May 2024 Newsletter

New Lessons:

- Flags: Geometry, Algebra and Cultural Context - Middle School - College
- The Underground Railroad: Historical Context in Book Covers - Middle School - College
- Wellness Claims and Social Media - High School - College
- Music, Media and Messages - Early and Upper Elementary

Lessons for Pride Month

ML3 Newsletter: Librarians as Leaders for Media Literacy

NAMLE Conference: July 14 & 15

New Lesson:

Flags: Geometry, Algebra and Cultural Context
Middle School, High School & College
This math and/or social studies lesson has students analyze flags from around the world, to understand aspect ratio, flag design and historical context.

**Media Decoding Questions**

1. What is the aspect ratio for each flag?
2. Why might flag designers have chosen aspect ratios that are close to the Golden Ratio, and how does this relate to the Fibonacci Sequence?
3. What do the symbols, shapes, and colors of these flags communicate?
4. What similarities can we identify in the flags of countries that share common historical or cultural background?

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**New Lesson:**

**The Underground Railroad: Historical Context in Book Covers**

*Middle School - College*

Students analyze three book covers to understand historical context, to reflect on how identity impacts interpretation, and to discuss the role of media makers in crafting historical representations.

- How do these different covers make you feel? Why?
- What historical context may have impacted the change in covers?
- How might one’s identity impact their interpretations?

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**Other media decoding lessons for Math** *(filter by level, subject, etc.)*

**New Lesson:**

**Wellness Claims and Social Media**

*High School - College*
Students analyze 4 social media posts with health/wellness claims and evaluate their credibility.

- What health claims are being made in this video and what is their evidence?
- What is the purpose of this post?
- How did you research these claims? How do you know your sources are credible?
- Why are these videos so popular?
- How do they tap into our emotions?

**Other media decoding lessons about.......**

**Social Media** (search by Level, Subject Area, or Keyword, e.g., health, politics, click bait)

**New Lesson:**

**Music, Media, and Meaning**

*Early and Upper Elementary*

Students analyze a short clip from the beginning of the movie *Lion King* with four different musical accompaniments to recognize how music influences our emotions and communicates different messages.

**Media decoding lessons for:** **Early Elementary** or **Upper Elementary**

**Media decoding lessons about Music** (filter by Level, Keyword, etc.)

**Lessons for Pride Month** - June, '2024

SEARCH by Keyword, Subject, or Level
FILTER by Media Type, Standard Duration, etc.

**Examples:**

Pride Month Representation and Authorship
- **Pride Month: Representation and Authorship**
- **Pronouns & Gender Identity: Who Gets to Choose?**
- **Challenging Homophobia**
- **Gay Affirmative or Gay Negative**

### ML3 National: Librarians as Leaders for Media Literacy

Check out our first *ML3 National Newsletter* at:

[https://www.projectlooksharp.org/newsletters/ML3_national_1.pdf](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/newsletters/ML3_national_1.pdf)

This will update you on our progress in scaling up habits of questioning all media messages for all students through the leadership of K-12 school librarians nationwide. The [ML3 Initiative](https://www.projectlooksharp.org) is supported through a planning grant from the federal Institute for Museum and Library Services.

### NAMLE Virtual Conference

**July 14 & 15, 2024**

The National Association for Media Literacy Education hosts the largest professional development conference dedicated to media literacy education in the United States.

From Pre-K to Higher Education, Community Education and Libraries, the conference provides valuable resources, technology, teacher practice and pedagogy, assessments, and core concepts of media literacy education.

Go to the conference website for more information: [https://conference.namle.org/2023-conference/](https://conference.namle.org/2023-conference/)