

March/April 2021

# WISL IN THE SPRING

BRINGING YOU THE LATEST BUZZ STRAIGHT FROM THE STACKS



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## WISL PUBLIB SELF-CARE SESSION

WISL hosted a PUBLIB session this past January that examined the importance of self care in the library profession. This session explored some of the ways our teammates practice self-care and manage their workloads. Let's see some of the ways our colleagues take care of themselves.

"I take care of myself by allowing time for reflection & meditation, even if it's just 5 minutes before the doors open."

"I keep in touch with my teenage nephew; he always has something funny to say!"

"I label my emotions, even when it's hard."

"I keep my work at work... It's taken a long, long time to figure out how to do this, but my job is never-ending, so I could easily bring work home every night of my life and still never be done."

"Humor. Blowing off steam with laughter."

# APRIL IS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

April is National Poetry Month and National Library Week. This year's National Library Week theme is "Welcome to your library." What better way to welcome all to the library than with some intersectional poetry?

On the Pulse of Morning  
Maya Angelou

A Rock, A River, A Tree  
Hosts to species long since departed,  
Marked the mastodon,  
The dinosaur, who left dried tokens  
Of their sojourn here  
On our planet floor,  
Any broad alarm of their hastening doom  
Is lost in the gloom of dust and ages.

But today, the Rock cries out to us, clearly, forcefully,  
Come, you may stand upon my  
Back and face your distant destiny,  
But seek no haven in my shadow,  
I will give you no hiding place down here.

You, created only a little lower than  
The angels, have crouched too long in  
The bruising darkness  
Have lain too long  
Facedown in ignorance,  
Your mouths spilling words  
Armed for slaughter.

The Rock cries out to us today,  
You may stand upon me,  
But do not hide your face.

REFRAIN

BY ALLEN GINSBERG

THE AIR IS DARK, THE NIGHT IS SAD,  
I LIE SLEEPLESS AND I GROAN.  
NOBODY CARES WHEN A MAN GOES MAD:  
HE IS SORRY, GOD IS GLAD.  
SHADOW CHANGES INTO BONE.  
EVERY SHADOW HAS A NAME;  
WHEN I THINK OF MINE I MOAN,  
I HEAR RUMORS OF SUCH FAME.  
NOT FOR PRIDE, BUT ONLY SHAME,  
SHADOW CHANGES INTO BONE.  
WHEN I BLUSH I WEEP FOR JOY,  
AND LAUGHTER DROPS FROM ME LIKE A STONE:  
THE AGING LAUGHTER OF THE BOY  
TO SEE THE AGELESS DEAD SO COY.  
SHADOW CHANGES INTO BONE.



THIS IS NOT A SMALL VOICE  
SONIA SANCHEZ

THIS IS NOT A SMALL VOICE  
YOU HEAR THIS IS A LARGE  
VOICE COMING OUT OF THESE CITIES.  
THIS IS THE VOICE OF LATANYA.  
KADESHA. SHANIQUA. THIS  
IS THE VOICE OF ANTOINE.  
DARRYL. SHAQUILLE.  
RUNNING OVER WATERS  
NAVIGATING THE HALLWAYS  
OF OUR SCHOOLS SPILLING OUT  
ON THE CORNERS OF OUR CITIES AND  
NO EPITAPHS SPILL OUT OF THEIR RIVER MOUTHS.

THIS IS NOT A SMALL LOVE  
YOU HEAR THIS IS A LARGE  
LOVE, A PASSION FOR KISSING LEARNING  
ON ITS FACE.

THIS IS A LOVE THAT CROWNS THE FEET WITH HANDS  
THAT NOURISHES, CONCEIVES, FEELS THE WATER SAILS  
MENDS THE CHILDREN,  
FOLDS THEM INSIDE OUR HISTORY WHERE THEY  
TOAST MORE THAN THE FLESH  
WHERE THEY SUCK THE BONES OF THE ALPHABET  
AND SPIT OUT CLOSED VOWELS.  
THIS IS A LOVE COLORED WITH IRON AND LACE.  
THIS IS A LOVE INITIALED BLACK GENIUS.

THIS IS NOT A SMALL VOICE  
YOU HEAR.

A WOMAN SPEAKS  
BY AUDRE LORDE  
MOON MARKED AND TOUCHED BY SUN  
MY MAGIC IS UNWRITTEN  
BUT WHEN THE SEA TURNS BACK  
IT WILL LEAVE MY SHAPE BEHIND.  
I SEEK NO FAVOR  
UNTOUCHED BY BLOOD  
UNRELENTING AS THE CURSE OF LOVE  
PERMANENT AS MY ERRORS  
OR MY PRIDE  
I DO NOT MIX  
LOVE WITH PITY  
NOR HATE WITH SCORN  
AND IF YOU WOULD KNOW ME  
LOOK INTO THE ENTRAILS OF URANUS  
WHERE THE RESTLESS OCEANS POUND.

I DO NOT DWELL  
WITHIN MY BIRTH NOR MY DIVINITIES  
WHO AM AGELESS AND HALF-GROWN  
AND STILL SEEKING  
MY SISTERS  
WITCHES IN DAHOMEY  
WEAR ME INSIDE THEIR COILED CLOTHS  
AS OUR MOTHER DID  
MOURNING.

I HAVE BEEN WOMAN  
FOR A LONG TIME  
BEWARE MY SMILE  
I AM TREACHEROUS WITH OLD MAGIC  
AND THE NOON'S NEW FURY  
WITH ALL YOUR WIDE FUTURES  
PROMISED  
I AM  
WOMAN  
AND NOT WHITE.

## ENGAGING OUR PATRONS

### PEEPS LAUNCHER

#### KID FRIENDLY STEM PROJECT

BY AUBREY HUFF

Love Peeps or hate 'em, you and your patrons will get a kick out of this easy Peeps Launcher! Made from common household products, this project could translate well into COVID-friendly kits to take home for continued social distance.

Materials needed:

- Paper Towel Tube
- Ruler
- Masking Tape
- Plastic Spoon
- Peeps or marshmallows

You need a flat surface, such as a tabletop, to make this work.

Tape the plastic spoon to one end of your ruler so the bowl part of the spoon is at the very end of the ruler.

Tape your paper towel tube to your table. You want it to be fairly secure. If it rolls around it won't work as well.

Tape the ruler to the paper towel tube so they are perpendicular to each other. You can secure your ruler; it is easy to take the tape off and move it around.

Time to make those peeps fly!

First up, safety. Make sure you aren't pointing it at anyone.

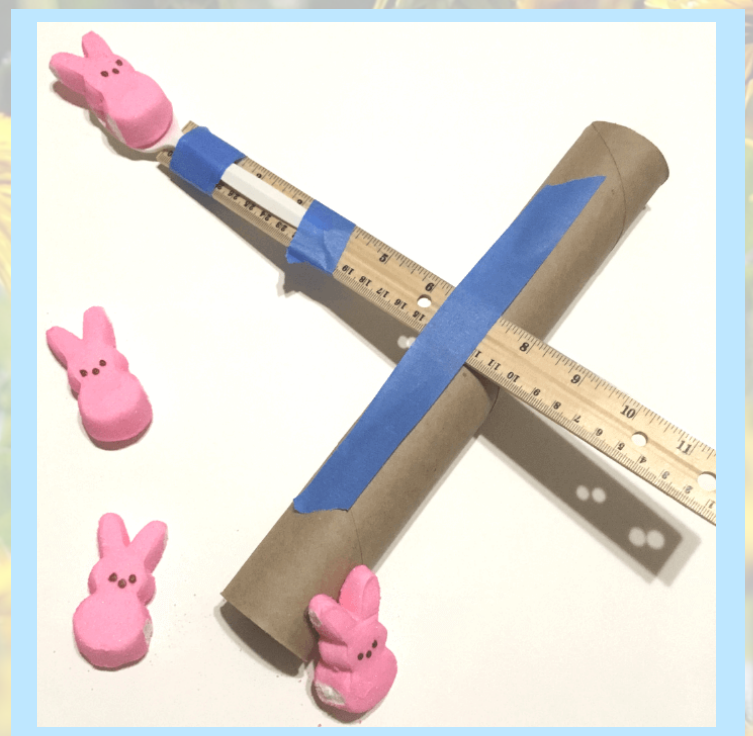
Put the spoon and of the ruler down and load your peep into the bowl of the spoon. Then push down quickly and firmly on the other end of the ruler.

There they go!

#### The Physics of this Peeps STEM Experiment

What you made here is a lever. A lever is a simple machine used to lift heavy weights. A see-saw is a perfect example of a lever.

The point where the ruler touches the paper towel tube is the fulcrum. The lever works when you push down on the empty end of the ruler. The opposite end of the ruler pops up. Levers work by taking the force you apply and changing it's direction. They also allow you to increase your input force. In other words, it makes it easier for work to be done. Think of a crowbar, that's a lever.



## FEATURED PHRASE

**Information activist:** someone who works to make information available to the general population

### Featured phrase in a sentence:

DaJuan acted as an information activist when he ensured people knew where to find voting information for the upcoming election.

## Librarian Pets at Play

Jasper the Wonderdog competes in an epic game of Hide and Seek with Librarian Aubrey. He's not very good at hiding, but he's still a very good boy!



Do you have updates for the next newsletter? Send them to Aubrey at [huffa@uwstout.edu](mailto:huffa@uwstout.edu)