

The New York Times

An Online Resource Room Introduces a World of Books (and the Authors Who Create Them)

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By Alice Keim. *The New York Times*.

Abstract (Article Summary)

TeachingBooks.net, a subscription-based Web portal, was reintroduced in its present form in March. It offers materials ranging from thematic book lists, reading guides and lesson plans compiled by real-world teachers to author interviews, information on awards and extensive links to book-related sites. The site also offers easily accessible audio readings of many of the books it features.

Full Text (231 words)

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A rapidly growing Web site created by a former bookseller aims to harness the Internet's riches to help teachers, students and parents build on their love of books.

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Nick Glass, founder of TeachingBooks.net, said that more than 9,000 different resources are now under the site's umbrella.

The Authors Up-Close section includes a series of video interviews, like one in which the Caldecott Medal winner Denise Fleming demonstrates her pulp-painting illustration methods, left, while discussing her creative thought process. An interview with Christopher Paul Curtis, a Newbery medalist, includes a glimpse into his personal history and a reading of one of his books.

Anyone can try the site free for 14 days. Annual fees range from \$115 for individuals to \$325 for a 10-branch library to \$4,000 for districts with more than 100 schools. Exploring authors' views on techniques and the ideas that inspire them can give people of all ages a deeper understanding of books and the world that contains them. Mr. Glass marshals the Web's multimedia possibilities to that end. Alice Keim [Illustration]