



After 30 years as a Kansas teacher and librarian, Sharon Coatney has “retired” to become the Acquisitions Editor for School Library Media, Libraries Unlimited, a division of the Greenwood Publishing Group. She has taught children’s literature and materials for Ottawa and Baker Universities in Kansas and elementary school library methods courses for the School of Library and Information at Emporia State University. Sharon speaks frequently on the topics of collaborative teaching, building the community of learners, the power of story, teaching research skills in the elementary grades, and library advocacy.

Sharon is a past president of the American Association of School Librarians, was the chair of the Library Media Standards Writing Committee, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and is presently a Councilor-at-Large of the American Library Association.

Her Books

“Assessment in the School Library Media Center,” chapter in *Principles and Practice: Curriculum Connections Through the Library*, edited by Barbara K. Stripling (Libraries Unlimited, 2003).

Coauthor with Dr. Marilyn Arnone of the educator’s guide to *The Curious Kids and the Squiggly Question*. 2005, Libraries Unlimited.

Coauthor with Dr. Marilyn Arnone of the educator’s guide to *The Curious Kids Digging For Answers*, Forthcoming. Libraries Unlimited.

“Effective Use of the Library for Young Learners,” PBS Teacher Source, www.pbs.org, March 2, 2002.

“Banned Books: A School Librarians Perspective,” www.time.com, September 2000.

“Reading and Literacy” journal section edited and written with Barbara K. Stripling, *School Library Journal’s Learning Quarterly*, September 2003.

“Primary Voices,” ongoing column in *Teacher Librarian*.

Workshops

AN UNIQUE APPROACH TO INTRODUCING INFORMATION LITERACY IN THE PRIMARY GRADES (WITH MARILYN ARNONE)

Using the natural wonder of young children and the power of story, this interactive presentation will help you to help your primary age students become information detectives and give them skills necessary to begin independent inquiry. Recommendations and ideas for using this natural yet innovative approach melding the love of story, curiosity and information literacy skills instruction presented within the context of the curriculum will include activity sheets, book lists, and practical easily replicable ideas for Monday!

Age range K-3

1 ½ hours to ½ day

WHAT IN THE WORLD WILL I DO WITH THOSE PRIMARY KIDS?

An often-asked question, this interactive workshop will provide suggestions and answers for teacher librarian/teacher collaboration. The focus will be on lesson plans and activities that teach primary age children how to do beginning inquiry projects using the power of story, technology, and the natural wonder of young children as the catalyst.

- Level: Grades K-3
- Workshop can be adapted from 1 hour to ½ day

COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE TEACHER MOTIVATION AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Collaboration is a current buzzword in education. This interactive workshop discusses the research and encourages school library participants to think about how they can collaborate with teachers to plan motivational inquiry units that will enhance student achievement. Tips and model plans will be discussed.

- Level: Grades K-12
- Workshop can be adapted from ½ day to full day

THE ASSIGNMENT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

A one day, interactive workshop exploring how the teacher librarian can collaborate with teachers to plan assignments and assessments that will foster inquiry and teach to the content area standards.

- Level: Grades K-12

SO WHAT IF YOU WANT TO PUBLISH THAT GREAT IDEA!

All school librarians have great ideas that can and should be published. This presentation focuses on an overview of different venues for professional publication (peer-reviewed journals, magazines, Internet, books) and features a specific discussion of what topics Libraries Unlimited is currently seeking as well as the publication process from proposal preparation to final publication with LU.

- Level: All
- 1 hour

FOCUS ON THE HUMANITIES

An interactive workshop showcasing a successful collaboration of teacher librarian and special area teachers (art, music, etc.) to introduce elementary-age children to ancient cultures. The model is adaptable to any multidisciplinary cultural study.

- Level: Grades K-6
- workshops can be adapted from 1 hour to ½ day

Contact Information

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