

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

	Session Title	Session Description	Audience
Session 9 8:00am - 8:45am	Beyond Books: Tech Initiatives in the Library	Beyond Books demonstrates how technology initiatives in the library transform learning by harnessing communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity to engage students in lessons and community outreach. Session leaders will showcase uses of technology such as 3D printers, sublimation printers, Cricut machines, and iRobots to enhance learning across the curriculum. Sample websites: Tinkercad, Thingiverse, and Canva.	Middle School, High School
	Hot Topics on Zero Budget	You've heard all the buzzwords and new programs to try, but how do you make them work with no money? Makerspaces, STEAM Labs, flexible seating, videos, and scavenger hunts can be done with very little to no money when you explore community support and become a scavenger of opportunities!	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Using Constructivist Media Decoding to Empower Students and Improve Media Literacy	In this session, you will learn the basics of Constructivist Media Decoding as developed by Project Look Sharp, an outreach program of Ithaca College that works with K-16 educators to enhance critical thinking, civic engagement, and metacognition through media literacy and professional development.	Middle School, High School
	Meet the Authors - Secondary	Ten Virginia and DC Authors who write for Middle School and High School Readers will present information about their Author Visits and answer questions. One participant will win a free virtual author visit from one of the presenting authors.	Middle School, High School
	VAASL Supervisors' Session	This session will be a discussion/round table of topics for those who lead/supervise librarians. It is open to all who want to grow leadership skills.	All Levels
	Bring History to Life Using Interactive Social Studies Centers	Learn how collaboration between the library and social studies departments can bring history alive by creating interactive social studies centers. We have used a variety of activities like art, dancing, writing, and games/Break Out Boxes to engage students while reviewing Virginia Social Studies Standards of Learning.	Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School, High School
	Comics and Manga in the Classroom - Beginner Session	For years, comic books and graphic novels were dismissed as mere recreational reading, often relegated to a less serious status. However, emerging research reveals their true value: they engage struggling readers, enhance skills for accomplished ones, and effectively teach all subjects, not just English. Join us to explore their crucial role in education and discuss integrating them into curricula.	All Levels
	Protect Your Collection, Budget, and the Planet!	The CoLibri team will showcase their novel book covering system, demonstrating how libraries can cover a vast number of books with a cost-effective, rapid and easy technique. We will review typical estimates in terms of timing and money savings you can expect depending on the size of your collection and average number of books covered.	All Levels
	WONKA: Movie Magic Library Lessons	Book-based blockbusters have the potential of engaging students as they learn about fictional characters navigating their world, making decisions, and solving problems. Featuring Willy Wonka, (as well as other Roald Dahl books that have been made into movies), this interactive session includes library-ready lessons, an annotated bibliography and door prizes.	Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School
Session 10 11:00am - 11:45am	Mission Spies! Using Ciphers and Codes to Engage Students	Need a breakout or lesson boost? Try using ciphers/codes to get students moving and thinking. I will share examples of different ciphers and how we used them to get students collaborating, inquiring, and engaging in a Cold War Unit. Ciphers can be used for any lesson at any level.	Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School, High School
	Beyond the Pages	A selection of themed book club activities to do when you are short on time or if no one has read the book.	Middle School, High School
	History in the Making: The Power of Library-Social Studies Collaboration	Dive into the benefits and importance of collaboration between librarians and social studies teachers. Receive resources and lesson ideas to enhance student learning with a variety of interactive and engaging teaching strategies that are classroom-tested. From research and stations to historical artifact footlockers, come share ideas of how the library can engage in history!	Middle School, High School
	Reading as a Revolutionary Act	Join author Samira Ahmed for a candid discussion about the ongoing attacks on the freedom to read, the role of libraries as lighthouses of our democracy and why art is revolutionary. She will share personal stories of being "cancelled" and banned including work she's doing with Authors Against Book Bans and invites you to share your experiences as well.	All Levels
	Building Bridges through Books: High School Librarians Transforming Learning Experiences for All Abilities	This session is for secondary librarians ready to design and deliver interactive lessons tailored to the unique needs of students in low-incidence and multiple disabilities classrooms within the high school setting. Librarians will leave the session with a toolkit of activities and resources that can be readily integrated into their library programs to engage and support these exceptional students.	Middle School, High School
	Multiply Math Collaboration	Multiply math collaboration in the high school library! Virginia's 2025 Teacher of the Year and her Librarian and Instructional Technology Coach will share how they made the powerful connection between mathematics, information literacy, and technology and worked together to create meaningful learning for students.	High School
	Don't Be a Bot, Write Top-Notch Prompts	Discover the essential strategies for crafting powerful AI prompts. Learn how to effectively communicate with AI chatbots, get the most out of AI, and optimize user engagement. Unlock the secret of AI conversations and take your communication skills to the next level.	All Levels
	Digital Storytelling Resources	Interested in engaging with digital resources in storytelling and story writing? Then this is the session for you. Spend time learning about online tools and resources, bring your own tech to play, and then discuss and share ideas with your peers in this interactive session.	All Levels
	Your Story IS Library Advocacy!	Nan Carmack, President of the Virginia Library Association, and Christine Ware, VAASL Treasurer, will present findings and recommendations from the American Library Association's Advocacy Workshop, held in December 2023. Learn how VAASL and VLA have strengthened their collaboration and how you can be part of the next steps. Leave with actionable items for you to be a library advocate in your school, your community, and your state!	All Levels
	C.S.L. - Simple Strategies for Organizing Your Centers, Space, and Lessons	Explore strategies intended to make your class flow smoother. This session will include tips and tricks on how to include and organize simple centers during checkout. How to use pictures, colors, and signage, to organize your space for student independence and success. I will discuss why I find it helpful to do checkout first. (BYOD)	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School
	M.A.R.S. Month - A Specialist Collaboration Integrating Music, Arts, and Reading Activities	Collaborate with your fellow specialists for a month of integrated activities that are sure to excite your students and staff. We will learn how the librarian integrates Read-aThon, Book Fairs, March Madness, You've Been Booked, Book Walks, Family nights and research skills with music and art all month long.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate

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Session 11 12:00pm - 12:45pm	Helping Your School Be Equipped with Book Selections and Science of Reading	As new book and reading requirements unfold, we'll first share how you can instantaneously get Book Resumes to increase confidence in your collections and purchases. Second, we'll review share how to use TeachingBooks to identify popular picture books by phonetical classifications to reinforce literacy instruction.	All Levels
	Intentionally Accessible: Designing Welcoming Spaces for Everyone	Let's make your library a place everyone can enjoy! Come explore easy ways to make your space more accessible for all students. From simple tweaks to bigger changes, let's share ideas to try right away. You'll leave with new strategies for evaluating and improving your library to be even better!	Middle School, High School
	Playing with Words: Leveraging Scrabble for Improved Word Analysis	The Scrabble Challenge of 2023 aimed to enhance word analysis and vocabulary skills among students by introducing Scrabble as an engaging learning tool within the school library setting. Explore the transformative power of Scrabble to create a dynamic and educational experience for students that goes beyond the traditional classroom setting.	Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School
	Does Diversity Matter? (Hint: Yes!)	Who gets to write what, and why? One author's point of view about creating books for young people - the roadblocks, readers' responses, and why this is so important for all voices to be heard.	All Levels
	Empowering Your Narrative: Leveraging Comics and GoOpenVA for Success	In collaboration, VDOE and Virtual Virginia will share how to leverage the use of online learning platforms such as Canvas and GoOpenVA. This session will highlight resources that can be tailored to meet the instructional needs within your school division. Please bring your own device to this session.	All Levels
	Unlocking Your Library's Full Potential	Libraries are transforming into collaborative spaces that enhance student engagement and learning outcomes. This session explores effective strategies to utilize furniture, fixtures, and equipment to reduce the amount of space being used for book storage, contribute to LEED and LEVEL by BIFMA certifications, and fundamentally reshape spaces to enhance the student experiences.	All Levels
	Sorting by Subject...Sorry Dewey, You've Been Bumped	Nonfiction is the land of the lost for many students, but not anymore! With carefully curated subjects, time, and patience, you can create a nonfiction section that even an "I only read fiction!" student will explore. Walk through the process with me and leave with the confidence to "bump" Dewey.	All Levels
	Boost Your Productivity with AI	Using Adobe Firefly and Microsoft Copilot as potential tools, participants will learn how to generate prompts to improve workflow in the library and customize content based on student needs. Specific examples will be shown that are transferrable to various AI platforms.	All Levels
	Let's Talk about Intellectual Property: Plagiarism vs. Copyright	Have you ever had a student say they are going to jail for plagiarism? This session will discuss the differences between plagiarism and copyright as well as provide participants with examples of lessons that support empowering students as ethical users of ideas and information.	Middle School, High School
	Meet Them Where They Are: Using Instagram in the Library	How do you promote your library when everyone is glued to their phones? Meet them where they live by utilizing Instagram. This session is perfect for those who have no time, those who have tons of time, those who are just starting out, and those who have reached influencer status.	All Levels
Finding Story in VA's Hidden History (and Helping Students Love Research)	A cataclysmic Depression-era drought that devastated Virginia farms. Steely horsewomen. Penny auctions. Rainmakers. The Bonus Army. Author L. M. Elliott - winner of the Scott O'Dell Award (2024) and VLA's Cardinal Cup (2023) - shares stunning, forgotten history from her O'Dell-winning BEA AND THE NEW DEAL HORSE and its research treasure hunt.	Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School	
Session 12 1:00pm - 1:45pm	Global Art-ivism for All Ages with Students Rebuild	Give students the opportunity to make a positive difference in their global community through a Students Rebuild project. They will learn about a global issue, make personal connections, and create art in response. We will have picture book recommendations, lessons, passive programming ideas, and you will create your own project during our time together.	All Levels
	Building an Engaging Unit: Exploring the Primary Virginia Readers' Choice Book List	Discover how to develop engaging lessons around the primary 2024/2025 Virginia Readers' Choice book list. This session will provide practical strategies, creative ideas, and collaborative approaches to enhance student learning and foster a love for reading. Perfect for building a comprehensive and exciting unit around 10 different books!	Elementary School - Primary
	Saying Yes: Making Space for Student Service in Your Library	Ready to engage students and grow your library program in new and unexpected ways? Want to build a service-centered community, with all stakeholders? Come to our collaborative session and leave with new ideas on how to create a student service program that goes beyond shelving!	Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School, High School
	VRC High School Titles for 2024-2025	Come learn about the new VRC high school titles for this year as well as how to join the committee, and nominate titles. Come with some of your favorite reads of the year to share with others!	High School
	The Quiet Olympics	In this session we will put on the Olympics in the library and then use the data to collaborate with our math teachers!	Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School
	MBK Nonprofit Fair: Connecting School Assignments to Real-World Issues	The purpose of this session is to provide school librarians with cost-effective ideas for collaborating with local organizations and museums. The Nonprofit Fair engages students in relevant and high-interest topics and aims to create lifelong learners. The school library provides a safe environment for students to explore new or familiar situations. Session attendants will learn how to organize, set up, advertise, and sponsor their own Nonprofit Fair. I will discuss sample student assessments from different subjects (English, Art, History) and share my timeline.	All Levels
	Comics and Manga in the Classroom - Advanced Session	Join us for a collaborative session to analyze comics as historical artifacts, explore their history, and create lesson plans using comics and manga for all subjects. This working session will involve brainstorming ideas and reviewing my planning process for teaching with comics. Bring your device and get ready to collaborate!	All Levels
	From Epic Tales to Everyday Heroes: High School Students Shaping Young Citizens	In this session, attendees will discover how high school students were able to transform their knowledge of epic and tragic heroes to create citizenship lessons for elementary school students fostering a sense of responsibility and positive community values for all that were involved in this project.	High School
	You Aren't Too Busy to Genrefy! (Or - How to Genrefy on 20 Minutes a Day)	Are you interested in genrefying your library, but don't know where to start? Wondering if it is worth the effort? I've genrefied both an elementary and a middle school library and I am a believer! Join me as I walk you through my experiences, how my circulation increased, and share tips and tricks on making libraries a more user friendly space.	All Levels