

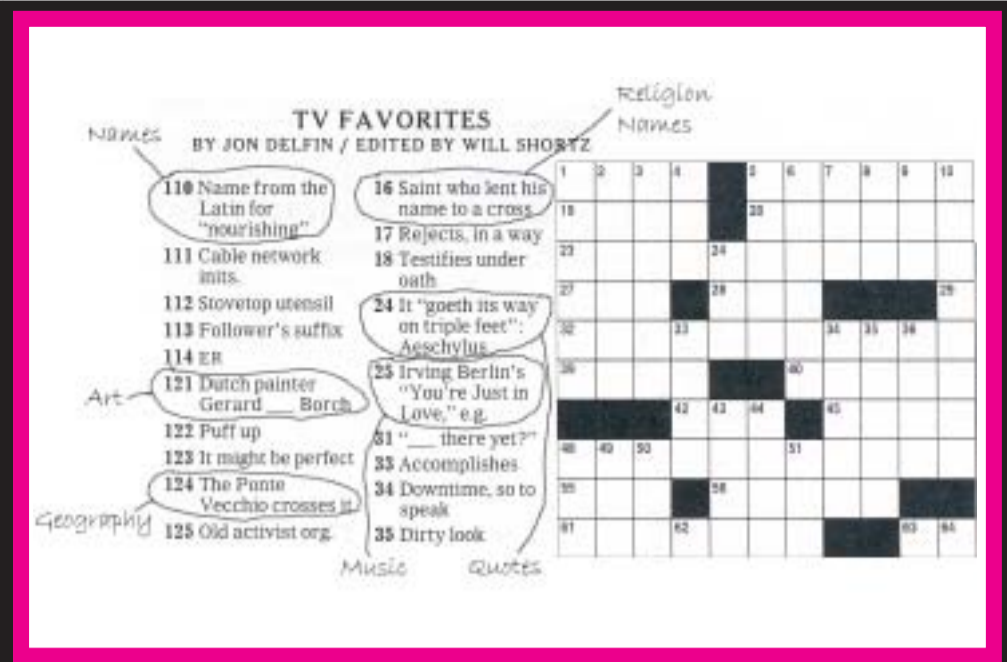
Abstract

During DePauw University's Winter Term, first-year students must attend co-curricular workshops. (They pick from an array of choices.) Historically, the library's sessions on various databases had moderate turnout with no particular enthusiasm. We wanted our workshops to highlight our resources and services and be enjoyed by our students.

In addition to the "game" sessions, we offered sessions on popular topics such as Google and Film Studies resources.

These fun workshops have all been fully enrolled, and student feedback has been very positive. The sessions helped us to reach two major goals of library instruction: giving students a friendly face in the library and teaching them relevant research skills.

We designed sessions based on popular games, such as Trivial Pursuit, crossword puzzles, and Balderdash. In playing the "library version," students used print and online reference tools to find the answers.



Lookin' Up Will Shortz



Students learn about print and online reference sources by working a Sunday *New York Times* crossword puzzle.

I invested in an atlas and a shelfful of almanacs and reference books. I don't always find what I'm looking for, but in searching for an answer, I'll often come across bits of information I can use in some later puzzle. The Indian emperors of the Kanva dynasty, Ted Bundy's assumed name, the winners of the 1974 Tony Awards: these things are bound to come in handy eventually.

• Listen to David Sedaris' short story "21 Down" about using reference books to finish crossword puzzles and other stuff.

- Identify clues that might be answered with common reference sources.
- Tour reference area highlighting:
 - prizes & winners
 - atlases & gazetteers
 - quote books
 - TV & film directories
 - etc.
- Demonstrate e-reference sources like *Encyclopedia Britannica*, *Oxford Reference Online*, and *refdesk.com*.

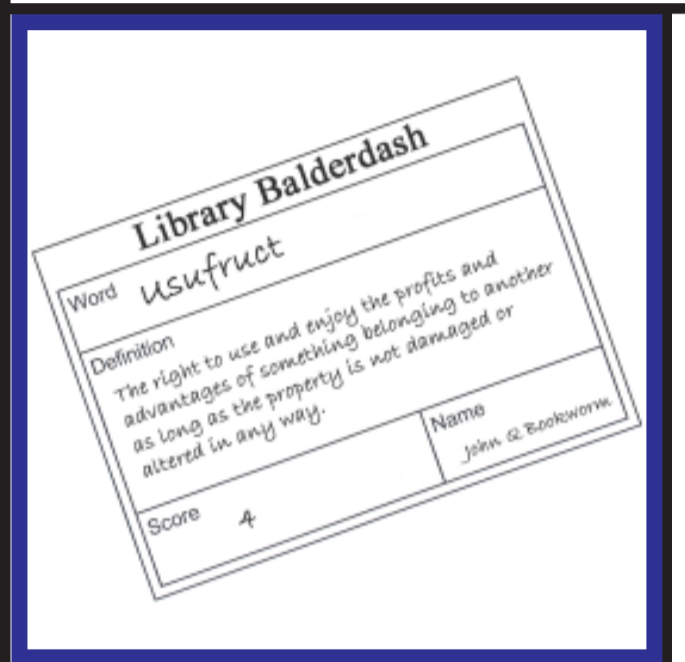


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Fun and Games in the Library



Library Balderdash!

Students explore our specialized dictionaries to find words other students won't know.

Tip 1:
Feed the students

Tip 2:
Have lots of librarians

Let the Games Begin!



Tip 3:
Pick good times for your students

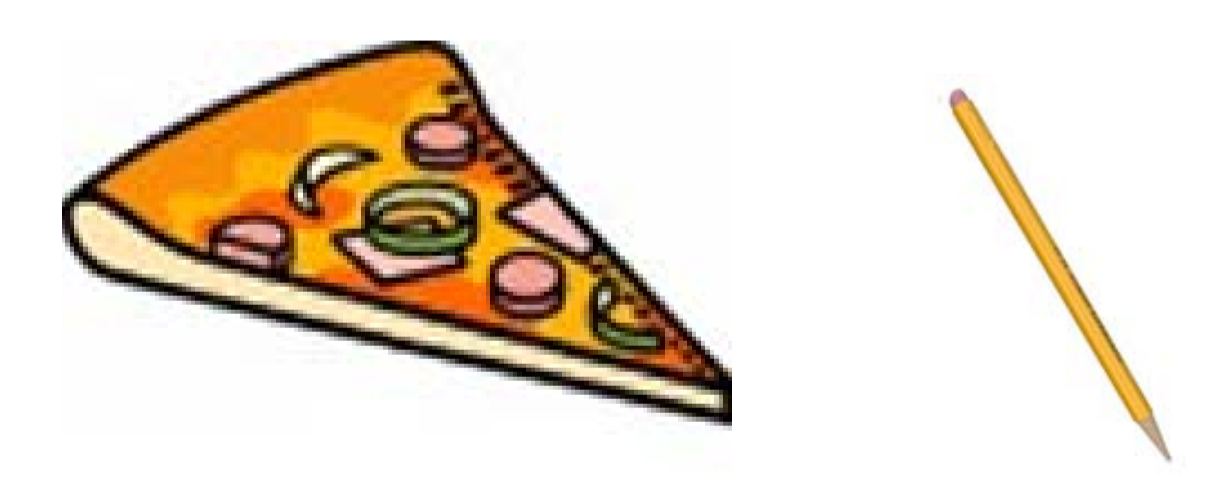
Tip 4:
Game rules are made to be broken

Good Googly Moogly

- Walk students through downloading and installing the Google toolbar.
- Highlight Google Search tips:
 - searching within a particular domain
 - using quotation marks to find a phrase
 - plus/minus signs to focus results
- Teach students how to use the Image Search feature.

Balderdash Rules

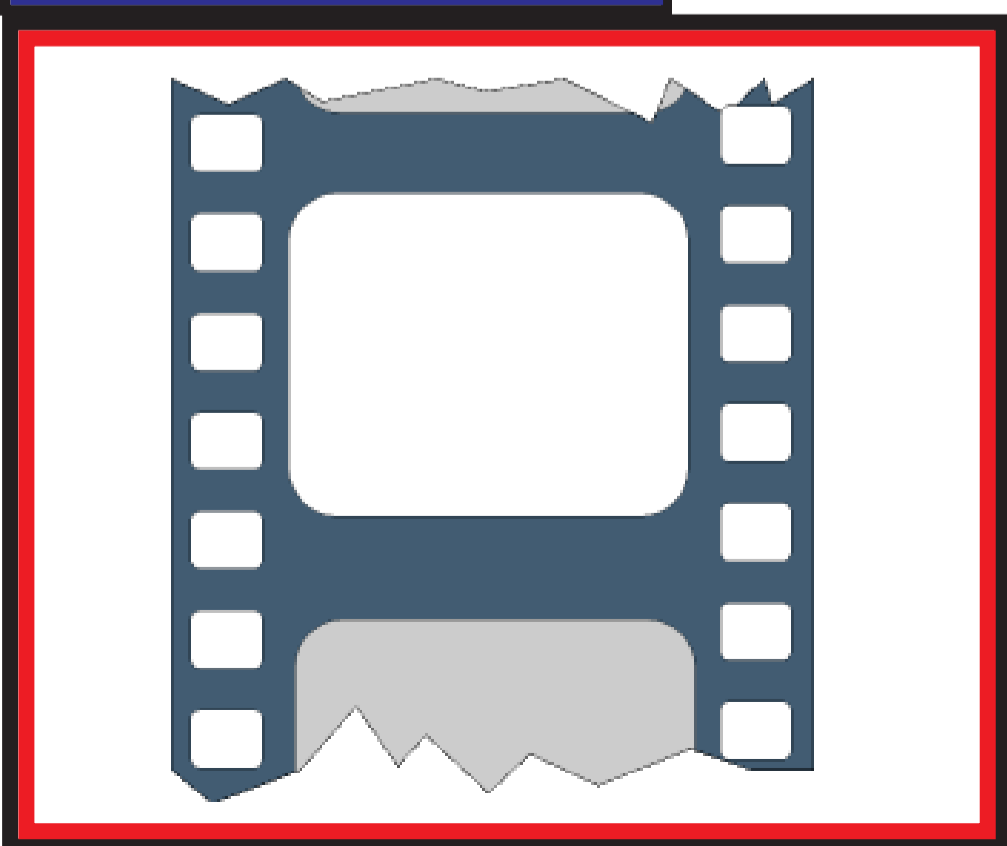
1. The One announces their word and writes definition.
2. Others make up definitions and pass them to The One, who reads them aloud.
3. Each person votes for what they think is the real definition.
4. Get 1 point for guessing real definition, and 1 point if anybody votes for your definition.



Getting Students in the Door and Happy About It



• Demonstrate language tools: let students read Google in Pig Latin or Swedish Chef (Bork, bork, bork!).



Finding Out About Films

- Demonstrate databases (*FIAF*, *Academic Search Premiere*, *New York Times*) that contain film reviews.
- Discuss ways to extract reliable reviews from online sources (looking for also-in-print-format newspapers).
- Sneak in a plug for using the old *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature* to find older reviews.

- Give students time to explore the Internet Movie Database (<http://www.imdb.com>).



Trivial Pursuit

Students use our reference books to find Trivial Pursuit answers.

Give a tour of call numbers, e.g.:

- People & Places
 - Biography = CT
- Arts & Entertainment
 - Music = M
 - US popular culture = E 169
 - Quotes = PN 6081
 - TV = PN 1992
- History = D 20
- Science & Nature = GE, Q, T
- Sports & Leisure = GV

Give a few pointers on finding info fast:

- Reference books cover broad topics, like comics, not specific topics like Batman.
- 1 Volume is probably alphabetical.
- Use the index for multi-volumesets.
- Some topics (e.g. Chinese women) could be found in more than one area (e.g. women - HQ, or China - DS).

- All teams work on questions at once.
- Many questions aren't answerable with reference sources, so give credit for finding relevant, interesting information.
- Serve pizza and pie!