The Alice Hagar Curriculum Connection is published twice a semester for the School of Education and users of the Alice Hagar Curriculum Center at Murphy Library, UW-L by Teri Holford-Talpe.
Speaking of fourth grade: What listening to kids tells us about school in America  
By Inda Schaenen

A refreshing take on public schooling in America from the point of view of 4th graders--those most impacted by education reform. Journalist and educational researcher Schaenen presents a year's worth of feedback from interviews with students with her own critical commentary. Resulting is a discussion of a wide range of issues: why we attend school, what makes a strong teacher, testing, reading, math, science, and daily interactions. The book is an interesting and high-quality ethnographic examination of real-life experiences of the current state of classrooms that offers new awareness into complexities and underrepresented voices. Currently in the new books section on the ground floor, but will find its spot in the main stacks soon.

Deeper learning: How eight innovative public schools are transforming education in the twenty-first century  
By Monica Martinez & Dennis McGrath

A collection of inspiring stories based on the Deeper Learning concept, this book features eight public schools, including one magnet and three charter schools, with 30% or above minority student populations, and 32%-100% students on free or reduced lunch programs. Their message is to show that through Deeper Learning, success can be offered to all students.

Reviving Ophelia: saving the selves of adolescent girls  
By Mary Pipher

Mary Pipher argues that girls are coming of age in what she terms a “girl poisoning culture.” This book takes a look at the effects of societal pressures on American adolescent girls, and utilizes many case studies from the author's experience as a therapist. The book has been described as a “call to arms” and highlights the increased levels of sexism and violence that affect young females.

Not much just chillin’: the hidden lives of middle schoolers  
By Linda Perlstein

From the publisher's website: "Not Much Just Chillin' is an up-to-date anthropology of the critically formative middle school years. Linda Perlstein spent a year immersed in the lunchroom, classrooms, hearts, and minds of a group of suburban middle schoolers and emerged with this pathbreaking account. The book follows five representative kids through the school year as they study, flirt, argue, rollerskate, instant-message and explain what they think and feel. NMJC offers a trail map to the baffling no-man's-land between child and teen, the time when children don't want to grow up, and so badly do."

(call on book covers for a link to a review of the material)
Exploring environmental science with children and teens
By Eileen Harrington
Harrington offers unique programming and teaching ideas about ways to entertain, teach, and inform students about environmental issues. Her book includes background information of issues, ideas and strategies for toddlers, children and teens, and a list of age-appropriate titles.
American Library Association
Call # PROF 027.6 H37

Beyond Jupiter: the story of planetary astronomer Heidi Hammel
By Fred Bortz, Call # CURR 520.9 Bor
In the Women's Adventures in Science series: stories for middle-aged kids about real contemporary, working women and their scientific careers. Most of the women in the series had to overcome major personal or societal obstacles to establish themselves in their field and career. Each woman participated in her book’s creation.

Developing assessments for the next generation science standards
From the Committee on Developing Assessments of Science Proficiency K-12; National Research Council of the National Academies; Board on Testing and Assessment, Board on Science Education
The National Academies Press, Washington D.C.
Call # PROF 507.1 D48

Loud or soft? High or low? A look at sound
By Jennifer Boothroyd
In this Lightning Bolt Books series, the what, why, and how of sound is covered in simple terms for younger children. It includes activities, glossary and further reading ideas. Very user friendly!
Lerner Publications Company.
Call # CURR 534 Boo.
Growing La Crosse Readers

On Saturday, November 8
From 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
At the La Crosse Public Library

A morning workshop of early preschool literacy tips for anyone interested in books and children. Dr. Dipesh Navsaria, “pediatrician, occasional children’s librarian, public health professional, child health advocate and founding medical director of Reach Out and Read Wisconsin,” will present his program Books Build Better Brains. For more information, please read this flyer or visit the La Crosse Public Library website.

Battle of the Books

On Tuesday, December 2
From 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
At Murphy Library, Room 121

In our effort to connect pre-service teachers to young adult literature, the Alice Hagar Curriculum Center collaborated with the School of Education and The La Crosse Public Library in October to celebrate the “Month of the Young Adolescent.”

Linda Jerome, teen librarian at the Public Library, presented a lively talk on teen lit. As a follow up, the collaborating team is hosting a Battle of the Books. Teams have signed up, and are currently preparing for battle by reading the 10 books on the list of teen literature. Heads will butt in room 121 of Murphy Library on Tuesday Dec 2 at 6:30 p.m. for a fun evening of battle!

For more information about the Battle of the Books or the books for this year’s battle, please visit the Murphy Library website.

TED talk - TED Global 2012: Sarah-Jayne Blakemore

Why do teenagers seem so much more impulsive, so much less self-aware than grown-ups? Cognitive neuroscientist Sarah-Jayne Blakemore compares the prefrontal cortex in adolescents to that of adults, to show us how typically “teenage” behavior is caused by the growing and developing brain.

Watch it here