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Wandering the Web-Children's Literature:Selected Resources

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Wandering the Web

Children's Literature: Selected Resources

by **Ruth Kinnersley** (Access Services Coordinator, Western Kentucky University)

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General Sites:

Children's Literature Web Guide <<http://www.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/index.html>> Outstanding collection of links to authors, stories, awards, publishers, films based on children's books, etc. A search engine provides access to teaching ideas for specific titles. Brief annotations and "bouquets" for best sites add value for the searcher.

Fairrosa Cyber Library of Children's Literature <http://www.users.inteport.net/~fairro_sa/> Another site with excellent set of links. Includes indexes to Andrew Lang's Color Fairy Books and Arabian Nights. Also has discussion threads from the child lit listserv.

Kay Vandergrift's Special Interest Page <<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/special/kay/kayhp2.html>> Designed by a professor of children's literature, these pages have a scholarly slant. Excellent starting place for exploring issues in children's and young adult literature.

Teaching Ideas

Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site <<http://www.carolhurst.com/index.html>> A collection of reviews, teaching ideas, and classroom activities organized by subjects, curriculum areas, themes, and professional topics. One of the best sites for finding teaching ideas for children's literature for grades Pre-K through 9.

Bantam Doubleday Dell's Teachers' Resource Center <<http://www.randomhouse.com/teacher.html>> Teaching ideas and activities for books published by Random House's many imprints.

Jan Brett's Home Page <<http://www.janbrett.com>> A popular children's author has created a web site with classroom activities, biographical information, a calendar of her appearances, audio messages from the author, and more. The site is geared for use by children and teachers.

Cyberguides <<http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/cyberguide.html>> Related to the Schools of California Online Resources for Education (SCORE) Language Arts Project, Cyberguides are supplementary units based on children's and young adult literature which are designed so that students in

grades K-12 use the Internet to complete the lessons. For each title there is a series of activities, objectives and standards, an implementation overview, and a description of the materials needed to complete the activity.

Bibliographies and Reviews

Notes from the Windowsill <<http://www.armory.com/~web/notes.html>> Primarily an online newsletter. The reviews are both descriptive and evaluative.

Additional features are short bibliographies of recommended books on a particular topic, such as multiracial families. Subscription instructions for receiving *Notes from the Windowsill* via e-mail are included on the page.

Ann Arbor District Library Kid's Page <<http://www.annarbor.lib.mi.us/kidspg/kidspg2.html>> This is an excellent example of what many public libraries are providing to kids on their web pages. "Librarians' Picks" are lists of recommended books from the Library's collection, arranged by themes such as "Stories about Strong Women." Book reviews written by children are on another page. There are also a large number of links to sites of interest to kids, from homework help to television, movies and music.

Aaron's Book Review <<http://www.bickelboys.com/books.html>> Reviews written by Aaron, who is about 9 years' old. He writes very well and his reading tastes are varied, providing great examples for other children who are writing book reviews.

Full-text children's literature on the Internet

Gopher site at New Mexico State University <[gopher://lib.nmsu.edu/1/1/subjects/Education/childlit/](http://lib.nmsu.edu/1/1/subjects/Education/childlit/)> In addition to full-text classics, this site provides an interesting array of resources related to children's literature such as bibliographies, lists of children's collections, conferences, and review journals.

Tales of Wonder <http://falconsch.bme.hu/~raas/fonto_s/tales> Folk and fairy tales from around the world. Sources for the tales are cited, and the tales are in large print, which makes them readable and appealing to younger children. A sampling of tales from Asia, Russia, India, Scandinavia, Scotland, Africa, and the Americas are included,

and links to other sites with folk tales are provided as well.

Internet Public Library <<http://www.ipl.org/youth/>> The Reading Zone in the Youth Division provides links to a variety of online reading sites, from poetry to original stories with sound and graphics.


KidPub <<http://www.kidpub.org/kidpub/>> This site provides a place for kids to publish their stories. While it's limited to English language, it's international in scope. There's also a chat area, a message center, a collaborative story (anyone can write a paragraph), stories submitted by school classes, and a place to hook up with an Internet pen pal.

General Sites on Children and Education

Kids on the Web <<http://www.zen.org/~brendan/kids.html>> There are hundreds of links on this site, divided into the following categories: Fun Stuff, Homework Tools, Things for Adults, Safety on the Net, PenPals, Educational Sites, Children's Books and Stories, and Things for Teens. A comprehensive site, with much of value for those who work with children and young adults.

Internet School Library Media Center <<http://falconjmu.edu/~ramsey1/>> This site is geared to the school librarian and teacher. Arranged by subject, it contains links to information, lesson plans, and a wide variety of sites.

Teel Family on the Web <<http://www.teelfamily.com>> The Teels live in Alaska, where they home school their children. Many of their educational units and activities are related to Alaska and the far north. The site includes a search engine. It's full of activities, lessons, crafts, and links to related sites. On the Education page, the link "Cool Sites for Kids" leads to a collection of links to online children's stories, along with lots of other sites children would enjoy.

700+ Great Sites <<http://www.ala.org/parents/age/greatsites/amazing.html>> Part of the web site of the American Library Association, this site contains pages of interest to children and caregivers. The sites are recommended by librarians, and the selection criteria are included. The subject-oriented pages are cross-linked for easy navigation. 

<<http://www.against-the-grain.com>>