

Chat Contributions from CSL In Session - Make It Stick: Embracing Transliteracy in Library Programming and Training

with Nancy Trimm, Colorado State Library, May 2, 2012

Think of a time you learned something new, and applied it – opening conversation

- The first thing that comes to mind with me is I am a slow learner and everything I try new scares me and I'm sure I'll never get it. It makes me more sympathetic to patrons when they have trouble grasping something new to them that is simple to me. Can't say I can call that a new skill but helps me with day to day interaction with patrons.
- Sounds silly to type this: taking my new dog for puppy obedience classes. I learned to make my c
- 'commands' clear and concise.
- plumbing... putting in indoor plumbing in my house has made me think in a more simple step by step fashion
- Oh yes! for all areas ! My students were often confused by my complex directions. Now I keep it simple.
- breaking it down into steps
- I was thinking about your question-for me I guess it would be working with students & learning how to perform the reference interview to understand their information need. Face to Face & then doing that via IM chat widget.
- Sometimes the question is: "help"
- I'm thinking about my experiences in learning to be more athletic, whether it is bike riding, running, or yoga
- I often find that the experience of learning to use my body (muscles, joints) to work together to be stronger, faster, more flexible, are things I can apply in multiple ways. Both across other sports and to life
- Example: on the bike you don't just push down on the pedals, you also pull up and use your arm muscles
- Transfer that to life, and it reminds you to use all of your skills to work through situations
- When I was in junior high I really liked to chat with my friends on IM. I had learned how to type in gradeschool, but I wouldn't be able to type nearly as fast as I do now if it weren't for those hours chatting on IM!
- I never did think that anything constructive would come of it. I'm glad now, though. :)
- Teaching 2nd graders how to read when it was extremely intuitive for me. Makes me stop & remember how they felt.
- Remember ICQ - It was a chat tool...
- we used to have signage banning IRC

- i'm liking how some of these examples are things we might have shunned in the past, and now they're important for library services
- I remember learning how to ride a bike when I was 6. I ran into my best friend's little sister....and it was 12 years later before I finally got back on the bike. Lessons learned? Don't wait so long to get back on the bike; it's never too late to learn a skill; and stay off the roads and sidewalks if you see me coming on my bike!
- I like the example for plumbing....helps you approach each new job with more experience under your belt
- Whether plumbing, installing a door, or teaching a class
- With all the different e-reader devices, our library staff has learning just to try , and use your intuition to solve the questions of " how the heck does THIS one work?"
- That's what we have been doing at our library, too. It is particularly helpful if the patron is patient and tries it with you.
- like when you rent a car or borrow a friend's car... I KNOW there is a way to get the windsheild wipers going, but it is different in every car
- that's why you only rent cars in sunny locales!

How do you define digital literacy?

- Ability to find things online
- Ability to download e-books
- being literate in multiple media usage
- Familiarity or knowledge of technology, how to use it
- navigating in a (post-) 2.0 world
- how to use technology
- ability to navigate multiple digital devices
- using technology effectivley and comfortably
- Being literate across digiatl platforms, devices
- not being afraid to poke buttons
- includes privacy and security issues amongst the other topics already mentioned
- Yes, Brenda, I agree! Privacy and security are very important

- haha, i like that-- not being afraid to poke buttons-- but ti's true: digital literacy maybe involves being able to explore a digital device and find your way back out again!
- How about an evaluative component? I got it to work; I found the information....but it is GOOD?
- I wish my parents would apply what they know about privacy and security to what they click on in email...
- understanding the universal digital language like X means exit

How do you define transliteracy?

- being able to apply something you learn to multiple components of your life
- ability to use various types of technology to meet needs
- trans... transportation... moving across different digital landscapes
- on beyond literacy!
- Encompasses ALL types of literacy: reading, technology; music; web; ereaders ; navigating forms etc
- critical thinking skills
- I agree, yes develop critical thinking skills and applying them across the platforms
- ability to choose the best tool
- transliteracy is beyond the platform, maybe?
- content rather than format
- I agree, the ability to access ALL types of content
- The more I read people's comments the less I know the difference between them.
- Good point, digital literacy is about the platform and TL is content

What are some current programs or trainings for the public at your library ?

- computer classes for adults
- writing workshops
- lectures from Active Minds
- One shot Library Orientation classes for students

- preschool programs-- to instill a value for reading in kids, teach moms how to interact with books with their children
- E-reader trainings - how to load e-books
- author programs
- story time, drawing class for children, book clubs, gardening club, knitting, one on one computer tutor sessions
- refworks training
- storytimes, computer classes, history comes alive, ebook classes, author visits and lectures, book clubs
- technology one-on-one classes
- resume writing
- We used to offer adult computer classes but lost our grant. Consequently any computer training is ad hoc.
- Parent gaming info
- ged and esl
- teen programs
- Homeschool programs
- Ebook clinics, computer basics, internet basics classes, Great Decisions discussion group, story times, book group, how to publish an ebook
- basic computer and word processing
- this week we hosted in our building a cake-pop making class :) but that's out of the ordinary - i didn't actually go - but it's a mold that you can bake cakes in to make them small and round and then you dip them in icing and put them on a stick. so basically, you get more icing!
- teen programs
- spanish computer classes
- family programs so the families can play together
- We have a teen game night.

What are some current trainings for staff at your library?

- database webinars
- Train staff on new devices both one on one and in groups

- downloading audio and ebooks
- Reference basics; Genealogy research; Database searching; Display Basics, Understanding the Teen mind and many more
- technology!
- screencasts of software or web-based tools
- Technology
- how to create presentations
- customer service; ILS
- how to use social media
- How to use and create LibGuides
- using the databases we have available to patrons
- how to use project management software
- ebook training, database training
- self-training on library databases, ebook devices
- how to think more visually

Brainstorm – how can you extend those services to include transliteracy?

- we just asked patrons to tag us in facebook pictures of family story-time and then we will enter them into a drawing for a story-time kit
- digital photography essay contest
- database webinars as basis for learning how databases work as applied to things such as google scholar
- Expand one-shot to encompass information literacy skills in the classroom, either f2f or online via learning management system
- create youtube videos for downloading emedia
- For the Great Decisions discussion group (Foreign Policy Issues); patron could post on a blog specific aspects of that week's topic that they would like to discuss at the in-person discussion.
- we offer a contest where kids can write reviews of books and turn them in for us to read-- we could show them how to put their reviews up on OPAC instead-- teach them how to navigate our OPAC system at the same time

- for speakers presenting in person, the ability for him/her to extend it online thru facebook with answering patron questions and posting tidbits of their talk
- Storybird.com at storytime....
- Use google + hang out for a bookclub meeting
- kids can make their own story with art work from artist
- enter questions for speakers prior to the program and have the speakers answer those questions
- using facebook, blog, twitter, etc
- I heard a story about how a story time was made into a podcast so that parents/children who could not attend could hear it online later
- how to publish topic: extend by letting would-be authors know there are forums and blogs available for resource help
- Advertising programs on hourschool.com letting patrons sign up digitally
- Interesting thing was that people living in other countries were using those podcast to learn English
- we created a wiki for a writing group
- ESL: ability to pair speaker with someone virtually to practice
- family programs so that families can play on pinterest and make a scrapbook they could bring home.

Takeaways

- So transliteracy is use of tools to create; digital literacy is using tools to get information and process it cognitively/
- I think it is interesting and it applies across all libraries
- So by asking us to type in all these different boxes, are you demonstrating transliteracy amongst us as participants?
- or is using all boxes an excersize in multi tasking?
- I like the idea of thinking more broadly about programs and adding in multiple literacy/tools
- One thing-- try to be more intentional about including different types of literacy in our programs
- I think that we need to partner with our programming dept more closely for collaboration and extension into the virtual world!
- It will mean involving other departments to help expand the offerings.

- I agree. Involving other departments is key, especially Childrens. They seem to be self-contained a lot.
- Another thing, more specific-- including online components in our preschool programs, both for the kids and for the moms
- We want to make sure our students that graduate from CMU have these transferrable skills that are useful tools in their chosen field
- A lot of times we think about including tech for kids but it is good to think of getting other generations more involved in transliteracy
- Yes, tech literacy is important for any patron.
- Do we TEACH transliteracy, or do we EXPOSE people to it?
- So much of tech training is showing the steps. How do you teach in such a way that they think of it as a broader way?
- I think we demonstrate it through action AND make it a norm for others
- I think people LEARN transliteracy skills by being EXPOSED to them, but we don't explicitly teach them