

SHOW ME EXPRESS

 **State Library Newsletter**

April 2025



Denny Hoskins, CPA
Missouri Secretary of State



State Library News

Missouri State Library Presents Niche Academy for Missouri Library Staff

Starting March 3, 2025, librarians across the state now have access to trainings available on Niche Academy. Niche Academy creates and maintains ready-to-use tutorials for professional development for librarians across Missouri. These tutorials can help educate and train library staff with all elements that come with running a library. These include friends' groups, trustees, human resource issues, library basics and more. New tutorials and topics are added every month. The Niche Academy platform will also include tutorials created by the Missouri State Library staff.



*This project was made possible in part by the
Institute of Museum and Library Services.*

To create a log on, please contact:

Merideth Johnson

Merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov

(573) 751-1822

Meeting Host Locations Wanted!

Interested in hosting a workshop or larger meeting with the Missouri State Library in the future? The Library Development team has developed this [short questionnaire](#) to gather information about your site's presentation and

hosting capabilities. If you would like to be considered as a host location, please complete this questionnaire (even if you've hosted a workshop in the past)

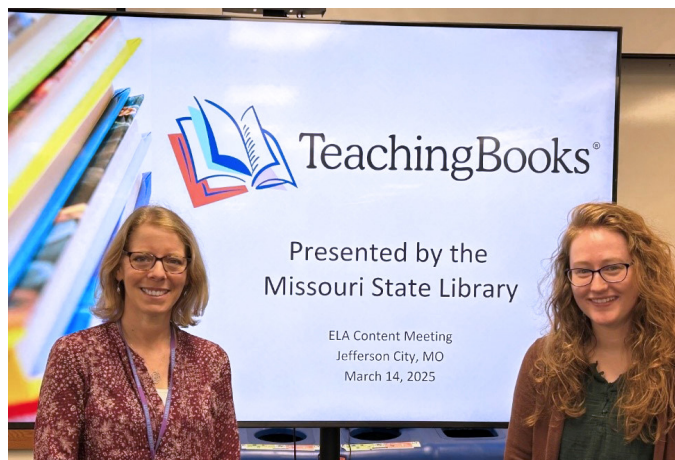


State Library Staff Share TeachingBooks with Educators

On March 13 and 14, English Language Arts (ELA) educators from across the state met in Jefferson City for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's ELA Content Meetings. To kick off their day of learning, Missouri State Library staff shared information about how [TeachingBooks](#) can support and enhance the content that ELA teachers provide to their students.

[TeachingBooks](#) is an engaging collection of resources that helps children and youth connect to books and authors that they love. It is free to all Missouri residents and includes many tools for librarians, teachers, and parents looking for ways to promote high quality books to children. Resources include author and illustrator interviews, book trailers and readings,

lesson plan and library programming ideas, book promotion tools, and much more. To learn more about how your school or public library can use TeachingBooks, contact Katie Dunne, Youth Services Consultant, at katie.dunne@sos.mo.gov.



New and Returning STEM Kits

Our STEM Kit offerings have grown with a new and returning kit. We brought the [Code & Go Robot Mice](#) kits back in circulation! Patrons ages five and up can learn coding concepts by designing mazes with twists and turns and tunnels for the cute programmable mice to find their cheese. We've also recently added a new kit! The [Snap Circuits](#) kit allows patrons to create a plethora of projects while learning electronics

basics. It has all the materials needed to make AM radios, sound effects machines, Morse code generators, motion detectors, saltwater detectors and so much more.

To learn more about these and other kits and to reserve them, visit our [STEM Kits Guide](#). Reach out to (573) 522-4036 or mostlib@sos.mo.gov with any questions.

TeachingBooks Helps with Programming

Summer is the perfect time to spark a love for reading! TeachingBooks offers [Summer Reading Lists](#) that encourage creativity and discovery to engage young readers.

Looking for fresh [programming ideas](#)? TeachingBooks also offers interactive resources, author interviews, and activity guides to bring books to life.

- [Author & Illustrator Interviews Collection](#): Use TeachingBooks' interviews to introduce kids to their favorite writers.

- [Story Time Activity Kits Collection](#): Pair a great book with a hands-on activity to boost creativity.
- [Reader's Theater Scripts Collection](#): Act out scenes from favorite stories to build literacy and confidence.





Reference Services for YOU: Missouri's Native Plants

With spring in full swing, help patrons discover their green thumb by visiting nearby nurseries and greenhouses for plants native to Missouri.

The Missouri Department of Agriculture's [Nursery Grower and Dealer](#) search can help patrons find local plant growers, sellers, and dealers. This database allows users to filter by county, business type, or specific plants to brighten their garden.

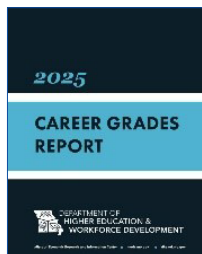
For patrons who would like to refresh their gardens or landscaping but are unsure what to plant, Missouri offers a diverse range of native flowers, shrubs, and trees. Research these amazing native plants with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) [Landscaping for Nature](#) resources. Find helpful information on

native plants best suited for shade, sun, wildlife, or even [rain gardens](#). The State Forest Nursery offers Missouri residents a variety of tree and shrub [seedlings for purchase](#) (ending April 15), so order soon!

Patrons can also use the MDC [Field Guide](#) to learn more about the plants and animals in their yard or community. Search by name, species type, or other characteristics like whether they are edible or poisonous. This field guide can also help patrons identify invasive species and learn how to prevent their spread.

Questions? Contact Reference Services at (573) 751-3615, libref@sos.mo.gov, or mostate.libguides.com.

Featured Government Document from the State Library



The [2025 Career Grades Report](#) rates occupations by assigning letter grades for professions based on their future outlook within Missouri over the next decade. Discover more government publications in our [Missouri State Publications Collection](#) to share with patrons. For assistance accessing government information or publications, contact the Reference Services staff at the [State Library](#).

Featured Books from the State Library



[The Complete Guide to Institutional Repositories](#)



[Producing Virtual Training, Meetings, and Webinars](#)



[Using Technology in the Library Workplace](#)



[25 Ready-to-Use Sustainable Living Programs for Libraries](#)

Discover more of our new Library Professional Development titles as well as recorded webinars, government publications and more on the [Missouri Library Staff Guide](#).

Directors and branch managers are able to sign up for a State Library card from the guide, and are encouraged to borrow items for themselves or any of their library's staff. State Library books

are also available for borrowing through both MOBIUS and WorldShare.

For assistance placing holds, requesting a card, replacing a card or for additional information, please contact Reference Services by phone, [email](#) or [chat](#). We are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and are always happy to help!



Around the State

Welcome to New Library Directors

Please join us in welcoming some new library directors! We are excited to see all the wonderful things they'll accomplish in these roles. If you'd like to congratulate them or reach out, you can find their contact information below.

- **Susan Knox**, Director of Adair County Public Library, sknox@adairco.org
- **Cindy Hayes**, Director of Jefferson County Library, chayes@jeffcolib.org

- **Tiffany Taylor**, Director of Polk County Library, ttaylor@polkcolibrary.org

If you're a new library director, please reach out to mostlib@sos.mo.gov to receive an official welcome and information from the State Library to help you thrive in your new position.



Professional Development Offerings

Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative

Trainings include:

- Analyzing Nonfiction Collections with TeachingBooks, March 13, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- TeachingBooks Office Hours, March 20, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative Webinars](#).

Amigos Library Services

Trainings include:

- Know & Go: Social Services for Teens in the Library, April 7, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Collections Reflect Communities: An Amigos Online Conference, April 10, 10 am – 3 p.m.
- Library Management: Motivating & Retaining Employees, April 16 and 17, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Cataloging a Collection of Unusual Things, April 21, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Understanding and Assisting Library Patrons on the Autism Spectrum, April 23, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Tips for Cover Letters, Resumes and Interviews, April 28, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [Amigos Continuing Education Services Schedule](#).

LibraryWorks

Trainings include:

- Libraries Transform Lives: Creating Intentional, Life-Changing Moments, April 3, 3 – 4 p.m.
- Change Management: Navigating and Communicating Change in Libraries, April 10, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Conflict in the Library: Managing, Surviving, and Even Thriving?, April 16, 1 – 2 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [LibraryWorks](#).



MALA (Mid-American Library Alliance)

Trainings include:

- Building Your Team: Creating an Environment of Learning & Enrichment, April 10, 10 – 11 a.m.

For the complete training list, visit [MALAPro Professional Development](#).

Missouri Library Association (MLA)

The Youth Services Community of Interest (YSCI) presents Spring Training on April 25 from 9 am to 4 pm at Daniel Boone Regional Library. Join other youth services library staff for a flexible day of professional development. Spend the morning with hands-on learning about Artificial Intelligence (AI) from MOREnet's Tech Integration

Specialist Bob Martin. Then, enjoy lunch included with your registration. End the day by choosing between three different afternoon breakout sessions led by you. Register by April 14: \$15 for MLA members and \$25 for non-members. To find more information or to register, visit the [2025 MLA Youth Services Spring Training](#).

MOREnet

Trainings include:

- Training Those Who Are Just Getting Started With Technology (CS), April 9, 9 – 10 a.m.
- Back to the Arcade: Designing Retro Games With Microsoft MakeCode (CS), April 16, 10 – 11 a.m.
- Programming with Scratch to Enhance the Summer Library Program (CS), April 28, 9 – 11 am, MOREnet Training Room – The Mill Columbia

- Video Editing Basics, May 1, 9 am – 3 pm, MOREnet Training Room – The Mill Columbia

For the complete training list, visit the [MOREnet Training Schedule](#).



Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM)

Trainings include:

- Making Sense of Numbers, April 2, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

- Effective Health Communication and Health Literacy: Understanding the Connection, April 10, 11 am – 12 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [NNLM Training](#).

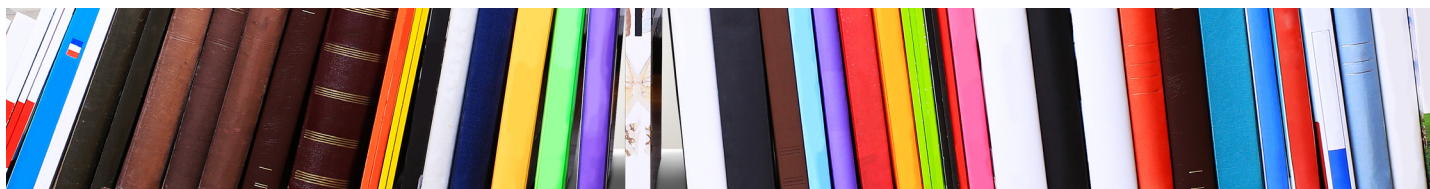
Niche Academy

Trainings include:

- The First Amendment and Libraries, April 9, 1 p.m.

- Disciplinary Differences: Generative AI in the Research and Publication Process, April 23, 1 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [Niche Academy Upcoming Webinars](#).



Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)

Trainings include:

- Writing Grants for Audio Preservation and Reformatting, April 29, 11:30 am – 12:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [NEDCC Current Training Programs](#).

St. Louis Regional Library Network (SLRLN)

For library staff in all positions, join the St. Louis Regional Library Network for their annual Tech Expo on April 17 from 9 am to 4 pm at St. Louis University's Doisy Learning Center. This year's theme is Libraries Learning Together, which sets up a day filled with sharing and learning about

tools, programs, practices, and more that help libraries succeed. Online registration by April 10 includes lunch, morning snacks, and garage parking: \$50.00 for SLRLN members and \$80.00 for non-members. To find more information and to register, visit the [2025 SLRLN Tech Expo](#).

TeachingBooks

Trainings include:

- Ready for Reading: Before, During, & After, April 16, 12 p.m.
- Growing Readers: Early Literacy Support, May 14, 12 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [TeachingBooks Upcoming Webinars](#).

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Missouri Secretary of State



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