



Virtual Dave Lankes

Presentation

<http://www.DavidLankes.org>

TITLE: Breaking the K-12 Crust: The Realities of Digital Libraries for Education

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ABSTRACT: Building digital libraries for K-12 education is not a simple matter of great content. The K-12 environment has special needs for the content it uses in the classroom. From conformance to state performance standards, to linkage to lesson plans, the K-12 classroom sometimes can seem like a fortress with high walls, preventing libraries and museums from entering. This presentation will explore the realities and successful strategies for breaking into formal K-12 education. This presentation will seek to answer the question of why great content is not enough.

KEYWORDS: digital libraries, digital collections, education, museums, academic standards

Breaking the K-12 Crust

The Realities of
Digital Libraries
for Education

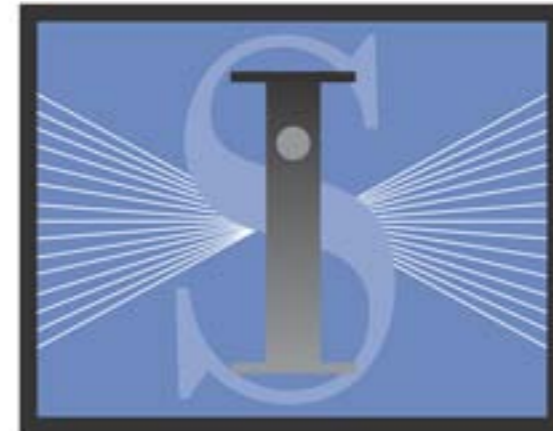


Agenda

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

Origin of the Lessons

- Information Institute of Syracuse
- ERIC IT/AskERIC
- Education Digital Library
 - GEM, VRD
- NSDL
 - Virtual Reference Desk for the NSDL, Core Integration, Question Triage
- Digital Reference Education Initiative
 - IMLS

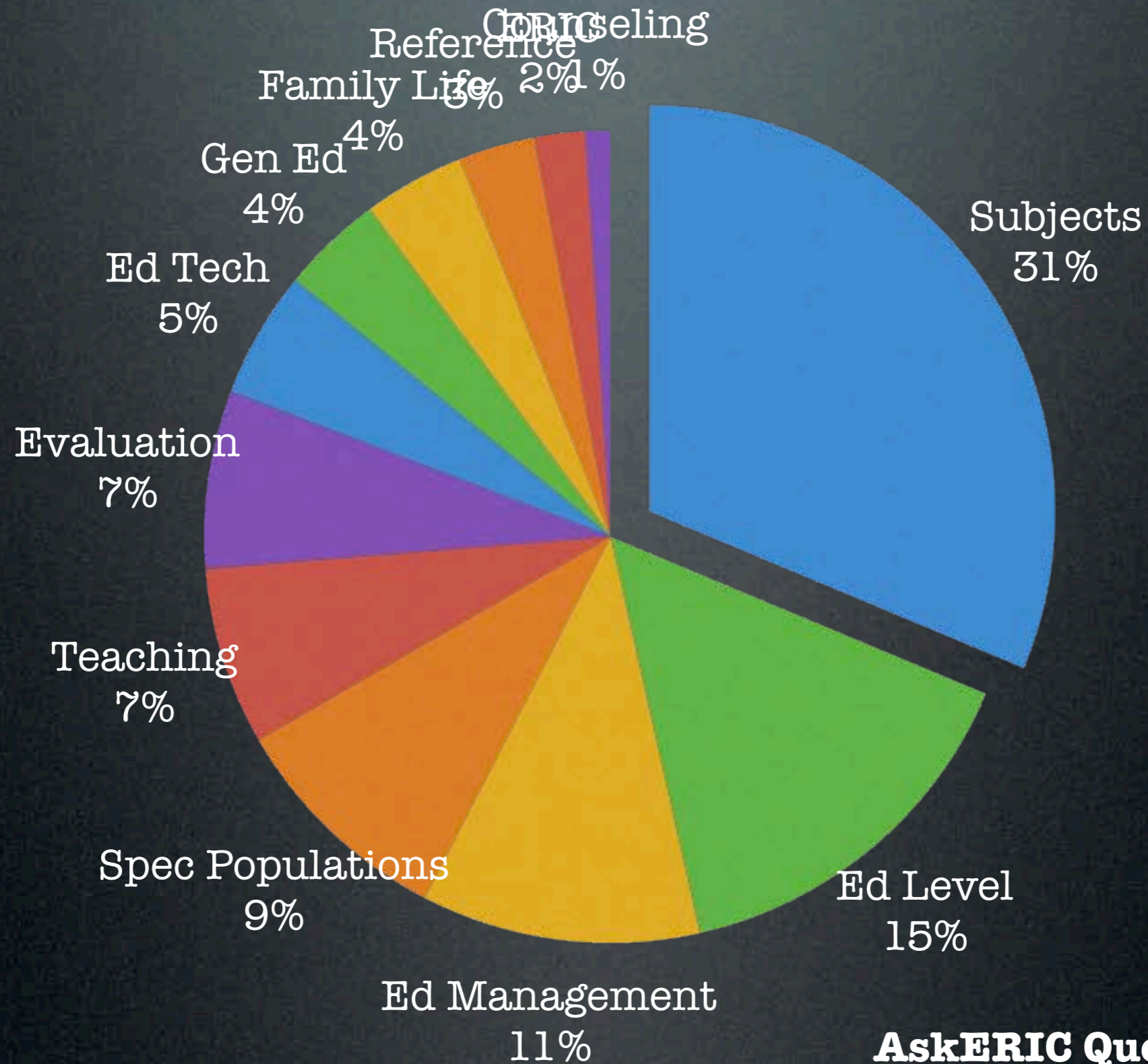


INFORMATION INSTITUTE
OF SYRACUSE

Lesson 1: Educators Seek Synthesis

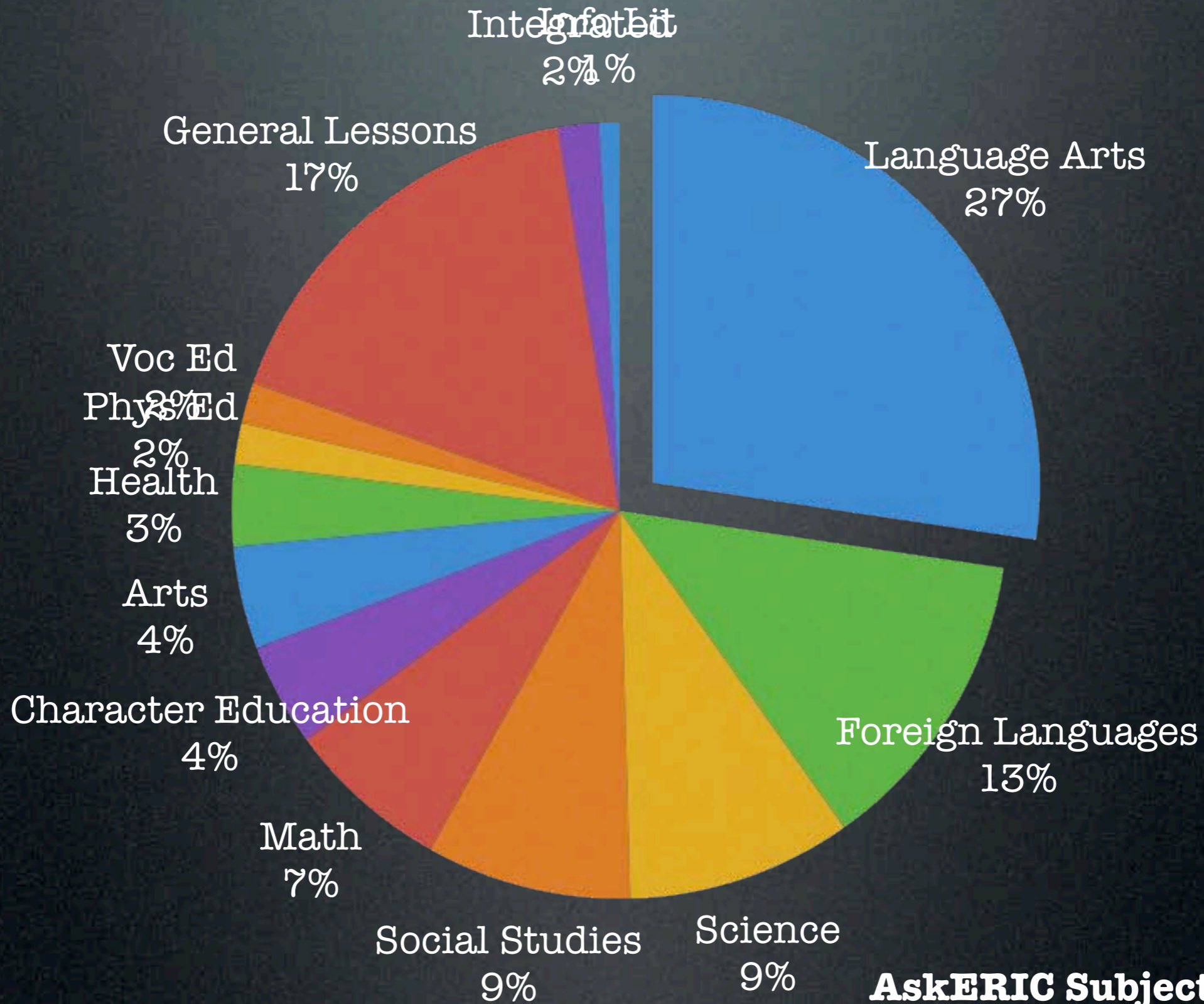
- AskERIC Virtual Library
 - 1/3 of hits (~ 2 million/week, 8,250 unique users) in AskERIC were for Lesson Plans
- Became Gateway to Educational materials
 - Teachers “Cherry Pick”...Define Quality by Context
 - Topic Most Important, Followed by Grade Level

Lesson 1a: Educators Seek Language Arts



AskERIC Question Subjects

Lesson 1a: Educators Seek Language Arts



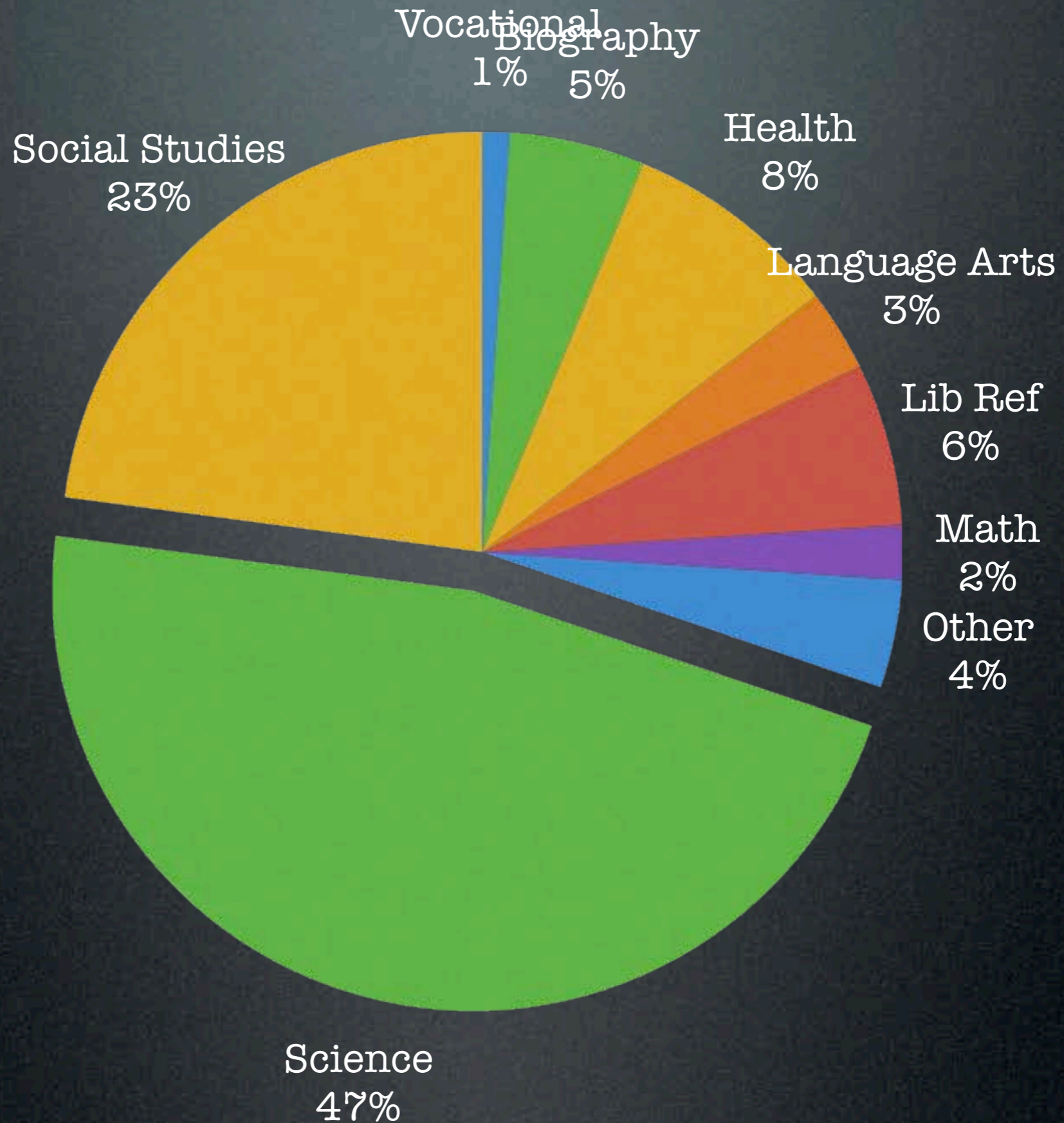
Lesson 1a: Educators Seek Language Arts

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

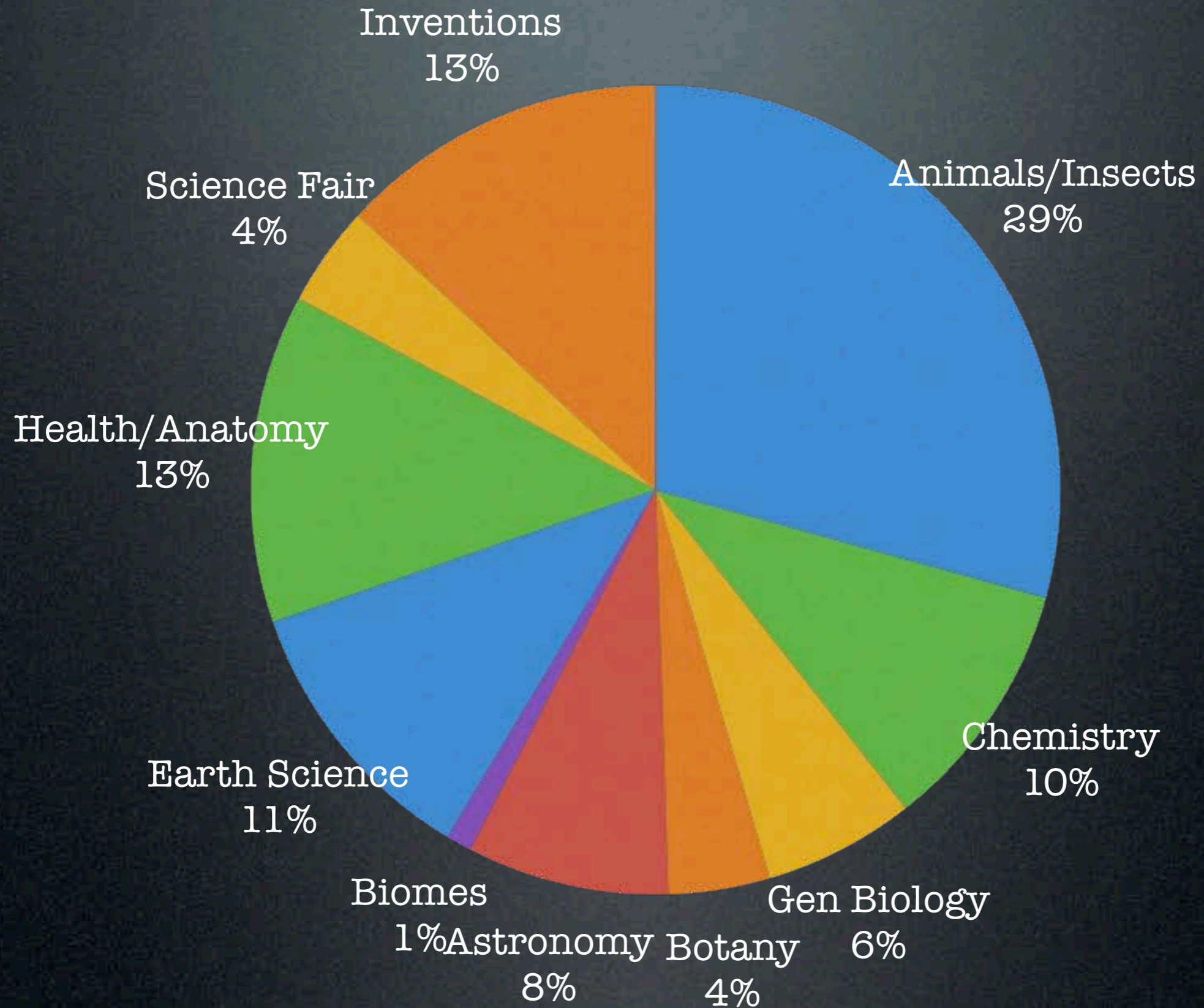
Lesson 2: Students Seek Science

- Data Built on Two 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 Services

- Define a Digital Library as a Series of Services, not a Set of Collections
 - “Collection” (Organization and Curatorship) is a Service
 - Access and Search are Services
 - Reference is an Essential Digital Library Service (Dig_Ref, FAQ’s, Pathfinders)
 - Curriculum Integration is a Service
- Everything a User Interacts with is a Service
- No Digital Library without a Digital Librarian

Lesson 4: K-12 is Different

- 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.a: The Domain is Highly Regulated

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



No Child
LEFT BEHIND

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 than must be both enticed to seek information, and greatly rewarded when it does so

