

SWRS News



Aleknagik, Clarks Point, Ekwok, Koliganek, Manokotak, New Stuyahok, Togiak, Twin Hills

April is National Poetry Month!

April is National Poetry month, a great time to explore poems, poets and poetry with your students! Also a great way to unwind and get quality writing done.

Here is a sampling of books available for check out from the Media Center:

- *The Cremation of Sam McGee and Other Poems* by Robert Service
- *How to Write Poetry* by Paul B. Janeczko
- *If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand: Poems About School* by Kalli Dakos
- *Knock at a Star: A Child's Introduction to Poetry*
- *My Parents Think I'm Sleeping* by Jack Prelutsky
- *The Oxford Treasury of Classic Poems*

Web Resources to help plan lessons (*from Librarians Internet Index*):

Poetry: Lesson Plans

This collection of lesson plans covers a wide variety of topics in poetry, such as epic poems, haiku, sonnets, modernist poetry, limericks and nonsense poems, writing poetry, metaphor and simile, line breaks in poems, and specific poets and works. A selection of annotated poetry links is available by navigating to the "Websites" tab. From EDSITEment, a website of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). URL: http://edsitement.neh.gov/tab_lesson.asp?subjectArea=4&subcategory=45

Writing About Poetry

Tips for writing about poetry, which "can be one of the most demanding tasks that many students face in a literature class." Topics include reasons for writing about poetry, having a specific argument about the poems, what to write about (such as figures of speech and cultural context), and standard conventions for writing about poetry. From the Writing Lab and The OWL (Online Writing Lab) at Purdue, both of Purdue University.

URL: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/615/01/>

What's in this

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Statewide Poetry Contest

Candice Bressler, Delta Project Specialist

LEADon! Statewide poetry Contest

What: poems with the theme of
 "Where I am from" or
 "What I dream about"

When: Submit poems by May 31st.

Who: Youth 13-19 years old.

How: Submit poems to AWARE
 by fax, mail, or email.

the idea is to love life
 write happy thoughts with invisible ink
 to dream more in color
 it force s the sad reality out

AWARE
 P.O. Box 20809 Fax 907-586-2479
 Juneau, AK 99802 Toll Free 1-800-478-1090

AWARE is pleased to announce a Statewide Poetry Contest for youth. This contest is an opportunity for Alaskans ages 13-19 to submit poems using the themes, "Where I Am From" or "My Dreams: Where I Am Going." Each student can submit one poem with each theme. Southeast Alaskan teens who have participated in this process previously will review and select poems to be compiled into a book of Alaskan poetry and distributed around the state. Our vision is for youth to share their poetry and creative expression, and for our communities to appreciate and be inspired by our talented youth.

Enclosed are fliers to raise awareness about this great opportunity. Please distribute them in your community. Also enclosed are poetry examples about each theme.

All poems must be received at AWARE by May 31, 2009. Applicants can send their poems via email to: candiceb@awareak.org, fax to: 907-586-2479, or mail to: Candice Bressler, AWARE Inc., P.O. Box 20809, Juneau, AK 99802. I will confirm receipt the same way I receive the submissions and will share all entries with our Southeast Alaskan youth leaders for their review. Please remember: this program is by Alaskan youth, for Alaskan youth.

Please join AWARE in encouraging youth to find their voices and express themselves. If you have any questions, please contact me at candiceb@awareak.org or 586-6623. Candice Bressler, DELTA Project Specialist

Alaska Society for Technology in Education 2009

By Corey Evans and Nate Preston



Corey Evans

This February I was privileged to be able use professional development funds to attend the Alaska Society for Technology Education (ASTE) conference in Anchorage. I was especially interested in the session I attended titled “Information Technology in Science Instruction.” This session highlighted a program run by the Concord Consortium that is designed to engage middle and high school students in inquiry based science activities. The consortium maintains a website with Java based interactive models students can use to observe and model processes such as diffusion or wildlife population dynamics. This allows students to gather data on questions in a hands on way that is impossible in the typical classroom. Teachers can also use the website and to look at lesson plans submitted to the consortium as well as create and share their own.

<http://www.concord.org/resources/browse/172/>

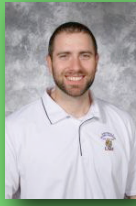


Nate Preston

For ASTE I attended all the PowerSchool activities and found something that I think will help most middle and high school teachers. It will make grading much simpler.

1. Log in to PowerSchool
2. Open the grade book
3. Disconnect from the network (turn of airport and disconnect Ethernet cord)
4. Work with the grade book
5. Connect to the network
6. Change course or page
7. Log out

This process is a little time consuming but when done PowerSchool’s grading program should work just as fast as any other program and it will allow end of the semester grades to be automatic. Hope this helps.



Goal Setting

By Sam Bourgeois, Togiak School

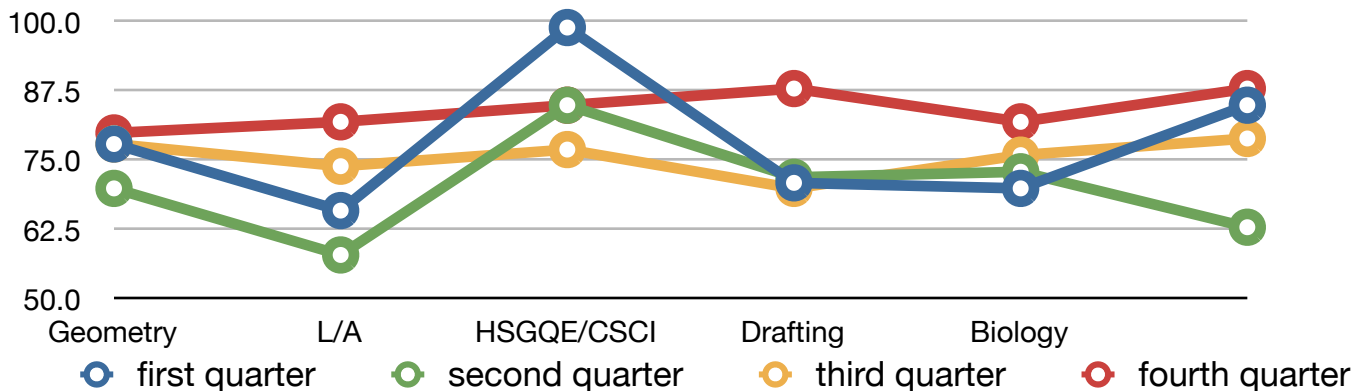
Recently, my Togiak High School students began the fourth quarter on a positive note by setting goals. They first recalled older grades and reflected on their behavior and habits in the past three quarters. To consolidate this data, students in my computer class combined their grades into a Numbers spreadsheet. To supplement the numerical data, the students also planned out a specific path to reach their goals, step-by-step and in paragraph form.



My names Sidney Pavian. I am a sophomore and I am attending Togiak School. I am in Sam Bourgeois Computer Application class and I just got done with an assignment that includes our quarter grades. The assignment was to create a graph of all my grades for the whole year including what I want for forth quarter. I created a table that includes my grades and has a line graph that shows what grades I have for three quarters and what want for the forth quarter. We also had to write two paragraphs of what we were doing for three quarters and another paragraph of what I want to get for a grade in all my classes. Also with the second paragraph was to write a step by step instructions to get the grade in every class I got.

	first quarter	second quarter	third quarter	fourth quarter
Geometry	78	70	78	80
L/A	66	58	74	82
HSGQE/CSCI	99	85	77	85
Drafting	71	72	70	88
Biology	70	73	76	82
journalism/ Basic carpentry	85	63	79	88

Chart 4





Counselor's Corner~ Addiction

By Linda Anderson, Chief Ivan Blunka, New Stuyahok

Addiction: A definition from a Thesaurus; 1. a state of physiological or psychological dependence on a drug liable to have a damaging effect. 2. Great interest in something to which a lot of time is devoted.

In an article that I read this week, 12 Teen Addictions were listed:

1. Junk Food
2. Internet/Computer Use
3. Marijuana and/or Hash
4. Alcohol
5. Tobacco
6. Sugar/Candy
7. Over Eating
8. Under Eating or Anorexia
9. Self-Harm (cutting or wrist slashing)
10. Sex
11. Bullying or abusing others
12. Video Games

This information was based on a sampling of 17 schools. It was determined that each child had an average of FOUR habits from which they wanted to omit.

These students recognized they had problems that might be harmful to their lives and to their health.

Students need assistance to change their negative image of self. We, as teachers, principals and parents, realize that some of the listed addictions cause some students to

become bullies, loners, smokers, drinkers and druggies. Please realize there is help for you. Again, parents, teachers, and principals want to help you in a kind way. We are not mad at you as a person; we do not like the behavior that is consuming your health and self-worth.

Trying to scare students out of their negative behaviors is not the solution.

There are many people in the area villages that want to help you if you will trust and listen to the them.

The student has the power to **MAKE NEW CHOICES!** Giving up bad habits is not easy. "For numerous years, cigarettes consumed a part of my life. This habit was causing health problems for me. A change was needed. I used medical assistance to free my mind and my body from this **BAD HABIT!**" This quote is an experience of yours truly.

Being a victim of drug addiction is a **CHOICE.** Your choice. Be in positive control of your mind and your body. Ask for help! Don't destroy your life and hurt the people that love you!

Some of the above information was taken from www.AddictionFreeYouth.com



Modeling Science Using a Stream Table

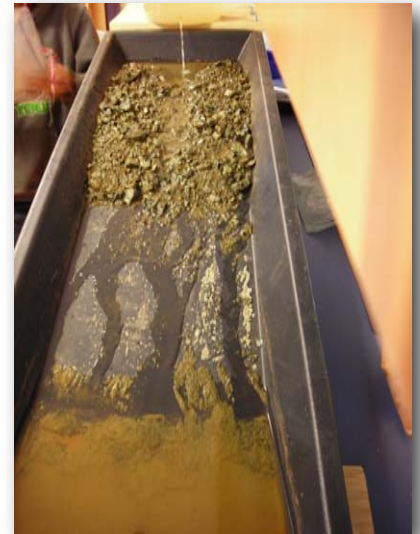
By Jon Sharp, Middle School Science, Togiak

Middle school students are having a blast learning about erosion. After resurrecting a lone stream table in the “storage room” of Togiak School, students can’t get enough of the erosive action! Kids are ENGAGED! All kids have improved their understanding of Earth processes and science processes. Reading, writing, art and math...it can all be done without a whine.

If you do not have access to a “professional” table, make one out of a few black trash bags a piece of plywood or other flat surface, five gallon buckets and some bush ingenuity.

Gather various sized sediments smaller than one cubic inch and distribute them on the upper third of the table. Sand, silt, clay, and gravel work well. For younger kids or more excitement, choose contrasting colored sediments

like cream or white sand and green or blue aquarium gravel. Older grades can analyze local soil by gather a few shovels full of “dirt”. The possibilities are endless!



One stream table can sufficient for all grades 3-8 and can model GLE’s SD2 for all grades without any manipulation. The local connection students will associate when traveling upriver is powerful and

memorable. Need help starting or planning out a stream table? Contact Jon Sharp jsharp@swrsd.org for more details.

Standards addressed using a stream table (grades 3-8):

ALL-SD2.1 & SD2.2- understand forces that shape the Earth

some-**SD1.1 & SD1.2-** demonstrates understanding of geochemical cycles

some-**SB1.1-** structure and properties of matter

some-**SB4.1-** understand/demonstrating motions, forces, etc

ALL-SA1.1 & SA1.2- demonstrates an understanding of science processes

some-**SF1.1-3.1-** demonstrates an understanding of relationships among different perspectives





Earth Day- April 22nd

By Shannon Clouse, Media Specialist

April 22nd is Earth Day, a day that reminds us to take good care of our environment. A time to promote environmental awareness and for students to be aware of current environmental issues that will effect them and future generations. The following links and Media Center materials will be helpful in your study of the Earth and its resources.

In the Media Center:

- *Every Day is Earth Day: A Craft Book* By Kathy Ross
- *The Big Book of Saving the Earth: Eight Stories to Enrich Your Science Program (K-2)* By Jo Ellen Moore
- *Franklin Plants a Tree* (Video)
- *Two Minutes a Day for a Greener Planet: Quick and Simple Things You Can Do to Save Our Earth* By Marjorie Lamb
- *Planet Earth* (DVD Series- 5 discs)
- *An Inconvenient Truth* (DVD) Al Gore

Online:

- **Scholastic:** Promote Environmental Awareness with this 2008 Guide to Lessons, Printables and Fun Activities
http://teacher.scholastic.com/earth_day/?eml=TNL/20090330/TNL
- **Earth Day Online:** Provides ideas for children celebrating Earth Day. Includes online games, coloring activities, clip art, word searches, language and science activities and much more.
<http://holidays.kaboose.com/earth-day/>
- **Earth Day from the Wilderness Society:** Information nfor children and teachers about the celebration of Earth Day each April. Features a hostiroy of the day, classroom study materials and activity suggestions, and information about the Arctic National Wildlife refuge in Alaska.
<http://earthday.wilderness.org/>
- **Earthday.gov:** This site presents action to take to protect our planet on Earth Day. Provides suggested activities for home, classroom and work settings. Includes links to government information on energy, recycling, green building, commuting, etc.

<http://www.earthday.gov/>

(Sites researched through the [Librarians Internet Index](#))



What's New in the Media Center?

By Shannon Clouse, Media Specialist

Some great new Alaskana DVD's recently added to our wonderful collection of our great state of Alaska.



The 49th Star- Creating Alaska

Fifty years ago a group of Alaskans gathered in Fairbanks to shape the future. The 49th Star chronicles a great story of American democracy - an account of 55 people who assembled in sub-zero temperatures to write a state constitution widely considered one of the best ever written, a pivotal achievement as Alaska continued its journey to statehood.



Anywhere Alaska

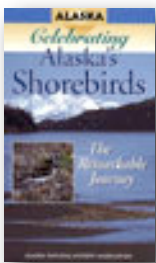
Fantastic footage of America's last frontier, combined with historical facts and whimsical commentary, make this new public television series a fresh take on travel TV. This four-part series of Anywhere, Alaska follows Heather Taggard and Chip Brookes as they traverse Alaska's highway system.



Alaska Rain Forest: The Tongass

Lushness... The world's largest temperate rain forest sweeps in an arc from Washington through British Columbia and Southeast Alaska to Prince William Sound and Kodiak. *Rich Plant life...* The heart of this rain forest is America's largest national forest - the Tongass. *100 inches of rain...* Water dominates life in the Tongass. It sculpted the topography, influenced the history, hapes the environment, binds communities together and isolates them from the world outside.

Water created the Tongass. Learn about the Tongass and its people in this 30-minute video produced by Juneau's award-winning public television station in cooperation with the Alaska Natural History Association.



Celebrating Alaska's Shorebirds

Did you ever chance to hear the midnight flight of birds passing through the air in darkness overhead, in countless armies, changing their early or late summer habitat? It is something not to be forgotten. Those words penned by 19th century American poet Walt Whitman described the spectacle that occurs each spring as millions of migratory birds make the arduous journey north for the breeding season. In Alaska, hundreds of diverse species from tiny songbirds to the much larger sandhill cranes and majestic trumpeter swans all share the same rich nesting grounds. Celebrating Alaska's Shorebirds chronicles this migration against the spectacular

background of Alaskan scenery. Produced over a two and a half year period of field work this film has captured images in a variety of locations with in Alaska where these birds land to feed, rest, nest and breed.