



Media Matters

A newsletter for people who care about Library Media Programs



Georgia Children's Book Awards and Conference on Children's Literature



42nd Annual Conference on Children's Literature

Georgia Center for Continuing Education

March 4 & 5, 2011

Featured speakers include: Alma Flor Ada, M.T. Anderson, Karen Beaumont, Gail Gibbons, and Mary Downing Hahn.

Register to attend:

<http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/cch/register/42nd-annual-conference-children-s-literature>



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Annual Conference on Literature
for Children and Young Adults
 Wednesday, March 30, 2011 (Elementary Focus)
 Thursday, March 31, 2011 (Middle/Secondary Focus)

"New Literacies for a Diverse World "

If we raise a generation of non-readers, we will be raising a generation of non-reading nincompoops. ~ James Patterson, speech to American Association of School Librarians national conference, Nov. 6, 2009

What Librarians Make (Or Why Should I be More than a Librarian?)

by Joyce Valenza (Reprinted with permission from the author)

He says the problem with librarians is that they are *antiquated*.

The problem with libraries is that they are *anachronisms, sacred cows*.

Sometimes, when I am introduced, people refer to me as *more than a librarian* because I write a blog or speak at an occasional conference. Because it is not *impressive* enough to be a librarian.

In polite company, I bite my tongue when I hear them ask:

“You’re a librarian, Joyce,” they say. “Be honest. With all the information available for free on the Web, what exactly do you do?”

They ask me to be honest.

And, you see, like Taylor, I have a policy about honesty, especially when it has to do with equity for kids. To be honest, I believe that all children deserve strong school libraries with professional teacher librarians.

And, if you ask for my honesty, I have to let you have it.

I am not *an anachronism*.

You want to know what I do? You want to know why I am here?

I am here to introduce young people to a rich world of books and literature, options they can select themselves. I am here to see the joy on a kid’s face when she shares that she loved the book she borrowed last week. The one she stayed up all night reading.

Recently saw that joy on a kid’s face when he borrowed his first e-reader.

I have a library collection that includes everything the modern literate kid needs—ebooks, audiobooks, open source software, streamed media, flash drives, digital cameras, tripods, laptops, digital storytelling and digital publishing tools, cookies and pretzels. My collection includes and validates the writing, the art and the media that my own kids create.

I am here to help learners ask important questions.

I am here to help learners understand that when they ask questions, they have a rich search toolkit available to them and that toolkit reaches beyond **one** big search engine and that that toolkit offers them access to high quality databases and ebooks and blogs and tweets and magazines and newspapers and wikis and scholarly journals and primary sources and media of all sorts.

Continued on next page

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As it continues to shift, I am here to organize the information world for my teachers and our kids. To help them efficiently access the stuff they need through the websites and pathfinders I create and maintain. I model for our kids and our teachers how they might organize their own information worlds and networks.

I am here to help learners question and critically evaluate, to triangulate the authority of information and media in all formats. My kids can evaluate a website before they even visit it.

I am here to teach kids strategies so they can effectively and efficiently find the information they need. I am here to teach them search tricks, tricks that have legs, special tricks that give them special searching powers.

I help students build knowledge from the information they gather. I help them analyze and synthesize and make meaning. So that they can use information to solve problems and make decisions.

I help learners communicate and collaborate using the tools of their time. I help them become writers and producers and storytellers and networkers and sharers of new knowledge.

I help them discover that what they create should have meaning and audience. That it should make a difference.

I teach kids to be solid and proud digital citizens. I teach them to be kind bloggers and tweeters and networkers. I help them understand their digital footprints, to build academic digital footprints. When my kids build media, when they remix, they know how to respect the intellectual property of others.

They know about the Creative Commons movement. They are beginning to attribute Creative Commons licensing to their own work.

They know the rights and the limits of Fair Use. They know how to attribute credit, how to cite, how and when to quote.

I am here to work with teachers to build instruction, to build projects and assessments that focus on creativity and meaning using the information tools and strategies of our time.

Our library is more *libratory* than library. It is the center of our school. It is often a little noisy. You can hear the sounds of podcasters and video production and storytelling and presentation.

Library is not merely a place to *get* stuff. It is a place to invent, to create, to make stuff, to collaborate on stuff, and to share stuff. It is more kitchen than grocery store. More transformational than transactional.

I am here to ensure that all my students have equitable access to the tools they need to learn and create. I know that access to these tools is an intellectual freedom issue.

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You want to know what I make? You want to know why I am here?

I make kids smile and laugh and think.

And I make them work hard. "Don't waste my time with anything but your best."

And I make them read.

I make them plan and write and produce and communicate.

I make kids wonder.

I make them question.

I make them search.

I make them analyze and evaluate.

I make them take a stand.

I make them defend their stands with evidence.

I make them tell stories.

I make them invent.

I make them create.

I make them collaborate and share.

And I celebrate their best.

Let me break it down for you, so you know what I say is true:

My classroom is the largest classroom in the school and I know the names of nearly 700 kids and I greet as many as possible personally each day.

Our library is everywhere. Our virtual library is ubiquitous. It is open day and night.

My kids do well on their bubble tests. But I am also here to ensure that our kids become information and media literate citizens. I am here to ensure they become transliterate.

Our library is not a sacred cow. It is a growing, vibrant, central element of my school's learning culture.

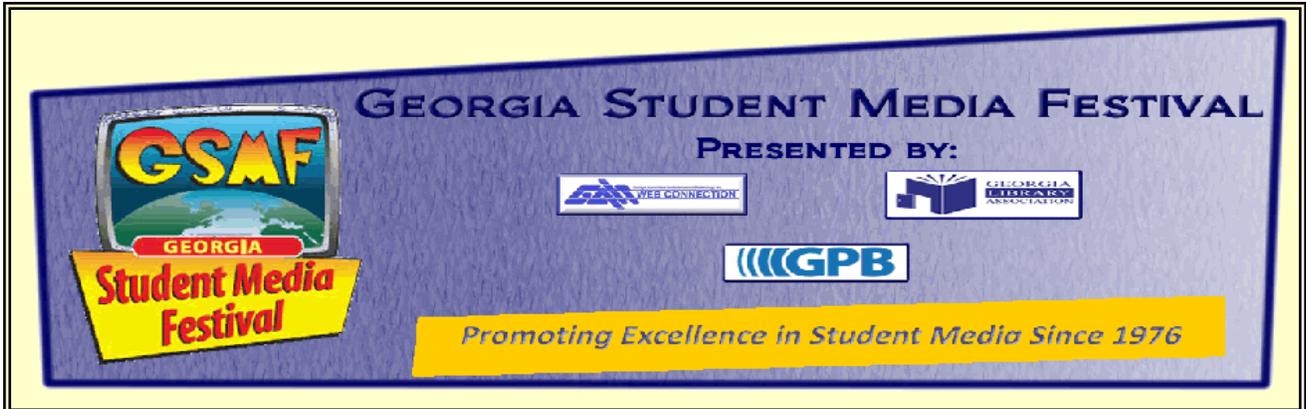
If you want evidence, come for a visit. Ask my kids. Ask our graduates. I can share the research if you like. Check out the Impact Studies collected at the [Library Research Service](#) site or scan the collected body of literature in Scholastic's document [School Libraries Work](#)

I make a difference!

I am not an anachronism.

And there is no need for me to be more than a librarian. Being a librarian is more than enough.

*(Inspired by Taylor Mali and his poem [What Teachers Make](#), or *Objection Overruled*, or *If things don't work out, you can always go to law school* www.taylormali.com)*



GEORGIA STUDENT MEDIA FESTIVAL
 PRESENTED BY:

GSAF
 GEORGIA Student Media Festival

WEB CONNECTION

GEORGIA LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

GPB

Promoting Excellence in Student Media Since 1976

State Media Festival

Friday, April 29, 2011
 Clayton County



The updated 2011 GSMF brochure and forms may be found at:
<http://www.gait-inc.org/GSMF/forms.htm>

Please contact Gordon if you have any questions.

Dr. Gordon N. Baker, Dean of Libraries
 Clayton State University
 2000 Clayton State Blvd.
 Morrow, Georgia 30260
 678/466-4334; 678/466-4349 (F)



GEORGIA
 DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

[Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent](#)

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1754 Twin Towers East
 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive
 Atlanta, Georgia 30334



Fred Newman and Dr. Sallie Mills at the recent Georgia Reading Association Conference.

Once you learn to read, you will be forever free. ~ Frederick Douglass

Would you like a copy of **Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education's Top Ten Issues to Watch in 2011?**

Send an email to Bill Maddox at bmaddox@gpee.org. GPEE can provide **up to 2 copies for free** and will ask for postage reimbursement for more than that.

This year's issue includes 10 indicators that show where Georgia is in relation to states ranked 20th in a particular category. It shows how far we have to go to crack the Top 20!!!!

You can also read and download the publication online at: http://www.gpee.org/fileadmin/files/PDFs/GPEE_Top_Ten_2011_Final.pdf

The Top Ten Issues for 2011 are:

1. Georgia's new leaders: where will they take us
2. Continuing our Race to the Top
3. Early learning: quality and access for our children
4. Confronting poverty: a dire need
5. Eradicating gaps in student achievement
6. College and career readiness: are we getting it right
7. Getting a handle on school choice
8. Scraping the barrel: our new school funding model
9. Understanding teacher effectiveness
10. The need for honest and accurate data



Resolve to edge in a little reading every day, if it is but a single sentence. If you gain fifteen minutes a day, it will make itself felt at the end of the year. ~ Horace Mann

Stone Mountain Park to Award 4 Complimentary Class Field Trips to Georgia Frontier Days, Thursday, April 28th, 2011



Do you want to supplement your student's curriculum and journey through hundreds of years of Georgia's history with live demonstrations of pre-revolutionary times, the pioneer era and the civil war, all at **no charge**? **Now you can Write Your Own Ticket and Be A Complimentary Guest Class at Georgia Frontier Days!**

In an effort to encourage creative writing and learning, Stone Mountain Park will admit 4 classes from area schools to Georgia Frontier Days as our complimentary guests on Thursday, April 28th! The winning classes must provide and pay for their own transportation. Any school arriving by car will be responsible for the gate parking fee. The parking fee is waived for School and Church buses.

What grades are eligible?

This literary competition is open to all Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and Florida public and private school educators and principals grades 1 through 8. Class sizes that are eligible are not to exceed 35 students. All winning classes must provide one adult chaperone per 10 students to accompany them on their trip. The chaperones will also attend as our guests.

What does my class have to do to be eligible?

The teacher will instruct their class to write a creative literary work of 500 words or less on any subject matter pertaining to Georgia's pre-revolutionary, pioneer or civil war history. It may be a short story, poem, or an essay and may be as simple as why you want to attend Georgia Frontier Days. The teacher will select 5 compositions to represent the class, make copies of them, print and fill out the entry form on line and then send them to the specific Stone Mountain Park address on the entry form. Entries must be in Stone Mountain Park's possession no later than Tuesday, March 1st, 2011. The classes chosen to be our guests will be selected by the creativity of their writing and at the sole discretion of Stone Mountain Park judges. The teachers and the classes chosen will be notified by March 23rd, 2011.

Want to make sure that your class doesn't miss out on Georgia Frontier Days?

Make your reservation early. Even if you are pre-paid you can still enter the Write Your Own Ticket to Georgia Frontier Days. If your class is selected we will refund the paid portion of the program to you.

So get creative! Check out the rules on our website at www.stonemountainpark.com click on School Programs and Write Your Own Ticket to Georgia Frontier Days!

For any questions regarding this entry you may contact Maureen Slawitschka at msslawitschka@stonemountainpark.com

I'm sure we would not have had men on the Moon if it had not been for Wells and Verne and the people who write about this and make people think about it. I'm rather proud of the fact that I know several astronauts who became astronauts through reading my books. ~ Arthur C. Clarke in an address to the U.S. Congress 1975.



2011 Presidents' Day Celebration

Students are invited to participate in a special project for **Presidents' Day** and wish President Carter a Happy Presidents' Day. Directions need to be followed carefully so entries will fit in the notebooks/exhibit at Plains High School Museum. If you have questions contact Annette Wise at plainsed@jimmycarter.info

Directions for letter writing project:

1. Student letters must be on notebook paper with 3 holes punched on the left side so they will fit in the display notebooks.
2. The student letter may include a written message and/or colored drawing wishing President Carter a Happy Presidents' Day. Teachers may also include a letter!
3. Student's first name may be on the letter.
4. Entries should be mailed by **February 11, 2011**.
5. Each teacher should make a cover sheet that includes: school name, teacher, address, grade level, and number of students. This sheet may be decorated.

Directions for class poster:

1. The class poster may be as small as the size of a sheet of typing paper or up to the size of a piece of poster board.
2. The poster may include pictures, graphics, and writing.
3. The artwork and writing should express Happy Presidents' Day to President Carter.
4. Each teacher should include the school name, teacher, mailing address, grade level, and number of students participating with the poster project.

Student work should be mailed to: Annette Wise, Jimmy Carter NHS Education Program, 300 North Bond Street, Plains, GA 31780.

*Be sure to register your class/school for the **Presidents' Day Celebration under Off Site Programs** at www.jimmycarter.info to receive resources to use in your classroom.*

Please share this information with others.

Field trips are being booked for the spring and are free!

www.jimmycarter.info

A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people. ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

**David C. Barrow Elementary Media Center in Athens, GA
& Andy Plemmons, Media Specialist**

**Welcome you to the 2010-2011
Exemplary Elementary Media Program
Open House
Thursday March 3, 2011 from 7:30AM-4:00PM**

Student Work Showcase Schedule:

7:30-8:00AM Morning Broadcast

9:30-10:00AM PreK Forecasters Project

10:00-10:45AM 2nd grade Graphic Novels

11:00-11:45AM 4th grade Book Trailers & various
5th grade projects

11:45AM-12:35PM 4th grade Digital Inquiry Pro-
jects

12:30-12:45PM Battle of the Books Practice

1:00-1:45PM Leader Librarians: Students as part of
the budgeting process

1:45-2:30PM Art Collaboration: 5th grade poetry &
photography unit

Throughout the day: Media Center tours, Q&A with
Andy Plemmons, and the Barrow Oral History Pro-
ject

Blog: <http://barrowmediacenter.wordpress.com>

Website:

<http://www.clarke.k12.ga.us/webpages/>

David C. Barrow Elementary is located at [100 Pinecrest Drive, Athens, GA 30605](#).

Parking is limited in Barrow's upper and lower lots on Pinecrest Drive. Parking is also available across Lumpkin Street at Campus View Church of Christ (1360 South Lumpkin Street). Do not park on Rutherford Street or UGA lots.

All are welcome

RSVP is appreciated

Email: plemmons@clarke.k12.ga.us

Phone: (706) 543-2676 ext. 38280

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. ~ C. S. Lewis



Why have a vision for your Library Media program?

Because you will want to know if you got there.

In December you were asked to share your favorite book read in 2010. Some of you shared an adult book, some shared a children's book, some didn't share their school name...and some of you shared more than one title. But there were no wrong answers... I just wanted to know what you read and enjoyed. This is a continuation from the January issue. Happy Reading!

<i>City Dog, Country Frog</i> by Mo Willems	Karen Hickey
<i>Final Truth: The Autobiography of a Serial Killer</i> by Donald Gaskins and Wilton Earle	Angela Dallis
<i>One Day</i> by David Nicholls	Tess MacMillan
<i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak	Juliana Anglada
<i>The Doll Maker</i> by Harriet Arnow	Denise Hornsby
<i>Uprising</i> by Margaret Peterson Haddix	Taylor Wickline

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FEATURE!
AN INTERVIEW WITH CHARACTERS WHO ARE ...
OUT OF PRINT!

<http://www.ratchatreviews.com/>

Teaching reading IS rocket science. ~ Louisa Moats

GEORGIA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

WORKSHOPS

K-12 teachers are invited to attend teacher workshops provided by the Georgia Humanities Council. Use the links below for details on upcoming workshops:

 **President Roosevelt, Congress, and the Supreme Court During the Great Depression** (Warm Springs, from Jun 06, 2011 12:00 PM to Jun 08, 2011 12:00 PM)

Through readings, interacting with scholars, hands-on activities, and visits to historic sites, upper elementary and middle school teachers will learn about how the three branches of government interacted, checked, and balanced each other during the Great Depression.

 **Slavery, the Constitution, and the Coming of the Civil War** (T.R.R. Cobb House, Athens, from Jun 19, 2011 05:00 PM to Jun 22, 2011 05:00 PM)

Through readings, interacting with scholars, hands-on activities, and visits to historic sites, middle and high school teachers will explore the debates over slavery from the ratification of the Constitution to the Sectional Crisis and era of Secession.

 **Teaching With Primary Sources Educator's Workshop** (Hickory Hill museum, 502 Hickory Hill Drive, Thomson GA 30824, from Jun 23, 2011 09:00 AM to Jun 24, 2011 05:00 PM)

This workshop will introduce primary source collections and highlight ways to use them in the classroom.

<http://www.georgiahumanities.org/curriculum-and-schools/workshops>

I'm not a teacher: only a fellow traveler of whom you asked the way. I pointed ahead – ahead of myself as well as you. ~ George Bernard Shaw



A thank you note to the children of Georgia from David Catrow. David is the recipient of the Children's Picturebook Award for this year.

Dear Students of GEORGIA;

I Want to thank You ALL
for the Honor of WINNING the
GEORGIA Picture Book AWARD
FOR 2010

I can't promise You ALL that
I AIN'T GONNA Paint No More!

Because it's in my NATURE!...
and in my HAIR, and in my EARS
and on my shirt, and (I'm NOT sure
HOW) But it's in my SHOES TOO!

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH!
Keep Reading!

WARMEST WISHES
and WAGS

David C.



GLMA District Chairs Needed

GLMA is looking for library media specialists from around the state to serve on the GLMA board. Please consider being a district chair if you live in one of the following areas. We need district chairs to represent the following areas:

South Metro: Henry, Butts, Spalding, Pike, Lamar, Upson, Fayette

Southeast: Coffee, Atkinson, Bacon, Ware, Pierce, Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn, Clinch

This is a great way to network, contribute to your profession, and become involved in GLMA. (In some districts, two LMS share the position.) This is also a great leadership opportunity and an opportunity to make a difference in our profession. What do the GLMA district chairs do?

1. They encourage LMS in their district to apply for the Library Media Specialist of the Year award so all districts can be represented in this state competition.
2. They attend GLMA board meetings and report on events in their district.
3. They hold a meeting in their area, when possible, to discuss concerns and encourage networking.

Please email Betsy Razza if interested. BETSY_RAZZA@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

GLMA Mable Wyche Underwood Grants are available for the 2010-11 school year

You can find the application attached and on the GLMA website under Awards and Grants (<http://glma-inc.org/GLMA-Grant-2011.pdf>).

This is a great opportunity to fund an idea that will help you have an exemplary program in your media center.

The grant application is only one and a half pages long.

Grants are judged on six criteria:

Quality

Innovativeness

Clear objective

Benefit of project to students

Budget

Evaluation plan

Three grants will be awarded in the amount of \$300 - \$500. The deadline for submitting the application is May 15, 2011. In order to apply for a grant, you must be a current GLMA member and have been a GLMA member last year as well. Grant recipients must agree to participate in a concurrent workshop along with other grant recipients at a COMO convention to share the merits of their projects.

If you want your children to be brilliant, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be geniuses, read them more fairy tales. ~ Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

Are you the next Georgia LMSOTY?

The 2011 LMSOTY application can be found at the following link:

<http://glma-inc.org/specialists.htm>

Please note the April and May deadline dates.



Website of the Month!



<http://www.professorgarfield.org>



February 2011



Georgia Department of Education

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
		1 Langston Hughes born ~1902-1967 Space Shuttle Columbia Crashed~2003	2 James Dickey ~ 1923-1997 New Amsterdam Incorporated as a city ~ 1653	3 Sidney Lanier born ~ 1842-1881	4 Birthday of Charles Lindbergh ~ 1902-1974 Facebook founded ~2004	5 Hank Aaron's birthday! 1934- 																																																																																																									
6 Babe Ruth's birthday ~ 1895-1948 	7 Birthday of Charles Dickens ~ 1812-1870	8 Founding of the Boy Scouts ~ 1910 	9 Birthday of Alice Walker ~ 1944- U.S. Weather Service Established ~ 1870	10 1st singing telegram ~ 1933 Treaty of Paris Signed to End Spanish American War ~ 1899	11 Thomas Edison's birthday ~ 1847-1931 	12 Birthday of Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865																																																																																																									
13 Who is Chuck Yeager? 	14 First Production of Element 103, Lawrencium ~ 1961 Valentine's Day 	15 Birthday of Galileo Galilei ~ 1564-1642	16 First Fruit Tree Patent ~ 1932 Patent Issued for Nylon ~ 1937	17 Birthday of Chaim Potok ~ 1929-2002 First U.S. Government Loan ~ 1790	18 9th planet discovered ~ 1930 Is it still a planet?	19 Birthday of Amy Tan ~ 1952-																																																																																																									
20 John Glenn orbits the earth ~ 1962 	21 First Newspaper Published in Native American language ~ 1828 W.H. Auden's birthday ~ 1907-1973	22 Birthday of George Washington ~ 1732-1799	23 W.E.B. DuBois born ~ 1868-1963	24 President Johnson impeached ~ 1868	25 First Timberland Protection Act Passed by Congress ~ 1779 Who is Joseph Rainey from South Carolina?	26 World Trade Center (NYC) bombed ~ 1993																																																																																																									
27 Birthday of Longfellow ~ 1807-1882	28 Salem Witch Hunt Began ~ 1692 Who is Linus Paulding?	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <thead> <tr><th colspan="7">January</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <thead> <tr><th colspan="7">March</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div>					January							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						March							S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
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Satisfaction of one's curiosity is one of the greatest sources of happiness in life. ~ Linus Paulding