**Quick Activity for Teaching Students How to Create a Bibliography Citation**

This is an activity that reinforces – in a fun way – a method for teaching students how to create a bibliography citation.

1. Ask students what a bibliography is and what its purpose is? (See what they know and clarify when needed)
2. Tell students that History and English require students to create bibliography citations in MLA format – Modern language Association. Thus, today, they are going to learn how to do so…
3. Give students a CHEAT SHEET on MLA format (see link on Canvas Literacy Page) and quickly go over the components of a citation for a book. (make kids pay attention to details like the order of info, where there are italics used, and where there are commas and periods)
4. Next, give out an identical book to every student. It is best if this is a book by a single author. (Sometimes you can get a class set of novels from the English dept. to use for just one day)
5. Have students construct a MLA bibliography entry for this one book silently as individuals. Then, go over it as a full class, and make sure all students know where they can find each component of the citation – publishing company, date of publication, etc.
6. Now, here’s the fun part. Put about two dozen different books in the front of the classroom. Have students pull out a scrap piece of paper.
7. Tell students that their job will be to create 5 PERFECT citations for any of the books that are in the front of the class. The 3 students who have 5 PERFECT citations FIRST will win a prize (Candy? Other?) They are to raise their hand when they believe that they have 5 perfect citations OR if they have a question
8. HAVE STUDENTS RUN TO THE FRONT OF THE CLASSROOM GRAB A BOOK AND START! WHEN THEY COMPLETE ONE CITATION, THEY MUST RUN TO THE FRONT OF THE CLASS, GRAB ANOTHER BOOK, AND START ON A NEW CITATION.
9. Final extention activity – Once you feel that students have a good handle on how to create a citation for books, you can also talk about the differences when creating citations for magazines, websites, or database articles…. You could also modify the game to have more different types of sources included.