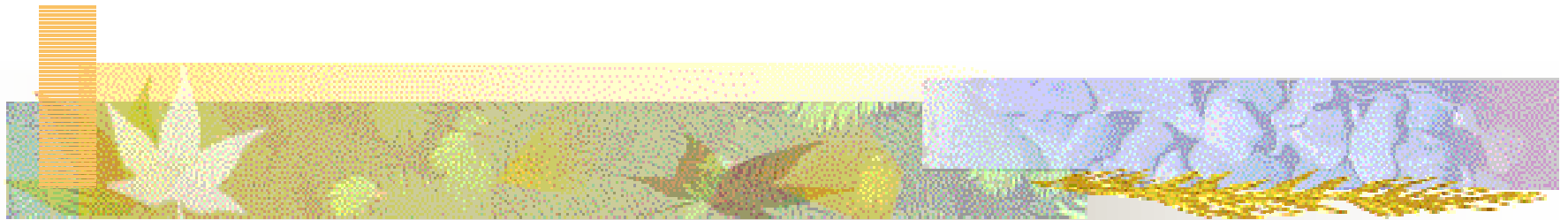


# Jazz Up Your School Tours



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# What we'll cover

- n What are your goals?
- n What will the kids remember?
- n Tips and props
- n The Brilliance of Booktalks
- n How to be prepared for any tour, any time
- n Resources
- n Questions? Ask anytime, and at the end



# What are your goals?

## n Library info

- n Getting a card
- n Avoiding fines
- n Borrowing limits
- n Return slots
- n Online/phone renewals
- n Others?

## n Collection info

- n Materials
- n Reference vs. circulating
- n Online databases
- n Web site links
- n Others?



# What will the kids remember?

**In no particular order:**

- n You can borrow movies and computer games – but not Nintendo games
- n It might cost money – reinforced if the items they borrow today are returned late!
- n Puppets you use
- n Jokes you tell – perhaps a story
- n They couldn't get a card/couldn't borrow on their card L

**Your real goal: Make the library visit memorable, enjoyable and informative.**





# Return on investment!

- n Forget the walking tours
- n Rules discussion *can* be fun!
- n Spend more time on the collection than on the rules
  - n Psst! This means booktalking
- n *Always* tell or read a story

# **Don't Believe Me?**



**It's Time to Walk the Walk!**



# Talkin' 'bout rules

- n Make it a game – but suggest raising hands rather than calling out answers
- n Encourage clapping for right answers
- n Fines *can* be fun! Make it math
- n Be sure to talk about what borrowing means and why
- n Emphasize how to avoid fines





# Tips & Props: The collection!

- n It's Magic! Cheap at twice the price
- n Hats off to a great book
- n Cookbooks = mmm, cookies
- n Sure winners:
  - n Guinness World Records
  - n Joke books
  - n Toothy picture of a shark/T Rex



# Tickle Trunk Props

Look around your library or office for:

- n Toothbrush
- n Hammer
- n Ball or other sports prop
- n Plastic food
- n Hats – especially Dr. Seuss
- n Puppets of any kind



# The Brilliance of Booktalks

- n Use only borrowable books on hand
- n Use only books *you* like
- n Make sure you have read the book!
- n Fiction and nonfiction
- n High-low books
- n Practise, and do it with every tour

# Booktalking Resources

Nancy Keane

<http://nancykeane.com/booktalks/>

Booktalks by Ruth Cox

*Tantalizing Tidbits for Teens*

*Tantalizing Tidbits for Middle Schoolers*

Nonfiction booktalks

*Gotcha covered! More nonfiction booktalks*

*to get kids excited about reading by*

Kathleen Baxter & Michael Dahl





# Choosing a Story

- n Funny always works (match with a song)
- n Get audience involved: *Mortimer*
- n Nonfiction can work well (*White Rabbit's Color Book, Actual Size*)
- n Draw and Tell – the pencil is your friend
- n Fractured fairy tales – Grade 2+
- n Urban legends for ages 13+

# Be Prepared!

- n Know 1 knock-knock joke
- n Tickle trunk/bag/box
- n Magic trick or prop
- n Handouts by grade
- n Returns trolley – the booktalker's best friend
- n Know stories to tell for all ages
  - n *Mortimer*, better without book
  - n Urban legends for teens
  - n Draw and tell for all ages





## Resources

- n Your colleagues, especially former children's staff
- n Be wary of discussion lists – they can overwhelm, so cherry pick
- n Rob Reid's *Something Funny Happened at the Library*, ALA 2002, \$37.95

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