ARE THESE KIDS READING COMIC BOOKS IN CLASS?

YES! AND YOU SHOULD READ THEIR READING SCORES!
Graphic Novels, Comics, and the Common Core: Using Graphic Novels Across the Elementary Curriculum

American Association of School Librarians’ Conference 2013
Karen Gavigan, University of South Carolina
Sue C. Kimmel, Old Dominion University
“Fictional story presented in comic-strip format and published as a book” (Merriam-Webster Online).

“A long comic book that would need a bookmark.”
Will Eisner
Manga

- **Manga** – (mawn-guh) – Japanese word for comic book
- Comics originally published in Japan.
- Read right to left
- Serials
Gaining in Popularity

- $45.12 million in comics and graphic novel sales in May, 2013 represents an increase of 90% over the $23.7 million in sales in May, 2003 (Comichron.com (Miller, 2013))

- Digital graphic novel sales have doubled since 2010 (IcV2 Report, July, 2011)

- Scholastic Book Fair GN sales from 2004 - 2007 4 Million (Reed Bus. Information, 2007)

- Public libraries have shown a 25% increase in overall circulation after adding graphic novels to their collections (Miller, 2005)
Award Winners

2013 Eisner Award for Early Readers (up to age 7)

Geisel Award Winners

2013 Eisner Award for Kids (Ages 8 - 12)

Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction

Sibert Honor book for Non-Fiction
Curriculum Connections

- Connect to all content areas
- Suitable for all skill levels
- Provide introductions to new content and vocabulary
- Engage students in challenging curriculum concepts
  - Give students a chance to explore visual literacy & develop critical thinking skills
  - Present information about curriculum areas & social issues in ways that appeal to reluctant readers

Developer & Promoting

Graphic Novel Collections

Miller, 2005
Self-Selected Reading

- Free Voluntary Reading FVR – reading because you want to & what you want to read

- Research (Krashen, 2004)
  - Quantity counts
  - Longevity counts
  - Improvements in writing, spelling, comprehension

What Does Other Research Say?

- Boosted reading interests among students with disabilities (Young, 2005; Gavigan, 2011; Smetana & Grisham, 2012)

- High interest topics / visual support were beneficial to English Language Learners (ELL) (Cary, 2004; Chun, 2009; Krashen, 1996; Liu, 2004; Ranker, 2007)

- Help develop a taste for reading/serve as a bridge to other literature (Krashen 1994, 2004, Ugile & Krashen, 1996)

- When given the opportunity to select reading materials, boys often choose graphic novels (Cary, 2004; Krashen, 2004)
Appropriate for My Collection and Classroom?

- Review/update your collection development plan
- Use reviews and professional resources
- Refer to award lists and ALSC Graphic Novel Core Collection list
- Get hands on with the books - Free Comic Book Day - first Saturday in May
As librarians and teachers, how can we make our graphic novel collections, and lessons, more relevant to the curriculum and to our patrons?
Connecting to the Standards

AASL Standards for the 21st-Century Learner

4.1.2 Read widely and fluently to make connections with self, the world, and previous reading.

4.1.3 Respond to literature and creative expressions of ideas in various formats and genres.
Connecting to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

- Informational text in a variety of formats
- Use information gained from illustrations
- Analyze visual elements from graphic novels
- Complexity of student reading, including graphic novels
Grade 2, Reading Standard 7: Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

Grade 5, Reading Standard 7: Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., graphic novel, multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem).
“Comics are a gateway drug to literacy.”

~~ Art Spiegelman, author of *Maus: A Survivor’s Tale* (Mouly 2011)
Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

words and pictures by Mo Willems
Fairy Tale Comics

Edited By Chris Duffy

Classic Tales Told By Extraordinary Cartoonists
Classics

The Little Prince

Kid Beowulf

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

The Wind in the Willows

A Wrinkle in Time
Traditional Literature
Favorite Series Titles Build Fluency
Accompanying audio - readers can listen to the text read to them by the author

Can activate the audio on individual balloons, soon graduating to reading by themselves.

Available in multiple languages - Spanish, French, Chinese and Russian

Excellent for ESL and ELL students
Science
Science

- Lessons in Science Safety
- Zombies: And Forces and Motion
- Mummies and Sound
Summer Camp Science Mysteries

- Summer camp friends solve mysteries through science
- Currently 8 in the series
- Graphic fiction / nonfiction
- Hybrid
- Ages 8 – 10
- Include glossary, instructions for two experiments, URL for supplementary material
Science
Science

The Wonderful World of Sticky Burr®

Books

Characters

Map

Fun Stuff

Journal

That's me!

Fan Club

Music

http://www.stickyburr.com
"We want to inspire them," Bonsen says, "to think about the world around them not as it is, but as it could be."
Color Racer
08.23.12, by Howtoons

Here is a simple game to help you with your primary and secondary color. Start your engines!
Social Studies
Biography
Geronimo Stilton Series

• Originally from Italy
• Over 50 in the series
• Translated into 36 languages
Graphic History
Math
3,856 story possibilities
Chocolate or Vanilla?
Writing
Connecting to the Standards

AASL Standards for the 21st-Century Learner

2.1.6 Use the writing process, media and visual literacy, and technology skills to create products that express new understandings.

4.1.8 Use creative and artistic formats to express personal learning.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.3 Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.
3rd Grade

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.3a Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

5th Grade

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.3a Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
Wordless Picture Books
LUNCH MONEY

By the author of the million-copy best-seller FRINDLE

A NOVEL BY

Andrew Clements

Illustrated by Brian Selznick
Writing Your Own Comics
http://www.comicmaster.org.uk/
http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/comic-creator-30021.html
She's busy illustrating.

Jack and the Beanstalk.

She told me to go lie down.

He told me to go away... Did you say Jack and the Beanstalk?

That's what he's illustrating!

Oh no! No one will buy two books with the same story!

But... you can tell the same story many different ways... True... and they do different kinds of illustrations.

Maybe we should tell them anyway!

He never understands a thing I say!

I have the same problem with her. Let's go see what they're doing.
Comic Jigsaw

- Take your given selection from the story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears
- Decide as a group how you will convey this selection as a comic strip panel
  - Frames
  - Speech Bubbles
  - Characters
- Work as a group to create your panel
Panels

Show sequence, movement, relative size
Get Super Results Using Graphic Novels

When teachers and librarians use graphic novels to bring positive changes in the literacy lives of their students, the results can be “more powerful than a locomotive!”
Onward and upward, using graphic novels in your classrooms and libraries!
Questions?
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skimmel@odu.edu
Using Graphic Novels across the Elementary Curriculum: A Selective Bibliography of Resources

Professional Books
Websites

Comics in Education
http://www.humblecomics.com/comicsedu/index.html

Comics in the Classroom
http://comicsintheclassroom.net

Graphic Classroom
http://graphicclassroom.blogspot.com

Graphic Novel Reporter
http://www.graphicnovelreporter.com

Graphic Novel Resources
http://graphicnovelresources.blogspot.com

Librarian’s Guide to Anime and Manga
http://www.koyagi.com/Libguide.html

My Comic Shop – Browse by Graphic Novel Publisher
http://www.mycomicshop.com/graphicnovels

No Flying! No Tights!
http://www.noflyingnotights.com

Reading with Pictures
http://www.readingwithpictures.org

Graphic novels for Libraries’ listserv
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gn4lib

Review Sources

•Booklist and Book Links
•Horn Book
•ICv2 (http://icv2.com)
•Library Journal
•Library Media Connection
•Publishers’ Weekly
•School Library Journal

Free Comic Book Day is the first Saturday in May -
http://www.freecomicbookday.com