

Beginning this month, the Elementary Library Media Specialists would like to introduce a new feature to our school newsletters. Each month we will be recommending educational, informational, and entertaining websites and apps...our "digital picks". We hope you find our reviews helpful and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

WEBSITE: ReadKiddoRead.com

Do you want to read a book with your child, interest a reluctant reader, or buy a book for a child? This is the site for you. Internationally acclaimed author, James Patterson, started this site to spread the joy and excitement of reading. His goal is to help parents and educators turn children into lifelong readers. ReadKiddoRead offers booklists, reviews, and encouragement. The site is appealing and simple to use. In Patterson's words, it's "Where to find books your kids will gobble up". (AM)

APP: NASA Platforms: Android, iPhone, iPodTouch, iPad FREE

Future Astronauts can learn just about anything they ever wanted to know about the solar system and NASA's space programs through videos, amazing photos, live feeds and lots of informational text. Stay tuned to the next launch via a countdown clock! (AM)

APP: The Oregon Trail: American Settler Platforms: iPod, iPhone, ipodTouch

An entertaining follow-up to the classic *Oregon Trail*, *American Settler* is a city building sim that depicts pioneer life in the 1800s. The game is free to play, but players can speed up the game and purchase exclusive items by paying real cash. <u>Stranger Warning</u>: There is an opt-in feature that allows players to connect with others and text chat online. (AM)

Media Specialists

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Darby Paddock	Defer, Maire, Mason, Monteith, Trombly
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Rachel Walpole	Mason, Richard, Trombly