A Place Where Every Student Belongs

/mer/library

WORKROOM (314) 854-6308

Librarian: Mrs. Palmer

LIBRARY (314) 854-6342

ERAMEC LIBRAR WWW.claytonschools.nct

August 2012

"I LOVE coming to the library because there are so many great things to read and time to read them."

> Meramec 3rd Grader

# All About the Meramec Library



Meramec Elementary, 400 S. Meramec, Clayton, Mo 63105 | 314-854-6300 |

MERAMEC LIBRARY

# All About the Meramec Library

## AND OUR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LEARNERS



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#### HOW DO CHILDREN BECOME CRITICAL THINKERS IN THE LIBRARY?

Each time your child visits the library, they are required to make decisions. Understanding how good decisions are made and how problem-solving skills are key to making decisions is essential for the 21st century learner. While in the library all students learn and apply information literacy and library skills. They learn to navigate a wide range of fiction and nonfiction. Library staff and teachers encourage all students to make informed decisions rather than impulsive decisions. We also provide students with the skills and awareness needed to develop problem-solving skills using information. This may include selecting books for recreational reading or evaluating online sources and gathering relevant information for research. Since the library can be bustling with activity, students also learn the best strategies to manage their focus and time while in the library.

# WHY DOES THE LIBRARY HAVE SO MANY BOOKS?

Most websites children locate via Google are written for high school or beyond. Our library has many books that help cultivate your child's learning, literacy, and love of reading. Every student has unique needs and personal interests. To support your child's growth in reading while nurturing their developing interests, the library offers

books on science, technology, history, art, music, sports, poetry and biography. Since children of all ages have interests in subjects such as transportation and animals, titles are purchased for preschool through 8th grade reading levels. The library also has hundreds of titles to support science and social studies curriculum taught in the classrooms. Each year the library evaluates the information needs and literary interests of Meramec students and then selects hundreds of new fiction and nonfiction titles. While nonfiction supports your child's need for knowledge and information, our fiction collection encourages children to explore a wide range of genre including realistic fiction, adventure, modern fantasy, humor, folktale, fairytale, myths, and historical fiction.

When introducing new fiction titles, the library often blends technology tools with print media. This blended teaching approach replicates the multi-media world we live in and provides students with the experience of learning to use both traditional print copy along with e-learning, information databases, and search engines.

## WHAT HAPPENS IN THE LIBRARY?

The library is designed to support multiple learning activities. Core activities include research projects, checkouts, library lessons and story time. All classrooms visit the library for weekly checkout. Many classrooms use library computers for presentations, online research, and word processing. The library also supports grade-level computer assessments, OASIS reading volunteers, small group instruction, school meetings, and Kid Zone homework club.

New library lessons are created as needed each year to support revised curricula, academic standards, and new ideas by teachers and librarians for library instruction.

#### WHO WORKS IN THE LIBRARY? (revised 8/2013)

We have a terrific group of parent volunteers who work hard to sort and shelve over 2,000 books checked out each month. Since every book borrowed is handled at least four times, volunteers and library staff keep busy with circulation. Please stop by if you are interested in volunteering.

Mrs. Karen Hilf is Library Assistant, and supports daily circulation, weekly checkouts, resource schedules, materials processing, coordinating interlibrary loans, lessons and research. Mrs. Hilf come to Meramec from the Clayton High School Science Department. She enjoys helping students of all ages and supporting the needs of our school community.

Mrs. Jeri Lynn Palmer is Librarian and leads information literacy and library skills instruction, collection development, collaborative research projects, and library website administration. Mrs. Palmer has a master's degree from Washington University and is certified in Elementary Education, Library Media Specialist and Gifted Education.