competency for children—one that will serve them throughout their lives.

The various categories in this listing relate to the threads of the program. The session introduced Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS), a method to discuss images that has proven to be highly effective in developing observation skills, critical thinking, and civil discourse across the curriculum, so this listing begins with theoretical and practical materials related to visual literacy. Museums and libraries are natural partners in supporting visual thinking, so selective sites were chosen to give a sense of the wealth of pictures that are available for projection and activities that can be downloaded or engaged with interactively. Then, since federal funding has been allocated for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programming, and there is a growing awareness in education, business, and political circles regarding the importance of inserting “Art and Design” (thus STEAM) into this equation to foster true innovation and creativity, the next section presents sites that support STEAM rationales and programming. Finally, since this session occurred during the celebration surrounding the 75th anniversary of the Caldecott Medal, materials that delve into understanding and discussing the art and design of picture books are presented—thus wrapping up the threads in our exploration of visual literacy as we consider how to incorporate VTS and STEAM concepts into our daily conversations when we share this beloved format with children of all ages.
Visual Literacy
Compiled by the ALSC Quicklists Committee

**Websites**

- [Artful Thinking at Project Zero](#), Harvard Graduate School of Education
- [Expanding the Definition of Literacy](#), The Center for Children's Books
- [Visual Literacy](#), Ohio State University
- [Visual Literacy K-8](#), Black Cockatoo Publishing PL
- [Visible Thinking at Project Zero](#), Harvard Graduate School of Education
- [Visual Thinking Strategies](#), Visual Understanding in Education

**Books**

Museum Resources That Support Visual Literacy
A Selective List
Compiled by the ALSC Great Website for Children Committee

Andy Warhol Museum
There are multiple ways to search for lessons, such as by topic, a specific work of art, or national standards. Includes Chinese and Japanese options.

ArtsConnectEd
This interactive website is full of artworks and resources from the Minneapolis Institute of Art and the Walker Art Center.

Artsedge
Library/Museum Resources with children's visual literacy connections.

Art Institute of Chicago
Teacher guides and resource finders.

Denver Art Museum
Includes lesson plans, and notes on creative inspirations.

Frye Art Museum
Highlights include sections on visual thinking strategies.

Google Art Project
The Google Art Project is a virtual super-museum, with online access to artworks from 151 museums across 40 countries. Zoom in to artworks at the brushstroke level, curate your own collection, and take virtual museum tours.

Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
From the Metropolitan Museum of Art, this timeline of art history offers world maps, thematic essays, and works of art.

MOMA Learning.
Activities and free downloadable resources help teachers and students engage with contemporary art. Search by theme, artist or genre.

National Gallery of Art
Art education for all ages.

North Carolina Museum of Art
Designed for educators, students, and anyone interested in looking and learning from works of art.

The J. Paul Getty Museum
Art-themed online games, plus links back to resources at the museum.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Art think, open studio and many teacher online resources.

Seattle Art Museum
Great online resources for teachers/educators, downloadables and more.

Smithsonian American Art Museum’s Online Classroom Activities
This is a multimedia website designed as an interactive art history textbook, with videos, timelines, and images.
Libraries and Museums Connecting Visual Literacy to Picture Books
Compiled by the ALSC Great Website for Children Committee

Brooklyn Public Library
Drawn in Brooklyn
Offers a glimpse of the events of this popular festival and exhibition of Brooklyn-based children’s book illustrators; includes book lists, bios and artist videos.

The de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection
Virtual Exhibits
Take a virtual tour of “Ezra Jack Keats” and “Curious George Comes to Hattiesburg.”

The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art
Not to be missed resources from this outstanding museum dedicated to the picture book.

Madison Public Library
Art of the Picture Book
The website features art-related events for preschool and elementary aged children.

Kent State University
Marantz Picturebook Collection for the Study of Picturebook Art
A collection for the “Study of Art in Picture Books,” and includes videos.

Mazza Museum
International Art from Picture Books
The museum promotes literacy through the art of children’s literature.

National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature
Find activities in the “Experience” section.

New York Public Library
The ABC of It: Why Children’s Books Matter
Curated by noted historian Leonard Marcus, The ABC of It is an examination of why children’s books are important: what and how they teach children, and what they reveal about the societies that produced them. Through a dynamic array of objects and activities, the exhibition celebrates the extraordinary richness, artistry, and diversity of children’s literature across cultures and time.

Victoria and Albert Museum
Beatrix Potter: The Art of Illustration
This history and drawings of Beatrix Potter.
What Is STEAM?

STEM to STEAM

Rhode Island School of Design

Teaching STEAM

Art Institute of Chicago: Learn

MakerED.org

The mission of the Maker Education Initiative is to create more opportunities for young people to make, and by making, build confidence, foster creativity, and spark interest in science, technology, engineering, math, the arts—and learning as a whole. We want young people to join—and eventually lead—the growing Maker Movement.

Museum for Science and Industry Chicago:

Center for the Advancement of Science Education

Sesame Workshops: STEM+A=STEAM

In season 43 of Sesame Street, the show continues its focus on STEM education, adding the arts to the equation, creating STEAM. The cornerstone of the curriculum remains the connection between the four main domains: science, technology, engineering and mathematics, but the updated approach integrates the arts. This helps make learning STEM concepts relevant and enticing to young children by highlighting how artists use STEM knowledge to enhance their art or solve problems. It also provides context for the importance of STEM knowledge in careers in the arts (e.g. musician, painter, sculptor and dancer).

Science and Arts Activities

DIY.org

Complete challenges and earn skill patches while learning STEM principles and being creative.

The Exploratorium Science Activities

Scientific activities that encourage participants to explore with all of their senses.

The Exploratorium Tinkering Studio

Participate in STEAM education by tinkering—without having to visit the Exploratorium.

Education.com Free Activities for Kids

Pictures and instructions for activities incorporating STEAM principles, arranged by topic or age.

Maker Faire YouTube Channel

National Geographic for Kids

Funscience

Fun science experiments that incorporate artistic principles.

PBSKids!

Zoom Science

Science fun for kids and families, with scientific results submitted by other kids.

Peep in the Big Wide World
Star Net
Science-Technology Resources and Activities for Libraries

Sesame Street
STEAM education in action. Uses fun and games to teach early learning science, math, and building principles.

Wonderopolis
Sparks the imagination of children to get them to question what is happening in the world around them. Searchable by topic.

Blogs
ALSC Blog and STEM
Interactive topics include Body Science, Bridge Science, Color Science, and using The Three Little Pigs to teach STEM principles.

Growing with Science Blog

Library Makers Blog

The Reading Zone Blog: Full STEAM Ahead

The Show Me Librarian
A very expansive resource for STEAM activities. Check out the “Balloon Storytime and STEAM Craft” and “How to Host a Lego Club!”

STEM Friday
Offers suggestions of great STEM related books and resources.

Articles
Blocks: How Block Play Promotes Development
This excerpt from the Creative Curriculum for Preschool points out that when children construct, create, and represent their experiences with blocks they grow in each area of development: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language.

Ramps and Pathways: Developmentally Appropriate, Intellectually Rigorous, and Fun
Physical Science
This Young Children article describes activities that engage children in investigations involving force and motion. The activities foster the development of important science inquiry skills and provide opportunities for integration across curricular domains.
Understanding Picture Books
Compiled by the ALSC President's Program Chair, Wendy Lukehart


ArtSpeak
A discussion of mediums and techniques used in picture book art


Caldecott Connections


Hands-on learning activities to accompany the article also available.

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Illustration and the Art of the Picture Book


Additional Resources
The Arts in Every Classroom Video Library
From the Annenberg Foundation, this is a video library for K-5 classroom teachers and arts specialists. It contains 14 half-hour video programs, a library guide, and website.

The Drawing Center
Draw and Reflect art workshop resources.

Picturing Books
Learn about art through picture books.

Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast
An amazing blog that often captures art in picture books with an in-depth interview with a picture book artist.

SurLaLune fairytales.com
Not a physical museum, but the “illustrations” feature for all the texts at this site is really a treasure.

Teachingbooks.net
Offers lesson plans for a variety of books, including picture books.