Using Technology in Library Instruction: Mobility, Flexibility and Creativity.

Jennifer Wright, Western Kentucky University
Using Technology in Library Instruction: Mobility, Flexibility and Creativity

Jennifer Wright
KLA Annual Conference
Sept. 19, 2014
• Information literacy more important than ever.
  ◦ Inundation of information
  ◦ Need to evaluate sources
• Same technology can improve information literacy
  ◦ Mobility
  ◦ Flexibility
  ◦ Creativity
Mobility - Virtual Tours

- Have been around since early 2000s
- Traditional tours are in debate.
- Large Class sizes
- More focused and uniform tours
- Can be done through video or a Virtual World Environment
• Bringing the librarian to the student
• Great for online classes/ extended campus students
• Library as a service, rather than place.
• Four Keys (Shumaker & Tyler):
  ◦ Build strong relationships
  ◦ Understand their work and needs
  ◦ Share their goals
  ◦ Become part of the group.

Mobility – Embedded Librarians
• Research assistance at the point of need
  ◦ No longer tethered to physical resources.
• Towson University (2010)
  ◦ Best Practices:
    • High-traffic, informal location on campus
    • Carry dependable electronic equipment and relevant supplies.
    • Tailor marketing strategies
    • Keep statistics to track activity
    • Poll users (and non-users) to continually evaluate location
• Going hybrid – putting some material online.
  ◦ Research guides.
  ◦ Tutorials
• Games that reinforce library concepts.
• Tailoring content to specific classes.
Flexibility: The Flipped Classroom

- Link to tutorials ahead of time.
- Come into class ready to work.
- Librarian is present at point of need.
- Active learning.
- Allows students to connect information literacy with their classwork.
Evans and Harrar, identified five attributes of creative people:

- nudge conversation with new ideas
- take pleasure in learning about other people and show it
- focus on the person they are with
- use jokes and humor to liven things up
- accentuate the positive about what they like about their conversational partner or the conversation itself
• Learning is about the individual.
• Technology can help us reach individuals.
• Technology also facilitates collaboration.

