



Kid's News

From the SD Braille & Talking Book Library

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Notes from the Director - Dan Boyd

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Alternative Format Textbooks

Alternative format textbooks include; Braille, Large Print, and Audio. Today Audio books can be either analog cassettes, digital CD or digital flash memory. The process of producing alternative format textbooks in all formats, even with all the technology, remains a very labor intensive process.

The time line for the completion of a print textbook is three to five years. There are many reviews, editing, moving materials around on the page before the final copy is approved and the printing process begins. These same processes are required for the production of an alternative format copy of the same book. In the good old days a textbook was 70% to 80% text and 20% to 30% graphics, today it is at least 40% graphics and up to 60% if you count all the little boxes of text as graphics. This causes many problems when standard print is converted to another format.

When producing a large print book, time is spent by first breaking the binding or the original book so that each page can then be enlarged individually. After the pages are enlarged, each book must be assembled in the correct order and bound in a hard cover. Soft covers are used for workbooks. A large print textbook may be contained in more than one volume and is produced in either color or black and white.

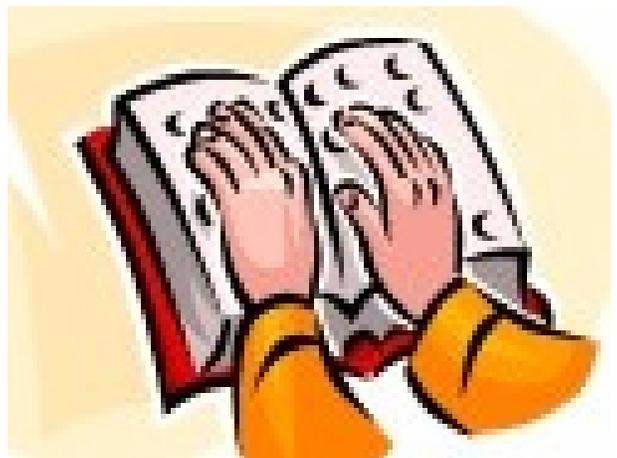
For Braille the procedures are much more complex. With Braille we not only need to work with the pagination because of the size of the braille cell but also because of the need to produce the graphics in a tactile form for use by the blind student. The development of a tactile graphic can take from a few minutes to a few hours depending on the complexity and the process used to develop the graphic. Depending on the subject and grade level there can be a few graphics to many hundreds of graphics. One braille book volume may take up as much page space as three volumes of a standard print book.

For audio books the process is much the same, with continual review of the audio recording, developing written descriptions for the graphics (as simple a description as possible). Once the master recording is complete, then the student copy is produced, labeled and shipped to the student.

I hope the very basic descriptions above will give you some idea of why we need textbook orders in January for classes that start in September.

2009 Baseball Schedule

The SD Braille & Talking Book Library now has available the braille version of the 2009 American and National League Baseball Schedule. You may requested the schedule listed by date or by team from your Reader Advisor.



People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball.
I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for
spring. ~Rogers Hornsby

Spring into Reading !!!

RC 52504 ***Jumbo Book of Gardening*** by: Karyn Morris - Practical advice for creating environmentally friendly gardens. Covers topics from basic soil preparation to growing fruits and vegetables, flowers, and native plants. Includes information on planning bird and butterfly habitats, as well as school and community gardens. For grades 3-6.

RC 52504

RC 55040 ***Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems: Jitomates Risuenos y Otros Poemas de Primavera*** - by:

Francisco X. Alarcón - Bilingual collection of humorous and serious poems celebrating spring, when nature and poetry make us "see everything for the first time." For grades K-3 and older readers. Pura Belpré Honor Book.

RC 55040

RC 56277 ***Seasons*** by: David Stewart - Describes what happens to animals, plants, and the weather in the four seasons of the year--spring, summer, fall, and winter. For grades 2-4. RC 56277

RC 58474 ***Its Spring*** by: Linda Glaser - A little boy observes the arrival of spring and its effects on plants and animals. Includes suggestions for nature study projects. For preschool-grade 2. RC 58474



Important!!

Remember to return any or all books, including textbooks, or extra machines to the Braille and Talking Book Library when finished. Others may be waiting for the chance to enjoy them.



New Lyrics Celebrate the 200th Anniversary of Louis Braille's Birth

As found on the website for the Council for Exceptional Children www.cec.sped.org: "Wayne Siligo, music director of the California School for the Blind, has written new lyrics to the classic rock song "Louie Louie" by the *Kingsmen* to honor inventor Louis Braille, born Jan. 4, 1809. Siligo can be reached at: wsiligo@csb-cde.ca.gov, 510/794-3800 ext. 253, and c/o California School for the Blind, 500 Walnut Avenue, Fremont, CA 94536."

Now Louie was a man, born two hundred years ago.
And though he couldn't see, he learned a lot more than we know.
It bugged him as a kid, that he couldn't learn to write,
But later on in school, they would read to him at night.

Chorus: Louie, Louie, oh, oh we got to read now. *(Repeat with: We got to write now.)*

He played the organ well, and taught his friends the way to play,
Yet Louie still believed, he'd read and write someday.
Then an army officer, showed him how to write with dots,
But Louie knew for sure, he had to change the bumps a lot.

Chorus

He cut the cell in half, and then he wrote the alphabet.
With slate and stylus skills, the dots would help him not forget.
And even here today, his code can help us pass a test.
Though folks have tried to change it, Louie's code is still the best.

Chorus

Louie changed our world, gave us words that we can touch.
We can do it on our own, read in English, French, or Dutch.
And on his special day, every one should stand and say:
"Thank you Louie Braille, your code has given us the way!"
"Thank you Louie Braille, your code has given us the way!"

Kids InfoBits



Are you ready to start researching for information online using a fun source that your teachers and parents would like too? Well, with Kids InfoBits, a new Gale InfoTrac database, you can now access information including geography, current events, the arts, science, health, people, government, history, sports, animals, plants, and more.

Kids InfoBits is a database made for especially for kids in kindergarten through grade 5. Kids InfoBits lets you hear a document spoken aloud by a computer-generated voice which is available using an audio player which lets you control the voice, or by downloading the entire document as an MP3 file onto your computer or other digital audio player.

Kids InfoBits is available for your use from a computer in your school without the need the need to log-in or from any other computer using a library card issued by the South Dakota State Library or any other South Dakota Library Network (SDLN) member library.

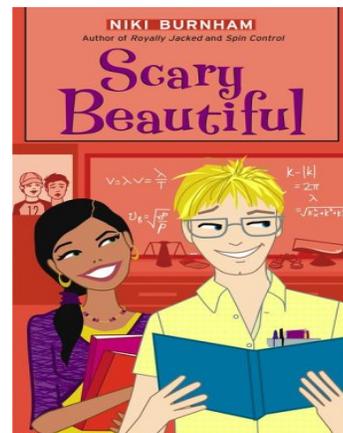
You can now access to this new database through the SD State Library website: <http://library.sd.gov> under the heading of InfoTrac found in either the Online Resources for remote users with library cards or for Library and School Users.



New Fiction Books for Junior & Senior High Readers

RC 65403 ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*** by: Sherman Alexie - Spokane Indian Reservation. Fourteen-year-old Junior--beset with physical problems caused by brain damage--transfers to an all-white town school. Called a traitor by his best friend and Tonto by his new classmates, Junior uses humor and wit to bridge the cultural divide. Some strong language. RC 65403

RC 65620 ***Scary Beautiful*** by: Niki Burnham - Gorgeous Chloe is ostracized in her junior year after her boyfriend Sean moves from Colorado to Connecticut, leaving her unattached. When some of the girls distrust her, Chloe realizes that she wants to be much more than just somebody's girlfriend. RC 65620



RC 65628 ***M is for Magic*** by: Neil Gaiman - Ten short stories and a prose poem by a Hugo and Nebula award winner. "How to Talk to Girls at Parties" concerns two fifteen-year-old boys who crash a party where the pretty girls are not who they appear to be.

RC065628

RC 66188 ***November Blues*** by: Sharon M. Draper - Two months after her boyfriend Josh dies, sixteen-year-old November finds out that she is pregnant. She faces difficult options with support from her mother, girlfriends, and Josh's cousin Jericho. Sequel to The Battle of Jericho (RC 58023). RC 66188

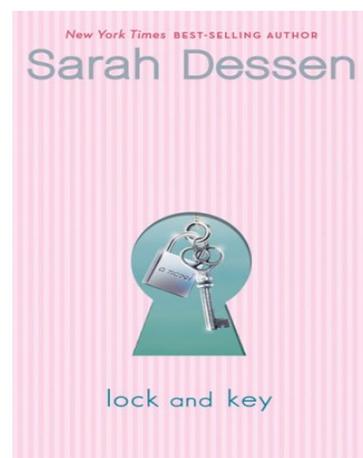
RC 66465 ***First Shot*** by: Walter Sorrells - David Crandall suspects that his mother was murdered by his abusive father several years earlier. David lives at a Maine boarding school, the Arsenal, where his father is the headmaster. A champion target shooter, David teams up with new girl Misty to uncover the truth. RC 66465

RC 66473 ***Teen, Inc.*** by: Stefan Petrucha - Fourteen-year-old Jaiden Beale, who is being raised by the corporation responsible for his parents' deaths, is allowed to attend public school for the first time. After learning that the company is polluting the local water supply, Jaiden and his friends investigate. RC 66473

RC 66487 ***Blue Bloods: Blue Bloods, Book 1***

by: Melissa De la Cruz - Fifteen-year-old Schuyler Van Alen, an outsider at her prestigious Manhattan school, discovers that she and some other teens are Blue Bloods--vampires who are continually being reincarnated. Danger arrives when a rival group of vampires begins murdering the Blue Bloods. RC 66487

RC 66546 ***Lock and Key*** by: Sarah Dessen - Seventeen-year-old Ruby, abandoned by her alcoholic mother, moves in with her sister Cora, whom Ruby hasn't seen in ten years. Ruby struggles with learning to trust others and accepting help. Nate, the boy next door, assists Ruby but hides a secret of his own. RC 66546



RC 66933 ***The Missing Girl*** by: Norma Fox Mazer - A middle-aged man secretly stalks the Herbert family's five sisters, ages eleven to seventeen, as they carry out their everyday activities in the small town of Mallory, New York. Then the stranger makes his move, luring Autumn, the youngest girl, into his house. RC 66933

RC 67156 ***Gone*** by: Michael Grant - In Perdido Beach, California, people fifteen years or older suddenly disappear. Televisions, Internet access, and phones vanish, too. Bullies take over, food runs out, animals mutate, and some kids develop supernatural powers. What will happen to Sam on his fifteenth birthday? Some violence.

New Fiction Books for Younger Readers



For grades kindergarten - 3:

RC 66482 ***Abracadabra! Magic with Mouse and Mole***

by: Wong Herbert Yee - Mouse and Mole arrive early for Minkus the Magnificent's magic show, but Mole is disappointed that Minkus only tricks the audience. Mouse presents a special show for her friend Mole to see the nighttime magic all around them. Four-chapter beginning reader. RC 66482

RC 66751 ***Upstairs Mouse, Downstairs Mole*** by: Wong

Herbert Yee - Mouse lives inside an oak tree. Her neighbor Mole lives in a hole under Mouse's house. They discover that working together makes chores--like sweeping the floors and planting a garden--quicker and more fun. Four-chapter beginning reader. RC 66751

For grades 2- 4:

RC 63710 ***Blizzard of the Blue Moon: Magic Tree House,***

Book 36 by: Mary Pope Osborne - Merlin the magician sends Jack and Annie to New York during the Great Depression in 1938 when a blizzard is burying the city. Their mission is to find an ancient fantasy creature--the last unicorn. RC 63710

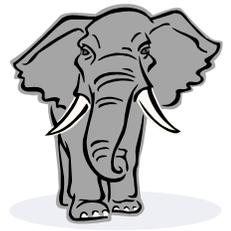
RC 65786 ***Marvelous Mercer*** by: Shea Megale - At bedtime, Shea confides an idea to her assistance dog Mercer--he could be the best skating dog ever and win an Olympic medal. That night Mercer sneaks out and joins two dog friends, and they all have a grand adventure at the ice skating rink. RC 65786

RC 66594 ***Grace for President*** by: Kelly DiPucchio - Grace Campbell learns about campaigning, voting, and the electoral college system when she runs for school president against a popular boy from another class. RC 66594

RC 66630 ***Dinosaur Trouble*** by: Dick King-Smith - Nosy, a young pterodactyl who loves flying, and Banty, an apatosaurus who prefers walking, become friends despite their parents' objections about their differences. But mutual fear of the T. rex helps Nosy and Banty teach their families to get along. Easy chapter book. RC 66630

RC 67045 ***Akimbo and the Elephants: Akimbo, Book 1*** by: Alexander McCall Smith - Akimbo loves watching the elephants on the game preserve in East Africa where his father works. When Akimbo learns that the authorities cannot catch the poachers who kill elephants for their ivory tusks, he comes up with a plan to save the elephants himself. RC 67045

For grades 3-6:



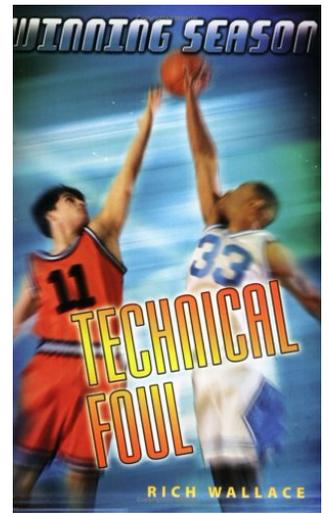
RC 64079 ***Kit Learns a Lesson - A School Story: An American Girl, Book 2*** by: Valerie Tripp - In this sequel to Meet Kit (RC 63345, BR 16890), Kit learns hard lessons about the Great Depression. At school, Kit fights with a boy who makes fun of her out-of-work father. But a Thanksgiving delivery to a soup kitchen teaches Kit to be thankful. RC 64079

RC 64927 ***The White Elephant*** by: Sid Fleischman - Long ago in Siam, young Run-Run works the fields with his elderly elephant Walking Mountain. Accidentally provoking a prince's anger, Run-Run receives as punishment a sacred white elephant that is not allowed to work. Now Run-Run has two elephants to care for and feed. RC 64927

RC 66424 ***Piper Reed, Navy Brat*** by: Kimberly Willis Holt - When her father announces yet another transfer, Piper and her sisters are sad to leave their California home. Moving across the country to a naval base in Florida and settling in to a new school in October become easier after their parents' special announcement. RC 66424

For grades 4-7:

RC 64745 ***Technical Foul: Winning Season*** by: Rich Wallace - Jared is a high-scoring basketball player, but he tends to hog the ball and gets in trouble because of his bad temper. So he's not happy when his teammate Spencer points out that Jared needs to be more of a team player. RC 64745



RC 64950 ***Takedown*** by: Rich Wallace - New Jersey. Seventh-grader Donald Jenkins tries out for wrestling but is quickly frustrated at being pounded by more-experienced teammates. He needs to control his temper if he wants to win on the mat. A high-interest, low-vocabulary book. RC 64950

RC 65856 ***Peter and the Secret of Rundoon*** by: Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson - In this sequel to Peter and the Shadow Thieves (RC 63697), Peter and Molly, fearful that the sinister Lord Ombra was not destroyed, travel to the kingdom of Rundoon. While Peter fights to save the world, a tribal war is underway in Never Land. RC 65856

RC 66479 ***Paint the Wind*** by: Pam Munoz Ryan - When Maya's stern grandmother dies, the eleven-year-old orphan goes to live with her mother's family in Wyoming. She bonds with Artemisia, a wild mustang beloved by her mother, and when an earthquake occurs, the girl and the horse help each other survive. RC 66479

RC 66552 ***The Penderwicks on Gardam Street*** by: Jeanne Birdsall - Four years after their mother's death, the Penderwick sisters--Rosalind, Skye, Jane, and Batty--are appalled when their aunt Claire arranges a date for their father. Desperate to avoid having a stepmother, the girls hatch their own plan. Sequel to *The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale...* (RC 61553, BR 16482). RC 66552

RC 66759 ***Bringing Ezra Back*** by: Cynthia DeFelice - Ohio, 1840. Nathan Fowler's pioneer adventures, begun in Weasel (RC 32661), continue. Twelve-year-old Nathan sets out with peddler Orrin to rescue his family's friend Ezra, a mute man held captive and displayed as a "White Injun" by owners of a freak show in western Pennsylvania. RC 66759

RC 67003 ***Forever Rose*** by: Hilary McKay - As Christmas approaches, eleven-year-old Rose, the youngest member of the eccentric Casson family, discovers that life is filled with both catastrophic problems and wonderful surprises. Sequel to Caddy Ever After (RC 62869, BR 16746). RC 67003

RC 67015 ***The Rising Star of Rusty Nail*** by: Lesley M.M. Blume - 1953. Ten-year-old Franny dreams of taking piano lessons from the Russian concert pianist who has newly arrived in Rusty Nail, Minnesota. Madame Malenkov does not want pupils, and local gossips suspect her of being a communist spy, but Franny is determined to study with her. RC 67015



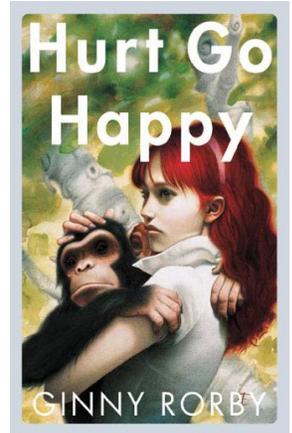
For grades 5-8:

RC 65685 ***The Land of the Silver Apples*** by: Nancy Farmer - Continues the adventures of the apprentice bard Jack, from *The Sea of the Trolls* (RC 59623). Jack sets out to rescue his sister Lucy, kidnapped by the Lady of the Lake, and travels to the Land of Silver Apples--home to elves and other magical creatures. RC 65685

RC 66472 ***Letters from Wolfie*** by: Patti Sherlock - 1969. Mark Cantrell's older brother Danny, a soldier in Vietnam, encourages Mark to sign up his pet Wolfie as an army scout dog. Reading letters from Wolfie's handler and learning about the military canine corps make Mark regret his decision. RC 66472

For grades 6-9:

RC 64465 ***Hurt Go Happy*** by: Ginny Rorby - Thirteen-year-old Joey Willis, deaf since age seven, has an overprotective mother who refuses to let her daughter learn sign language. When Joey meets neighbor Dr. Mansell and his sign-user chimpanzee Sukari, her world blooms with possibilities. But a crisis involving Sukari brings Joey some heavy responsibilities. RC 64465

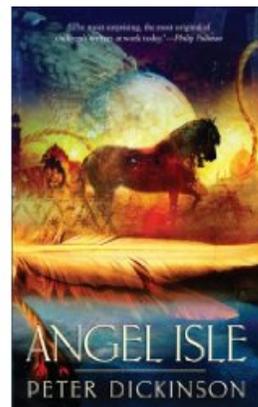


RC 65328 ***Edenville Owls*** by: Robert B. Parker - Edenville, Massachusetts; 1945. As Bobby starts the eighth grade, he faces several challenges: forming a basketball team without a coach, coping with new feelings for his old friend Joanie, and discovering the identity of the suspicious-looking man who is threatening Bobby's teacher, Miss Delaney. Some strong language. RC 65328

RC 65627 ***Time to Smell the Roses: A Hermux Tantamoq Adventure*** by: Michael Hoeye - While immersed in wedding plans, Hermux, the watchmaker mouse detective, is hired to find the heir of the DeRosenquill rose dynasty. During the search, Hermux discovers a homeless teenager, fields of dying flowers, and killer bees. Sequel to No Time like Show Time (RC 60261). RC 65627

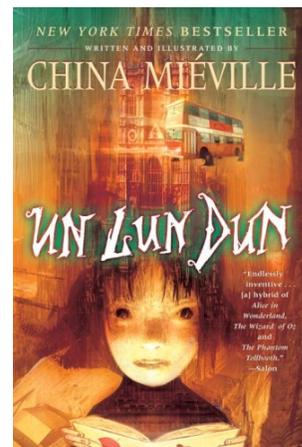
RC 66288 ***Skullduggery: The Bloodwater Mysteries, Book 2*** by: Pete Hautman and Mary Logue - Sleuths Roni and Brian, from Snatched (RC 66129), find local archaeologist Andrew Dart knocked unconscious atop a pile of bones. Their investigation pits them against the wealthy Bloodwater family, who want to build condominiums on a Native American burial site. RC 66288

RC 66293 ***Angel Isle*** by: Peter Dickinson - Saranja, her young cousin Maja, and Ribek search for the Ropemaker, who can restore the ancient magic that will protect their valley. Along the way, they must outwit twenty-four of the empire's most powerful and evil magicians. Sequel to *The Ropemaker* (RC 54240). RC 66293



RC 66309 ***Code Orange*** by: Caroline B. Cooney - Wealthy teenager Mitchell John Blake (Mitty) has delayed starting to write a paper on smallpox for his advanced biology class. His attitude and research become more intense after he finds an envelope containing smallpox scabs, fears contamination, and inadvertently alerts bioterrorists. RC 66309

RC 66392 ***Un Lun Dun*** by: China Mieville - Two girls slip into the shadowy city of Un Lun Dun, an alternate reality of London where strange creatures and sentient objects dwell. When Zanna, the designated chosen one, is struck down, the UnLondoners depend on her sidekick Deeba to fulfill a prophecy. RC 66392



RC 66881 ***The Case of the Bizarre Bouquets: An Enola Holmes Mystery, Book 3*** by: Nancy Springer - While still hiding from her older brothers, Enola investigates the disappearance of Dr. Watson. A bouquet of flowers symbolizing death, delivered to Dr. Watson's home, is her first clue. RC 66881

Reminder - The Braille and Talking Book Library will be closed on Memorial Day - March 25, 2009.



2009 Summer Reading Program

The Braille and Talking Book Library, with the support of the South Dakota Lion's Foundation, is again offering the Governor's Summer Reading Program for all registered students between the ages of 7 and 15. The program which has a theme of "Be Creative @ Your Library" will run from June 8 through July 17, 2009.

There are three age divisions for both braille and recorded format: 7 to 9 years, 10 to 12 years, and 13 to 15 year olds. **Participants can only read recorded or Braille books for the program. No regular print or large print books are allowed.** Participants are required to submit an oral or written book report. Students submitting the most book reports, with or without assistance in writing, will be the winner in their age division. Incentives are mailed throughout the program. The more book reports returned the more prizes they receive. Plaques will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners in the recorded and braille division. The first place winners receive their plaques at an awards program to be held in August. The awards program is attended by the winner's and their family and includes a luncheon and special program.

A registration form for the program may be obtained from the Braille and Talking Book Library. We encourage students to participate as this gives them the opportunity to read books of their choice during the summer.

For more information call the Braille and Talking Book Library at: 1-800-423-6665 and ask for Mary Sjerven, Summer Reading Program Coordinator.



The Kid's News, published quarterly, is our means of communication with the younger patrons of the Braille and Talking Book Library. The Kid's News is available in braille, on cassette, in large print, on a diskette, or by email upon request and is posted on our website: <http://library.sd.gov/b&tb>

If you have any questions or comments you would like to address, or wish to request this newsletter in an alternative format, please contact the Braille and Talking Book Library.

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