WISL IN THE SPRING
BRINGING YOU THE LATEST BUZZ STRAIGHT FROM THE STACKS

March/April 2021

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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WISL hosted a PUBLIB session this past January that examined the importance of self care in the library profession. This session explored some of the ways our teammates practice self-care and manage their workloads. Let’s see some of the ways our colleagues take care of themselves.

“I take care of myself by allowing time for reflection & meditation, even if it's just 5 minutes before the doors open.”

“I label my emotions, even when it's hard.”

“I keep my work at work... It's taken a long, long time to figure out how to do this, but my job is never-ending, so I could easily bring work home every night of my life and still never be done.”

“I keep in touch with my teenage nephew; he always has something funny to say!”

“Humor. Blowing off steam with laughter.”
APRIL IS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

April is National Poetry Month and National Library Week. This year’s National Library Week theme is “Welcome to your library.” What better way to welcome all to the library than with some intersectional poetry?

On the Pulse of Morning
Maya Angelou

A Rock, A River, A Tree
Hosts to species long since departed,
Marked the mastodon,
The dinosaur, who left dried tokens
Of their sojourn here
On our planet floor,
Any broad alarm of their hastening doom
Is lost in the gloom of dust and ages.

But today, the Rock cries out to us, clearly, forcefully,
Come, you may stand upon my
Back and face your distant destiny,
But seek no haven in my shadow,
I will give you no hiding place down here.

You, created only a little lower than
The angels, have crouched too long in
The bruising darkness
Have lain too long
Facedown in ignorance,
Your mouths spilling words
Armed for slaughter.

The Rock cries out to us today,
You may stand upon me,
But do not hide your face.

A WOMAN SPEAKS
BY AUDRE LORDE
MOON MARKED AND TOUCHED BY SUN
MY MAGIC IS UNWRITTEN
BUT WHEN THE SEA TURNS BACK
IT WILL LEAVE MY SHAPE BEHIND.
I SEEK NO FAVOR
UNTouched BY BLOOD
UNRELENTING AS THE CURSE OF LOVE
PERMANENT AS MY ERRORS
OR MY PRIDE
I DO NOT MIX
LOVE WITH PITY
NOR HATE WITH SCORN
AND IF YOU WOULD KNOW ME
LOOK INTO THE ENTRAILS OF URANUS
WHERE THE RESTLESS OCEANS POUND.

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I DO NOT DWELL
WITHIN MY BIRTH NOR MY DIVINITIES
WHO AM AGELESS AND HALF-GROWN
AND STILL SEEKING
MY SISTERS
WITCHES IN DAHOMEY
WEAR ME INSIDE THEIR COILED CLOTHS
AS OUR MOTHER DID
MOURNING.

I HAVE BEEN WOMAN
FOR A LONG TIME
BEFORE MY SMILE
I AM TREACHEROUS WITH OLD MAGIC
AND THE NOON’S NEW FURY
WITH ALL YOUR WIDE FUTURES
PROMISED
I AM
WOMAN
AND NOT WHITE.

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ENGAGING OUR PATRONS
PEEPS LAUNCHER

KID FRIENDLY STEM PROJECT
BY AUBREY HUFF

Love Peeps or hate 'em, you and your patrons will get a kick out of this easy Peeps Launcher! Made from common household products, this project could translate well into COVID-friendly kits to take home for continued social distance.

Materials needed:

- Paper Towel Tube
- Ruler
- Masking Tape
- Plastic Spoon
- Peeps or marshmallows

You need a flat surface, such as a tabletop, to make this work.
Tape the plastic spoon to one end of your ruler so the bowl part of the spoon is at the very end of the ruler.
Tape your paper towel tube to your table. You want it to be fairly secure. If it rolls around it won't work as well.
Tape the ruler to the paper towel tube so they are perpendicular to each other. You can secure your ruler; it is easy to take the tape off and move it around.

Time to make those peeps fly!
First up, safety. Make sure you aren't pointing it at anyone.

Put the spoon and of the ruler down and load your peep into the bowl of the spoon. Then push down quickly and firmly on the other end of the ruler.

There they go!

The Physics of this Peeps STEM Experiment

What you made here is a lever. A lever is a simple machine used to lift heavy weights. A see-saw is a perfect example of a lever.

The point where the ruler touches the paper towel tube is the fulcrum. The lever works when you push down on the empty end of the ruler. The opposite end of the ruler pops up. Levers work by taking the force you apply and changing it’s direction. They also allow you to increase your input force. In other words, it makes it easier for work to be done. Think of a crowbar, that’s a lever.
FEATURED PHRASE

Information activist: someone who works to make information available to the general population

Featured phrase in a sentence:

DaJuan acted as an information activist when he ensured people knew where to find voting information for the upcoming election.

Librarian Pets at Play

Jasper the Wonderdog competes in an epic game of Hide and Seek with Librarian Aubrey. He's not very good at hiding, but he's still a very good boy!

Do you have updates for the next newsletter? Send them to Aubrey at huffa@uwstout.edu