

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

Grolier Online and other Homework Help Tools



I live with a wonderful third grader. But on occasion, he forgets to tell me until late at night that he has a homework assignment due the next day. Now, I'm as big a fan of Google as anyone, but when I need to find information quickly from a trusted source at a reading level suitable for a third grader, or other school-age student, I am grateful to have access to **Grolier Online**.

Grolier Online is a multimedia encyclopedia that provides you with a wealth of information on a range of topics. Topics include links to related magazine articles and recommended web sites. And most topics include images and maps, when relevant. The Monroe County Public Library's subscription to **Grolier Online** includes the reference databases *America the Beautiful* for information on states, and *Lands and People* for information on countries around the world. MCPL card holders can access all the resources *free* from home by logging in with their library card number.

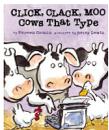
So the next time you are tempted to just "Google it," try **Grolier Online** instead! And take a look at the other Online Homework Help Resources we recommend, too.

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think Homework Help

Posted by Lisa C. on Sep 30, 2011 Lisa C.'s blog Add new comment



Click Clack Moo: A Special Preview Performance



As a student of journalism, I am a true believer in the power of the written word. And, apparently, so are the cows in Doreen Cronin's hilarious picture book: Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type. When the cows discover a typewriter in their barn, they begin making demands of Farmer Brown. It's cold in the barn. They want electric blankets.

Ridiculous, thinks Farmer Brown, and he refuses their request. But then the cows refuse to give any more milk. And the hens join the cows in solidarity and refuse to give any more eggs. The duck is the barnyard mediator, shuffling typed messages back and forth between the farmer and the cows. But, it seems that even ducks have desires for creature comforts.

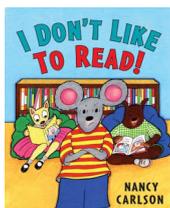
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Oh, the Thinks You Can Think Click, clack, moo : cows that type Library Program Picture Book

Posted by Lisa C. on Sep 22, 2011 Lisa C.'s blog Add new comment



I Don't Like to Read! (well, really, I do)



We are just starting our First Grade Tours here in MCPL Children's Services, and it motivated me to try to remember some of my own experiences in the first grade. One vivid memory is going on our first visit to the school library - I was so excited it was lucky I didn't toss my cookies! The thrill was tempered a little by the fact that I could hardly read - in fact, I was in the "lowest" reading group in my first grade class. (Not that the teacher told us which group was the lowest, of course - we just all knew.) I apparently told my mom of my frustration and fear about not reading well, and she told my teacher. Before I knew it, I was reading with the top group, and understanding what I read! I'm still not sure exactly what my teacher did, but apparently that extra bit of attention and encouragement, both at home and at school, made a huge difference. (It didn't hurt, either, that the top reading group had more interesting fare.) After thinking about this, I looked for a picture book that reflected a little of my experience.

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Oh, the Thinks You Can Think I don't like to read! Picture Book Reading

Posted by Ellen A. on Sep 15, 2011 Ellen A.'s blog Add new comment



The Book of Songs & Rhymes with Beat Motions



Singing is one of the best activities children and caregivers can enjoy together. Singing promotes a love of music in young children and helps build early literacy skills by breaking words down into small pieces. The library is a great source of wonderful songs for early childhood in books, CDs, Books on CD, and DVDs. A particularly good source of engaging songs for preschool and young school-aged children are the materials by Dr. John Feierabend. Look for his books in the Parent-Teacher Resource Room. Adults who spend time with small children will love The Book of Songs & Rhymes with Beat Motions. Here you will find songs, rhymes, and games that encourage moving with the beat. These rhymes and songs have been passed along for generations and are full of magic and imagination. You will also find CDs of songs collected by Dr. Feierabend in the Children's Audio-Visual collection.

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think Nonfiction Songs The book of songs & rhymes with beat motions : keeping the beat

Posted by Mary F. on Sep 8, 2011 Mary F.'s blog Add new comment



Nurse, Soldier, Spy: A Civil War Hero



This year marks the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War. This isn't an anniversary to "celebrate", but such a pivotal conflict in our nation's history is certainly one to commemorate and learn more about through the amazing stories told by the people involved. Sarah Edmonds was one of those people.

In the picturebook biography [Nurse, Soldier, Spy: The Story of Sarah Edmonds, A Civil War Hero](#)

, we learn that when she was just 16, Sarah disguised herself as a man and ran away from her home in Canada to escape an arranged marriage. She came to the United States and assumed the name Frank Thompson. When the call came in Michigan for young men to join the Union army, "Frank" wanted to sign up as a way to thank the country she had been living in for the last three years. While the other soldiers teased Frank about her small feet, no one ever guessed that Frank was actually a woman.

[Read more »](#)

[Oh, the Things You Can Think Nonfiction Nurse, soldier, spy : the story of Sarah Edmonds, a Civil War hero Picture Book](#)

Posted by Lisa C. on Sep 1, 2011 [Lisa C.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)

