Breaking Out with VISITS
Get ready to meet MIKE THALER

Author of the “Black Lagoon” books and other titles.

February 11, 2011
What is a Breakout Activity?

Breakouts are interactive experiences where participants complete tasks to figure out lock codes and solve puzzles.

From the Breakout EDU facilitation presentation:

Breakout EDU is the immersive learning games platform that empowers educators to facilitate content-aligned games in their classrooms. Games cultivate critical thinking, teamwork, and complex problem solving.

In the classroom and media center, breakouts can be used to deliver content in a fun and engaging way.
IN ORDER TO BREAKOUT, YOU’LL NEED TO...

Look around for clues and artifacts that will help provide information needed to figure out the combinations to the locks or digital puzzles.

Talk with your group and share what you’re thinking about the clues. You might need to think outside the box in order to break into it.

Test out what you think you know! Try the combinations you think will open up the box. If you’re wrong, think some more and try again.

Remove all the locks from the Breakout EDU kit or digital locks before the timer runs out to complete the game.
TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Work together as a team.

The better you communicate and collaborate the more successful you will be.

If you solve a puzzle, make sure the rest of your team knows.

Let’s start with a Library Adventure and Treasure Hunt.
Standards

Information and Technology Essential Standards
SI.1.2 Evaluate content for relevance to the assigned task.
TT.1.1 Use appropriate technology tools and other resources to access information.
SE.1.1 Apply ethical behavior when using resources.

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1: Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.3: Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.2: Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.5: Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.

Common Core State Standards for Math
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.EE.B.3: Solve multi-step real-life and mathematical problems posed with positive and negative rational numbers in any form (whole numbers, fractions, and decimals), using tools strategically. Apply properties of operations to calculate with numbers in any form; convert between forms as appropriate; and assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies

Focus Statement: I can use multiple strategies and tools to gather and analyze information about Carrie Ryan and *The Map to Everywhere* to solve problems and complete the breakout challenge.
**PARAMETERS**

1. **Use the Dry Erase marker to write on everything except the scratch paper.** Please erase the Dry Erase marker from each item when you are finished with it.

2. **There will be blank scratch paper in your Pirate Packs for you to use to brainstorm and solve problems.**

3. **Only take ONE of each item per box.**

4. **Please push your chairs under when you leave your table so that your classmates can get through.**

5. **Hint: Look in your Pirate Pack. There is only one item that you can complete without additional information. That would be a good place to start. Everything else will require an addition piece found in the locked boxes.**
The Locks...
These are the Four different types of locks that you will use.

A four-digit numeric code lock. The dials scroll left and right to align the digits in the window on the edge of the lock. Once you have your code set, pull the lock to open. Close the lock and change the numbers to reset.

A directional lock with four directions. Push the silver shackle down into the lock twice to clear before entering your code. Slide the center mechanism in the directions of your code and pull to open. Close the lock and push the silver shackle down into the lock twice to reset.

A letter lock that will open with a five-character code. Align the five characters and simply pull the lock down to open. Close the lock and change the letters to reset. There are two of these in this challenge.

A three-digit numeric code lock. The dials scroll left and right to align the digits in the window on the edge of the lock. Once you have your code set, pull the lock to open. Close the lock and change the numbers to reset.
READY?

ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ACTIVITY OR THE LOCKS BEFORE WE BEGIN?
A good Pirate never betrays his or her Captain!

Raise your right hand to take the Pirate Pledge...

I solemnly swear not to betray Mrs. Sands. I will not share her secrets with other students.
Your Time Begins NOW!

30:00

Pirate Music
Reflection

1. What did you do well during this activity?
2. What things could you have done better?
3. What did you learn?
4. Tell me what you now know about Carrie Ryan that you did not know before.
5. What was your overall impression of this type of activity?
Where can I find visiting authors?

Websites:

- https://www.scbwi.org/speakers-bureau/
- http://authorbystate.blogspot.com/ (scroll through the list by state on the left)
- https://cynthialeitichsmith.com/lit-resources/read/authors/auth-illmultiplelists/

Publisher Sites (such as):

- http://www.penguin.com/school-library/author-appearance-roster/
- http://www.rhteacherslibrarians.com/
- http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/Members/RequestAuthor/faq.aspx

Other:

- Check out author websites
How will I pay for an author visit?

- Apply for grants
- Fundraise
- PTA/PTO
- Sell novels
- Ask your principal
- Solicit community sponsors
- Write a Donors Choose proposal
- Team with other local schools, public libraries, or bookstores
How do I prepare for an author visit?

- Advertise the author visit throughout the school - posters, banners, bulletin boards, etc. - and on your school website and/or social media pages.
- Have a plan for reading the author’s books.
- Sell copies of the author’s books to have signed during the visit.
- Be in contact with the author. Verify the schedule for the day, any technology or room needs, and plan for any meals they will have while at your school. Consult the author regarding dietary needs.
- Reach out to PLC members who’ve hosted authors, and consult sites that focus on author visits such as:
  - [http://www.ala.org/alsc/issuesadv/kidscampaign/authorvisits](http://www.ala.org/alsc/issuesadv/kidscampaign/authorvisits)
- Schedule activities and events leading up to the visit to build excitement... like a **BREAKOUT!**
Breaking Out...

..and so many ways to do it!

Pamela Sands, 2018
10 Reasons to Play BreakOutEdu

1. It's fun for everyone!
2. It is adaptable to any subject area
3. It promotes collaboration and team-building
4. It develops problem-solving and critical thinking skills
5. It enhances communication skills
6. It challenges players to persevere
7. It builds inference skills
8. Students learn to work under pressure
9. It's student-centered
10. It's inquiry-based learning at its best
You can choose to do a physical breakout or a digital one.

DIGITAL GAMES

https://www.breakoutedu.com/welcome/
Make your own...
You simply need toolboxes or lock boxes, various types of locks, and whatever else you want to use.

Use premade...
You can buy the Breakout Box from Breakout EDU.

What comes in the Breakout EDU kit?

[Image of Breakout EDU materials]

Essentials for Making A Breakout Kit:
Click any of the pictures for affiliate links to Amazon. Also check out Canadian Tire, Walmart, dollar stores, or hardware stores for good deals on similar products.

- Breakout EDU Box
- Small Lock Box
- Invisible Ink Pen
- UV Light
- Word Lock
- Hasp
- Directional Lock
- Key Lock
- Three-Digit Lock
- Four-Digit Lock
- USB Drive
- 2 Hint Cards

http://www.firstgradegarden.com/2017/03/breakout-edu-what-is-it.html
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Tips for Making Your Own Breakout

● Check the locks first! The combinations you want might not always work.

● Tag the locks with the code after use.

● Make sure you are using resettable locks.

● Play it yourself to make sure everything works.

● Use a planning sheet to map it out. (I’ve placed two samples in the Google folder.)
# Brainstorm Worksheet

This guide below can serve as a visual mapping or brainstorming tool for creating your game. It can also serve as a quick reference for you or a new facilitator.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCK TYPE</th>
<th>LOCK COMBINATION</th>
<th>HOW WILL THEY KNOW THE COMBO?</th>
<th>WHERE WILL IT LEAD?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-Digit Lock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Digit Lock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directional Multilock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC Multilock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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# Breakout Planning Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Lock</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Puzzle/Clue Inside</th>
<th>Leads to: (Type of Box)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>START HERE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>END ACTIVITY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Included in Library Adventure Pack:

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Where to get supplies and how to fund them

- Dollar Tree
- WalMart/Target
- Home Improvement Stores
- Amazon
- NAEIR.org
- BreakoutEDU
- Donors Choose
- Grants
- Clearance Aisles
- Donations
- Ask your department
- PTA/Fundraisers