

MONTHLY MEDIA DISPATCH

The newsletter of the Erie 2 BOCES Media Center



Tonies: Audiobooks for Ages 3 and Up

Coming soon to the Media Center: a new way to listen to audiobooks.

The Toniebox is a screen-free, kid-friendly audio player. Add a Tonie figurine to the top of the Toniebox and it will start playing, with easy-to-use controls right on the box. Choose from a wide selection of different Tonies figurines, from Disney characters to storybook favorites, for stories, music, and learning.

Some of the available Tonies will include:

- Llama Llama Red Pajama
- Pete the Cat
- Curious George
- Dragons Love Tacos
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid

... and many more!

Tonies figurines will also come with matching print books, so that kids can read along to the audiobook.

Fun, interactive, durable and portable, Tonies are a great way for younger students to listen to audiobooks!



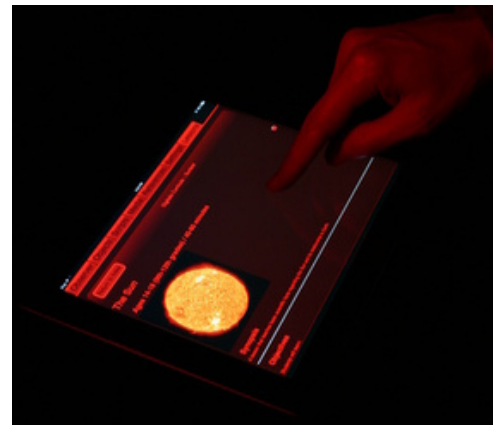
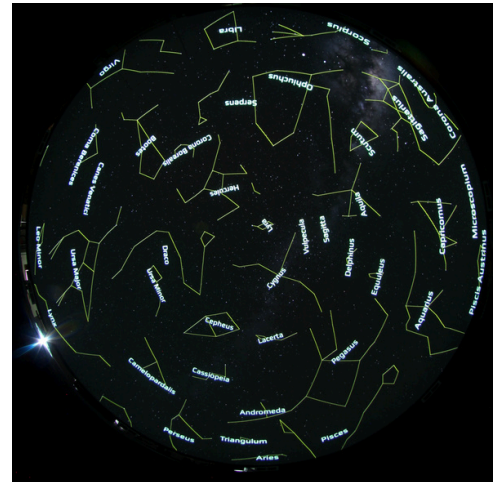
Digitarium Training and New Systems Coming Soon

There's nothing like the experience of a planetarium for bringing astronomy to life. While field trips to local planetariums are always an option, why not bring the planetarium to your school? With our **Digitarium Portable Planetarium** systems, you can do just that, transforming your gymnasium or other large space into a planetarium, using an inflatable dome and projector.

This summer, the Media Center plans to update our Digitarium Portable Planetarium systems to newer models, with higher resolution projections and other improved features.

For teachers who already have experience using the Digitarium and have received training, the new models shouldn't require further training. However, for those who are new to the Digitarium or feel they need refreshing, the fall will be a great opportunity! We will be offering two full-day training sessions provided by the vendor, Digitalis, at the LoGuidice Center on September 12th and 13th. Those interested need only register for one of those days. Attendance will be capped at 25 for each session.

If you are interested in receiving training, please reach out to Casey Twichell: ctwichell@e2ccb.org, 716-672-4371 ext. 2023. We will be contacting those interested in signing up once registration is open.



Code Master Logic Games



Available now from the Media Center is a puzzle game that teaches the basic principles of computational thinking without having to use a computer.

Code Master, from Think Fun, is a game for ages 8 and up in which the player must find a path for their avatar through a Minecraft-inspired world, collecting all the crystals on the map before reaching the portal. Kids exercise their logic and problem-solving skills while being introduced to programming concepts such as debugging and conditional checks.

Each kit contains 7 game sets, for use by a whole class in small groups.

New 3D Pens

Also newly added to the Media Center: new 3D pens!

Replacing our older 3D pens are new sets of **3Doodler Flow** pens. From the makers of the world's first 3D pen, the 3Doodler Flow is as easy to use as it is versatile. With an adjustable temperature, the Flow supports both PLA and ABS filaments in the standard 1.75mm size.

Our kits include 6 pens, a starter set of PLA filament, plus other accessories to get your students up and running, including doodle pads and stencils with plenty of design options.



Cricut Machines Coming Soon

For next school year, get ready to unleash your creativity!

Cricut cutting machines and heat presses allow you to make custom creations in a variety of materials. The Cricut Maker 3 is a precision cutting machine that can engrave metal, deboss leather, cut vinyl, poster board—you name it. Upload your cutting template to the app, load your material, and the Cricut will take care of the rest. Take your cut materials and use them to create custom banners, stickers, T-shirts, and much more.

For gift cards and other smaller projects, we will also have a compact Cricut Joy cutting machine.

Then, if you've cut your designs into iron-on material, use the Cricut Mug Press to create your own coffee mugs!

The machines will come with a small amount of material to get started, but districts will need to supply their own consumables for class projects.

Look for these exciting new offerings in September!



Teach AI with Robotic Arms

Also coming in September: programmable robotic arms!

The Magician Lite robotic arm from Dobot is designed for K-12 education and allows students to learn about programming, AI, and robotics. The arm's software platform features block programming through a graphical user interface and includes multiple AI modules, such as voice and image recognition. With different tools, the arm can grab and move objects with the gripper, the suction cup, or draw using the pen holder.

Each kit will include a full robotics curriculum plus an AI Teaching Kit, containing activities for teaching AI based on real-life use cases.

The Watershed Game

Lastly, we'll be adding a unique new set of games to the Media Center over the summer.

Developed by the Minnesota Sea Grant and the University of Minnesota, The Watershed Game is an interactive simulation about watershed management and how land use affects water quality. The game builds teamwork, decision-making, and leadership skills, as well as science and math skills.

The game comes in two versions. The Local Leader Version was originally designed for use by elected or appointed officials and other community leaders but can be used with high school students. Players choose from a variety of tool cards, each card representing policy changes, best management practices, etc., in order to achieve clean water.

The Classroom Version is an adaptation of the Local Leader Version modified to suit a classroom setting. For grades 6 and up, this version has the same basic structure but includes both small-group work and whole-class play components.

Explore how land use affects our shared environment with The Watershed Game, coming this fall!



Reminder: Return Materials by June 14th



As we get ready for summer, please don't forget to return all materials that have been checked out from the Media Center by Friday, June 14th.

If you will need to keep materials beyond that date later into June, please reach out to Casey Twichell by email or phone: ctwichell@e2ccb.org, 716-672-4371 ext. 2023.

We will also be making materials available over the summer for those teaching summer school, as individual cases allow.

Thank you, and have a great summer!