
CIRCLE NEWSLETTER: Summer 2008

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WE GET WHAT WE ARE

Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers, shares findings from the landmark USA National Study of Youth and Religion (NSYR) now continuing into its third wave. Here's one: to an astonishing degree, teens echo their parent's (and other Christian educator's) religiosity or lack thereof, leading researchers to this thought-provoking one-liner - *we get what we are*.

Are we what we want our students to become? Matthew 7:20 (NLT) describes a true disciple as a fruit-bearing tree; "Just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions." Our personal spiritual growth is an important part of preparation for our 2008-2009 classes.

As a teacher and a learner, these resources may help us journey together spiritually:

1. NSYR reports, articles & books at www.youthandreligion.org/publications
2. Browse sdaedspiritualresources.org for fresh ideas for your spiritual growth, and biblical worldview-based learning experiences for your students - many additions this summer!
3. Use resources at closethegapnow.org to help your students increase their understanding and application of a Biblical perspective
 - a. Target Biblical perspective eg. Biblical Perspective Teacher Training Standards
 - b. Ask Biblical perspective questions eg. Ask a Biblical Perspective Question, Give a Biblical Answer
 - c. Give Biblical perspective assessments eg. Use Assessment
 - d. Meet your students' learning needs eg. 10 Student Learning Needs & Use the IDEAL Process to Meet Student Learning Needs
 - e. Get articles and tools eg. Use the IDEAL Process to Help Students Internalize a Biblical Perspective
4. Do you want to develop as a distinctively Christian thinker and teacher? Check out www.transformingteachers.org, specifically:
 - a. resources on Biblical integration in mathematics, history, science and the arts
 - b. resources on Christian thinking that will help you to help your students
 - c. articles on teaching as ministry
 - d. the Visual Valet, a personal assistant (a simple graphic organizer) for Christian thinkers and teachers
 - e. worldview Integration: a key teaching tool with activities, sample plan & resource list
5. Kuyers Institute for Christian Teaching and Learning – many resources, here's one example: "My worldview (how the world works) is shaped by my heart (values, beliefs, attitudes) which drives my hand (decisions, actions, and behaviors.)" A presentation outlining the how and why of Christian education – worth sharing: www.calvin.edu/kuyers/files/confs/060713/beerens.pdf

FEATURED ADVENTIST EDUCATION ONLINE RESOURCES

Several excellent Adventist education resource collections are featured for your perusal this summer. To explore others, click on the CIRCLE Quick Links tab, check the [Featured Resources](#), set [RSS Feeds](#) to view feature updates in your browser, or read previous [CIRCLE eNewsletters](#) highlighting resources.

ARL: Adventist Robotics League

The Adventist Robotics League provides robotics challenges for students ages 9-14 and for high school students. The Adventist Robotics League is an Operational Partner with FIRST who provides the materials and support for the challenge events as well as team registration and materials. You don't have to be a robotics expert to host a team. For more information about the Adventist Robotics League visit www.adventistroboticsleague.net.

New This Summer! NAD K-12 Resources

1. SMART2008 – Small Schools K-8 Science Management and Resource Tool is ready to download at <http://circle.adventist.org/browse/resource.phtml?leaf=4097>
2. Science 5-8 Essential Supplementary Resources Update 2008 – activities & video ready to download at <http://circle.adventist.org/browse/resource.phtml?leaf=8441>
3. NAD Spiritual resources K-12 – new devotionals, lesson plans and activities ready to download from sdaedspiritualresources.org
4. Show 'n Tell – run with ideas shared by RMES Gr 5&6 teacher, Deborah Park, in this photo gallery describing their Colonial Days Unit - <http://picasaweb.google.com/raineygirl/CircleAdventistOrg>

Plan to share at least one excellent faith-based thematic unit, rubrics, lessons, templates, book review or photo collection this year – for PAC credit (contact your certification registrar)!

EDFORUM: Adventist Education Forum

Have questions? Need to find out what fellow teachers are doing? Join the Adventist Education Forum (edforum.adventist.org). The Adventist Education Forum (or EdForum) has three parts. The first is a blog with posting from some of the leading educators across the country. In addition, there are two e-mail groups, one for general education questions and discussion and one for school technology specialists. Visit EdForum today to find out more!

TEACHER BULLETIN: 2008 edition online

The following units will be fully accessible at www.teacherbulletin.org soon:

- Spirit of Prophecy
- Foundations of Geography
- Writing Process
- Impressionism
- Fundamentals of Math
- Classroom Management
- Electricity & Magnetism - A SMART unit
- George Washing Carver - A Pathways supplement

Each volume includes technology resources, teaching tips, administrative helps, worship thoughts, and more – sample available on www.teacherbulletin.org. Don't miss out! Check out the site today.

CONTRIBUTE AND SAVE

If you're refining instructional plans (lessons, units, courses) this summer, consider submitting them to CIRCLE. Just one Journey to Excellence goal-aligned instructional plan per teacher per year could provide 10,000+ new resources, including a good number to help your field of expertise.

What kinds of resources are wanted? Here are just a few topics requested recently:

1. How to start an Adventist school. Do you have a guide or experienced tips to add to one?
2. Classroom management – managing finances, time, stress, discipline, servant leadership
3. Multi-grade teaching – PE games, musicals, inclusion ideas, differentiated assessment
4. Adventist heritage – beyond the first USA pioneers, build lessons & stories from every land
5. Teaching from a biblical worldview – faith-based learning, character & ethics ed
6. Photos of completed art projects, video clips of best practices (teaching strategies, Bible labs, etc.)
7. School marketing – recommended services to produce for mission-driven on-time in-budget yearbooks
8. How to plan a focused mission trip – prioritizing God-led, culturally sensitive, unselfish service
9. Book (and other media) reviews from an Adventist biblical worldview - enter your reviews here
10. Lesson and unit plans demonstrating Journey to Excellence & national standard (eg. USA, Canada, UK) alignment

What resources have you recently discovered, published or online products or services, that really work in your classroom? It takes less than 5 minutes to submit this to CIRCLE. Collaborate and share to save time and money for Adventist educators globally.

CIRCLE TOOLS

- What's New – browse the list of 155 resources recently added
- Submit – contribute resources you create or recommend for uniquely Adventist education
- Advertize – banner advertizing space is FREE to Adventist offices of education and teacher training institutions
- Learn More – about CIRCLE, tips for new users, and helps (eg. set filters to limit resources to your interests only)
- Contact CIRCLE – with questions, comments, contributions, banner ads and suggestions on how to better serve Adventist educators anytime, anywhere and at any level

CIRCLE is the North American Division (NAD) sponsored curriculum and instruction resource center linking Adventist educators. Visit circle.adventist.org today to find or share resources, or contact us with questions or suggestions: email glynisb@andrews.edu, call US 269.471.3432, fax US 269.471.6374 or mail CIRCLE, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0118, USA.

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