Welcome to Montrose Regional Library’s new school newsletter!

Why an Educator Newsletter?

Libraries and schools have always had common goals: to promote literacy and improve access to education for all. A growing number of resources exist in the Montrose Library for teachers and students to use in pursuit of learning. We know how time-consuming it can be to keep up with new trends and instructional tools, and the library hopes to do two things with this newsletter. First, we want you to know that we are here for you, we appreciate you, and we care about the teaching and literacy instruction you provide to the young people of Montrose. Second, we want to share the resources of people, materials, and programming we might offer to make your life easier as an educator.

Each newsletter issue will feature snippets of information that you can peruse in 10 minutes or less, so it is perfect for lunchtime light reading! You will find details on upcoming programs and events that may be pertinent to your students from the Youth Services, Teen Services, and Outreach departments of the library. A short biography of one or two librarians will be included, highlighting unique skills to assist you as teachers, educators, or librarians. QR codes will link to special topics that you can scan with a smart phone and explore further. And, finally, each issue will have a link for your feedback. That’s right! We want to know what you are enjoying and what you want us to do differently, because this newsletter is for you, our deeply appreciated school staff in Montrose, with whom we work to improve the lives of kids and families.

If there is any way that we can better support teachers, students, and families as students transition between remote and in-person studies, please let us know. We are ready to collaborate in innovative ways, and are reachable by phone, email, or in person!
Youth Services for Educators

Youth Educator’s Requests

Educators are often busy with lesson planning and grading, among many other tasks. Wouldn’t it be helpful to get library books quickly and easily without spending tons of time online or in the library, hunting books needed for units of study? With our Educator’s Request form, teachers can do exactly that! Simply fill out the requested information, such as the topic of books, age of students, number of books, and the date by which you want them. Librarians ask that you submit your requests at least a week before you need the items, but they can fill an order quickly in a pinch. There are three ways to use this free service: in-person, by phone, or online.

To complete an Educator’s Request face-to-face, just stop by the Youth Services desk and ask a librarian for the form. They will help you fill it out and then you are done! If you prefer to work over the web, visit the library web page: www.montroselibrary.org. Next, scroll down the right-hand side of the page and click on the Educator’s Request link. After that, fill out and submit the form. Or simply give us a call at 970-249-9656, extension 2, and a librarian can assist you over the phone.

We at the Montrose Regional Library District are here to help school librarians, teachers, and administrators by making your job a little easier. Take advantage of the no-hassle Educator’s Request to enrich student learning!

Teachables

Online learning can be a boom or bust concept and your local public library can help you overcome some of the issues with free printable resources. Recently, the Montrose Regional Library District purchased a license from Scholastic, Inc. to provide leveled and themed printable content for educators at no cost to you! Just visit the library website, www.montroselibrary.org, hover the mouse over the KIDS tab, and click on Montrose Kids. Then, click on the Teachables logo, at which point you will be prompted to input your library card number.

You get full, unfettered access to hundreds of resources for kids from Pre-K through 8th grade. Upon your first login, a helpful tutorial will pop up and provide a quick overview of the site. Search for materials by grade level, topic, or differentiation needs. Even the images can be printed and distributed without any copyright issues because Scholastic owns the rights to those images. Now you can print and distribute additional resources for your students without spending your own money on subscription services!

Step 1: Visit montroselibrary.org.

Step 2: Select “Montrose Kids” from the Kids drop-down menu on the navigation bar.

Step 3: Click on the “Scholastic Teachables” icon.

Step 4: When prompted, enter your library card number.
Teen Services for Educators

• Teen Educator’s Request: Need resources to accompany a particular unit of study? We can collect magazines, DVDs, audiobooks, and books and deliver them to you. We also can seek out and provide particular research, whether from the Colorado History Room, scholarly databases, or beyond. Simply email Amy Dickinson at adickinson@montroselibrary.org or call her at 970-964-2558 with requests, making sure to provide as much detail as possible on what you seek.

• Book Browsing for Teens: Have a voracious reader in your class? Trying to connect someone with just the right book? We can browse on their behalf. Students ages 12-18 can text Amy at 970-275-9383 or email her at adickinson@montroselibrary.org, and she’ll start gathering books she thinks might pique their interest. The books can then be picked up at the library or delivered to the student.

• Collaboration on Research and Electronic Resources: We would love to provide more and more relevant e-resources, whether through workshops on search strategies, source evaluations, data privacy, or general research; introductions to Libby and Overdrive; or overviews of databases, from EBSCO Periodicals to Mango Languages and Learning Express Library.

• Bulk Library Card Sign-up for Students: Want to get a group of students signed up for library cards? It’s easy. We drop off the forms, students complete and return them, and we pick them up. Middle and high school educators can email Amy at adickinson@montroselibrary.org. Elementary school educators can email James at jstetson@montroselibrary.org.

Electronic Resources for Educators

Winter E-Resource Spotlight: Libby/Overdrive

Did you know...
• Libby/Overdrive provides access to all e-books and e-audiobooks in the entire Marmot Library Consortium, a total of almost 80,000 e-books and e-audiobooks!
• Libby has a “deliver later” function for holds: if you don’t have time to read or listen when your book arrives, you can specify that it be delivered after a certain date without losing your place in the hold line.
• Text can be enlarged in Libby, dyslexic fonts are available, and audiobooks allow for different playback speeds to either slow or speed up audio.
• E-books and e-audiobooks are available in 11 languages, with Spanish the largest non-English collection.
• A collection of no-wait, always-available classics exists, in audio and e-book form, with works from Jane Austen, Frederick Douglass, Willa Cather, Virginia Woolf, Homer, and hundreds more.
Upcoming Programs

Youth Programs

• PLAY THE GAME OF KINGS AND QUEENS! If you play chess or have an interest in learning more about it, join us from 4:30-5:30 Tuesday afternoons. You’ll get the chance to play other fans of the game through a chess website monitored by library staff. Grow your skills and make some friends in a safe online setting! Email James at jstetson@montroselibrary.org or call 970-964-2551 for more information.

Teen/Tween Programs (ages 12 to 17)

• Teen(ish) Book Club: the Teen Book Club meets monthly for discussion, debates, and general book nerdery. All genres encouraged and included. Interested folks should contact Amy (info below).
• Teen Advisory Board: for ages 13 and up, the TAB meets monthly to advise the library on decisions affecting teens, from programs to collection development. Members can receive service credit hours for TAB participation and projects. Contact Amy (info below) if interested!

Email Amy at adickinson@montroselibrary.org or text her at 970-275-9383.

Adult Services

• Need someone to research something on your behalf? Whether it’s searching microfilm archives of the Montrose Daily Press, tracking down governmental forms, or locating consumer product reviews, the Reference Department is at your fingertips. Email refdesk@montroselibrary.org or call 970-249-9656, option 3. Feel free to reach out to Reference with personal or educator-related requests.