Tips for Idaho Day Book Read Program Coordinators

What to do before the program:
- Schedule a book discussion for early March (Idaho Day is March 4).
- Read book.
- Check books out to participants and prepare them for the book:
  - Suggest using post-it notes to mark aspects of the book they want to discuss.
  - If the book might take readers into dark aspects of the human experience, let them know.
  - Encourage readers to keep reading when they come across something difficult or unpleasant. The discussions will help the confusing parts become clearer.
  - Encourage participants to come to the discussion even if they don’t like a book. They may find out something new about the book that helps them understand difficult parts or find out that others found the book interesting or engaging.
- Publicize programs in the library and in the community.
- Arrange for a discussion leader.
- Arrange for refreshments (if possible) and hosts.
- Set up room.

What to do at the program:
- Pass out Idaho Day flyer (and discussion questions if appropriate).
- Have participants introduce themselves if they don’t already know each other. You might also have them briefly share what they most want to discuss about the book.
- Use ground rules that create a safe and welcoming environment, like:
  - We learn from each other.
  - Everyone gets a chance to speak and no one dominates.
  - We respect each other’s opinions and disagree with grace and tact.
  - We stick to the topic.

What to do after the program:
- Collect books from participants.
- Fill out Library Feedback Form, mail back with books.

Program information & forms:
- Idaho Day flyer
- Book Summaries and Discussion Questions
- Library Feedback Form (for program coordinator)


Questions?
If you need general information or have questions about receiving or returning books, information, contact Donna Eggers at 208.334.2150 (in Boise area) or 800.458.3271 (toll free) or donna.eggers@libraries.idaho.gov.