



March  
2008

# LIBRARY LINKS

## Why a newsletter?

The goal of 'Library Links' is to provide a place for families to interact with our three Home Link libraries, Clayton, Deer Park, and the Deer Park Resource Library.

We hope to bring you monthly book reviews, curriculum reviews, and information about how our libraries operate, as well as an overview of our library sponsored programs such as 'Reading is the Ticket' (Silverwood), Pizza Hut's 'Book-it' Program though these are already well underway for this year.

You may have noticed how our librarians switch around due to various needs that come up at Home Link. This can become confusing, so we'd like to introduce them and let you know their normal schedule.

[Sue Bierce](#) is our head librarian and has been in the Home Link program since its inception. She has 3 children: Emily, who will graduate this year, Pat and Chris who are both in the 9th grade. Sue is also instrumental in handling the class schedules and registration, a sometimes thankless job that she handles with her usual



grace. Sue works Tuesdays in Deer Park and Thursdays in Clayton.

[Charlotte McCoy](#) loves being a librarian and working with students and parents here at Home Link. Charlotte oversees the once-a-semester Writing Contest for students and will be contributing to this newsletter. She also helps out with registration. Her daughter Rachel is in the 9th grade. You can see Char's smiling face Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Clayton and Thursdays at Deer Park.

Manning the desk at Deer Park on Wednesdays is [Carol Willis](#) whose hard work helps the library stay looking neat and organized. Carol has previously worked for the public library is always glad to help you find what you need.

[Kathy Danvers](#) serves as Home Link's Resource Librarian in the

Deer Park Campus's Resource Room. A Whitworth University freshman, her daughter Jenny graduated from Home Link last June. They have been a part of Home Link program since the beginning. Kathy works Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9-2. Her purpose in the Resource Library is twofold; to manage the everyday operation of the library, and also to be available to help you find the right curriculum for each of your children.



**Library  
Hours**

**Monday:** Closed  
**Tuesday:** 9-4  
**Wednesday:** 9-4  
**Thursday:** 9-4  
**Friday:** Closed

**Library  
Phone #s**

**Deer Park:** 468-3371  
**Clayton:** 468-3321  
**Resource  
Library:** 468-3399

## Library Guidelines:

With three libraries available to parents and students at two different campuses, sorting through the rules of using them can be frustrating.

You can group the two main libraries at Deer Park and Clayton together in most things...operating hours and days, length of checkouts (3 wks. For books and 1 week for media). As a general rule, if you checked an item out from Clayton, you should try to return it to Clayton and the same applies to Deer Park.

You can tell most  
Clayton Library  
items by the  
pink dot  
on the spine!



Another rule that applies to all of our libraries is that you, the parent, are responsible for the condition of the items you check out. If your child damages an item beyond repair, the parent will be billed the replacement cost. The same thing happens if you lose something.

In this way, we hope to encourage families to take good care of our library materials so that we can afford to purchase new items not just replace old ones.

The Resource Library operates differently than the other two libraries in Home Link. It is available to Home Link

families any time Home Link is open. Even when a class is taking place in the Resource Room, moms are welcome to quietly browse and consult with Kathy if they'd like.

This library is divided into 7 main areas. First is the **Sample section**. These are materials that check out for one week only for the purpose of determining if you would like to purchase them. This can help you make the best use of your allocation dollars by avoiding purchasing a curriculum blindly only to discover when it arrives that it isn't what you had thought or that it just isn't right for your family. Each item in this area says 'Sample' right on it and 'Sample' is on the shelf label as well.

The second area of the Resource Library is full of **materials that can be checked out for the entire school year**. The shelves in this part are also marked. From curricula, to parent helps and **SAT, CLEP** and **WASL** books, multimedia to reproducible books, we have much to offer to enrich your homeschooling experience.

**Manipulatives** form the third section and are located on the blue shelves along the south wall of the room. At any given time, we have games, science kits, math

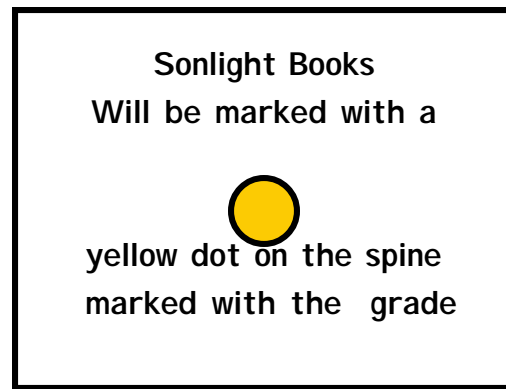
Area in our library. Located along the south wall of the room, these blue shelves hold games, science kits, and hands-on materials for reading, grammar, science, history, geography and math. All of these goodies check out for the entire school year too.

Another important area is the **text-book bookshelves** on the east wall. These are the books used by the academic track classes and those teachers have first priority in checking them out. Students will get their texts from their teacher usually the first day of class. Texts should be turned back in when the class is finished and can be given to the teacher or left on Kathy's desk. Once classes have started, if there are still textbooks left on these shelves, they may then be checked out by individual families for home use and will be due back at the end of the school year.

There is now a section of **beginning readers** in the Resource Library. They are found on the top 2 shelves on the far right by the science room door.

A new feature available soon will be a **shelf of books used in the Sonlight Curriculum**. **Sonlight** uses lots of readers and historical fiction to enhance their lessons. Sue and Charlotte are pulling extra **Sonlight** books from their shelves so that they can be available in the Resource Library all in one place.

We only have a few, at this time, so if you have **Sonlight** related books that you are done with, please bring them in to Kathy so that other **Sonlight** families can benefit.




Finally, the **free shelves** are the blue shelves just inside the southwest door. Keep checking back as the content on these shelves changes regularly.

Many of you have asked already about summer checkouts and putting things on hold for next fall. Because of the way the Wings library system works, and because Kathy needs to conduct a physical inventory at the end of each school year, **all items must be turned back in by May 30th, 2008.**

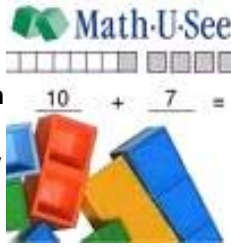
Once you have turned in all the items you had checked out for the school year, and the physical inventory has been completed, you may then check out items for the summer. You may then also put items on hold for the fall. When you fill out your Curriculum Check Out Form, please write 'summer' or 'fall' across the top of the form.

At the end of summer, when HomeLink opens again, you must turn in all of your summer items in order to pick up the items you had put on hold for fall or in order to check out any new items.

We hope this information clears up any questions you have about our libraries, but if not please feel free to ask any of our helpful librarians. 

## Math-U-See is a great alternative to Saxon ! By Kathy Danvers

Is Saxon the only program available to teach math? I heard a resounding 'No!' with Home Link mom Kim Brown recently.



practical. Each lesson starts with an 8-10 minute video presentation, followed by practicing the lesson in the student workbook. There is systematic review for each concept, a test for every lesson, a unit test, and then a final for each book. The program uses manipulatives to explain each concept and the video lesson shows just how to use the manipulatives.

Kim has been using Stephen Demme's Math-U-See program with her 4 children, Stephanie (9th grade), Isaac (7th), Jacob (5th), and Laural (3rd) for a year now and enthusiastically recommends it to other families.

Kim says her children feel they are making progress and the 30 lessons in each book are very

There is a very helpful, informative, website at [www.mathusee.com](http://www.mathusee.com) which offers overviews of each level, a placement test, and sample pages. ☞

The Resource Library has sample copies of several levels of Math-U-See as well as a free

overview booklet that includes a DVD. Stop by and get one from the free shelf!



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## Mom, What Can I Read? By Kathy Danvers

Even if your child doesn't ask this question often, when he or she does, you want to have an answer ready. On the other hand, if you've got a budding bookworm at home, you could find yourself struggling to keep up with his appetite!

Here are some great resources for reading lists to keep your family supplied with enjoyable and challenging reading material for years to come.

Home Link does not necessarily recommend all the titles on these lists. Each family must censor their reading according to their own standards.

[www.schoolofabraham.com/readalouds.htm](http://www.schoolofabraham.com/readalouds.htm)

[www.classical-homeschooling.org/celoop/1000.htm](http://www.classical-homeschooling.org/celoop/1000.htm)

[www.eagleforum.org/educate/1997/june97/list.html](http://www.eagleforum.org/educate/1997/june97/list.html)



If you like using literature along with your curriculum, take a look at **Sonlight Curriculum**.

Although **Sonlight** provides a very structured lesson plan, Kyrsi Connelly of Home Link has had good success using it with her 3 children Kyla (5th grade), Cameron (3rd), and Katie (2nd) by using **Sonlight** as a guideline and incorporating The Story of the World. You are welcome to talk to Kyrsi to learn the specifics of her methods (cell) 868-7535.

**Sonlight** offers a broad spectrum of educational fiction and nonfiction books. The Resource Library has free **Sonlight** Catalogs available...see the free shelf.



Another useful source of quality children's literature are anthologies such as 'All Through the Ages' and 'Let the Authors Speak'. These references list historical fiction by the time period in which each is set. Both of these titles are available through Rainbow Resource and can be seen in the Resource Library in the Samples section. ☞