Welcome!

April is a great month to:

- **Recognize the great things school library staff members are doing.** It’s School Media Month. School Library Month (SLM) is the American Association of School Librarians’ (AASL) celebration of school librarians and their programs. Every April school librarians are encouraged to create activities to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role that strong school library programs play in a student’s educational career.

- **Consider applying for mini-grant funding.** ICfL staff members are excited about the $100,000 in state funds that will be used to increase access to print materials for elementary school libraries and public libraries in Idaho interested in starting or expanding deposit collections. See “A Closer Look” below for more information. Applications will be posted on ICfL’s website by the end of next week. Target
Corporation also has grant applications due April 30 and the Libri Foundation’s grants are due May 15, 2012.

- **Plan a Dia event.** We love seeing the great ways Idaho libraries are promoting bilingual books and celebrating children’s cultural backgrounds. It’s not too late to plan an event and get some great resources from the Read to Me program. See Multicultural Connections below for more information.

We hope you enjoy your April and at least a day or two of sunshine and blooms.

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### Dates and Deadlines

- You can apply anytime for [Idaho Child Care Reads](#) and the [Jump Start Kindergarten](#) programs.
- **Dia registration extended until today!** Still time to apply. Complete the short registration form here: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/Dia2012](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Dia2012) and we will send you a banner, posters, and hardcover books for your collection and paperbacks to hand out at your event!
- **May 10, 2012, 5 p.m. MST:** Deadline to apply for the 2012-2013 [My First Books](#) program (formally Read to Me First Book).
- **May 18, 2012:** Deadline for participating in the [2012-13 Every Child Ready to Read Family Workshop](#) program.
- **June 5, 2012:** Increasing Access Mini-Grant applications due. Applications will be posted on the ICfL website by the end of next week. See a Closer Look below for more info.

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### Library to Library

#### Too Cool Idea from Bear Lake

Staff and patrons of the [Bear Lake County Library District](#) saved hundreds of used clean milk jugs so staff could create a fun and cool place for kids to hang out at the library. The results definitely paid off. Library Director Mary Nate said she got the idea on Pinterest ([http://pinterest.com/](http://pinterest.com/)). It took staff about 6-8 hours and more than a dozen glue gun sticks, but it was worth the effort. “Five or six small kids can fit in at once and it’s fun to have something new for them to explore,” Mary said. Check out the igloo and more good ideas at [http://bearlake.lili.org/](http://bearlake.lili.org/)

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#### Jerome Public Library Hosts Science Day!

~by Darbie Chocker
On March 27th, the Jerome Public Library hosted an exciting “Spring Break…Mad Scientist Day!” “Children of all ages were invited to attend an hour of wacky science experiments. They could discover their inner CSI forensic scientist by investigating their own fingerprints, making raisins dance, determining if a rock can float, planting their own bean seeds, racing a static charged soda can and making ooey gooey slime! Their favorite activity seemed to be the slime, of course, as they mushed it around their plastic bags. We had a great turn-out of 30 people and the kids were asking if we could do it again soon,” Darbie said.

Lewiston City Library - The Survival of the Fittest Hunger Games Teen Event
~by Debbie Allen

The Lewiston City Library held “The Survival of the Fittest Hunger Games Teen Event” Friday March 16. Thirty-seven teens came and played our “fake” hunger games, rotating through stations and scoring points. As each teen entered they were given a Survivor Sheet and were required to sign up for the Reaping. Points were given for the disc throw (Frisbee), the spear throw (water noodles), nerf type blow guns, sling shot, rocket fling and plant identification. We even had an archery station, with a child’s plastic bow and arrow set. Most of the items were purchased at a Dollar Store, so our expenses were not too high. I had dried blueberries, cranberries, oatmeal, raw sugar, pop corn kernels, and almonds in little dishes for the teen to identify. I was surprised that many had no clue what these “real foods” were.

Teens made button/pins with the Mockingjay symbol on them and the popular phrase… “May the odds be ever in your favor.” Teens also had to go online and play a Scholastic Hunger Games “Trial by Fire” game www.scholastic.com/thehungergames/ where they received a percent score that was added into their final survival score. The Tessae Station (treat table) was full of brownies, popcorn and other sweet treats for teens, but only if they signed up for Tessae and put their name again in the Reaping. A Hunger Games trivia quiz with 86 questions was another station. Teens had to answer questions correctly to score more points. During the last 30 minutes of our two-hour event, teens were called together to go over the trivia quiz, add up scores, and find a winning victor.

A 16-year-old girl from district 12 won…really! She was awarded a huge trophy donated by Pam Carman of Awards Etc. At this time we had the Reaping drawing to see who would be selected to go from our district, if this really was the Hunger Games. A Hunger Game T-shirt, movie book, magnets, buttons and other cool Hunger Game prizes were given out. Village Cinemas, our local movie theater, donated two free movie passes and a huge movie poster of Katniss (by far the most desired prize). As teens prepared to leave, I threw down a 4x4, 5 ft. long piece of wood and teens stood on the board with one foot and tried to knock each other off with the foam noodles. I passed out Tracker Jacker stickers, printed two to a name tag label and cut into sections w/four stickers and told the teens to have fun stinging others. The person
with the least amount of sticker “stings” would be deemed alive and the rest dead from the tracker jacker venom. It got a bit crazy, as teens chased each other around trying to stick the tracker jacker stickers on each other. They loved this.

Teens told me that it was a very fun and entertaining evening. Some had not even read the books, but now were hot to get the books and start reading. If anyone would like a copy of the event plans, the Survival Sheet or the trivia quiz, just email me and I will send a copy. Anytime teens can be wild and crazy and have fun in a safe and educational environment it is a win/win in my book…even if it is a fight to the finish.

Debbie also shared a way they were able to include tweens …

A group of sixth graders had taken it upon themselves to form a Hunger Games book club at school, meeting over the lunch period with one of the teachers to discuss the books. This was totally student run with no teacher requirements. They had seen our advertisements for the Hunger Games Event and wanted very much to come. We told them that it was for teens only (7th grade and up). The teacher contacted us, so we made arrangements and Heather and I met with the book club students at school for about 45 minutes to discuss *The Hunger Games*. Heather did a trivia quiz while I had them one at a time make a Mockingjay pin, from a pin/button making machine a patron loans us). Heather asked the group if they were Team Peeta or Teem Gail?... I jumped up, ran into the middle of the circle of desks and hollered….NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO this is not *Twilight*! They all laughed, but still said Peeta and now since I have watched the movie, I agree.

The kids loved it and the teacher says they are still wearing the Mockingjay pins. Afterward students asked me if they came to the library could they make another pin? I said no, but you could check out hundreds of books to read.

Two of the 30 sixth-graders told me they had not read the books, they just joined the group to be with their friends. These reluctant readers said they were most definitely planning on
reading all three of the Hunger Games books. Just goes to prove (as we all know), if you let kids pick out what interests them they will read.

This was also the perfect opportunity to explain the upcoming summer reading programs. After they finish grade six, they can now participate in teen programs. It was also a great way for us to get teen volunteers for SRP. Both Heather and I were impressed with the higher level thinking and great questions this group of sixth-graders had. I know with limited staff and time, it is hard to get into classrooms, but it sure is a good idea for public libraries as it gave us exposure. Many of the kids did not know about all the things the public library offers to citizens. Plus we will get some new teen volunteers to help over the summer. We are re-thinking our outreach approach. We used to just go into pre-school/day cares, etc, but this has opened our eyes to tweens and how they might be better served/reached.

Another Good Hunger Games Idea
Sarah Briggs, a Milford, CT, high school librarian sponsored a raffle with a much-sought-after prize for three lucky winners -- free Hunger Games movie passes. Kids could write an essay about a Hunger Games-related theme or character, donate canned goods to a local food bank, or design a Hunger Games T-shirt. Not surprisingly, the raffle was a hit, with some kids engaging in all three activities. "We ended up with 60 entries into our drawing, three essays, and over three crates of donated food," she reported. (reported in School Library Journal)

Young Adult Corner

Teens and Technology Course Wraps Up
The final workshop for the 2012 Teens and Technology Course was held at the ICfL on April 6 with a record 38 library staff in attendance. READ® projects of every kind lined the walls of the entire River Room – evidence of the hard work teens across Idaho put into this year’s project. Rachel Johnson, Director of ALA Graphics, flew in from Chicago to participate in the workshop. She updated us on some exciting changes coming to the ALA Store then led focus groups to learn more about what Idaho library staff and teens want to see in the next round of READ® Design Studio (RDS) content. We held a “Gallery Walk” so that all participants could view the projects and vote for their favorites. Four awards were presented at the end of the day for the following categories: Most Creative Use of Media, Most Creative Use of RDS in Teen Project (School Library), Most Creative Use of RDS in Teen Project (Public Library), Most Creative Use of RDS in Marketing Materials. We are very excited to report that three of the four awards went to collaborations between school and public libraries!

Stay tuned for more information on the data we collected!
State Librarian Ann Joslin presents the award for Most Creative Use of RDS in Teen Project – School Library to Cindy Bigler and Cora Caldwell. Gooding Public Library and Gooding High School collaborated this year and shared the award. They received a Flip Video Camera and a set of YALSA’s 2012 Teens’ Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults.

Director of ALA Graphics, Rachel Johnson presents the award for Most Creative Use of RDS in Marketing Materials to Amanda Hatfield and Susie Jones. Buhl Public Library and Buhl High School collaborated this year and shared the award. They received a 15” Digital Photo Frame and a set of YALSA’s 2012 Teens’ Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults.
Director of ALA Graphics, Rachel Johnson presents the award for Most Creative Use of RDS in a Teen Project-Public Library to Linda Rasmussen and Julie Hill. Grace District Library and Grace High School collaborated this year and shared the award. They received a 15” Digital Photo Frame and a set of YALSA’s 2012 Teens’ Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults.

2012 Teen Read Week™: What You Need to Know

- When: Oct. 14 – 20
- What: the theme is It Came from the Library!
- How: registration opens April 12th at www.ala.org/teenread
- Considering a state-wide celebration? Awesome! Let YALSA know! We’re happy to help in whatever way we can.
- Products are on sale now. To purchase in bulk, please contact Diane Buck, ALA Graphics Marketing Manager, at dbuck@ala.org or 312.280.2426. This offer is only available until June 15. To view the products visit www.alastore.ala.org/trw.

Upcoming YALSA Activities & Events

- April 19, Managing the Swarm: Teen Behavior in the Library and Strategies for Success with Erin Downey Howerton
- June 22 -26, ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, www.alaannual.org
- July 2nd, Making the Match: Finding the Right Book for the Right Teen at the Right Time. This six week course runs through Aug. 13
- Aug. 15 online vote for Teens’ Top Ten opens www.ala.org/teenstopten
- Sept. 1- 30, bundled registration open for ALA’s 2013 Midwinter Meeting & Annual Conference
- Sept. 15, registration closes for Teen Read Week, www.ala.org/teenread
- Sept. 16, registration closes for YA Lit Symposium, www.ala.org yalitsymposium
- Nov. 2 – 4, Young Adult Literature Symposium in St. Louis, MO, www.ala.org yalitsymposium
- January 25 – 29 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle
- March 10 – 16, Teen Tech Week, www.ala.org/teentechweek
More Hunger Games Stuff!

- Here is a very detailed explanation of a Hunger Games party on Joanna Axelrod’s (from Escondido Public Library) blog: www.socalconnection.blogspot.com/2012/03/how-to-host-hunger-games-party.html

Keep teens reading all summer with YALSA’s 2012 Teens’ Top Ten nominees www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten.

Teens read now through Aug. then vote for their favorites online. The winners will be announced during Teen Read Week, Oct. 14 - 20. To find out more about Teen Read Week, or to register to participate, visit www.ala.org/teenread.

School Zone

A New Round of Library Support Staff Certification Registration Assistance Awards Offered by LSSIRT and Ten States
Re-Posted by Shirley Biladeau on LibIdaho, April 2, 2012

The Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Program is proud to announce that the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table (LSSIRT) as well as ten state library agencies will be offering another round of **financial assistance to library support staff applying for certification** in the LSSC Program. The LSSC Program offers library support staff the opportunity to achieve recognition for their existing skills and knowledge, to gain new skills and knowledge, and to enhance their library’s service to the public.


The Library Support Staff Interest Round Table will be offering 50 Registration Assistance Awards this fall. These awards are for $175, one-half of the LSSC registration fee. Successful award recipients will pay the remainder of the fee. Information on the LSSC Program is available on the [LSSIRT Website](http://www.lssirt.org) as well as the [LSSC Website](http://www.lssc.org). And you can apply for a **Registration Assistance Award right here**! The recipients of the awards will be chosen by a random drawing in late May.

The state-level organizations have up to 10 awards to distribute. To apply for an award from the participating states, please contact the participating state organization. Only library support staff living in that state are eligible to apply at the state level.
Applications will begin to be accepted on April 1st and will continue until May 15th at both the national and state level. You may apply at both the national and state level, however you may only receive one award.

The LSSC Program is partially funded by a grant to ALA from the federal Institute for Museum and Library Services, and managed by the ALA-Allied Professional Association.

Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) provides a path to recognition and awareness of the critical role that library support staff play in the delivery of quality library service. To achieve certification, support staff must complete six of ten competency sets either through development of an online portfolio or taking approved courses. The competency sets are: Foundation of Library Service; Technology; Communication and Teamwork; Access Services, Adult Readers’ Advisory Services; Cataloging and Classification; Collection Management; Reference and Information Services; Supervision and Management; and Youth Services.

Nancy Bolt, Co-Project Director of LSSC commented, “The LSSC Program is really pleased that LSSIRT is continuing the Registration Assistance Awards. Library Support Staff will receive the recognition that they deserve by participating in LSSC. We appreciate IMLS’ support in recognizing the importance of qualified library support staff in providing excellent library service.”

To be eligible to participate in LSSC and thus receive an Assistance Award, applicants must have a high school degree or its equivalent and have worked for the equivalent of one year (1820 hours) as a library staff member or volunteer within the last five years.

Detailed additional information on support staff certification is available on the LSSC website. Please email lssc@ala.org with any questions.

Upcoming Events

сты May is Get Caught Reading Month – It is a nationwide campaign to remind people of all ages how much fun it is to read, but the campaign is promoted throughout the year. For more see www.getcaughtreading.org/getcaughtreading.htm

сты May 7-13, 2012 – Children’s Book Week - Since 1919, Children’s Book Week has been celebrated nationally in schools, libraries, bookstores, clubs, private homes-any place where there are children and books. www.bookweekonline.com/

Tips & Tools

 sty Target’s Early Literacy Grants Due April 30, 2012
 Target Brands, Inc. will award $2,000 to schools, libraries, and non-profit organizations that propose programs that foster a love of reading, such as weekend book clubs and after-school
reading programs. Programs should also encourage preK-3 children to read together with their families. The deadline is April 30, 2012. Visit Target’s Early Childhood Reading Grants page for applications. Last year Idaho recipients included:

- Treasure Valley Family YMCA
- Dorothy Sutton Branch Head Start
- Seven Oaks Elementary School in Eagle
- Hayden Library
- Cloverdale Elementary School
- Nampa Public Library
- Operation Outreach-USA Inc. (Oregon Trail Elementary)

**Libri Grants due May 15, 2012**
The next application deadline for Libri Grants is May 15th. Grants will be awarded by May 31st. The names of grant recipients will be posted on the Grant Recipients page within a few days after grants are awarded. This grant provides wonderful children’s books for rural public libraries. For more information, see [www.librifoundation.org](http://www.librifoundation.org/)

**ALSC Institute is September, 2012**
Join ALSC in Indianapolis September 20 – 22, 2012 for their biennial National Institute. This two and a half day workshop, devoted solely to children’s and youth library services, offers a small, intimate setting for participating in programming and getting to know colleagues. Programs will delve into some of the most important topics in library service to children such as using technology in your programming, what’s hot in children’s spaces, working with underserved populations, and using local partnerships to improve your programming. You’re sure to go home feeling reinvigorated about the profession and more connected to others in the field. For more information, visit [www.ala.org/alsc/confevents/institute](http://www.ala.org/alsc/confevents/institute). Consider applying for first-time attendee grants through ICfL if you’ve never attended.

**Library Video Demonstrates Every Child Ready to Read Concepts**
Staff at the Gail Borden Public Library in Elgin, IL created the video on Every Child Ready to Read spaces. Here is a link to the English version on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtoFX62A1L4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtoFX62A1L4). They report a Spanish version will be uploaded soon.

**Summer Reading News**
Staci attended the annual CSLP Summer Reading meeting April 10 - 12 in Hershey, PA. “In addition to being well-supplied with chocolate (I know, poor me, right?) some important topics for future CSLP programs were discussed,” Staci reported.

**Early Literacy Committee:** There is some overlap this year in the Children's and Early Literacy manuals. This is because the contract with Highsmith that was still in effect for
just the Children’s, Teen, and Adult program manuals goes through this year. They printed the Early Literacy component (written by the committee) as a courtesy to CSLP. Next year there will be no overlap. The Early Literacy manual will only be ages birth through 5ish and the Children’s manual will be Elementary School-age.

**Future Themes Announced:** The children’s slogan for the 2014 science theme is “Fizz, Boom, Read!” The teen slogan for 2014 is “Spark a Reaction” and the adult slogan for 2014 is “Literary Elements.” The general theme for 2015 is Heroes.

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**Summer Reading School Visits: Tips and Tricks**

*(Reprinted from the YALSA Blog by Kristen Bodine)*

Ah, summer and the teen summer reading program. It’s one of my favorite times in the library. I love that the library provides a safe place for teens to spend some of their summer hours—a place where they can read, use the computers, hang out, and go to fun programs. Over the past few weeks, I’ve found that as much as I love the summer reading program, preparing for and promoting it can be just as fun. School visits are the best!

In my district, school visits are usually an all day event, and for the teen summer reading program we normally only visit middle schools. We set up in the school media center and classes come in and visit us throughout the day. It’s a very fun, but very long, day.

The time allotted to us varies by school, but is usually about 30-50 minutes per group of kids. We spend the first half of the visit talking about the summer reading program (dates, prizes, programs over the summer, etc.) and the second half booktalking and giving the teens ideas for books to read.

This was my first year doing school visits as a librarian for my district. I’ve been having a blast meeting with teens, telling them about the summer reading program and booktalking some great books. I have some really great colleagues and I’ve learned a ton while doing school visits this year, so I thought I’d share some tips and tricks to help other new librarians.

1. **Bring candy!** Bribery works, and handing out candy for participation gets the teens more involved in, and excited about, your presentation. One of my colleagues gives a piece of candy to every teen that has their library card on them and can show it to us, which is a lot of fun. We also give out candy when we booktalk books—if a teen requests that we talk about a book, they get a piece of candy.

2. **Nonfiction, nonfiction, nonfiction.** I personally love novels, but have found that bringing nonfiction is a great way to involve more reluctant readers. I brought *Bat Boy Lives!* and a book on Phineas Gage this year and both generated a lot of interest. A coworker brought Elizabeth Berkley’s new advice book, *Ask Elizabeth*, which was also very popular.

3. **Compelling covers are key.** There are a few books that I love but don’t have the best covers. I’ve learned to just leave those at home. They never get asked about, and I get sad that I don’t get to share a favorite book with everyone.

4. **Bring more books than you think you’ll need.** I’ve found that certain books get asked about over and over again, and I need a break from booktalking them. I will switch them out for other books periodically throughout the day.
5. **Different formats are a good thing.** We try to bring a wide variety of formats—graphic novels, nonfiction, audio books, etc.—to have a book that everyone could be interested in. I’ve found with audio books, the trick is to also bring the physical book as well. Audio book covers aren’t always as easy to read or see, and depending on your vendor sometimes aren’t very interesting, so it’s nice to display the actual book on top of the audio book. Then when someone asks about it, I make sure to mention that I listened to the book and loved the audio version. If your library has Playaways, that’s also a great option to share with teens who may have never heard of them before.

6. **Joke around and don’t be afraid of being a geek.** When we asked our Teen Advisory Board what they wanted from school visits to make them more exciting, one of our teens said, “More nerdy library jokes.”

As you might have already guessed, school visits are one of my favorite things to do—it’s a great time, a great way to promote the library and literacy, and is one of the many times where I can’t believe I actually get paid to do something so awesome. These are just some of my favorite tips for school visits—what are some things that really help you and make your school visits great?


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**A Closer Look at New Mini-Grants**

ICfL staff are excited about two new funding opportunities for Idaho libraries. Applications for two mini-grants, one for elementary school libraries and the other for public libraries, will be available on ICfL’s website by the end of next week. They will both be due by June 5, 2012. A little bit of background on the program follows. For more information, please contact Stephanie or Staci at ICfL.

**Elementary School Library Opportunity**

Funding was allocated during the 2012 Legislative session to help increase access to print for Idaho’s youngest students. The amount of reading done in homes is the single most important factor in developing children’s literacy skills. Research shows that if children are not reading on grade level by the end of first grade, there’s only a one in eight chance they will ever catch up without costly direct intervention. Providing access to hundreds of age-appropriate quality books through school library lending programs is one of the most cost-effective strategies to increase literacy skills.

Funds from this program can be used to purchase books to help ensure that access to materials starts from the beginning of children’s schooling. This grant program has three primary goals:

1) Increase the amount of reading done in homes of children in developmental preschool programs, kindergarten, and first grade.

2) Increase access to age-appropriate quality nonfiction and fiction titles in elementary school libraries.
3) Increase the number of children reading on grade level.

Applications will be ranked by the number of students eligible for free and reduced lunches and IRI scores. Schools that agree to lend books to children enrolled in district developmental preschool programs will be ranked higher. We would like to see school libraries funded throughout the state so geographical distribution will be taken into consideration while ranking applications. School districts can have more than one elementary school apply.

If your school is awarded grant funds, the following requirements will need to be met:

- All kindergarten students will be allowed to check out more than one book per week starting in their first semester of school.

- If your school has a developmental preschool program on school grounds, all children enrolled in that program will be allowed to check out more than one book a week starting in their first semester of school.

- At least 40 percent of the funds will be spent on age-appropriate (pre-K -- grade 2) nonfiction books and students in all grades will be allowed to check out nonfiction books. Remaining grant funds will be spent on fiction books. Accelerated Reader tests are not an allowable purchase with these grant funds.

- School library representatives will need to participate in an introductory conference call or one-hour webinar in September, and a mid-way check-in meeting via conference call or webinar in December.

- An interim report is due in December and final report is due by April 19, 2013.

- Final reports will ask for a list of fiction and nonfiction titles purchased with grant funds, circulation statistics by grade level (when possible), and feedback on changes in circulation practices.

Public Library Opportunity

Another way to increase access to print materials for Idaho’s youngest children is to rotate deposit collections of books and early literacy materials to child care providers. Six public libraries participated in a pilot program to rotate deposit collections during the 2011-2012 school year. Based on the success of that program, libraries may apply for funding to start or expand similar programs in their communities. These deposit collections are focused on the six early literacy skills. Participating libraries will be asked to follow the same guidelines and use evaluation tools developed for the pilot program.

Grants will range from $1,000 to $5,000 for these opportunities. We anticipate ongoing funding to support these grants and encourage school and public library staff to contact Stephanie (coordinating the school library component) or Staci (public library deposit collections), with any questions you might have.
Spots open for NASA Space Science Workshop

Public and school library staff members who work with 8 to 13-year-olds in Idaho, especially those who work with underserved American Indian, Hispanic, and rural populations, are encouraged to attend the upcoming NASA Space Science Workshop.

The Explore: Marvel Moon Workshop is two days with scientists and educators from the NASA Lunar Science Institute (NLSI) and the Lunar and Planetary Institute. Participants will be doing lots of hands-on activities (described at [www.lpi.usra.edu/explore/marvelMoon/](http://www.lpi.usra.edu/explore/marvelMoon/)) and get space science information and resources.

Participants will also:

- Receive a stipend of $150 each from Lunar Planetary Institute to help cover travel, lodging and food. LSTA grants for first-time attendees may cover other costs. The workshop is free.
- Learn about lunar science and exploration from NASA scientists
- Have the opportunity to interact directly with NLSI scientists
- Obtain training in related hands-on science activities designed specifically for use with children ages 8 to 13 in the library learning environment
- Explore how to best engage and excite children about science
- Network with library colleagues
- Receive science education resources that they can immediately use in their programs (e.g., NASA educational DVDs, activity plans, posters, etc.)
- Be served breakfast and lunch and lots of chocolate
- Become part of an online community that receives additional information about, and opportunities for participation in, earth and space science

The workshop will be held in Butte, MT on September 6 & 7, 2012. LSTA grants for first time conference attendees are available. Contact Shirley Biladeau for eligibility requirements at Shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov or 1-800-458-3271. Space is limited so mark your calendars and let Shirley know if you are interested in attending.

Multicultural Connections

El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) celebrated April 30!


Need Ideas for Dia?
A wealth of information is available at [http://dia.ala.org/](http://dia.ala.org/):

- A free Resource Guide for librarians can be found [HERE](http://dia.ala.org/).
- Sign up [HERE](http://dia.ala.org/) to showcase what your library is doing this year. (5 Idaho libraries listed so far! Please consider adding your event to the national register.)
- Download the Dia booklist [HERE](http://dia.ala.org/).
- Read all about Dia celebrations from the past several years [HERE](http://dia.ala.org/).
• More resources can be found HERE.

♪ From ¡Colorín Colorado!

Poems for Everyone
April is Poetry Month! Take a look at our ELLs & Poetry section, including tips on reading and writing poetry with ELLs.

Also, be sure to take a look at our interviews with some of our favorite bilingual poets and authors, including Margarita Engle, Pat Mora and Francisco X. Alarcón!

We Love Libraries!
April 8-14 is National Library Week! Celebrate your local library with our bilingual booklist about libraries (also available in Spanish).

For more great library stories, take a look at Reading Rockets' library booklist too!

♫ Education Week Spotlight: ELLs in the Classroom

Education Week has released a new resource publication on English Language Learners in the Classroom. The Spotlight is a collection of articles selected by Education Week editors and contains articles and commentaries on oral-language skills; long-term ELLs; differentiated instruction; and data-driven instruction. The collection is free to Education Week subscribers and available to non-subscribers for a small fee.

♫ Reading Tips for Parents in 11 Languages – courtesy of Reading Rockets

♫ Know the Numbers

Meta-Analysis Shows Improving Access Improves Literacy Skills and Achievement

“Across all reports, there appears to be a positive relationship between children’s access to print materials and outcomes, and the magnitude of the relationship between children’s access to print material and outcomes, and the magnitude of that relationship is approximately .49 standard deviations. At least part of that relationship appears to be causal, in that children’s access to print materials produces positive impacts on children’s outcomes. Positive impacts were seen for both interventions that lent print materials to children and interventions that gave print material to children to keep…. When children have more access to books and other print material, they develop more positive attitudes toward reading and learning.”
The meta-analysis also showed a causal role between increased access to materials and increases in the amount of reading children do, increases in children’s emergent literacy skills, and improvements in children’s reading achievement.


**Book Look**

**2012 Notable Children’s Recordings**

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) has selected its 2012 list of Notable Children’s Recordings. The list includes recordings for children 14 years of age and younger of especially commendable quality that demonstrate respect for young people’s intelligence and imagination; exhibit venturesome creativity; and reflect and encourage the interests of children and young adolescents in exemplary ways. The recordings selected are:

- “Alcatraz Versus the Evil Librarians.” Recorded Books.
- “Beethoven's Wig: Sing Along Piano Classics.” Beethoven's Wig.
- “Countdown.” Listening Library.
- “Dead End in Norvelt.” Macmillan.
- “Dear America: Like the Willow Tree.” Scholastic.
- “Don’t Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!” Weston Woods.
- “Ella Jenkins: A Life of Song.” Smithsonian Folkways.
- “Ghetto Cowboy.” Brilliance Audio.
- “Ivy and Bean: What’s the Big Idea?” Recorded Books.
- “Jefferson’s Sons.” Listening Library.
- “Jessica.” Live Oak Media.
- “Jim Gill Presents Music Play for Folks of All Stripes.” Jim Gill, Inc.
- “Looking Like Me.” Live Oak Media.
- “Lucky for Good.” Listening Library.
- “Moon over Manifest.” Listening Library.
- “Okay for Now.” Listening Library.
- “The Other Half of My Heart.” Listening Library.
- “Practically Ridiculous.” Pluckypea Publishing.
- “Thunder over Kandahar.” Listening Library.
- “The Unforgotten Coat.” Brilliance Audio.
“Young Fredle.” Listening Library.

For an annotated list of the above recordings, including recommended grade levels and running times, visit the ALSC website. More information about all of ALSC’s Children’s Notable Lists is available on the ALSC website.

Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in The Scoop. Just e-mail Stephanie, Staci or Erica and we’ll print your comments in The Scoop.

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