



Virtual Dave Lankes

Presentation

<http://www.DavidLankes.org>

TITLE: Education Information: Lessons Learned in Supporting K-12 Education

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ABSTRACT: This presentation covers over 10 years of serving the K-12 population on the Internet through such projects as AskERIC, AskNSDL, the Gateway to Educational Materials and the Virtual Reference Desk. A special emphasis is put on the information needs of teachers and education professionals.

KEYWORDS: K-12, education, libraries, museum, standards



Education Information

Lessons Learned in Supporting K-12 Education

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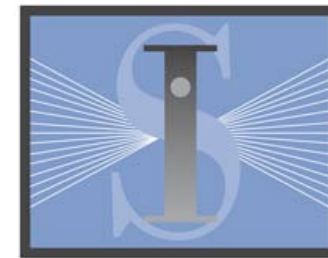
Lessons

- Lesson 1: Educators Seek Synthesis
 - 1.a. Educators Seek Language Arts
- Lesson 2: Students Seek Science
- Lesson 3: Digital Libraries Need Infrastructure
- Lesson 4: The K-12 Domain Provide a Differentiating Context
 - 4.a. The Domain is Highly Regulated



Foundation of Lessons

- Information Institute of Syracuse
 - né: ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources 1977
- AskERIC
 - 11 years, 225,000 Unique Users/Week
- Education Digital Library
 - GEM, VRD
- ERIC/IT
- NSDL
 - Virtual Reference Desk for the NSDL, Core Integration, Question Triage
- Digital Reference Education Initiative
 - IMLS



INFORMATION INSTITUTE
OF SYRACUSE

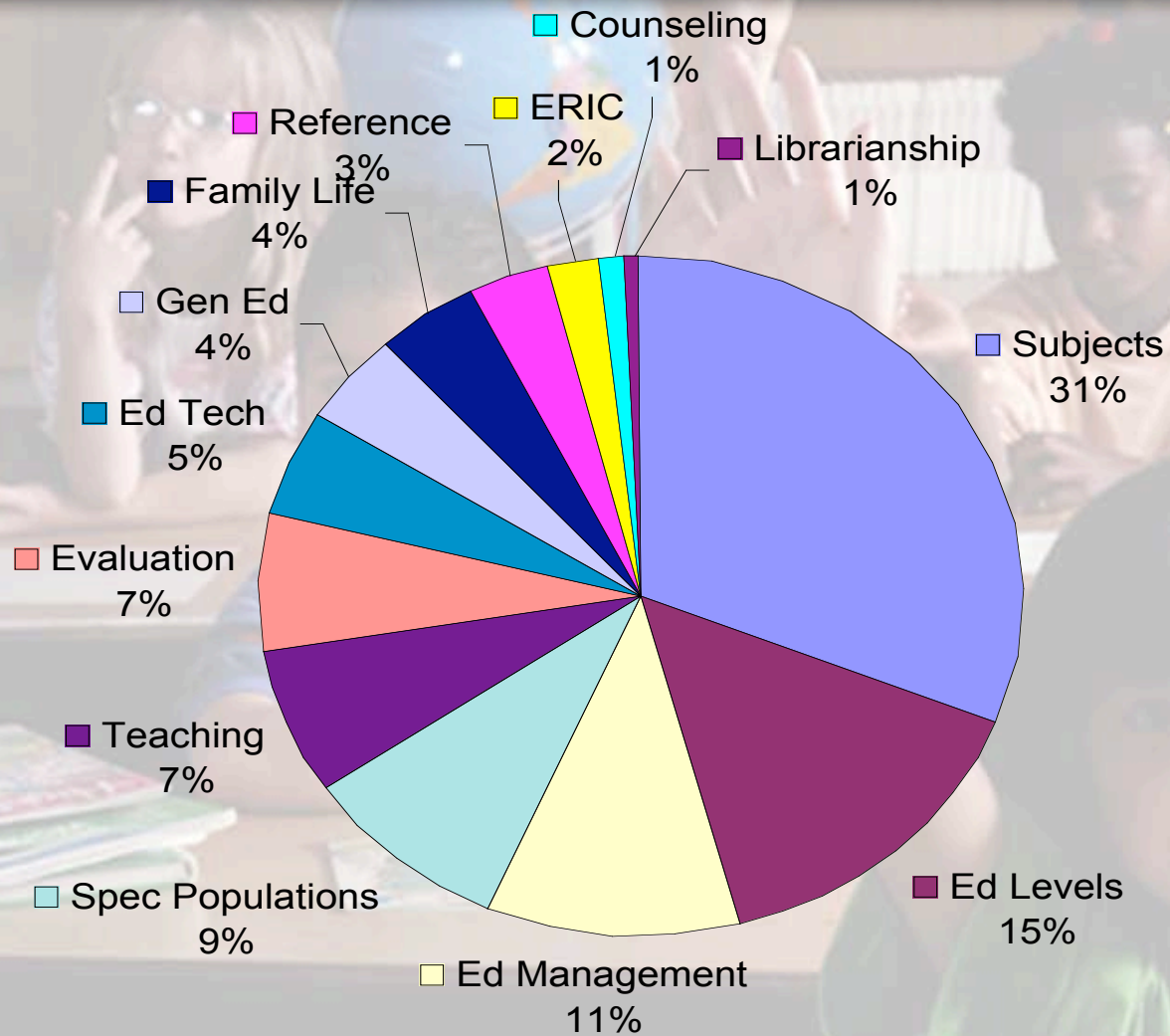


Lesson 1: Educators Seek Synthesis

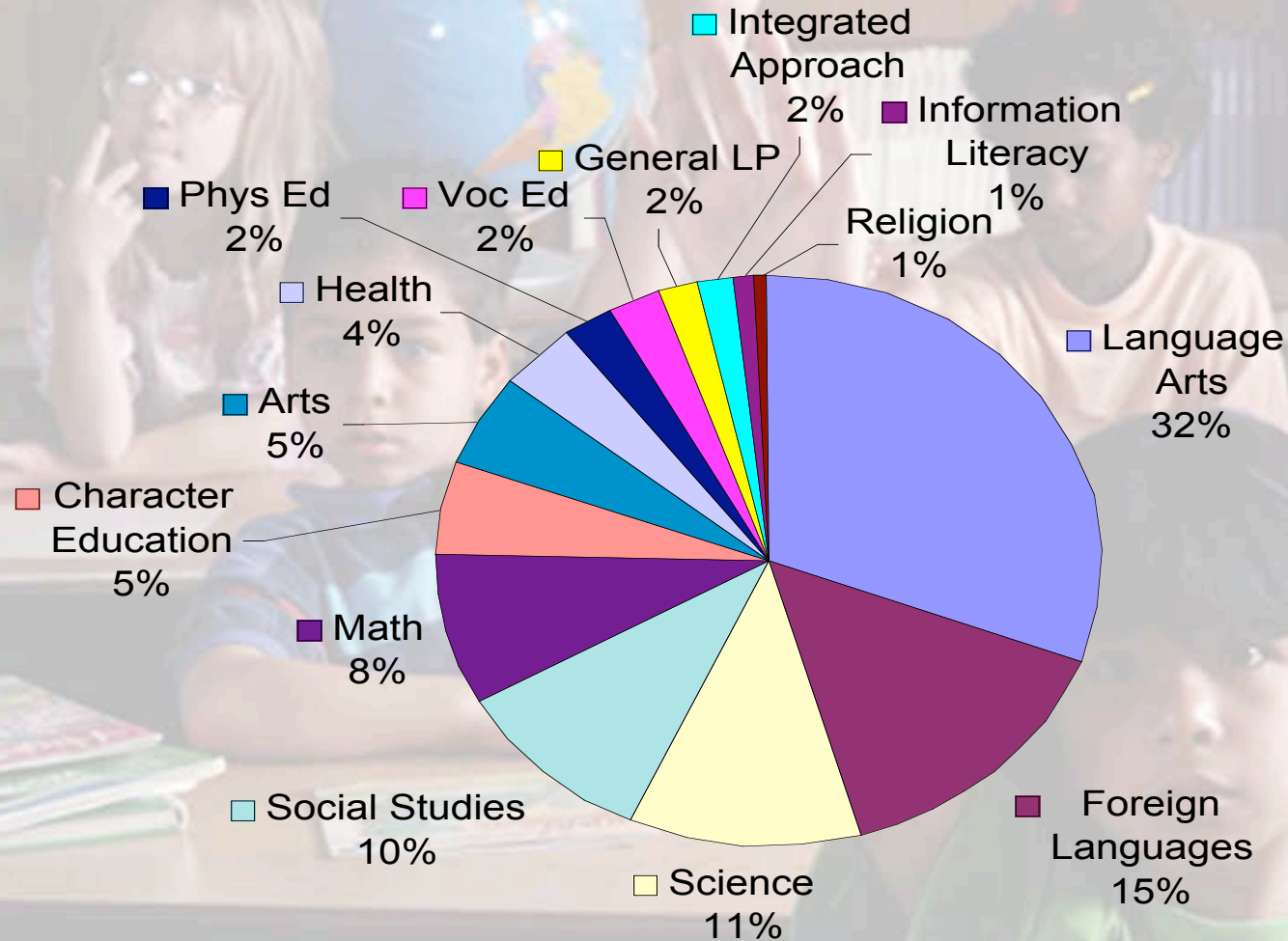
- Began AskERIC Virtual Library
 - 1/3 of hits (~2 million/week, 8,250 unique users) in AskERIC are for Lesson Plans
- Became Gateway to Educational materials
 - Teachers “Cherry Pick”...Define Quality by Context
 - Topic Most Important, Followed by Grade Level



Lesson 1.2: Educators Seek Lang. Arts



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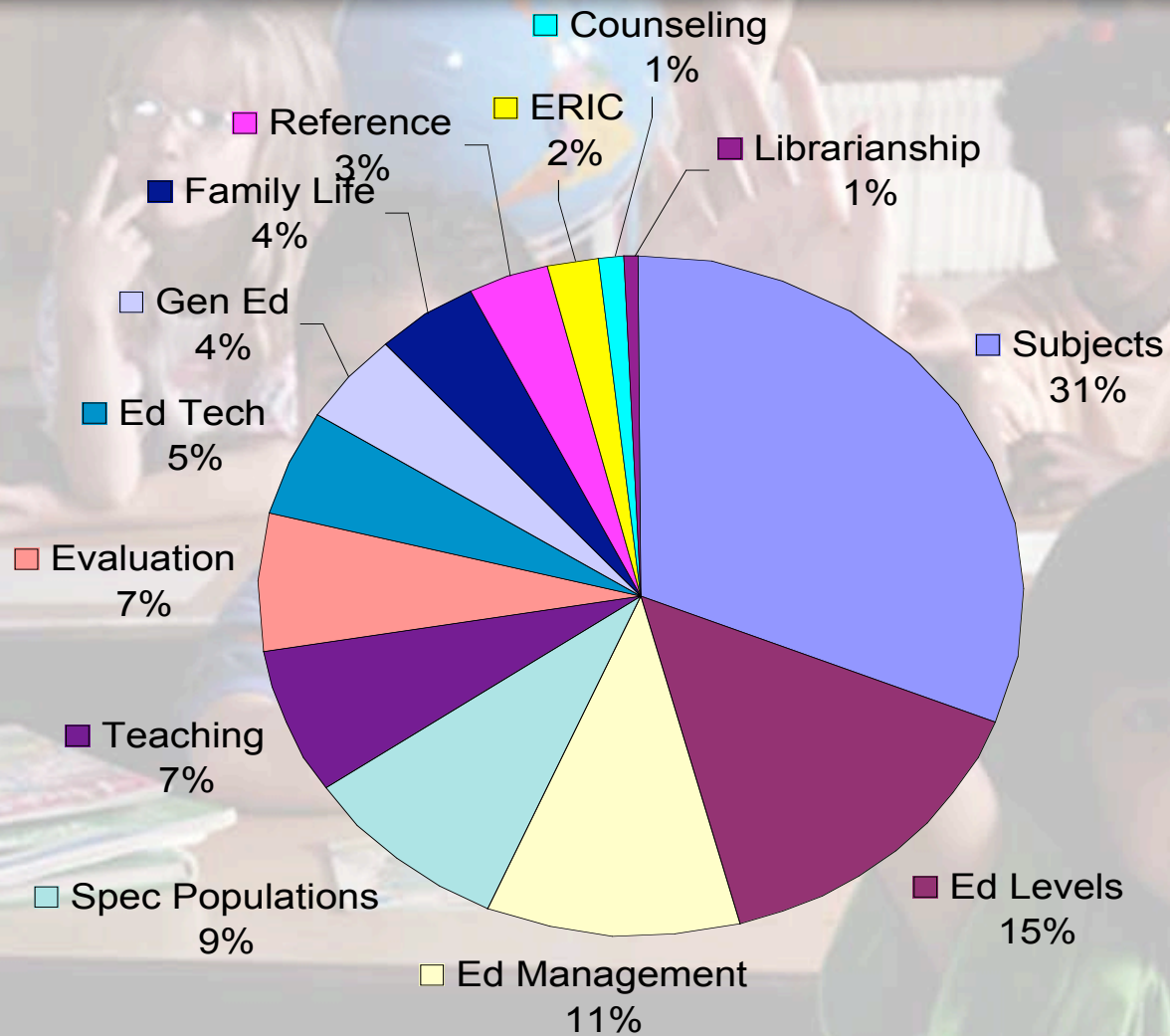


Lesson 1.2: Educators Seek Lang. Arts

- Possible Reasons:
 - More Science on the Web
 - More Teacher Discretion, and Less Guidance in Language Arts Area
 - Less Synthesis of Online Language Arts Materials



Lesson 1.2: Educators Seek Lang. Arts

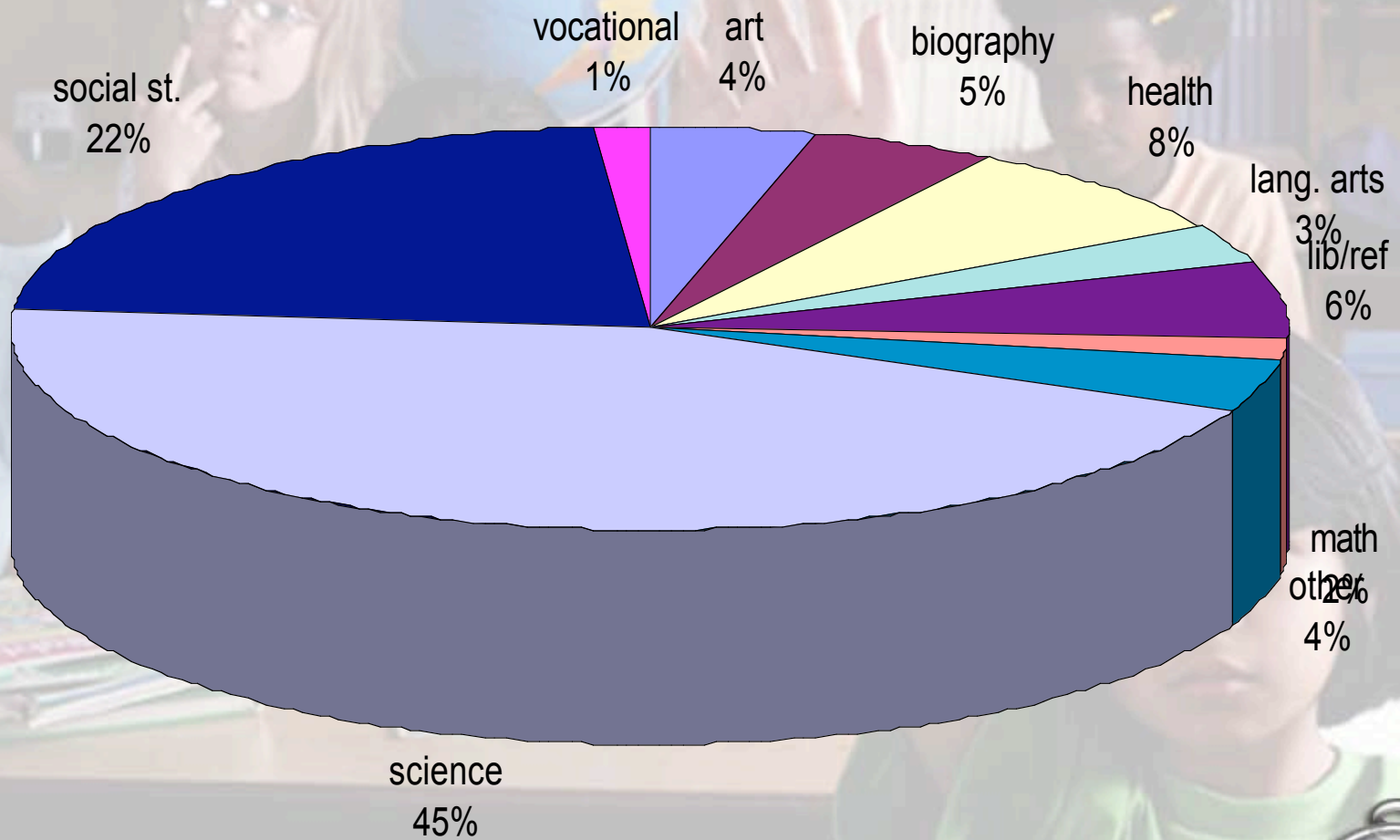


Lesson 2: Students Seek Science

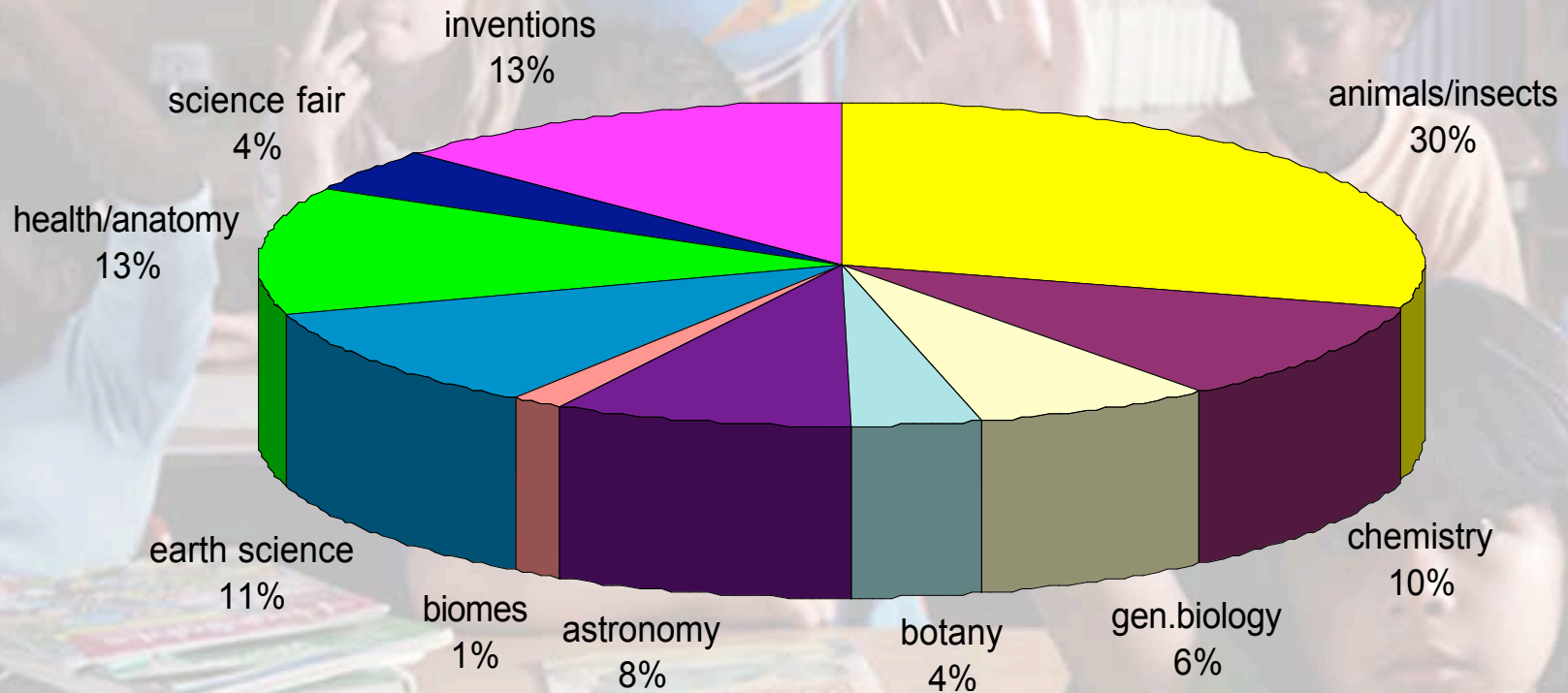
- Data Built on 2 Digital Reference Services
 - KidsConnect, AASL, Microsoft
 - Virtual Reference Desk, Dept. of Education
- Following Data Represents a “Subject Line Analysis”
 - First pass from incoming subject lines...body of the message used for disambiguation



Lesson 2: Students Seek Science



Lesson 2: Students Seek Science



Lesson 3: Digital Libraries Need Infrastructure

- Infrastructure Consisting of Hard and Soft Tools and Staff
 - Hard Tools: Hardware, Software (code)
 - Soft Tools: Policies, Information Architecture (metadata)
 - Staff: Strategic, Operational, Tactical Levels
- Sustained
- Proactive
- Open



Lesson 4: The K-12 Domain Provide a Differentiating Context

- Structurally
 - 50 Different U.S. Education Systems, DOD Schools, Protectorates, Home Schooling, Private Schooling, GED, etc.
- Legally
 - CIPA, E-Rate Filtering Mandates, Privacy
- Focus on Constant Information Delivery, and Periodic Information Acquisition
 - 30 minute planning periods
 - Continuing Education for Certification



Lesson 4.2: The Domain is Highly Regulated

- Academic Standards
- High-Stakes Testing
- Need for “Information Approval” and Conformance to Process



The Big Picture

- Rather than Being a Sponge that will readily soak up information from digital libraries, K-12 has a hard crust of bureaucracy, regulation and practice that must be both enticed to seek information, and greatly rewarded when it does so

