

Science is a blast!



WLA Conference 2009

MESS:

Marvelous Explorations through Science and Stories

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It all started with a bus...



The Magic School Bus visited the
Marathon County Public Library
April 17 & 18, 2002

Funding provided by Home Depot, Charter Communications,
WFXS Fox Channel 55, and MCPL.

Classes were scheduled to tour the bus and explore the activities on board...



...and meet Ms. Frizzle!



The bus was the hook...



but the stars of the program

were... 



High school scientists



And the library!

Tours...



...and a science-themed story.


Formula:

- ◆ Mix ideas with creativity
- ◆ Add teen-age energy
- ◆ Desire to collaborate
- ◆ Teachers and Librarians

Mix well for Magic and a little
MESS!




Planning Six Months Out

- ◆ Choose your dates
 - ◆ Contact high school science teachers
 - ◆ Reserve meeting rooms, special equipment
 - ◆ Take the week off of other programs
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3 Months to MESS

- ◆ Send letters to elementary schools
- ◆ Create registration procedure
- ◆ Check in with high school students
- ◆ Select science stories
- ◆ Purchase bookmarks and giveaways for students


1 Month to MESS

- ◆ Send press releases to media
 - ◆ Meet with all library staff about details
 - ◆ Assign staff to tour schedule
 - ◆ Collect books and materials for displays
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1 Week to MESS

- ◆ Confirm class appointments by phone or email
 - ◆ Process library card applications for visiting students
 - ◆ Set up in-library displays
 - ◆ Confirm staff duties
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MESS Days


- ◆ Set up tables, tour areas
 - ◆ Post directional signs
 - ◆ Provide juice and snacks for teen scientists
 - ◆ Have fun!
 - ◆ And...
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And watch the magic!






After the MESS is over...

- ◆ Send Thank-you notes to high school teachers and students.
 - ◆ Send Thank-you letters to principals of participating high schools, commending teachers on their participation in this cooperative venture.
 - ◆ Ask for feedback from teachers and staff for future planning.
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Other materials available on WLA Website

- ◆ Bibliography of science related books to use with groups
 - ◆ Sample press release to send to schools and media
 - ◆ Chart to organize tours
 - ◆ This presentation
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