

News from the IMC



Differentiated Instruction and the IMC

Differentiated instruction has been the focus of this year's in-service days. According to Carol Tomlinson, a leader in the field of differentiated instruction, states that "differentiated instruction is a way of teaching and learning that advocates beginning where students are and designing experiences that will better help students to achieve." As we all know, the challenge in differentiated instruction is addressing the various learning styles, needs, interests and

abilities of every student..

So how can the librarians help you? The IMC

is an area where students and teachers

have access to print and electronic information, computers, word processing, design software, and web-based tools.

The librarians teach information literacy les-



sons and instruct students in using the various software programs and web-based tools.

In teaching collaboratively planned lessons with you, the librarians also prepare lessons that include graphic organizers, pathfinders, check lists, instructions and information literacy instruction.

The librarians can assist you in differentiating instruction by

helping students create products and presentations. In addition to PowerPoint and Publisher, students can use other multimedia authoring tools such as wikis, podcasts, videos, and blogs. All of these tools allow student collaboration.

Finally, the librarians can differentiate the selection of reading materials both for assignments and for leisure reading by selecting books for all reading levels and all genres.



The District's Online Professional Development resource, IDEP, provides the tips and tools for differentiating instruction in your subject area.

<http://ideportal.com>

User name: wtpshigh

Password collaborate



Differentiated Instruction Through Performance Assessment

In using alternative assessment, remember that it still involves thoughtful research and it lends itself to the use of technology. Also, the librarians can help you formulate the assignment and assist you in integrating technology.

Billy Joel once said "there must be 50 ways to leave your lover." The same is true for traditional research projects - there must be 50 ways to leave your research paper. Here are just a few:

Real Life Scenarios - Students research a real world problem in any subject area and provide the background to the problem. How the issue was treated in the past, current thinking and solutions to the problem.

Annotated Bibliography - descriptive list of a specific number of sources

Comparison of scholarly article with the textbook

Pathfinders - these can be print, web based, or videos

Podcasts - remember the power of radio. You are there or reenactment or dramatization

Blog - an online journal about a specific person from history or a fictional character or an event from history or the meeting of famous people

Brochure or Newsletter

Resume of famous person

Wiki - more than a web page; a collaborative effort on a specific topic

Write and cast the parts for a movie based on an event or book or Write a Soap opera of a famous event

Mock Trial or Press Conference

Dinner party for the characters in a novel, famous people from history, science, or math

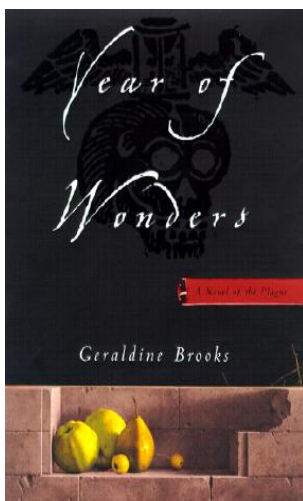
Alternative Endings - what would have happened if...

Advertising Campaigns for the best

Fan Fiction - prequel, sequel, add a character

PowerPoint - use to create tours and games

We are sure that you have many, many more ideas, so let's get together and plan a research assignment.



Join the Staff Book Club
on
Wednesday, January 7th
For a Discussion
of
**Year of Wonders: A Novel
of the Plague**



**Give Yourself the Gift of Reading
Take Home a Book for Holidays**



Check your email for the
Holiday Book List.