SHOW ME EXPRESS

State Library Newsletter

November 2026

Denny Hoskins, CPA
Missouri Secretary of State



State Library News

A Conversation with Sue Lightfoot-Horine and MOREnet

By MOREnet

Sue Lightfoot-Horine shares the ways she has utilized MOREnet to keep the library she manages ahead of technology advances. It's important to her to offer STEM programs in public libraries. She advocates that all library services, from after school programming to the ILS system they use to keep track of books, is reliant on technology.

Hear what she has to say by visiting "A Conversation with Sue Lightfoot-Horine" on MOREnet's Blog.

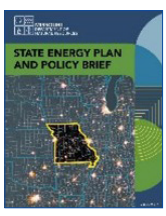
Making a List... Checking It Twice

TeachingBooks

Award season is underway, and contenders are already being recognized. Create your own star-studded list using the regularly monitored collection, Recent Award Winners at TeachingBooks. Select Year Published > Current Year as a filter. You can also narrow by type of recognition. Add other filters to create a list that is award-winning while meeting the needs of your community. Finally, sort your results by number of awards, selecting and saving to create your own list. Recheck the collection as the awards will continue to accumulate. Add shelf takers to your displays or create a bookmark of your list for your patrons to share in this celebratory reading season.

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Featured Government Document from the State Library



The new State Energy Plan and Policy Brief by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources details state energy goals and policy recommendations. Discover more government publications in our Missouri State Publications Collection to share with patrons. For assistance accessing government information or publications, please contact the Reference Services staff at the State Library.

Reference Services for YOU: American Battle Monuments Commission

In 1923, the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) was created to design and maintain permanent U.S. military cemeteries overseas, with General John J. Pershing serving as the commission's first chairman.

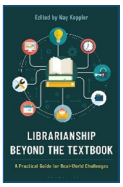
Now, the American Battle Monuments Commission oversees 26 cemeteries and 31 federal memorials, monuments, and commemorative plaques across 17 countries, where more than 200,000 American service members are buried or memorialized abroad.

The Burial and Memorialization Directory is searchable by name and can be filtered by service number, unit/division, rank, war/conflict, branch, or state. This database contains only the names of those interred or memorialized at ABMC cemeteries and memorials or those commemorated on the Commission's Walls of the Missing.

The Commission also provides an Interactive Cemetery & Memorial Map to find sites, view short informational videos, and experience a virtual 360 tour for most locations.

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

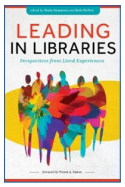
Featured Books from the State Library



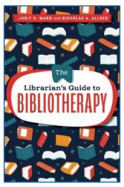
Librarianship Beyond the Textbook



Our Stories Connect



Leading in Libraries



The Librarian's Guide to Bibliotherapy

Discover more Library Professional Development titles on the Missouri Library Staff Guide.

Directors and branch managers can 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 with placing holds, requesting or 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!

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

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.

- Tara Christian, Brookfield Public Library, director@brookfieldpubliclibrary.org
- Janice Fadler, Bernie Public Library, berniepubliclibrary@gmail.com
- Christine Michele, Morgan County Library, christine@morgancountylibrary.org
- Justin Struttmann, St. Louis Public Library, jstruttmann@slp.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.

Dino Wars at Mexico-Audrain County Library District

By Mexico-Audrain County Library District Teen Coordinator Kassandra Welborn

Every year for the Teen Summer Reading Program at the headquarters branch of the Mexico-Audrain County Library District in Mexico, there is a Scavenger Hunt. This usually involves coordinating volunteers, local businesses, etc.

This year, since record highs and extreme humidity made the air feel heavy, the library decided to try an indoor activity instead. For CSLP's *Unearth a Story 2026*™, inspired by the CSLP Manual "Dino Duals," we created our own game and named it Dino Wars after the book *Dino Wars* by Jinny Johnson.

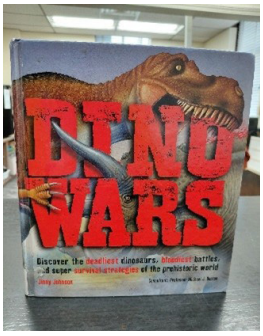
Using the book's information to create the Strength and Defense values on the cards and using dice, we turned it into a math game. We also found a way to include "special moves" for each card to help even the playing field. We included our two student assistants by asking for advice on what makes a good card game. What makes it fun? What keeps kids in the game? Then, by drawing from different elements from Pokemon, Magic: The Gathering, Yu-Gi-Oh!, and similar games–as well as using said assistants as test subjects–we were able to come up with a pretty fun game.

The hardest part was choosing the dinosaurs. Some dinosaurs weren't in *Dino Wars*, so we had to choose similar dinosaurs and improvise. Of course, we had to include our most popular dinosaurs–such as T-Rex, Stegosaurus and Triceratops. However, we also added lesser-known dinosaurs, featured in recent movies in the *Jurassic World* franchise, such as Spinosaurus, Therizinosaurus, and Quetzalcoatlus.

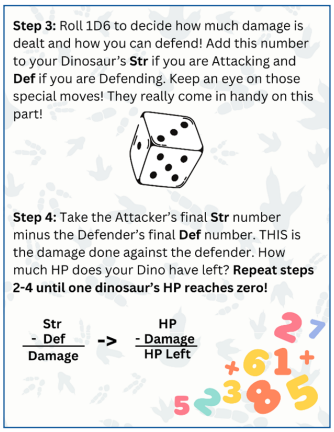
The original goal was to host a card tournament where kids could come in from the heat for a bit of fun. We only had a few participants.

However, after Summer Reading ended and the school year began, we started to get phone calls about dinosaurs.













Let's back up a little. The Mexico Library was invited to participate in the local elementary school's Meet the Teacher event. We decided to give out our Dino Wars cards because who doesn't like dinosaurs? At the end of the event, one of the special education team members came up to us asking about the cards and we were happy to share. Less than two (that's right **TWO**) weeks after school started, we started getting calls from kids wanting more Dino Wars cards.

This program has been one of our favorites! It started as an in-house tournament and turned into one of our best outreach programs and school partnerships.

Want to Be Featured in an Upcoming *Show Me Express* Edition?

If your library has a spectacular program, event, collection, or anything else you want to share in a future *Show Me Express* edition, contact us at mostlib@sos.mo.gov, and we will gladly work with you to highlight your library and all the incredible work you do for your community!

Grant Opportunities – State Library Grants

Summer Library Program Grant • Deadline: Dec. 1

The Summer Library Program grant will open for applications in mid-Oct. with a due date of Dec. 1. This literacy-based grant requires a minimum of an eight-week reading program during the summer months when local schools are not in regular session. Maximum grant award amounts are based on the population of the library service area (tax district). A grant overview webinar session will be offered on Nov. 4 at 10 a.m., and you can register at Summer Library Program Grant Application Overview - Webex registration. Please contact Katie Dunne or Terry Blauvelt with any questions.

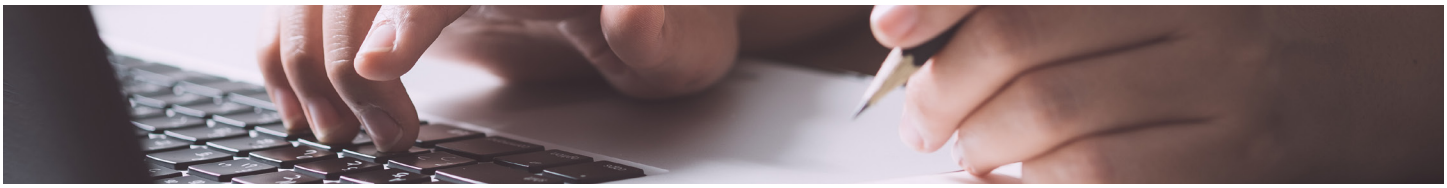
All available grants are found in the online grant management system approximately 45 days prior to the application due date.

Missouri State Library grants are supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Grant Opportunities – National Grants

USDA Community Facilities Programs

This United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) program offers funding through loans, loan guarantees, and grants to public bodies, non-profit organizations, and federally recognized Native American tribes to construct, expand, or improve rural communities' facilities that provide health care, education, public safety, and public services, including libraries. Contact the USDA Missouri Rural Development Office at rd.mo.general.inquiries@usda.gov or (573) 876-0976 for more information.



Professional Development Offerings

Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative

Trainings include:

- Building a Reading Community with Collection Analysis, Nov. 17, 2 – 3 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative Webinars.

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

The Association for Small and Rural Libraries (ARSL)

Trainings include:

- Compassion Without Collapse: Boundary Setting for Library Staff Under Pressure, Nov. 5, 1 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the ARSL TRAIN Workshops & Roundtables.

Amigos Library Services

All Amigos continuing education sessions are now free to Amigos members. Trainings include:

- Metadata Relationships, Nov. 3, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Tools for Job Seekers in Libraries, Nov. 5, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Digital Accessibility as Library Strategy: An Amigos Community Conversation, Nov. 10, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Instructional Design Strategies for AI Literacy, Nov. 12, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Building Sustainable Book Discussion Groups, Nov. 17 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Documenting Library Work, Dec. 1, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Controlled Vocabularies and Taxonomies, Dec. 2 and Dec. 3, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Know & Go: Exploring Affordable Digitization Approaches, Dec. 7, 1 – 2 p.m.
- ACRL Framework-Informed Best Practices for Academic Reference Services, Dec. 15, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the Amigos Continuing Education Services Schedule.

Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

Speakers and trainings include:

- Reclaiming Your Inner Wisdom: Sacred Indigenous Teachings with Author Asha Frost, Nov. 3, 1 p.m.
- Summer Symposium 2026, Dec. 3, 12 – 5:30 p.m.
- Comic Strips and Kimchi: Cooking Korean Food Made Easy with Robin Ha, Dec. 10, 1 p.m.

For the complete speakers list, visit CSLP's Author Talks and Professional Development.

MALA (Mid-American Library Alliance)

Trainings include:

- Boundary Building With Patrons, Nov. 10, 10 – 11 a.m.
- Ready, Set, Read: Planning Your 2027 Reading Year, Dec. 1, 2 – 3 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit MALAPro Professional Development.

Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL)

Events include:

- LIL Book Club Preview, Nov. 5, 6 – 7 p.m.
- MASL Message Live, Dec. 7, 6 – 7 p.m.

For the complete event list, visit MASL Community Calendar.

Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM)

Trainings include:

- Rural Health, Libraries, and Alaska: Perspectives from the Far North, Nov. 4, 1 – 2 p.m.
- How PubMed Works: Introduction, Nov. 5, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- Pathways to Wellbeing: How Libraries are Addressing Rural Health Needs in their Communities, Nov. 17, 12 – 1 p.m.
- Discovering the History of Medicine at the National Library of Medicine (NLM), Nov. 18, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Rural Health Resources, Nov. 19, 12 – 1 p.m.
- Connecting Older Adults to Health Information, Dec. 9, 12 – 1:30 p.m.

For a complete training list, visit NNLM Training.



MOREnet

Trainings include:

- MOREnet Annual Conference: Looking Back, Moving Forward, Nov. 2-5, St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles
- MOREnet Reunion and Anniversary Party, Nov. 3, 4 – 7 p.m., St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles
- Using Scratch to Enhance All Content Areas (For Libraries and Classrooms), Nov. 10, 9 – 10:30 a.m.
- AI Foundations for Libraries, Nov. 10, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Google Gemini, Nov. 12, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Category Two (2) Budget Tools, Nov. 12, 9 – 10 a.m.
- 3D Design and Printing, Nov. 13, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., MOREnet Training Room, Columbia
- Coding the Future: Empowering Young Minds With Code.org in Schools and Libraries, Nov. 16, 10 – 11 a.m. or 1 – 2 p.m.
- Empowering Students with Rosen: Digital, Financial, and Health Literacy, Nov. 17, 10 – 11 a.m.
- Cracking the Code: Mysterious Computer Science Activities, Nov. 18 or Dec. 4, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Cyber Threat Hunting (CTH), Dec. 1, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., MOREnet, Columbia
- Creating Accessible Content, Dec. 2, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., MOREnet Training Room, Columbia
- WordPress WCAG/Title II Compliance, Dec. 2, 9 – 10:30 a.m.
- Creating Gems and GPTs, Dec. 2, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Level Up: Learn How to Bring Game-Based Learning into Your Space, Dec. 7, 1 – 4 p.m., MOREnet Training Room, Columbia
- What's New in AI, Dec. 9, 3:30 – 4 p.m.
- Competitive Bid Form 470, Dec. 10, 9 – 10 a.m.
- Bring the Arcade to the Library: Designing Retro Games with Microsoft MakeCode, Dec. 14, 9:30 – 11 a.m.

For the complete training list, visit the MOREnet Training Schedule.

Niche Academy

Trainings include:

- Connecting Library Programs to Strategic Priorities, Nov. 4, 1 p.m.
- Managing Humans, Not Just Work: Modern Supervision for Mission-Driven Teams, Nov. 18, 1 p.m.
- Building Competence in an AI World, Dec. 2, 1 p.m.
- Advocacy Starts With Us: Engaging Everyone to Build Library Support, Dec. 9, 1 p.m.
- The Growing Library: From Community Insight to Community Growth, Dec. 16, 1 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit Niche Academy Upcoming Webinars.

Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)

Trainings include:

- Creating Preservation-Quality Oral Histories, Nov. 3, 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.
- Care and Reformatting of Microfilm, Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Caring for Photographic Collections, Nov. 12, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Digital Directions: Foundations for Digital Collection, Nov. 17-19, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Preventing and Responding to Mold in Book and Paper Collections, Dec. 1, 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.
- Writing a Collection Management Policy: Step-by-Step, Dec. 3, 1 – 3 p.m.
- FADGI Demystified, Dec. 8, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Caring for Your Community's Historic Records: A Guide for Clerks, Dec. 15, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit NEDCC Current Training Programs.



TeachingBooks

Trainings include:

- Leverage Your Booklists and Collections, Nov. 4, 1 – 1:20 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit OverDrive's Resource Center: K-12 Schools Staff Training.

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

WebJunction

Trainings include:

- Middle Management Strategies for Success in Public Libraries, Nov. 3, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Libraries Count: Expanding Access to Early Math Learning Through Public Libraries, Dec. 3, 2 – 3 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the WebJunction Webinar Calendar. Create a free account to access webinar archives and training in the WebJunction Course Catalog.



Contact Us

Library Development
mostlib@sos.mo.gov
(573) 522-4036

Reference Services
libref@sos.mo.gov
(573) 751-3615

Wolfner Library
wolfner@sos.mo.gov
(573) 751-8720