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Published bi-monthly by [Read to Me](#), a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL)

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## Welcome!

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### El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) is April 30, 2012!

This year 18 libraries registered their Día event with the ICfL. They received five great hardcover books for their collections, posters, and a banner. We also provided over 5200 paperbacks to these libraries to hand out to at their events.

Have a great Día and remember to take pictures of your event and send them to us!! We love to see those smiling faces!

It is also a great time to consider nominating your celebration for the Mora Award!

The Estela and Raúl Mora Award was established by author and poet Pat Mora to promote El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day). REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking, is pleased to announce the competition for the 2012 Mora Award.

The Award has been presented annually since 2000 to the most exemplary program celebrating El día de los niños/El día de los libros, also known as Día. It consists of a \$1,000 stipend and a plaque to be displayed by the winning library or school.

Libraries and schools that plan and implement Día programs in 2012 are eligible to submit an application by August 15, 2012.

For more information about the Mora Award and to download an application, visit [www.reforma.org](http://www.reforma.org) and click on "Awards and Scholarships."

**May is Get Caught Reading Month!** What are you reading? Submit your titles via the survey below and we'll include them in the May issues. We'll even enter your name for a fun Summer Reading prize drawing! [www.surveymonkey.com/s/get-caught-reading](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/get-caught-reading)



## Dates and Deadlines

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- **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: **Elementary School Library Mini-Grant**; **Deposit Collection Mini-Grant** (click on each for more information or to apply)
- You can apply **anytime** for **Idaho Child Care Reads** and the **Jump Start Kindergarten** programs.



## Library to Library

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### HUNGER GAMES PROGRAM at the Hailey Public Library

~by Jeanie Johnston



I had originally envisioned a large group of teens competing in the games, but then reality set in. Since we only have a small room for activities, I decided to stick with twelve kids representing the twelve districts. The program was scheduled from 1-3 pm on a Saturday and sign-up was required. I cleared out all tables and all but 12 chairs from the room. I included a white board for scoring and a Power Point set-up for Jeopardy. When everyone arrived I had them draw to find out which district they would be representing and included an activity where each contestant made a tattoo of that district.

Displayed in the room was a map of Panem which I used to divide the districts into two groups East Panem against West Panem.

The first activity was Hunger Game Jeopardy.

<http://jeopardylabs.com/play/hunger-games> As luck would have it, one team was mostly made-up of kids who hadn't read the book, consequently there was a large difference in points, but that just made them more determined to make it up in the other games. The second challenge was archery; I had gotten two nerf-type crossbows (cheaper than NERF). I placed two targets on a moveable backboard. In order to tell where the arrow hit, each team had an ink pad (red or green), stamped their sponge arrow into the inkpad and this helped identify where their arrow had hit. On their first play, each competitor had two practice tries to get used to the equipment. This was fun!



The last competition was the Cornucopia Challenge ([www.bethanymediacycenter.com/Cornucopia-Challenge.html](http://www.bethanymediacycenter.com/Cornucopia-Challenge.html)). The challenge was a relay activity. Teams were placed at the ends of the room. I brought in survival-type items and placed those in the center... examples, tarp, water, flashlight etc. From where they sat, they had 60 seconds to look at the supplies. When I said GO, the first contestant ran and grabbed an item, ran back and the second person would go, this was repeated until all the items had been taken. The scenario was read and if a team had the specifically mentioned item they'd hold it in the air to claim the points indicated in the script. I changed some of the items and depending on the story, points could not only be added, but also taken away. This was okay, but I think more action games like the archery would have been better,

especially since the majority of contestants were male. Of course, the team with the most overall points won. Each member of the winning team received an inexpensive trophy I'd found at a party shop. Snacks were served, bread sticks and dipping sauce (since bread played such an important role in the novel), chips, and special Mockingjay cookies. All the participants received a Mockingjay necklace I had created with epoxy, bezel frames, and pictures. [www.hungergameslessons.com/2011/10/diy-create-your-own-hunger-games-charms.html](http://www.hungergameslessons.com/2011/10/diy-create-your-own-hunger-games-charms.html)



Each person also put their name in for a raffle which included two HG movie tickets, an HG poster, and the HG movie guide book.

I had a great time, hopefully they did too.

Other great links:

- <http://teenlibrarianstoolbox.blogspot.com/2011/07/feed-their-hunger-for-hunger-games.html>
- [www.scholastic.com/thehungergames/games/](http://www.scholastic.com/thehungergames/games/)
- [www.creative-party-themes.com/hunger-games-party.html#axzz1sznpYLLW](http://www.creative-party-themes.com/hunger-games-party.html#axzz1sznpYLLW)
- <http://blogs.publishersweekly.com/blogs/shelftalker/?p=365>



ICfL Volunteers Rock!

It's a good time to send a special thanks to the many volunteers at the Idaho Commission for Libraries. Most of the Read to Me programs would not be possible without the dedicated volunteers who contribute their time and talents on a regular basis. Here are some amazing statistics compiled in 2011:

- 94 individual volunteers
- 10,000 volunteer hours
- 38 Idaho books recorded for the Talking Book
- 16,000 Jump Start Kindergarten packets collated
- 182,000 talking books inspected
- 485 talking book playback machines repaired
- Name plate stickers put in thousands of children's books



An article in this week's *Boise Weekly* says the value of one hour of volunteer time in Idaho was \$15.93 in 2010, the most recent year for which figures are available. (Source: Corporation for National and Community Service). That's over \$159,000 just in 2011. Wow!

Volunteers are vital to ICfL's mission, and we appreciate everything they do! The photo above shows volunteers Mary Moore and Nancy Bunch assembling Jump Start folders.



### **Read to Me Program Gets Approval to Hire a VISTA Volunteer**

Speaking of volunteers, ICfL just got the news that our application to work with a full-time Americorp VISTA volunteer has been approved. This person will be working with the Read to Me coordinators to advance early literacy in Idaho. If you know someone who might be interested in applying for this position, please let us know or contact David Guyer at ICfL, [david.guyer@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:david.guyer@libraries.idaho.gov). A more formal announcement will be posted on Libidaho and college campuses soon, but we're ready to start spreading the word now!



### **Read to Me Mini-Grants: Apply Now!**

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 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. There are two opportunities for funding to help address this need.

### **Elementary School Library Access to Print:**

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. **[Read more or apply...](#)**

### **Early Literacy Deposit Collections:**

Another cost-effective strategy to increase preschool children's access to print is for public libraries to provide rotating deposit collections of high-quality age-appropriate books and early literacy materials to child care providers.

Funds from this mini-grant will be used for public libraries to assemble a set of six deposit collection tubs, each focusing on one Early Literacy Skill. Early Literacy Skill tubs will include books, materials, professional resources, and Read to Me support materials for providers to distribute to parents. [Read more or apply...](#)

**Applications for both programs are due June 5, 2012.** Applications can be downloaded by clicking on the links above.



## Young Adult Corner



### Get Ready for Teen Read Week™ 2012 – October 14-20

#### You asked for it and we listened.

This year the ICfL will be supporting Teen Read Week events across Idaho as always. But this year you can host your event(s) anytime during October – not just during the official TRW dates – and still participate in our opportunity. Now you can schedule your programs according to what works better for your library and your community! Stay tuned for more information on this year's opportunity.

- Considering a state-wide celebration? Awesome! Let YALSA know! They are happy to help in whatever way they can.
- ALA Registration opened April 12<sup>th</sup> at [www.ala.org/teenread](http://www.ala.org/teenread). Register with ALA and receive this year's logo.
- Ready to start planning? Check out some great resources here: <http://teenreadweek.ning.com/page/planning>

Products are on sale now. To purchase in bulk, please contact Diane Buck, ALA Graphics Marketing Manager, at [dbuck@ala.org](mailto: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](http://www.alastore.ala.org/trw).



## **Hailey Teens Win CSLP 2012 Teen Video Challenge in Idaho**

The Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) announced the winners of the 2012 Teen Video Challenge. The Teen Video Challenge is a national competition for teens to get involved with reading and their public library's summer reading program. Winning videos were selected at the state level to be recognized as an official CSLP Teen Video Challenge winner for 2012.

This video competition is in its second year of encouraging teens to get involved with promoting summer reading and public libraries with a focus on the CSLP 2012 slogan, "Own the Night." Each participating state selected one winning video to be named the official CSLP Teen Video Challenge state winner for 2012. Twenty-three states and over one hundred teens participated in the creation of these winning videos.

The winners were announced on April 10, 2012 during the CSLP Annual Meeting held in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Official CSLP Teen Video Challenge winners were named from the following states: Alabama, California, Florida, Iowa, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, and Washington.

To view this year's winning videos, please visit CSLP's website at [www.cslpreads.org](http://www.cslpreads.org). The winning videos can be used by all teens and all public libraries to promote summer reading nationwide.

The winning videos exemplify the diversity of our country and of the teens that created them. Whether produced by an individual teen, groups of teens, a teen library club, or a teen school group, all exhibit creativity and exemplify quality work on the part of the industrious teen film makers. Many videos use humor or literary references to communicate the "Own the Night" idea. Others use more introspective and informative approaches, incorporating inspirational quotes and original music compositions. Videos were submitted from libraries in communities of 2,000 people to libraries from larger metropolitan areas. In addition to promoting reading and the "Own the Night" slogan, it is clear from all these videos that teens value their public libraries.

For their hard work and creativity, each winner for this year's competition will receive a monetary award of \$275 and the associated public library will receive \$100 plus a \$50 gift certificate from Highsmith. The awards can be used as each winner sees fit.

CSLP plans to continue the Teen Video Challenge as an annual competition. Please check the CSLP website ([www.cslpreads.org](http://www.cslpreads.org)) later this summer or in early fall for information on the 2013 Teen Video Challenge.



**Keep teens reading all summer with YALSA's 2012 Teens' Top Ten nominees**  
[www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten](http://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](http://www.ala.org/teenread).



## School Zone

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~ by Glynda Pflieger



### Common Core and the School Library

Are you ready to help implement the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)? Will your current library collection support the CCSS? How will the CCSS influence your collection development policy?

Based on the [Timeline of Implementation of Common Core State Standards in Idaho](#), they will be taught beginning 2013-2014 school year with assessments the following school year.

The Internet is exploding with CCSS resources, but you don't need to sift through them all. I've been bookmarking the good ones to Diigo and sharing them with the [Idaho School Libraries Diigo Group](#) in my personal learning network (PLN). To see the best Common Core resources follow the link to my [Diigo Common Core list](#). If you still need more, search the Diigo community library and then share your new resources with our Idaho School Libraries Diigo Group.

If you're not familiar with Diigo, the social bookmarking tool to organize, highlight, and tag great online resources, see this [Diigo video](#). You can also learn about tagging and social bookmarking from [SPLAT 101](#).

Now, start your own Diigo Common Core list to share with your PLN. Together we can be ready to help implement the Common Core State standards.



### Webinar: Best iPad apps for classroom teachers

Sponsored by Educational Research Newsletter & Webinars

This webinar will show live demonstrations of how to navigate the iPad and recommended apps. Can't attend the live event? They can email you a link to the online recording the next day. Tuesday, May 8, 2012 from 1-3 p.m. (Eastern time). [Learn more...](#)



### Judy Blume Sweepstakes Announced

Visit the link below to enter for a chance to Skype with author Judy Blume!  
[www.schoollibraryjournal.com/csp/cms/sites/SLJ/Info/JudyBlume2012.csp](http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/csp/cms/sites/SLJ/Info/JudyBlume2012.csp)





## Upcoming Events

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May is **Get Caught Reading Month**. This nationwide campaign reminds people of all ages how much fun it is to read. For more see [www.getcaughtreading.org/getcaughtreading.htm](http://www.getcaughtreading.org/getcaughtreading.htm). They have a super fun bookmark by Jeff Kinney at [www.bookweekonline.com/bookmark](http://www.bookweekonline.com/bookmark). And don't forget to submit your titles to *The Scoop* via the survey below and we'll include them in the May issues. We'll even enter your name for a fun Summer Reading prize drawing! [www.surveymonkey.com/s/get-caught-reading](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/get-caught-reading)



May is **Better Hearing and Speech Month**. This annual event provides opportunities to raise awareness about communication disorders and to promote treatment that can improve the quality of life for those who experience problems with speaking, understanding, or hearing. Find out more at [www.asha.org/bhsm/](http://www.asha.org/bhsm/).



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/](http://www.bookweekonline.com/)



## Tips & Tools

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### Fingerplay Fun

*(Thank you to Rick Samuelson, youth services librarian at the Washington County Cooperative Library Services in Oregon, for sharing these with us!)*



Fingerplays and rhymes are wonderful literacy builders! They encourage conversations, beg to be sung and are built around a love of play. Learn more and enjoy these [videos of Washington County librarians demonstrating some of their favorite rhymes in English and Spanish](#).



### Music for Storytimes

Compiled by Rick Samuelson, with contributions from the ALSC Listserv, April 2012.

[Click for PDF.](#)



### 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/).



### **Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation Grants Due May 15**

The [Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation](#) is dedicated to advancing the great State of Idaho. "We believe that this is a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. For nearly fifty years, we have provided support to organizations that make this state great. Through family leadership and low costs, we have maximized the funds we can provide through our two main efforts, a scholarship program and a competitive grants program."

The Foundation has only one grantmaking cycle per year. Applications must be postmarked by May 15. Grants will be announced and disbursed by August 31. Application materials are available by sending an email inquiry to [lmcf\\_idaho@msn.com](mailto:lmcf_idaho@msn.com).

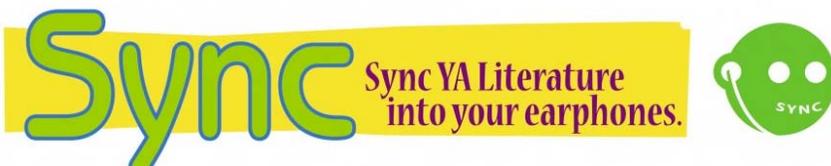


### **ALSC Institute is September, 2012**

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.



**SYNC YA Literature Into Your Earphones** is back.



The audiobook publishers and AudioFile Magazine have once again banded together to offer schools and libraries the opportunity to introduce the audiobook experience to teens. <http://www.audiobooksync.com/>

## Two Free Audiobook Downloads Each Week June 14 - August 22, 2012

Teens and other readers of Young Adult Literature will have the opportunity to listen to bestselling titles and required reading classics this summer. Each week from June 14 - August 22, 2012, SYNC will offer two free audiobook downloads.

The audiobook pairings will include a popular YA title and a classic that connects with the YA title's theme and is likely to show up on a student's summer reading lists. For example, Laini Taylor's *Daughter of Smoke and Bone*, the first book in a new series about a girl who opens a door to two otherworldly cities at war, will be paired with Charles Dicken's *A Tale of Two Cities*.

The full title list and schedule is here:

[www.audiobooksync.com/free-syn-downloads/schedule-of-free-downloads/](http://www.audiobooksync.com/free-syn-downloads/schedule-of-free-downloads/)

A promotional tool kit (both print & digital & text) to share with students and patrons is here: [www.audiobooksync.com/educators-librarians-bloggers/tool-kit/](http://www.audiobooksync.com/educators-librarians-bloggers/tool-kit/)



## Summer Reading News

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### Fred Meyer Books Are Coming Your Way!

We are pleased to announce that the Fred Meyer grant we wrote to help provide new books to support public library summer reading programs was funded! Paperback giveaway books will automatically be sent to the **140 libraries that completed last year's summer reading report** and hosted a Summer Reading program.

### There is no need to apply this year.

We stretched the \$10,000 grant and purchased as many books for the 140 libraries as we could. You will be receiving a box of books in quantities ranging from 15 books (for libraries who have fewer than 14 children participating) to 104 books (for libraries with enrollments that top 1,000). Inside the box will be a cover letter and a sign that recognizes and thanks the Fred Meyer stores for their sponsorship of this program. Please display this sign in a prominent location inside your library.

We hope to have them mailed out by the end of May, but will provide another update soon.



### Free downloads on CSLP website

*Proprietary Downloads:* Please be aware that by accessing the Proprietary Downloads, you are agreeing to abide by the [Rules of Use](#).

- Public Service Announcements (for the children's program—teen PSAs are the winners of the Video Challenge, and are accessible on the main page for anyone to use.)
- Logos (CSLP and current slogans)
- Sign Language Videos
- Web Banners (designed by ICfL's Ben Bibikov)
- Slogans in Spanish
- Audio downloads for promotion, in English and Spanish

- Fonts used in artwork (see note below)
- More downloads are being added, so check back frequently



### More from CSLP

*2012 Fonts:* You can download the fonts used in the early literacy, children's, teen, and adult artwork when you are logged in to the [cslpreads.org](http://cslpreads.org) website. However, the children's font Uncle Stinky is no longer accessible from the link provided. If you would like this font please contact Karen Yother, CSLP Vendor Committee Chair, and she will email it to you.

[kareny@communitylibrary.net](mailto:kareny@communitylibrary.net)

*Committees:* Want to contribute your ideas, opinions, or expertise to the organization or programs each year? Any CSLP member can join a committee! Standing committees include: Vendor (artwork and catalog items), Children's Manual, Early Literacy Manual, Teen Manual, Adult Manual, Website, Rules of Use, Membership, Diversity, Marketing and PR (in charge of Teen PSA contest), and Budgeting and Finance. See each page for details about what the committee does and how you can join. Committees usually "meet" via email or web conference.

**Note:** Staci is a member of the Vendor Committee. Members of this committee receive emails with previews of artwork for all ages, as well as catalog items such as t-shirts, posters, yard signs, bookmarks, etc. Committee members are asked to vote on various options. **If you would like to provide feedback without actually joining the committee, please email your name to Staci.** She will forward all options to you for feedback before submitting her votes and pass along your comments. Please note that there is usually a short turnaround time, so timely feedback is necessary.



### TeachingBooks.net

Through a partnership with the CSLP, TeachingBooks.net has created comprehensive collections of online materials that support the 2012 CSLP Youth and Teen reading lists. The collections include:

- Links to author and illustrator websites
- Audio recordings of authors pronouncing their names
- Book discussion and activity guides
- Audio booktalks with authors, illustrators, and professional narrators
- And much, much more!

Children's CSLP resources: <http://TeachingBooks.net/CSLP>

Early Literacy CSLP resources: <http://TeachingBooks.net/CSLPEL>

Teens: <http://TeachingBooks.net/CSLPT>

## Feature: Libraries Have a Role in Serving Developmental Preschools

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Very few of the 3,146 children currently being served in Idaho's developmental preschool are supported with access to books through school or public libraries. That's the finding from a survey recently completed by 100 of the 182 developmental preschool teachers and supervisors conducted through a partnership with the State Department of Education.

Idaho has approximately 140 school districts with 133 local education agencies (LEA) offering special education preschool programs serving children with special needs ages three to five. While 90 of the 100 teachers who responded to the survey indicated they had a classroom library, only 14 percent said students could check out books to take home and 74 percent do not have a book budget to support their classroom libraries.

Forty-five percent of the teachers indicated their students regularly visit their elementary school library, but very few of those visits include checking out books to take home. Only 10 percent indicated their school library allowed students in the developmental preschool programs to check out books.

These numbers have been confirmed on the elementary school library survey currently underway. Of the 198 responses received so far, 73 percent indicated children enrolled in the preschool programs could not check out books. Another 10 percent said they didn't know what the policies were about checking out books to take home.

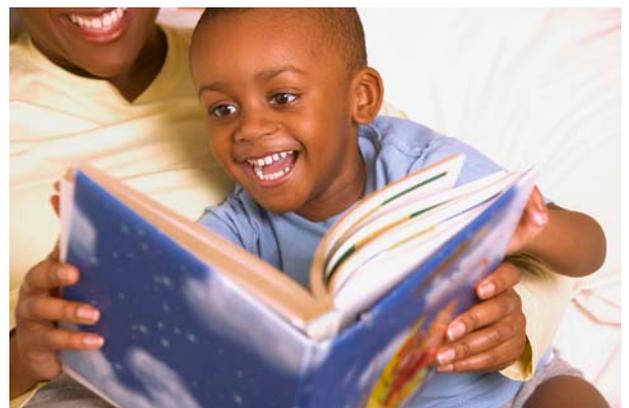
"A few school library staff indicated the preschool students can check out books to take back to their classroom or that they check out books to the teachers, but reading research clearly shows that more access to books in homes increases literacy development," ICfL Read to Me Coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said. "When children are allowed to check out books, they do. It's one of the most cost-effective strategies that can be implemented in school districts."

When asked how the teachers would characterize the relationship between their preschool and the local public library, 56 percent said they had no relationship with anyone at the public library. Two teachers said they had a very close relationship with local public library staff, 11 percent said local librarians visit their classrooms once or twice per year, and seven indicated the local library provides free books for children either through the Read to Me First Book program or on their own.

The preschool teachers included comments on their surveys that show there are challenges to ensuring that more Idaho children have access to hundreds of great age-appropriate books. English as a second language, packed schedules, and communication issues between principals, school media staff, and preschool teachers were listed as issues to overcome. Low book budgets and higher book loss in the lower grades seem to be the biggest obstacles to increasing access to books for Idaho's youngest students. Preliminary results from the Idaho elementary school survey show 62 percent of the 198 responding libraries received less than \$1,000 from their school districts for their 2011-2012 annual book budget; 27 percent of those said allocated budgets were between \$0 and \$100.

### **Ways to Increase Access for Children & Parents**

"All young children benefit from being read to by caring adults," Bailey-White said. "These children have been identified as needing extra help to get them ready to be successful in school, and school and public libraries can play a big role in making sure families have access to great books to read together and providing early literacy tips for parents and caregivers."



Several options are currently available through the Read to Me program to help address this need. Elementary school libraries can apply for up to \$5,000 to purchase age-appropriate

books for children in this age group. See <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/stephanie-bailey-white/apply-now-elementary-school-library-funds> for more information. The deadline to apply for mini-grant funding is June 5, 2012. Public libraries can apply for funding to develop deposit collections that could increase access to good books for children this age. While these books generally stay in the classroom, some teachers have been able to check out the books for children to take home. And because they often fund their classroom libraries with donations or their own pocketbooks, having a tub filled with good new books delivered once a month can really help expose them and the children to titles and authors they may not be familiar with. This grant application is also due June 5. See <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/stacishaw/apply-now-early-literacy-deposit-collection-mini-grant> for details.

Several developmental preschool programs have partnered with public libraries to provide free books each month through the Read to Me First Book program. The program changed its name this year to My First Books with the same goal as the past 15 years – getting more books into the hands of Idaho children and promoting library use among those who might not be familiar with everything libraries offer families. [Applications to participate in the My First Book program](#) are due May 10, 2012. Free paperback books are also available to libraries to distribute to children through the [year-round underserved program](#).

For more information about any of the Read to Me programs offered by ICfL, please contact Stephanie, Staci or Erica at the Commission for Libraries. If you have questions about the state's developmental preschool programs, contact Shannon Dunstan, Early Childhood & Interagency Coordinator, at the Idaho State Department of Education at (208) 332-6908 or [sdunstan@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:sdunstan@sde.idaho.gov). Shannon presented information about the program during this year's Read to Me annual meeting and is great about answering questions or providing information.



## CE News You Can Use

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~ by Shirley Biladeau



### **Libraries and the Era of the Learner: A Vision for the Future**

**May 16, noon MT, 11 a.m. PT**

Join us for a discussion exploring lifelong learning as an economic driver in the 21st century and the expanding role of libraries in this "era of the learner." Building on discussions about 21st century skills and workforce development, we'll hear from futurist Garry Golden on the changing workforce and the role that public libraries can play. We're excited to take a glimpse into the future and to hear how libraries can identify changes, explore implications and pave the way for learners in the 21st century. This session will build on discussions from a face-to-face convening to be held in April, but will benefit and be of interest to all working in libraries.

Garry Golden, Futurist who presented at the recent Compass Convening in Washington DC ... Excellent presenter!!!!



### **Understanding Compassion Fatigue in Your Library**

**May 31, noon MT 11 a.m. PT**

You love your job. You love your library. You love helping your patrons and giving them the extra attention that lets them know you care. But there are days when you've given just about

all you have to give. At the end of the day you feel drained, or irritated, or both! You may have achieved "compassion fatigue." The term, which is used frequently in medical settings, describes a caregiver's reaction to chronic stress that results in feelings of hopelessness, anxiety, self-doubt, lack of focus and fatigue. This webinar will help you recognize the symptoms and the situations that may trigger compassion fatigue and understand how it affects you and your working environment. Explore ways to take care of yourself so you can continue to show compassion and give your patrons the care they need. Linda Bruno.

## News Beyond Idaho

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~ Courtesy of the Colorado State Library's [YS News March 2012](#)

### Examples of Best Practices in Space Design:

- Have a small library? Put Early Literacy Spots wherever you can – shelf ends, table tops, elevators, the fronts of service desks, walls, even floors and bathrooms! Feature small early learning activities for kids at these Spots, with quick tips for parents on how to do the activities with their child. Place these Spots at eye level of a toddler. Magnet and felt boards, chalkboards, mirrors, lift the flap activities, counting games, even a hanging Lego board can be placed on a wall. Use magnetic paint on that pesky column or odd bit of wall space close to the ground to make a fun learning activity space. And check out these [art ideas](#) for table tops or mobile carts.



This is a chalkboard



This is a mirror.



These examples from the Kent District Library in Michigan show that you can fit in Early Literacy Spots just about anywhere!

- Research shows smaller, defined nooks and niches encourage more interaction with parents and young children, as well as among young peers. Cozy spaces also encourage richer language experiences.
- Activities that keep children engaged throughout the library and come with a fun, small incentive, like getting a sticker or hand stamp, help keep the focus on fun learning.

- Use self-service activity bins, labeled with photos. Fill with puzzles, animals, color sorting activities, blocks, stacking toys, hats, etc.



Colorful, labeled activity bins at the Early Literacy Center at Aurora Public Library

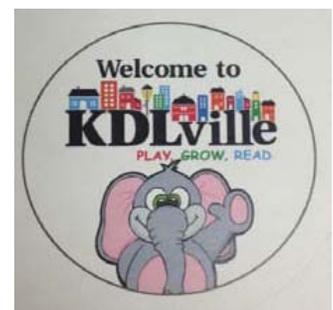
- Activity stations can include puppets, a playhouse with costumes and a small stage, a writing center, building block station, flannel or magnetic boards, play islands with manipulatives for small hands, and art and music stations are just a few possibilities. If you have more space, consider a gross motor area with larger items like Hopscotch rugs, rocker boats, and balance boards; these help young kids develop coordination and strength. Here are some examples.
- Incorporate tips for parents on how to use the activities and objects to impart early literacy skills. The tips can also include how parents can create similar activities and environments in their home.



From the West Bloomfield Township Public Library

- Consider a fun mascot for your early learning center or activity stations. If your library jurisdiction has more than one branch, the mascot is a way to add branding.

Kent District Library branded their early learning centers as KDLville areas; kids are welcomed with this elephant in each branch.



Whisper tubes are fun and a great way to add an auditory component that takes little money or space.



From St. Mary's County Library, Maryland

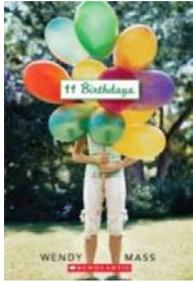
## Caring for Your Early Learning Environment

- Ask kids and parents to put items away they've used (having bins clearly labeled helps!).
- Disinfect early childhood areas at the end of each day they're open. Here's a [great](#) video to demonstrate that.

## Book Look

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### PNLA “Young Readers’ Choice” 2012 Award Winners Announced

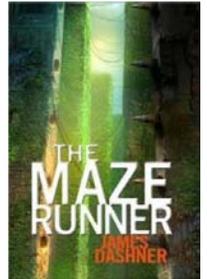


Junior Division – *11 Birthdays*, by Wendy Mass

Intermediate Division - *Maze Runner*, by James Dashner

Senior Division – *Shiver*, by Maggie Stiefvater

For those of you who like stats, almost 20,000 students voted in Alberta, British Columbia, Alaska, Idaho, Montana and Washington! From Idaho, we had 1797 votes.

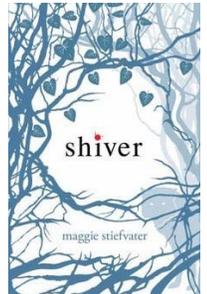


The runners up for each division were:

Junior Division – *Scat*, by Carl Hiaasen

Intermediate Division – *Skeleton Creek*, by Patrick Carman

Senior Division – *Lockdown*, by Alexander Smith



## Author Birthdays

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May 5 – **Leo Lionni** (1910-1999). Lionni wrote and illustrated more than 40 highly acclaimed children's books. Some of his works include: *Inch by Inch*, *Frederick*, *Swimmy*, and *Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse* and more. See [www.randomhouse.com/kids/lionni/author.html](http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/lionni/author.html) for more.

May 9 – **Sir James Matthew Barrie** (1860-1937). The Scottish author and dramatist is best known for his character Peter Pan. The play *Peter Pan* or, *The Boy Who Would Not Grow Up* was first performed in 1904 and published in 1928. See [www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/54080/J-M-Barrie](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/54080/J-M-Barrie) for more.

May 10 – **Christopher Paul Curtis** (born in 1954). Curtis confronts powerful issues in his books. Racism, family, love, and hope are recurring themes in novels such as *The Watsons Go To Birmingham—1963*, *Bud, Not Buddy*, and *Elijah of Buxton*. See [www2.scholastic.com/browse/collection.jsp?id=49](http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/collection.jsp?id=49) for more.

May 10 – **Caroline Cooney** (born in 1947). Cooney is the author of suspense, romance, horror and mystery books for teenagers. She has written over 60 books beginning with *Safe as the Grave* in 1979. A recent publication is *Enter Three Witches: A Story of Macbeth*. Read more about [Caroline Cooney](#).

May 11 – **Peter Sís** (born in 1949). Sís is an award winning children's book writer and illustrator. He was awarded with the Caldecott Honor for the illustrations of his book, *Starry Messenger: Galileo Galilei*, and *Tibet Through The Red Box* as well. [www.petersis.com/](http://www.petersis.com/)

May 12 – **Betsy Reilly Lewin** (born in 1937). She is married to children's book illustrator Ted Lewin and with him has co-written and illustrated several books about their travels to remote places, including Uganda in *Gorilla Walk* and Mongolia in *Horse Song*. She is arguably best known for *Click Clack Moo: Cows that Type*. Read more at the [Betsy Lewin](#) website.

May 15 – **L. Frank Baum** (1856-1919). Baum is best known today as the creator of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. He also wrote 13 sequels, nine other fantasy novels, and a plethora of other works. [www.literarytraveler.com/authors/l\\_frank\\_baum.aspx](http://www.literarytraveler.com/authors/l_frank_baum.aspx)

May 15 – **Paul Zindel** (1936-2003). *The Pigman*, first published in 1968, is widely taught in American schools, and also made it on to the list of most frequently banned books in America in the 1990s, because of what some deem offensive language. To find out more go to [www.paulzindel.com/](http://www.paulzindel.com/)

May 16 – **Bruce Coville** (born in 1950). Coville's works include the *Unicorn Chronicles* series, *My Teacher is an Alien*, *Aliens Ate My Homework*, *Magic Shop* series and more. Check out [www.brucecoville.com/bio.asp](http://www.brucecoville.com/bio.asp) for more.

May 16 – **Margret Elizabeth Rey** born **Margarete Elisabeth Waldstein** (1906–1996). Was (with her husband H. A. Rey), the co-author and illustrator of children's books, the most famous of which are the Curious George series. For more visit [www.kidspoint.org/columns2.asp?column\\_id=1189&column\\_type=author](http://www.kidspoint.org/columns2.asp?column_id=1189&column_type=author)

May 17 – **Gary Paulsen** (born in 1939). Paulsen has written more than 200 books and is best known for writing Hatchet and other young adult books coming of age stories about the wilderness. Read more at <http://eolit.hrw.com/hlla/authorbios/index2.jsp?author=8garypaulsen>.

May 18 – **Lillian Hoban** (1925-1998). Hoban's "I-Can-Read" books about *Arthur the Chimpanzee* and his little sister Violet and the *Frances the Badger* books (illustrated by Hoban but written by her then-husband Russell) continue to be popular among children as time goes by. Find out more at [www.lillianhoban.com/](http://www.lillianhoban.com/)

May 20 – **Mary Pope Osborne** (born in 1943). She is best known for her award-winning and bestselling *Magic Tree House* series, which has been translated into over 20 languages and sold over 53 million copies. Read more about Osborne at [www.marypopeosborne.com/](http://www.marypopeosborne.com/)

May 22 – **Arnold Lobel** (1933-1987). Lobel wrote and illustrated many books during his lifetime. His drawings of cats, mice, pigs, and other animals are favorites of children everywhere. Among his most popular books are those in the *Frog and Toad* series, and *Mouse Soup*. To find out more go to [http://www.parents-choice.org/article.cfm?art\\_id=35&the\\_page=editorials](http://www.parents-choice.org/article.cfm?art_id=35&the_page=editorials)

May 23 – **Margaret Wise Brown** (1910-1952). The author of many children's books including *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny*. Read more at [www.margaretwisebrown.com/long\\_bio.htm](http://www.margaretwisebrown.com/long_bio.htm)

May 23 – **Scott O'Dell** (1898-1989). O'Dell was an American children's author who wrote 26 novels for youngsters, along with three adult novels and four nonfiction books. His most

famous children's novel being *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. Find out more at [Scott O'Dell's website](#).

May 24 – **Candace Fleming** (born in 1962). Fleming is the author of *Ben Franklin's Almanac*, *Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!*, and more. Check out [www.rif.org/readingplanet/bookzone/content/fleming.msp](http://www.rif.org/readingplanet/bookzone/content/fleming.msp) for more.

May 25 - **Martha Alexander** (born in 1920). Is the author and/or illustrator of nearly 50 books, including *A You're Adorable*, *Nobody Asked Me If I Wanted a Baby Sister*, the classic *Blackboard Bear* series. Read more about Alexander at <http://loganberrybooks.com/most-alexander.html>



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