



A Library Learning 2.0 Program

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This newsletter offers encouragement, tips, new tools, and other ideas to participants in More Things On a Stick, A Library Learning 2.0 Program sponsored by the seven Minnesota multicounty multitype library systems.



Wiki vs Blog

We used a blog to organize the content for the original 23 Things On a Stick. It was easy, fairly flexible, and worked fine. In More Things, we decided to use a wiki. Why? What makes one more useful than the other?

There are several reasons we chose the wiki. One, we wanted to show



what we have learned. The 23 Things wiki is a great example of how not to use a wiki. There were no guidelines, anyone could edit/comment, and it turned into something of a mess. That's OK, since we really just wanted to show how easy it is to use a wiki. For More Things, though, the wiki offers a way to link to other pages easily, create pages that are visible or invisible, control access at the page level (premium version) have different levels of access, and other controls. Embedding pictures and video is easy. PBwiki, the host we use, continues to offer additional features.

Blogger worked well, but there are several limitations. We had to re-date/re-time posts to get them in the right order on the blog. The archive isn't exactly like a table of contents, and access for multiple users is a little more difficult. We still love Blogger for the participants' recording of their progress, but the wiki seemed a good choice this time.

To sum it up: a wiki is like a web page with the ability to create and link many different pages. A blog works best for stand-alone entries in chronological order.



Spring Into the Ning!

If we made one mistake in 23 Things On a Stick, it was making the Ning (and social networks in general) Thing 21.

That was waaaay to far down on the list.

We learned that people *really* like social networks and want to connect. That's why the Ning is Thing 26!

There are almost 500 members on the <u>23</u> Things On a Stick Ning. As a social network with a targeted audience, it has taken on a life of its own. The 23 Things On a Stick Ning.



life of its own. The 23 Things On a Stick Ning is a great place to:

- Ask for help with the Things
- Post your results from using the Things--photos, images, videos
- Join a group
- Participate in a forum
- Start your own group or forum
- Talk about <u>books</u>
- Upload <u>photos</u> or <u>videos</u>

And, of course, make friends! If you haven't joined the Ning, do so. It is turning into a great Minnesota library community. Be sure to add your picture or an avatar--those grayed out silhouettes aren't very cool.

You do not have to participate in More Things or 23 Things On a Stick to join the Ning, so if you have colleagues who are interested, encourage them to join. If you want to set up a regional or special-interest group, feel free to do so and invite others to join. It's your community.



Cool Stuff!

Some of the most popular services of Web 2.0 are the on-demand printing companies that make it easy to produce tee-shirts, mugs, mouse pads, and other items without a big investment on your part. You upload your graphics, pick your items, determine your pricing, and you are good to go. The site handles all the production and billing. You have no upfront costs at all. Easy. You



don't have to decide how many size smalls to buy or manage an inventory. You can order 1 or 100 (although the prices for big lots might be better elsewhere).

This makes it possible for you to have stuff made just for your library or event--or family reunion, soap box derby team, book club, or any other purpose. While the items are not cheap, you don't need to order a gross of mugs to get the 1 you need!

More Things On a Stick has <u>a store at Cafe Press</u>. We have not raised the prices on our stuff from the Cafe Press base prices; no profit, in other words. We have ordered a few of the items (door prizes!) and they are nice quality.

Similar services include <u>Zazzle</u> (<u>postage stamps</u> & <u>shoes!</u>) and <u>SpreadShirt.</u>

If you are an artist or designer--or clever with words--you could set up your own store to sell your designs. There's <u>lots</u> and <u>lots</u> of <u>library stuff</u> on these sites. People claim to make quite a tidy sum selling this way. So, buy some of our stuff, create your own, or set up a shop. Be sure to blog about it if you do any of these!

Have fun doing More Things On a Stick. Feel free to pass this newsletter on to your colleagues, family, and friends. Email questions to minn23@gmail.com.

The 23 Things On a Stick Team

Patricia (CMLE), Ann WS (Metronet), Linda (NCLC), Ruth (NLLN), Robin (SAMMIE), Ann H & Michael Scott (SELS), & Nancy (SMILE) The Minnesota Multicounty Multitype Library Systems This statewide program is brought to you by Minnesota's seven multicounty multitype library systems (multitypes). The multitypes improve library services by promoting & facilitating cooperation among the academic, public, school library media centers, & special libraries within their regions. This program is part of the professional development that all of the multitypes provide for the library staff of their members.

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