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The Cover:

"Books take you far away"
The winning poster in the
competition "Library Time",
illustrated by Ofra Amit.

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אוניברסיטת בר-אילן
הספרייה ללימודי מידע

Censorship on children's books in Israel

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This article was written following a discussion held at the Knesset (Parliament of Israel) Committee for Children's Rights on May 22, 2005. The discussion dealt with a suggestion to institute supervision on children's books in Israel. The article briefly reviews the history of children's literature at large, and children's literature in Hebrew in particular. The contribution of Children Literature to child development is examined, as are the fundamentals of Bibliotherapy (mental treatment by means of literature). Described is a history of censorship of Children's Literature around the world. Briefly described are arguments against "un-educational and detrimental messages" in some of the children's literature published in Israel, followed by a summary of the responses of writers, academics and literary critics to these arguments. Finally, details are brought regarding projects of the Ministry of Education and libraries in Israel for the encouragement of children reading classic children's literature, with an emphasis on the role of the libraries in this process.

A Story Time Event in the Laboratory of Children's Librarianship of Haifa University

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This paper introduces the advantages of telling folk literature to children, as a means to enhance their reading curiosity. A storytelling event was carried out in the laboratory of children's librarianship of Haifa University in order to study the effect of it on the children's desire to independently read similar texts as an outcome of the verbal performance. Our audiences were third graders from a primary school, who came to the library for various lab activities. The story narrated to them was chosen from the Israel Folktale Archives (IFA). The idea of telling folktales to children stems from the fact that folk literature is based on patterns of narration, as well as typical Para-linguistic markers, such as gestures, intonations and pauses. Altogether, these literary characteristics enable children to successfully follow the narrative, remember it and grasp its significance. A story telling event is not only about the subject of the text. It consists of the affinity between the teller and his story, and the audience. The storytelling event gave the children an opportunity to become active participants in the creation of the story, mainly due to the fact that the storyteller was not forced to follow closely the original narrative. As an outcome of the story time activity, the children showed increasing interest and curiosity about the collection of folktales exhibited in the lab. They also reported that of all the offered activities in the lab, the story time was their favorite and most enjoyable one.

School Library and Its Librarians: Perceptions and Attitudes of the Pupils, Teachers and Librarians

Noa Aharony (Dr.), Beit-Berl College: Department of Information Science, Department of Information Science, Bar-Ilan University. aharonn1@mail.biu.ac.il

The current study aims to explore the perception and attitudes of school libraries and of school librarians from the pupil's, librarian's, and teacher's points of view among three educational settings: elementary school, junior high school and high school. Twenty three school libraries participated in this study as well as one thousand one hundred sixty two pupils, one hundred teachers and thirty one librarians/ Examining the research finding it seems that school library is an active, lively media center, but teachers have reported that their relationship with the librarian is not consistent. This finding is similar to the one which was recorded in the librarian's and at the pupil's reports. All three groups claim that there is not enough collaboration between librarians and teachers. Another interesting finding indicated that the better the librarian-teacher relationship and the greater ease of use of library services, the more the pupils are familiar with, are satisfied with, and make use of school library.

Hypertext in Electronic Books for Children

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Tarshish Dahary-Herskovits (MA)

The article examines the level of interest of 14 boys (age 10-11) in reading fiction in electronic format. The first three chapters of Eric Kestner's "The Little Man" were chosen and converted onto a website, which was constructed for the study. The first chapter was presented as a linear text (without any links). The second chapter was hypertext based with a hierarchal and net structure. The third chapter had a hierarchal structure only. The research tools in this qualitative research were the website and its log file, partially structured personal interviews and observations of individuals and of the group as a whole. It was found that the hypertext is suited to children's fiction as long as the links are adapted to the children's needs. It was proven with much certainty that the hypertext structure which suits children best is the net structure, in contrast to the hierarchal structure, which was found, in other studies, to be more suited to a more mature audience.

False Web memories – A case study on finding information about Andrei Broder

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Andrei Broder, the well-known Internet researcher does not have a home page of his own. This complicates finding information about him, especially since during the last ten years he switched several employers. Especially of interest is the page: research.compaq.com/people/Andrei_Broder/bio.html, which almost seven years after Andrei Broder left Compaq, still appears among the top-ten results displayed by Google for the query Andrei Broder as of June 2005. The title of this page is "No such user" and its content is "Sorry, Andrei Broder is no longer working in Compaq Corporate Research." The case becomes even more interesting, since the actual page and the whole site research.compaq.com are inaccessible at least since March 2005, and the Google's cached copy is from December 2005! In this paper we investigate the placement of this page at various search engines over the years, and describe searchers' efforts to find information about the job title and business address of Andrei Broder as of May 2005, when he was still working at IBM.

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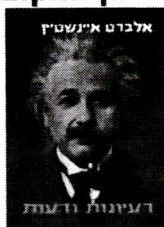
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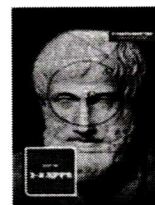
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