

Macomb Intermediate School District Instructional Technology Distance Learning Department is proud to offer free distance learning programs for the 2024 – 2025 school year.

Welcome back to a new school year. Please read the introduction for clarification about registering for a program, dates and times of this year's ASK and Interactive Programs.

The **ASK** programs are for students to read a particular book, journaling their responses to what they have read and prepare in-depth questions for the author or educational specialist for the distance learning program.

An ASK session is designed for one classroom with up to 3 classes per session. Each session is up to 1 hour long. These programs are offered to all schools in Macomb County. Therefore you will be connecting to other classes from different school districts.

The **Interactive programs** are spontaneous programs. No questions are required from the students to prepare, just their curiosity. Interactive programs are engaging and hands-on in which the student will learn during the program. Some books are included but sometimes not necessary. Some hands-on materials will be sent to help the teacher prepare the students for the activities that will be done during the program. The programs are scheduled with sessions that are designed for 1-2 classrooms per session for one hour.

Important Tidbits:

Check your school's calendar prior to registering for any distance learning program!

Each teacher will need to complete their own individual registration!

Registrations are on a first come first serve basis.

Teachers will receive a container of materials along with supplemental information about the book from the MISD prior to the date of the program.

There are a limited number of teachers that can participate in a program so be respectful that if you cannot participate after you registered for a program notify me as soon as possible so that other teachers on the waiting list can participate.

Please read your emails from misddl@misd.net **carefully**, these emails will let you know about your participation status, reminder dates, materials, withdrawal and Zoom connection information.

These distance learning programs are through the Zoom software program only. Once you register for the program you will receive the Zoom meeting connection information about a week prior to the date of the distance learning program. At the end of this schedule is the Zoom Video Conference Guidelines.

The distance learning programs that are offered to you through the Macomb Intermediate School District are free to you, but they are not free for the MISD. The MISD does pay a fee to our authors and educational specialists along with purchasing the materials for classroom use. Therefore, cancellation after the materials have been shipped to you will result with your name being put on a "naughty list".

In order to avoid the naughty list, please read the "**reminder e-mail**" to know when the materials are to be shipped to you with withdrawal instructions and a deadline date to withdraw from the program. If I don't hear from you by the withdrawal date, I assume you are participating in the program and the materials will be shipped to you.

A lot of time and energy goes into preparing the schedule with the authors and educational specialists, preparing materials, and shipping materials for a lot of different distance learning programs for the school year. Please respect the time and energy put into these programs. Do not register for program just to get a classroom set of books to use for your class.

Keep track of the materials that were sent to you and ship them back to the MISD in a timely manner. Materials are shipped from the MISD to the district administration building then to the school office for the teacher. There will be an address card on top of the container with the address to ship back to the MISD. After the program a follow up email is also sent to the teacher with instructions to send materials back to the MISD.

You must use you school e-mail if you wish to participate in this program.

Your technology staff in your school district are included in the emails that you receive. It is up to you and your technology staff to contact each other to make sure the Zoom software, cameras, microphone, and speakers will work in your classroom.

To find out more details about the Distance Learning programs you can go to the webpage at [Macomb Intermediate School District Distance Learning](http://www.misd.net/distancelearning) (<http://www.misd.net/distancelearning>).

There is a [short 14 minute informational video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79JsJ_E9srY) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79JsJ_E9srY) about the ASK program and process.

If you would like to be on the Distance Learning Program Listserv (the ASK listserv is used the most) you can register on the web site [Distance Learning Listserv](http://www.misd.net/distancelearning/subscribe.htm) (<http://www.misd.net/distancelearning/subscribe.htm>). This will be used to announce the programs and their availability with periodic updated schedules. The listserv is completely private and only used for MISD Distance Learning Programs.

If you have questions regarding the schedule, books or materials, authors or educational specialists contact Denise Jobe at 586-228-3415 or at email [Denise Jobe](mailto:djobe@misd.net) (djobe@misd.net).

If you have questions regarding the video equipment, technology, software or bridging of the programs contact Brian Boudreau at 586-228-3422 or email at [Brian Boudreau](mailto:bboudreau@misd.net) (bboudreau@misd.net)

To register for a distance learning program visit the web page at [Macomb Intermediate School District Distance Learning webpage](http://www.misd.net/dl) (www.misd.net/dl) with a easy pull down menu to fill out.



2024 – 2025 Schedule of ASK and Interactive Programs

ASK Program with author Dana Lehman

“Adventures at Walnut Grove Series”

Date: Tuesday October 8, 2024

Afternoon Sessions times are: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades 1st and 2nd

Description: Four books, “A Lesson about Teasing”; “I Double Dare You”, “Remember When” and “I Can Do It” from the Walnut Grove series are stories about friends that tease each other than learn to treat others as they would like to be treated. They encourage character development, personal responsibility, double dares which lead to some problems between the characters. Through all 3 of the books the characters overcome obstacles with each other and learn what true friendship is.

Interactive Program with Educational Specialist—Retired Social Studies Teacher Nancy Domke

“Core Democratic Values”

Date: Thursday October 10, 2024

Afternoon Session times are: 12:30 pm to 1:50 pm and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades 3rd & 4th

Description: This program is intended for students to introduce and learn the basics of the Core Democratic Values. You will receive a workbook for each student to use with activities and stories to help them understand what the democratic process is. Mrs. Domke is a retired social studies teacher that uses metaphoric symbols to teach the democratic values to the students that will help them understand in a simple format and have fun at the same time.

ASK Program with author and illustrator Clay Boura

“Leave it to Beamer: The Proof is in the Pudding” and “Don’t Let the Cat Out of the Bag”

Date: Thursday October 17, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 3rd – 6th; Picture book, 38 pages

Genre: Fiction - Subjects: Idioms; Silly Sayings; Pudding; Mystery; Pragmatic Language

Description: “Leave it to Beamer” is a children's book series about a young boy, Beamer, who dreams up wild, imaginative ideas for where he believes English idioms and other figures of speech may have come from! And in the end, Beamer also learns the TRUE meanings of these silly sayings! The series is humorous, adventurous and educational all at the same time! In this 2nd book of the series Beamer imagines a mystery that takes place in the City of Custard. The town's favorite pudding factory starts losing business to an upstart gelatin store and so the mayor hires investigators to solve the case.

Interactive Program with author Johnathan Rand

“Spooktacular Story Telling”

Please Note: This program is only for 2 classes per session with 45 minutes per session. This is so students can have a more interactive and in-depth experience with Mr. Rand.

Date: Tuesday October 22, 2024

Session times are: 9:15 am to 10:00 am; 10:15 am to 11:00 am; and 11:15 am to 12:00 pm

This is for grades 5th and up

Description: For students, Halloween is all about storytelling. Whether it's through books, sharing spooky tales with one another, or the stories their costumes or extra props quietly convey. This program will help students to be inspired to open their creativity and imagination that will help them create truly spooktacular stories through their eyes along with their peers to fill in the details of their

worlds with their own imaginations. This will introduce students to have fun while being scared silly with their own words. Mr. Rand will guide them through the creativity of storytelling with objects that you would least expect to use in a spooky story.

ASK Program “Bats” with Educational Specialist from the Leslie Science & Nature Center
Books included “Stellaluna” and “Science Comics Bats Learning to Fly”

Date: Thursday October 24, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 3rd & 4th; Picture book, 48 pages

AR Points 0.5 ATOS Book Level 3.5 AR Quiz # 7193 EN, Lexile AD550L

Genre – Realistic Fiction, Adventure

Subjects - Nocturnal Animals, Birds, Individuality, Family, Friends and Friendship

Description: Stellaluna, a little brown bat, is accidently dropped by her mother. The helpless baby falls smack into a nest of baby birds and is immediately accepted as one of the family. Stellaluna tries to fit in but keeps acting un-bird like; hanging upside down and wanting to fly at night. By chance, she is reunited with her mother and finally learns how to be a proper bat.

ASK Program “Bats” with Educational Specialist from the Leslie Science & Nature Center
Books included “Stellaluna” and “Science Comics Bats Learning to Fly”

Date: Tuesday October 29, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 3rd & 4th; Picture book, 48 pages

AR Points 0.5 ATOS Book Level 3.5 AR Quiz # 7193 EN, Lexile AD550L

Genre – Realistic Fiction, Adventure

Subjects - Nocturnal Animals, Birds, Individuality, Family, Friends and Friendship

Description: Stellaluna, a little brown bat, is accidently dropped by her mother. The helpless baby falls smack into a nest of baby birds and is immediately accepted as one of the family. Stellaluna tries to fit in but keeps acting un-bird like; hanging upside down and wanting to fly at night. By chance, she is reunited with her mother and finally learns how to be a proper bat.

ASK Program with author Laurie Keller
“Do Unto Otters”

Date: Friday November 1, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Grades: 1 - 2

Picture book, 40 pages; AR Points NA - Lexile Measurement AD460L; Genre: Fantasy

Subjects: Golden Rule, Neighborliness, Rabbits, Otters, Social Skills, Values-Morals

Description: Mr. Rabbit's new neighbors are Otters. OTTERS! But he doesn't know anything about otters. Will they get along? Will they be friends? Just treat otters the same way you'd like them to treat you, advises Mr. Owl. In her smart, playful style Laurie Keller highlights how to be a good friend and neighbor—simply follow the Golden Rule! This title has Common Core connections.

ASK Program with author Patty O'Brien Novak
“Engineering the ABC's: How Engineers Shapes Our World”

Date: Wednesday November 6, 2024

Afternoon Session times are: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm; and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades 1st – 3rd; Picture book, 32 pages

Genre: Informational; Non-Fiction

Subjects: Engineering; How Things Work; Science & Technology; Alphabet;

Description: Imagine a world without cars and computers, or toys and televisions, or movies and microwaves. Then imagine a world without engineers. Engineering the ABC's answers questions about how everyday things work and how engineering relates to so many parts of a child's daily

life. In an entertaining and engaging way, this book shows how engineers shape our world. This book encourages students to HEAR, SEE & READ engineering!

ASK Program with author Kelly Dipucchio

“Grace for President” and “Grace Goes to Washington”

Date: Tuesday November 12, 2024

Session times are 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 1st – 3rd; Picture books, 40 pages

AR Points 0.5; AR Quiz No. 121418 EN; ATOS Level 4.6; Lexile 570L

Subjects: Realistic Fiction; Informational Text; Elections; School-Classmates

Description: Book #1 - Grace decides to run in her school's mock election, where she learns about the American electoral system and sets out to be the best person for the job, even though her opponent, Thomas, seems to be winning all the boys' votes. Book #2 On a school field trip to Washington, D.C., student council member Grace and her classmates learn about the three branches of the federal government, how school government operates, the qualities of leadership, and how to be a good citizen.

ASK Program with a Meteorologist from the NOAA Weather Office

“Night of the Twisters”

Date: Thursday November 14, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 4th, 5th, & 6th; Chapter book, 153 pages

AR Points 4.0, ATOS Book Level 4.7, AR Quiz #628 EN, Lexile 790L

Genre: Science Fiction, Adventure, Action, Drama, Realistic Fiction

Subjects: Culture and Diversity, Character and Values, Friends and Friendship, Tornadoes, Grand Island Nebraska, Survival, Responsibility, Choices & Consequences

Description: Night of the Twisters is based on a true story of the night that nine tornadoes struck Grand Island, Nebraska in 1990. This fictionalized account follows three children as they struggle to survive the tornadoes. It is a fast-moving story that your students will enjoy.

Interactive Program with MISD Science Consultant Paul Drummond

"Tinkering with Forces & Motion"

One book each will be included “The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind” and “Wind Energy Blown Away”.

Date: November 19, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 1st & 2nd

Description: This program will enhance the learning experience for students while tinkering with recyclable and reusable materials. Students will work with team members, engineer and design an object that is balanced, has motion, discuss the design & redesign, collaborate, and reflect their understanding of forces while making a wind turbine. Some materials will be provided.

ASK Program with author Johnathan Rand

"Michigan Chillers: Great Lakes Ghost Ship"

Date: Thursday November 21, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 3rd – 6th; Chapter book, 204 pages

AR Points: 3.0; ATOS Book Level 4.1; AR Quiz No. 102018 EN

Genre - Fiction - Mystery

Subjects - Thriller-Ghosts/Spirits; Haunted Places: Cheboygan-Michigan; U.S. Coast Guard Cutter "Mackinaw"

Description: In Cheboygan, Michigan, Emilee, Brian, and Gavin are offered a unique opportunity by Gavin's Uncle -- a tour through the U.S. Coast Guard cutter "Mackinaw," a huge ship stationed

near the mouth of the Cheboygan River. When the uncle left the ship to get something, the kids were left alone, and they think they saw a zombie sailor. This made them think they were on a "ghost ship". Outside on the boat the kids found more zombie sailors and started to try and get off the boat. In the end, the kids found out the whole thing was just a pretend haunted ship for a Halloween show.

Book #11 of the Michigan Chiller Series

ASK Program with an Educational Specialist from the Buffalo Zoo

"What Do Animals Do in the Winter?" and "A Warm Winter Tail"

Date: Tuesday November 26, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 2nd & 3rd, Picture book, 48 pages

AR Points 0.5; ATOS Book Level 2.7; AR Quiz No. 31032 EN

Genre - Nonfiction Informational

Subjects - Animals-Habitats; Winter-Habitats, Animal Life

Description: This is a look at animals all over the world, from the Monarch butterfly who flies from Canada to Mexico, to reindeer and whales who also seek warmer climates. Colorful illustrations help make this serious subject fun and easy to understand for the young child. The students will learn about animal habitats and how animals get ready for winter. The animals at the Zoo help us to discuss strategies that animals use to survive cold weather (adaptations, hibernate, migrate).

ASK Program with author Janie Lynn Panagopoulos

"Traders in Time"

Date: Tuesday December 3, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3 - 5; Chapter book, 200 pages

AR Points 5.0, ATOS Book Level 4.8, AR Quiz 81737 EN

Genre: Realistic Fiction, Adventure, Michigan History, Historical Fiction

Subjects: Fur Traders, Siblings-Rivalry, Brothers, Time Travel, Tribes-Michigan, History-1796

Description: Two brothers, Chris and Nick, go on a time traveling adventure. With the help of a turtle warrior rock and their new friends, Meggie La Framboise and her assistant LeClarie, Nick saves Chris from the clutches of an evil trader named McDougal. But the boys' adventures have only begun as they flee from McDougal to an Ottawa Indian camp and then on to Mackinac Island. Traders in Time vividly portrays the variety of people involved in the fur trade and brings to life the sights, smells, and drama taking place along the shores of Lake Michigan and at Fort Mackinac in the late 1700's.

ASK Program with author Denise Brennan-Nelson

"Willow"

Date: Thursday December 5, 2024

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 pm; 10:50 am to 11:50 am and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 1st – 3rd; Picture Book, 32 pages

AR Points 0.5, AR Level 3.2, Quiz No. 122519 EN; Lexile ADL620L

Genre: Juvenile Fiction

Subjects: Crafts & Games-Arts, Character Traits-Individuality, Fantasy-Imagination, Social Skills & School Life, Friendship

Description: Miss Hawthorn's room is neat and tidy, not a pencil or paintbrush is out of place. And that's how she likes it. And she likes trees that are colored green and apples that are painted red. Miss Hawthorn does not like things to be different or out of the ordinary. Into Miss Hawthorn's classroom comes young Willow. She doesn't color inside the lines, she breaks crayons, and she sees pink trees and blue apples. What will Miss Hawthorn think? Magical things can happen when your

imagination is allowed to run wild, and for Miss Hawthorn the notion of what art is and what is possible is forever changed. Award Winners-Storytelling World Award/Honors.

ASK Program with author Renee Hand

“The Adventures of Joe-Joe Nut & Biscuit Bill, Case #2; Mineral Mischief”

Date: Tuesday December 10, 2024

Afternoon Session times are: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades: 3rd & 4th; chapter book, 74 pgs.

Genre – Fantasy, Adventure, Mystery

Subjects – Rocks & Minerals, Rock Collecting, Mystery, Bullying, Detective Stories

Description: What would you do if you were surrounded by six scary lions, each the size of a motorcycle? That’s the predicament in which Joe-Joe Nut finds himself as this book opens. After he and his partner, a duck named Biscuit Bill, solve that problem, they receive another call. Someone has stolen Maple Moo’s rare and valuable gemstone made up of bentonite and neptunite. In addition to the fascinating story and the mystery element which will easily hold the reader’s interest, there is a lot of information about rocks and minerals embedded into the text, plus several pages in the back with further material about different kinds of rock, a glossary, suggested experiments, and the rock cycle chart.

ASK Program with author Cheri Hallwood

“Winters First Snowflake”

Date: Tuesday December 17, 2024

Afternoon Session times are: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades: 1 – 2; Picture book, 32 pages

Genre: Fantasy, Tales, Stories

Subjects: Stories in Rhyme, Snowflakes, Winter

Description: A beautifully illustrated story that is sure to capture the imagination of young readers and the young-at-heart. Follow along, with author Cheri Hallwood’s unique style of rhythm and rhyme, as the first snowflake of the season comes to life through the illustrator’s magical blend of soft pastels. Share in the anticipation as the North Wind carries this little snowflake on a whimsical and playful journey. This delightful tale is sure to become a keepsake for all ages and a seasonal treasure.

ASK Program with Educational Specialist from the Troy Nature Center

“The Book of North American Owls”

Date: Thursday January 9, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 3rd – 6th; Soft Cover Book, 64 pages

AR Points: 1.0; ATOS Book Level 6.7; AR Quiz No. 58193 EN

Genre - Non-Fiction, Informational - Subjects - Animals-Owls; North American, Science

Description: Everything you ever wanted to know about owls on the North American continent. Features the 21 specials of owls and all their vital statistics. Includes a detailed, illustrated glossary with maps showing residence and breeding ranges. "This is a balanced, entertaining, and informative selection. The second half of the book is a pictorial glossary of owls that highlights each of the 21 species that live on this continent; it includes good range maps, specific behavioral and physical facts, and calls. The attractive drawings, clean format, and generous size contribute to this appealing treat for nature fans." School Library Journal.

Interactive Program with author Lisa Rivard
"Melvin Fargo Writes to Argue and Persuade"

This is for 5th & 6th grades ONLY

Date: Tuesday October 15, 2024

Afternoon Session times are: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm; and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

Description: Writing to Argue and Persuade for upper elementary students— Very Little preparation for the students, they just have to know the basic principles and knowledge of these topics for the activities during the programs. This a wonderful opportunity for students to learn and review these topics for testing purposes and for their school projects. Mrs. Rivard will go through the book with the students and have interactive activities with them as well.

Interactive Program with Educational Specialist Gary Abud Jr.
"Great Lakes Learning"

Date: Thursday January 23, 2025

Afternoon Session Times Are: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades 4th and up

Description: Find out how students can engage with the science of the Great Lakes and social studies of the region using a collection of blended-learning lessons and learning resources—created by an award-winning teacher—from Great Lakes Now & PBS Learning Media. The lesson collection includes standards-aligned activities and tasks that can be integrated into any middle-grades curriculum to add a Great Lakes focus to the STEAM teaching already happening in your classroom. In this program, you will learn how to utilize the interactive, digital and hands on activities to explore the physical features of the Great Lakes, as well as some of the contemporary issues facing their ecosystems. Special attention will be given to adapting learning activities for the remote teaching context.

Lesson plans for this program can be found at this webpage [Great Lakes Now lessons](https://www.greatlakesnow.org/educational-resources).
(<https://www.greatlakesnow.org/educational-resources>).

With this webpage you will find teaching tips for remote learning and other ways to learn about the [Great Lakes Now from Gary Abud, Jr.](https://www.greatlakesnow.org/author/gary-abud-jr) (<https://www.greatlakesnow.org/author/gary-abud-jr>).

ASK Program with author Arthur Brood
"The Mud Hole" and "The Snow Car"

Date: Friday January 24, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3rd & 4th, Chapter book, around 100 pages for each book.

Both books will be used for this program.

Genre: Realistic Fiction, Adventure, Historical Fiction, Michigan History

Subjects: Horseless Carriage, Classic Cars, Farm Life 1912-Michigan, Family, Honesty, Corduroy Roads-Michigan

"The Mud Hole": Description: It is 1912 and Henry and his brother Robert are fascinated by the automobile. Their father calls the automobile a noisy smelly contraption. When the mud hole near their farm continues to trap automobiles, their father gives the boys the responsibility of using the horse to pull them from the mud. One adventure leads to another, but when the mischief goes too far what will happen to their summer plans? Through it all, Henry learns that honesty is more important than money and a job well done sometimes has its rewards. Book has "did you know" facts before each chapter.

"The Snow Car": Description: A sequel to The Mud Hole. In the fall of 1912, eleven-year-old Henry is disappointed when an early snowfall threatens to keep the Model T parked in the barn for the winter. Known for his crazy ideas, Henry finds a way to keep the car out of the barn and himself behind the wheel. Will Henry's crazy ideas get him into more mischief, or give him the chance to show responsibility and courage?

Interactive Program with author Lisa Rivard
"Melvin Fargo Writes to Argue and Persuade"

This is for 3rd & 4th grades ONLY

Date: Tuesday January 28, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Description: Writing to Argue and Persuade for upper elementary students— Very Little preparation for the students, they just have to know the basic principles and knowledge of these topics for the activities during the programs. This a wonderful opportunity for students to learn and review these topics for testing purposes and for their school projects. Mrs. Rivard will go through the book with the students and have interactive activities with them as well.

ASK Program with author Robert Lytle
"Mackinac Passage: Mystery at Round Island Light"

Date: Thursday January 30, 2025

Afternoon Session times are: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades 3rd – 6th; Chapter book 151 pages; #4 of the Mackinac Passage Series

Lexile: 770L

Genre: Adventure, Mystery, Historical Fiction, Michigan History

Subjects: Lighthouses, Mackinac Island, Friendship, Round Island Lighthouse, Ghosts, Courage

Description: Pete and his friends on Michigan's Mackinac Island find themselves fascinated by the legends and rumors about an old lighthouse on nearby Round Island and about its former keeper, who may or may not still be a presence there. Intrigued, the four teens pack a lunch, borrow a dinghy, ride over, and explore-and then find their belongings scattered and a note telling them to go away. Instead of being scared off, they decide to find out what is going on and, in so doing, become involved in a dangerous robbery plot.

ASK Program with an Educational Specialist from the Buffalo Zoo
"Polar Bears" With books "A Polar Bear Journey" and "Science Comics Polar Bears Survival on Ice"

Date: Tuesday February 4, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3rd & 4th, Picture Books, Comic book for 4th Grade

All books will be used for the program, as appropriate for student level.

Genre: Realistic Fiction, Adventure, Science

Subjects: Science, Geography and Map Skills, Polar Bears, Hibernation,

Arctic Circle, Zoo Animals

Description: These books will help your students learn about Polar Bears and animal life in the Arctic. Through these stories students will be introduced to the concepts of habitat, predator-prey, range and more. The students will be able to see live polar bears that live at the Buffalo Zoo.

ASK Program with author Janie Lynn Panagopoulos

“Train to Midnight”

Date: Thursday February 6, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 4th – 6th, Chapter book, 179 pages

AR Points 5.0, ATOS Book Level 4.5, AR Quiz 81738 EN

Genre: Realistic Fiction, Adventure, Michigan History, Historical Fiction

Subjects: Underground Railroad, Fugitive Slaves, Slave Catchers, Family, Abolitionists, Time Travel

Description: Students will learn about life along the Underground Railroad by reading about the adventures of Malaika and her brother Sammy. The story follows these two brave youngsters as they escape slavery with the help of a Quaker couple and Daniel. The book leads them through Detroit to the Second Baptist church on Monroe.

ASK Program with an Educational Specialist from the Buffalo Zoo

“Polar Bears” With books “A Polar Bear Journey” and “Science Comics Polar Bears Survival on Ice”.

Date: Friday February 7, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3rd & 4th, Picture Books, Comic book for 4th Grade

All books will be used for the program, as appropriate for student level.

Genre: Realistic Fiction, Adventure, Science

Subjects: Science, Geography and Map Skills, Polar Bears, Hibernation, Arctic Circle, Zoo Animals

Description: These books will help your students learn about Polar Bears and animal life in the Arctic. Through these stories students will be introduced to the concepts of habitat, predator-prey, range and more. The students will be able to see live polar bears that live at the Buffalo Zoo.

Interactive Program with Judy Sima who is a 2nd generation Holocaust survivor

“ESCAPE TO FREEDOM”. A chapter book is included with this program, “My Journey to America”

Date: Tuesday February 11, 2025

Afternoon Session times are: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm and 1:50 pm to 2:50 pm

This is for grades 4th and up

Book Information: Chapter book 224 pages; Grades 3rd – 7th, Lexile 750L

Description of Program: Take a journey with Mrs. Sima as she recounts the story of her mother, Elsa Mosbach, and her escape from Germany during WWII. You will listen to her harrowing confrontation with the Gestapo as she begs for her father’s release from Buchenwald Concentration Camp after Kristallnacht or the Night of the Broken Glass. Enjoy the confusion and misunderstandings as she adjusts to life in America as a new immigrant. Mrs. Sima will share a Power Point presentation of photos and documents and discuss her research and process for creating her mother’s story. Plenty of time is allowed to answer student questions about the story and the Holocaust. There is a short 10 minute video as an introduction to the program at from Judy Sima on YouTube at [Escape to Freedom, Germany 1941](#)

ASK Program with author Chris Crowe

"Just as Good: How Larry Doby Changed America's Game"

Date: Thursday February 13, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3rd – 5th, Picture book, 32 pages

AR Points 0.5, ATOS Book Level 4.9, AR Quiz 148948 EN, Lexile AD690L

Genre: Drama, Adventure, Historical Fiction, Biography

Subjects: African American Baseball, Larry Doby, Social Issues, Prejudice & Racism, Family, 1948 World Series, Color Barriers

Description: It is 1948, and Homer and his dad are baseball crazy. Larry Doby and the Indians are playing Game Four of the World Series against the Boston Braves! Homer and his dad listen to the game on the radio which gives a play-by-play narration capturing all the excitement of that game. Homer, a young African-American who was banned from a Little League baseball team because he was African-American. This game outcome reinforced to Homer that African-American people are just as good in baseball as anyone else can be.

ASK Program with author Denise Brennan-Nelson

"Leopold the Lion"

Date: Tuesday March 25, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: K – 2nd; Picture Book: 32 pages

AR 0.5, AR Quiz No. 181446 EN, ATOS Book Level 3.5, Lexile AD 560L

Genre: Fantasy, Fiction-Juvenile - Subjects: Animals: Lions, Growing Up & Facts of Life, Health: Family Life-Siblings, Family Life-Pets, Diet & Exercise, Humor

Description: When Jack and Ella come across a friendly and talented lion in their backyard they are thrilled to take him in as their pet. And they're positive they know just how to care for their new pet, ignoring Grandpa's subtle messages about how a lion should be taken care of to the children. But soon Leopold the Lion grows despondent and chubby. Even the circus who lost him won't take him back! Do Jack and Ella know what to do to get Leopold healthy again?

ASK Program with author Jeffery L. Schatzer

"Professor Tuesday's Awesome Adventures in History, Book Three: The Underground Railroad"

Date: Thursday February 27, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3rd – 5th, Chapter book, 208 pages

Genre: Historical Fiction, Adventure

Subjects: Time Travel, Underground Railroad-1800's, Slavery, Abolitionists, Friendship, Courage, Teamwork, Histories-Genealogical

Description: Jesse and Tamika want to learn about how slaves escaped to freedom along the western route of the Underground Railroad. However, there is sometimes danger in the past! Professor Tuesday wonders how he will keep them safe as they explore history in his magnificent Tuesday Teleporter until he gets a crazy and wonderful idea. But, do the two classmates have the courage to witness the terrors of slavery and the frightening run to freedom? They are able to go back to various times of the 1800's to find out the information needed for a school project and so Tamika can find out about her family history.

ASK Program with author Lisa Rivard

"I Am Stumped"

Date: Tuesday March 4, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: K – 1st; Picture Book, 29 pages

Genre: Juvenile Fiction

Subjects: Friendship; Social isolation; Respect for people; Cooperation.

Description: Aiden wants to play with his friends, but his name starts with the wrong letter, he's wearing the wrong color, and he's eating the wrong food. He's so confused that he's stumped! Lisa Rivard creatively shows kids how to get along and reminds them that *three is not a crowd*.

ASK Program with a Teacher & Refugee from Afghanistan, Khris Nedam

"The Breadwinner"

Date: Friday March 7, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am - 10:30 am; 10:50 am - 11:50 am and 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 5 - 6, Chapter book, 170 pages.

AR Points 4.0, ATOS Book Level 4.5, AR Quiz 41702, Lexile 630L

Genre: Adventure, Historical Fiction, Action, Drama,

Subjects: Taliban, Afghanistan Girls, Women's Rights, Kabul Afghanistan, War, Conflict Study, Diversity, Children's Rights, Children & Poverty

Description: Parvana is a young woman growing up in Afghanistan under the Taliban regime. Her father has been thrown out of the University and is earning money by writing and reading letters for people at the bazaar. When her father becomes ill, Parvana dresses up like a boy to help her family survive. This is a compelling story that will help your students understand what happened to women and girls who were not allowed to leave the house without being in the company of a man.

ASK Program with author Laurie Keller

"Scrambled States of America"

Date: Tuesday March 11, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Grades: 2 - 5; Picture book, 40 pages

AR Points 0.5, ATOS Book Level 4.4, AR Quiz 31560 EN, Lexile AD510L

Genre: Realistic Fiction, Fantasy, Adventure

Subjects: U.S. States-Geography, Picturing America, Puzzles, Comparisons

Description: "One day, Kansas wakes up grumpy. The other 49 states are stretching, yawning, and pouring maple syrup onto each other's pancakes, but irritable Kansas announces to his kindly neighbor Nebraska that life is dull and changes must be made. Books that claim to "make geography fun" usually have to be taken with a dose of skepticism: so often, the teaching is there and the entertainment isn't. This delightfully quirky and original book shows how it should be done." --Richard Farr. Join author/illustrator Laurie Keller for this fun filled geography lesson.

ASK Program with author Janie Lynn Panagopoulos

"Journey Back to the Lumberjack Camp"

Date: Thursday March 13, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3 - 5; Chapter book, 170 pages

AR Points 4.0, ATOS Book Level 4.5, AR Quiz 81732 EN

Genre – Realistic Fiction, Adventure, Michigan History, Historical Fiction

Subjects – Lumberjacks, Lumber Camps, Bullies, Time travel, Great Lakes Lumber Era, Michigan History-1870

Description: This dream-quest adventure follows Gus McCarty from present day middle school back to the lumbering days of Michigan. This is a humorous tale of a young man's adventures with rough lumberjacks named Moonshine and Rat-hole Andy and life in a lumberjack camp. Students enjoy learning about life in the camps and the lumberjack vocabulary.

ASK Program with an Meteorologist from NOAA Weather Office

“Weather for Kids” Books included are

“The Science Behind Weather” and “Little Kids Frist Big Book of Weather”

Date: Tuesday March 18, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for Grades: 1 – 3.

Description: There are a couple different books about weather from the National Weather Service for the students to use to learn the basics of weather and what meteorology is. Simple program for the younger students to get them curious about what weather is.

ASK Program with an Meteorologist from the NOAA Weather Service Office

“Kids Everything Weather” by Kathy Furgang

Date: Thursday March 20, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3 – 8. Paperback, 64 pages. Lexile®: 950L. Genre: Informational, Science.

Subjects: Climate, Weather, Science & Math, Earth Science. Series: National Geographic Kids: Everything Series

Description: Weather can be wild, freaky, and fascinating! How does it all happen and how do we know what we do? All kids need to know about weather, and all of its power will be found in the book. Packed with fun facts & amazing photos with an in-depth look at these amazing natural phenomena.

ASK Program with author Laurie Keller

“Arnie the Doughnut” and “Hello Arnie”

Date: March 7, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: K – 3rd; Picture book, 40 pages

AR Points: 0.5; AR Quiz No. 68979 EN; ATOS Book Level: 3.3; Lexile: AD600L

Genre: Fiction/Nonfiction: Fiction

Subjects: Award Winners-Publishers Weekly Best Book; Food-Misc./Other; Humor/Funny-Funny; Recommended Reading-Junior Library Guild Selection

The author will do drawing lessons with the students and answer questions.

Description for “Arnie the Doughnut”:

At first glance, Arnie looks like an average doughnut. He was made by one of the best bakeries in town, and admittedly his sprinkles are candy-colored. Still, a doughnut is just a doughnut, right? WRONG! Not if Arnie has anything to say about it. Can Arnie change the fate of all doughnuts—or at least have a hand in his own future? Well, you'll just have to read this funny story and find out for yourself. This title has Common Core connections.

Description for “Hello Arnie”:

Arnie is excited to say hello to all his pastry friends in the bakery. There are all the usual confection suspects: Chocolate, Glazed, French Twist, Long John, and Crueller. But there is one pastry that he's never met before. This pastry looks nothing like the others. Hmm. Who could it be? Spoiler alert—it's the Reader! This charming picture book introduces children to everyone's favorite doughnut through a series of questions that the youngest reader will love taking part in.

ASK Program with author Johnathan Rand
“Dollar Store Danny: The Dangerous Dinosaur”

Date: April 12, 2025

Session time is: 9:30 am to 10:30 am (only one session)

This is for grades: 1st and 2nd, Early Reader Series, Chapter book, 48 pgs.

Genre: Action and Adventure, Fantasy

Subjects: Shopping, Dinosaur, Imagination

Description: Danny loves shopping at the dollar store with his mother because he never knows what he might find on the shelves. This time, Danny discovers a plastic dinosaur on the shelf, he soon finds out that it might be more than just a toy! Follow Danny on some of the wildest, craziest adventures imaginable with easy to read large font, short chapters packed with action and suspense with many illustrations.

ASK Program with author Johnathan Rand
“Freddie Fernortner Fearless First Grader: A Haunting We Will Go”

Date: April 12, 2025

Session times are: 10:50 am to 11:50 am and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades 1st, 2nd, 3rd; Chapter book, 96 pages; ATOS 3.2

Genre: Action and Adventure; Mystery, Fiction.

Description: When Chipper explains that a haunted house might be nearby, they decide to investigate. Just what is the mysterious shape in the window? Floors creak. Doors slam. It must be haunted! Join Freddie, Darla, and Mr. Chewy as they bravely explore the ruins of a haunted house in the woods.

ASK Program with author Johnathan Rand
“Michigan Chillers “Mackinac City Mummies”

Date: April 19, 2025

Session time is 9:30 am to 10:30 am (one session)

This is for grades 3rd – 6th

AR Points 2.0, ATOS Book Level 4.0, AR Quiz No. 57363 EN

Genre: Fiction, Mystery

Subjects: Fantasy/Imagination-Mummies; Mysteries-Secrets; Natural Environments-Forests; Science Fiction; U.S. States/Regions-Michigan

Series: Michigan Chillers #10

ASK Program with author Johnathan Rand
“Michigan Chillers “Dinosaurs Destroy Detroit”

Date: April 19, 2025

Session time is 10:50 am to 11:50 am (one session)

Grade levels: 3 - 6

Chapter book, 215 pages

ATOS Book Level 4.5, AR Points 3.0, AR Quiz No. 55728 EN,

Genre: Fiction, Mystery

Subjects: Adventure-Danger; Animals-Dinosaurs; Horror/Thriller; Science Fiction-Time Travel

ASK Program with author Johnathan Rand
“Freddie Fernortner Fearless First Grader: A Haunting We Will Go”

Date: April 19, 2024

Session time is: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm (one session)

This is for grades 1st, 2nd, 3rd; Chapter book, 96 pages; ATOS 3.2

Genre: Action and Adventure; Mystery, Fiction

ASK Program with author Kathleen Marcath
"My Monster Truck Goes Everywhere with Me"

Date: May 3, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am

This is for grades 2nd^t – 4th; Picture book 18 pages

Genre: Informational, Juvenile Fiction

Subjects: American Sign Language; Beginners ASL; Trucks; Toys; Friendship; Family

Description: Every day brings a new adventure for Dylan as he plays with his shiny purple, lightning fast, loud as thunder Monster Truck. Dylan is also learning American Sign Language and knows how to sign the words for the colors and sounds of his favorite trucks. Each page is beautifully illustrated with one or more signs that parents and children can learn together.

ASK Program with author Jeffery L. Schatzer
"Fires in the Wilderness: A Story of the Civilian Conservation Corps Boys"

Date: May 10, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am - 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am

This is for grades: 3rd – 6th, Chapter book, 170 pages

Genre: Historical Fiction, Adventure

Subjects: Great Depression 1929; Bullies; Wildfires; Maturation (Psychology); Polish Americans; Upper Peninsula (Mich.); U.S. Army; CCC: Franklin D. Roosevelt

Description: It's the Great Depression, and times are hard. Children are starving. Families are scraping by on government handouts and the kindness of strangers. There is no work to be had and no money to be earned. Two brothers take action to save their loved ones they apply for jobs in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Through their work and struggles, the boys learn hard lessons about life and the importance of character, teamwork, and leadership. Fires in the Wilderness is an inspiring story that provides readers with a peek into the past through the eyes of an immigrant boy.

ASK Program with author and illustrator Lori Taylor
"The Whopper of Whoopee Lake"

Date: May 16, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 1st & 2nd

The author will do drawing lessons with the students and answer questions.

Description: This is a fun whale of a fishing tale with fun games, and educational matter in the back of the books. The Whopper of Whoopee Lake is a lyrical fishing tale about two friends who set out to catch a big fish and go through twists and turns to bring back a whale of a tale.

ASK Program with a Vietnam Veteran, Gordy Bourland
"The Wall"

Date: May 21, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; 10:50 am to 11:50 am; and 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

This is for grades: 3rd – 8th, Picture books, 32 pages

AR Points 0.5, ATOS Book Level 2.4, AR Quiz 32248 EN, Lexile AD270L

Genre: Realistic Fiction, Historical Fiction, Drama

Subjects: Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Military & War, Family, Memorial Day, "The Wall" Memorial

Description: These simple picture books will introduce your students to the Vietnam Memorial, "The Wall" and will help you teach them about Memorial Day and Vietnam. Materials about "The Wall" and the Vietnam War will be included in the container of materials sent to you.

Students will ask questions to Mr. Gordy Bourland, a retired MISD employee who served in the Vietnam War.

ASK Program with an Educational Specialist from the Buffalo Zoo

"A Cool Summer Tail"

Date: May 29, 2025 and May 30, 2025

Session times are: 9:30 am to 10:30 am and 10:50 am to 11:50 am

This is for grades 2nd – 4th, Picture Book, 32 pages

AR Points 3.4, Lexile: AD700L; Genre: Informational Text, Nonfiction; Subjects: Animals-Summer, Animal-Adaptions, Heat-Habitats, Nature-Science, and Seasonal Changes, Humans vs Animals, Compare & Contrast

Description: How do humans stay cool in the summer? A Cool Summer Tail tells us about all of the different ways that animals and humans alike are able to stay cool in the hot summer sun. The animals listed below is what the focus will be on for the video conference with the Buffalo Zoo. These animals at the Zoo help us to strategies that animals use to stay cool (use water, dust baths, shade, burrows, adaptations, etc): Lion, Giraffe, Poison dart frog, Meerkat, Lizard (example: blue tongued skink), Tortoise or river turtle, Gorilla, Rainforest birds (examples: roseate spoonbill, scarlet ibis, and parrot), lesser hedgehog tenrec, and a two toed sloth.

Below are a few guidelines for a Zoom meeting program through the Macomb ISD for the 2023 - 2024 school year. By now most students should be back in the classroom but if not, then these guidelines are for students who will be using Zoom from home.

1. Using Zoom through the MISD is safe and secure! Brian Boudreau knows all the tweaks it takes to have a secure meeting. We use passcodes that are needed to login to the Zoom meeting. Brian and I both moderate the program to insure the program goes smoothly. We expect the student's to use proper etiquette during the program. If we see a student that has inappropriate behavior we will immediately put that student in the waiting room as sort of a "time out" or disconnect that student. Behind the scenes Brian and I have the control with microphones and participants which helps to keep the meeting running smoothly for all to enjoy.
2. There has been a lot of discussions about using Zoom from the homes. All we can do is forward the information to you, the teacher to forward to the students. We sincerely hope that the parents use discretion and help guide the students into using Zoom for educational purposes. We also request that the students do not share the meeting ID # or the passcode to anyone else for security purposes.
3. Teachers that register for the program need to be in the Zoom meeting as well. The program will run just like a regular program as if in a classroom setting. I will moderate the program and call on the teacher to have 3 of her/his students to ask questions at a time. 3 questions per round of questions per rotation.
4. We ask that the teachers have a student count for us and also help monitor their students' behavior while in the Zoom meeting.
5. We ask that students use their first and last name so the teacher will know who they are and that there are no "silly" names being used.
6. The students will be put into the Zoom waiting room until all the teachers and the presenter are connected in the meeting.
7. As always we try to give every student a chance to be heard. If the program tends to fade out early then we can end the program early. The presenter is prepared for this. But the many talks I've had with the authors and specialists is that they can interact, have writing or drawing activities and start a discussion among students to keep them engaged.

8. If you have a Zoom account and login to participate then all you need is the meeting ID# to join the meeting. But if you just click on the link for the Zoom meeting then you will need the meeting ID# and the passcode. Also Google Chrome is used for Zoom, Internet Explorer does not work with Zoom.

The easy to use registration page with easy to use pull down menus for any of the above programs is at [Macomb Intermediate School District Distance Learning Registration Page](https://www.misd.net/dl/)
(<https://www.misd.net/dl/>)

Denise Jobe, Event Coordinator

Distance Learning Dept.

Macomb Intermediate School District

586-228-3415 or email at [Denise Jobe](mailto:djobe@misd.net) (djobe@misd.net)

The Leader In Quality Distance Learning Programming

[Macomb Intermdidate School District Webpage](http://www.misd.net/distancelearning.net) (www.misd.net/distancelearning.net)