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Literacy Connection

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Finding the time to locate high quality, research based resources to implement into your service delivery can be nearly impossible at times. Therefore, I attempt to use this column to direct you to those resources that are free, high quality, research based, and can be implemented in your classroom tomorrow. [Professor Garfield](#) is one of those resources. While this website is not devoted entirely to literacy, it does contain ample resources related to language and literacy in addition to mathematics, science, social studies and related areas such as motivation, career exploration, arts, and internet safety. The website is designed to be used by teachers, parents, tutors, and mentors with students in grades K-8. The free curricular materials (lesson plans, activities, downloadables, and printables) are organized by both curricular topic and grade level and linked to standards and learning goals. In many cases, assessment tools are also made available for activities. Additionally, suggestions are provided for HOW to incorporate the activities into your existing curriculum.

The literacy content addresses phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and writing with lesson plans, fully interactive online activities, assessment materials, and teacher's guides. Printable materials include instructions, activities, parent communication tools, bulletin board materials, and awards. Hundreds of additional educational links are provided to high quality online resources that have already been vetted by experts for accuracy and alignment with current evidence-based reading instruction. Professor Garfield has won several awards. Most recently, it was the 2010 winner of the American Association of School Librarians Award for Teaching and Learning. The Professor Garfield Foundation was awarded the 2008 Editor's Choice Award by the Children's Technology Review. "CTR's Editor's Choice Award is given only to the highest quality children's products in the interactive media category. These are 'no-fail' products, worth their cost, and able to keep children engaged for days at a time." Professor Garfield was also the winner of the 2008 W3 Silver Award for Best Animation.