As summer vacation comes to a close, school bells are ringing across the country, and it’s time for a new batch of students, contestants and celebrities to take the $1 million challenge this fall on ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A 5th GRADER? airing Fridays (8:00-9:00 PM ET/PT) on FOX.

Host Jeff Foxworthy returns to the head of the class to lead a new batch of 5th graders that will test their smarts alongside celebrity contestants competing throughout the season for their favorite charities. Season Three kicks off with supermodel Kathy Ireland and Georgia State Superintendent of Schools Kathy Cox going for the gold star in the special two-hour season premiere Friday, Sept. 5 (8:00-10:00 PM ET/PT).

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A 5th GRADER?, winner of the Family Television Award for Outstanding Reality Show and a Kids’, Teen and People’s Choice Awards nominee, is produced by Mark Burnett Productions in association with ZOO Productions. Burnett, Barry Poznick and John Stevens serve as executive producers.
I was a Library paraprofessional for a few years before I became a Library Media Specialist. My story may be a little unique, because I was a Public Librarian first. I worked for the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) for 12 years in their retrospection conversion department. After that department closed, I stayed home with my daughters for two years.

I got a part time job at Smyrna Public Library for a couple of years, but did not like the hours so I quit and stayed home again. When my oldest daughter started middle school I was hired as the media paraprofessional with the full intention of going back to the public library after 5 years. I really enjoyed working in the Library Media Center and decided I wanted to go to school and get my certification. I have been a media specialist for two years now and love it.

It is the best job in the school! 

Lisa Roberts
Media Specialist
Tapp Middle School
Cobb County

Have a story you want to share? Please send it to Judy Serritella at jserrite@doe.k12.ga.us
What Do You Know About NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only national representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. Assessments are conducted periodically in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, and U.S. history. Assessments in world history and foreign language are anticipated in 2012.

http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/

Georgia's profile:
http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/profile.asp

GaMedia List Service!

The wonderful GaMedia List Service has returned.

As you probably know, the server for the GeorgiaMedia list ceased working at the beginning of the summer, after 8 years of faithful service. (The list service itself is 12 years old.) O.P. Cooper has things ready to resume.

To get started, however, he needs everyone to subscribe again. User data backup files were corrupt, and they could not with certainty rebuild them, so O.P. opted to just get a fresh start.

The link to the page for information and to subscribe to GeorgiaMedia is:

http://www.georgiamedia.net/mailman/listinfo/members

Note this change: to post a message to the list, send mail to members@georgiamedia.net.
From Annette Wise at the Jimmy Carter Historical Site to you:

I would like to invite you to join a list serve concerning special off-site programs and free resources available for use in your classroom and Library Media Center. You will receive information related to President and Mrs. Carter, the Constitution, our government, elections, links to primary resources, short videos and PowerPoint programs ready to use in your classroom and media center. In addition to classroom resources, you will also receive information about field trips and special programs being offered in Plains at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site and in Atlanta at The Carter Library and Museum.

The following list serves are available: primary, elementary, middle or high school level classroom teachers, media specialists, art teachers and gifted teachers. Please share this information with staff and faculty that may be interested in joining.

To join a list serve, please send a blank e-mail to the one that is appropriate for you.

join-historyed-art@list.doe.k12.ga.us

join-historyed-gifted@list.doe.k12.ga.us

join-historyed-media@list.doe.k12.ga.us

join-historyed-primary@list.doe.k12.ga.us

join-historyed-elementary@list.doe.k12.ga.us

join-historyed-middle@list.doe.k12.ga.us

join-historyed-highschool@list.doe.k12.ga.us

Thanks!
Annette Wise
Georgia Department of Education
Jimmy Carter NHS Education Program
300 North Bond Street
Plains, Georgia 31780
229-824-4104 ext. 16
www.jimmycarter.info
Just for a laugh….

http://www.flickr.com/photos/19553693@N00/273269366/

New schools only!

If you are new school (just opened this year) ….please email your mailing address and I will send you a set of the Character Education DVDs.

I have a limited supply.
Thanks to Doug Johnson and Linworth Publishing for permission to reprint Doug’s article “No Principal Left Behind” from his Head for the Edge column, March 2003.

Doug has 10 tips for the school Library Media Specialist to help inform and educate your school administrator about good school libraries and the positive impact they can have on students. You will find one tip each month in this newsletter.

Tip #2: Remember that administrators HATE surprises.

Your principal does not like to be surprised by either good or bad news about your Library Media Center delivered by someone else.

Doug says: As a true administrator, I like knowing of bad things in advance so I can figure out someone else to blame. I like knowing about good things in advance so I can figure out how to take the credit. Your principal should never learn about something happening in your library from a teacher, a student or, especially, a parent.

Next month: You need to view you and your principal as allies

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Trial subscription to the Children’s Literature Comprehensive Database

Georgia Media Specialists….check out the Children’s Literature Database. We have been given a trial membership that will remain active until 10/17/2008:

You will need the following information in order to access the information:
Username: georgiadoe
Password: media

You can find the database at: http://clcd.odyssi.com

**INTRODUCTORY DISCOUNT** - The CLCD license offers unlimited access to the database from all computers on campus. The school list price is $295, but your introductory price is just $221.25. Home access is also available for a small additional fee of $50. The offer is available until November 30, 2008.

Please contact Dick Stine if you have any questions and direct your orders to the below e-mail address.

Dick Stine, Area Representative
The CLCD Company, LLC
407-451-0800
dick.stine@att.net
Banned Books Week - Celebrating the Freedom to Read is observed during the last week of September each year. Observed since 1982, the annual event reminds Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted.

Banned Books Week is sponsored by the American Booksellers Association, the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, the American Library Association (ALA), the Association of American Publishers, the American Society of Journalists and Authors and the National Association of College Stores. The Library of Congress Center for the Book endorses Banned Books Week.

Many bookstores and libraries across the nation join in the celebration with displays and readings of books that have been banned or threatened throughout history. These include works ranging from the Bible to John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men."

Each year, the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom receives hundreds of reports on books and other materials that were "challenged" (their removal from school or library shelves was requested). The ALA estimates the number represents only about a quarter of the actual challenges. "Most Challenged" titles include the popular "Harry Potter" series of fantasy books for children by J.K. Rowling. The series drew complaints from parents and others who believe the books promote witchcraft to children.

The challenges reported reflect a continuing concern with a wide variety of themes. Other "Most Challenged" titles include "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain, for its use of language, particularly references to race; "It's Perfectly Normal," a sex education book by Robie Harris, for being too explicit, especially for children; and "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou, for the description of rape she suffered as a child.

For more information, contact the Office for Intellectual Freedom at 800-545-2433, ext. 4223, send an e-mail to oif@ala.org.

Don’t forget to check out the interesting, informative, and instructive GLMA blog on the GLMA website.
Plains, Peanuts and a President Postcard Contest

Sponsored by the Jimmy Carter NHS Education Program and the Peanut Institute

K-12 students are invited to enter our annual postcard contest. 
This year's theme is

Plains, Peanuts and a President.

Directions:

1. Student work must be on a white 3x5 or 4x6 sheet of paper or unruled index card.

2. The card can include a written message and colorful drawings.

3. The artwork and message must include peanuts and relate to the theme.

4. Student's name, grade level, teacher's name, school's mailing address, and school phone number must be on the back of each card.

5. Mail class entries bundled together in one envelope with a note on top that includes: number of students participating, grade level, teacher's name and e-mail address, school address, phone number and fax number with the area code.

6. All entries must be postmarked by September 10, 2008.

7. Teachers of the winning entries will be contacted by September 17, 2008.

Judging:

1. Original student artwork using crayons, pens, markers, or pencils.

2. Creativity in use of peanut drawings. (No copyright trademarks accepted.)

3. Use of the theme.

All entries become the property of the Jimmy Carter NHS Education Program and will not be returned. Winning entries may be used as promotional material.

Awards:

1. Winners per grade level of this statewide contest will receive an autographed book by President Carter at the Plains Peanut Festival on September 27, 2008.

2. Winners will be invited to participate in the Plains Peanut Festival Parade.

3. President Carter is scheduled to present awards to winners before the parade.

4. Teachers of winning entries will receive a book and poster for their classroom.

Mail entries to:

Annette Wise, 300 North Bond Street, Plains, Georgia 31780.
I was in love with everything I did. My heart did not beat, it exploded. I did not warm toward a subject, I boiled over. I have always run fast and yelled loud about a list of great magical things I knew I simply could not live without.

-Ray Bradbury

High School Library Media Specialists!

Be sure to tell your students and teachers about the College Source database on GALILEO. This database has over 43,000 college catalogs and over 36 million course descriptions. Undergraduate and graduate course information is available.

Don’t forget about all the wonderful resources available on GALILEO when researching colleges!

"I was in love with everything I did. My heart did not beat, it exploded. I did not warm toward a subject, I boiled over. I have always run fast and yelled loud about a list of great magical things I knew I simply could not live without."

-Ray Bradbury

The GOLD/GALILEO conference was a success thanks to the leadership of Toni Zimmerman (pictured above). Cliff Landis was the keynote speaker and was informative as well as entertaining.

Toby Graham and Ed Johnson (above right) presented a session on the Digital Library of Georgia and Georgia Home Place.
September 15-October 15, 2008 is Hispanic Heritage Month!

Today, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 44 million people in the United States are of Hispanic origin. That's about 14 percent of us!

Teaching of the contributions of Hispanic Americans, and learning about the cultures from which they come, will be the focal point of many classroom activities and discussions in the weeks ahead as students across the United States recognize Hispanic Heritage Month -- September 15 to October 15.

Check out some activities on Education World:

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson023.shtml
Great art speaks powerfully, inspires fresh thinking, and connects us to our past.

Picturing America, an exciting new initiative from the National Endowment for the Humanities, brings masterpieces of American art into classrooms and libraries nationwide. Through this innovative program, students and citizens will gain a deeper appreciation of our country’s history and character through the study and understanding of its art.

The nation’s artistic heritage—our paintings, sculpture, architecture, fine crafts, and photography—offers unique insights into the character, ideals, and aspirations of our country.

Picturing America, a far-reaching new program from the National Endowment for the Humanities in cooperation with the American Library Association, brings this vital heritage to all Americans.

By bringing high-quality reproductions of notable American art into public and private schools, libraries, and communities, Picturing America gives participants the opportunity to learn about our nation’s history and culture in a fresh and engaging way. The program uses art as a catalyst for the study of America—the cultural, political, and historical threads woven into our nation’s fabric over time.

Collectively, the masterpieces in Picturing America, used in conjunction with the Teachers Resource Book and program Web site, help students experience the humanity of history and enhance the teaching and understanding of America’s past.

The submission deadline for the current application period is **October 31, 2008**.

Institutions that have previously received Picturing America are not eligible to receive a second award. If you would like to review an application submitted under our previous deadline (April 15th, 2008), go to:

http://picturingamerica.ala.org/application/2008/
The Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Thrashers are dedicated to improving the lives of Georgia’s children through programs and initiatives that promote education. They are pleased to launch our 2008-2009 educational programs designed to support the great work teachers are doing in the classroom.

Atlanta Hawks and Thrashers Honor Roll Program (All grade levels)
The new Atlanta Hawks & Thrashers Honor Roll program rewards students of all ages for their academic achievement. Any student at a participating school who is excelling in the classroom will earn a complimentary Hawks or Thrashers ticket with the purchase of a discounted ticket this season. Participating schools will also be eligible to register for a chance to receive a scholarship for their school. To take advantage of this program or for more information, please contact honorroll@atlantaspirit.com.

Atlanta Hawks Fast Break for Reading (Elementary School)
Sponsored by Philips and Sprite
The Atlanta Hawks Fast Break for Reading program encourages students to develop a lifelong love of reading. For each 25 books students read, they earn such rewards as Hawks bookmarks, stickers and pencils. Click here to sign up today.

Hawks and Thrashers School Assembly Program (Elementary School)
The Atlanta Hawks and Thrashers School Assembly program is a fun-filled 45-minute assembly that focuses on the importance of reading, healthy eating habits and staying active. Participating schools receive 50 books and students receive goodies such as an activity book and more. This program is only open to schools within a 35-mile radius of Philips Arena. Certain other restrictions apply. Click here to sign up today.

Atlanta Hawks Student Achiever (Middle/High Schools)
Motivating youth to earn good grades, stay in school and work hard is what the Atlanta Hawks Student Achiever program is all about. Sponsored by Philips, this effort recognizes middle and high school students who earn a 3.0, improve their grades, have perfect attendance and work hard. Sign-up today and start earning your sweet rewards. Click here to sign up today.

All Hawks Programs | All Thrashers Programs
The National Archives Southeast Region, Atlanta

Serves Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

The Southeast Region of the National Archives located in Morrow Georgia is a center for the study of the history of the South, a diverse region rich with family tradition. Native Americans were living on the land when the first settlers arrived. African slaves were then brought over, and later came Irish, English, Italian, Russian, and Cuban immigrants. Their stories, told in the seemingly incongruous records of the federal government, provide evidence of the universal human drama that is American family life. Records in the National Archives tell the story of southern families and communities, technological advances that changed lives, and social and economic forces that shaped the makeup of our society.

Check out their website at:

http://www.archives.gov/southeast/

The Civil Rights Digital Library (CRDL) promotes an enhanced understanding of the Civil Rights Movement through its three principal components:

- a digital video archive delivering 30 hours of historical news film allowing learners to be nearly eyewitnesses to key events of the Civil Rights Movement
- a civil rights portal providing a seamless virtual library on the Civil Rights Movement by aggregating metadata from 75 libraries and allied organizations from across the nation
- instructional materials to facilitate the use of the video content in the learning process

The CRDL links to primary sources and other educational materials from libraries, archives, museums, public broadcasters, and others on a national scale. The CRDL features a collection of more than 30 hours of unedited news film from the WSB (Atlanta) and WALB (Albany, Ga.) television archives held by the Walter J. Brown Media Archives and Peabody Awards Collection at the University of Georgia Libraries. These moving images: about 450 clips—cover a broad range of key civil rights events, including the desegregation of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas (1957); the Atlanta Temple bombing (1958); Atlanta sit-ins (1960); Freedom Rides (1961); desegregation of the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech (1961); the Albany Movement (1961-1962); desegregation of Ole Miss (1962) and University of Alabama (1963); and Americus Movement (1963, 1965); Birmingham demonstrations (1963); among many other topics.

CRDL is a partnership among librarians, technologists, archivists, educators, scholars, academic publishers, and public broadcasters. The initiative receives support through a National Leadership Grant for Libraries awarded to the University of Georgia by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
### September 2008

**Georgia Department of Education**

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*Home is where one starts from.*  
T.S. Eliot