



Vol. 7 No. 1 – January 14, 2011

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

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Welcome!

HAPPY NEW YEAR



"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." ~Edith Lovejoy Pierce

Welcome to the first Scoop issue of the New Year! We've made some changes we think you'll like:

- **Number of issues:** We are returning to our bi-monthly production schedule, so we'll send you a new issue every other Friday. During the summer months and in the month of December we'll only send you one issue.
- **Content:** In every issue you can expect the following features:
 - Dates and Deadlines:* Important info to read first and mark on your calendars
 - Library to Library:* News and events from the library community
 - Young Adult Corner:* Hip happenings for teen and young adult programming
 - School Zone:* For librarians working with students
 - Upcoming Events:* Special events happening on the local, state, and national level
 - Tips and Tools:* Funding sources, tech tips, free resources, program ideas, etc.

Summer Reading News: Announcements from CSLP, free resources and program ideas, outreach deadlines, etc.

CE News You Can Use: Continuing Education opportunities

In the *first* issue of each month you can also expect the following features:

A Closer Look: An in-depth article on programs, events, research, issues, and best practices in the library community

Multicultural Connections: Ideas and resources to serve diverse cultures

Know the Numbers: Research and statistics relating to library programming or clientele

In the *second* issue of each month you can expect these additional features:

Meet...: Profiles of youth services librarians around the state

News Beyond Idaho: National and international happenings

Book Look: Suggestions and reviews for youth birth to young adult

Author Birthdays: for the subsequent month, to give you time to plan programs

These changes should make each issue shorter and more convenient for busy librarians to enjoy.

We hope our readers will continue to send in news, photos, program ideas, and profile information so that we can showcase the creativity and best practices that are abundant in Idaho's public and school libraries. We are excited about the possibilities 2011 has to offer, and we can't wait to hear about your upcoming adventures!

All the best in the New Year,
Erica Compton, Stephanie Bailey-White, and Staci Shaw



Dates and Deadlines

Click on each for more information:

- January 18, 2011: [Wimba Orientation for Libraries Participating in Storytime Evaluation](#)
- February 28, 2011: [Read to Me 101 and Intro to the Six Early Literacy Skills](#)
- February 28, 2011: [Bilingual Storytimes / Services](#)
- March 1-2, 2011: [Annual Read to Me meeting](#)
- March 18, 2011: Deadline to apply for [Bright Futures Programs](#)
- You can apply anytime to participate in the [Jump Start Program](#)



Library to Library

- **Young Reader's Choice Awards 2011: Nominations Accepted Now**
A message from Joy Lear, Ada Community Library- Star Branch...

It's nomination time for the 2012 Young Reader's Choice Awards (YRCA). The titles chosen must follow the following criteria:



- Nominated titles are those published three years prior to the award year (the 2012 list of nominees must have a copyright date of 2009), printed in the U.S. or Canada, and are already favorites with readers.
- Nominations are taken only from children, teachers, parents and librarians in the Pacific Northwest ~ Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana and Washington. Nominations will not be accepted from publishers.
- Nominations of books that are a sequel in a series will not be considered.
- Nominations may include fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, anime and manga.

Nominations are due by February 1 each year. Titles that you wish to nominate should be sent directly to the YRCA Chair, Barbara Meisenheimer. When nominating a title please include the following:

- * Title
- * Author
- * Copyright Date
- * Division where you feel the title is most appropriate
 - Junior Division: Grades 4-6
 - Middle Division: Grades 7-9
 - Senior Division: Grades 10-12

Barbara has asked that you send title recommendations as you get them, and not wait to send them all on the last day to submit. You are also welcome to send them to Joy, and she will be happy to forward them. jlear@adalib.org

[Read more about YRCA...](#)

➤ **Read to Me First Book Libraries Give Families Gift to Enjoy Year-Round**



Libraries participating in Read to Me's First Book program received 2011 Family Reading Partnership calendars to give to each participating family in December. These beautiful calendars are available at www.familyreading.org and feature artwork from illustrators such as Jan Brett, Rosemary Wells, Denise Fleming, and others, and each month lists good books to share with children.

Some libraries opted to give the calendars to the children to wrap up and put under their trees as a gift to the parents from the child. **Kathryn Foley from the Meridian Library** told us that they made wrapping paper and the kids all helped wrap their calendars for parents. They also made cards, in which an insert was placed that said —~~Seasons~~ **Seasons Greetings! A gift from your child from the Idaho Commission for Libraries and Meridian Library District.** Meridian visits Head Start each month, conducting storytimes and distributing books to 80 preschool children.



The Read to Me First Book program currently works with 32 Idaho libraries, who serve over 2,600 Idaho children each month from September through May. [Read more about Read to Me First Book...](#)



Young Adult Corner

➤ **Teens and Technology Course 2011**

Registration closed on January 7th for this year's Teens and Technology course. Forty-eight librarians from across the state will participate in the course—learning all aspects of creating, editing, and producing a short video using FlipCams. The final project will be a 60-90 second book trailer. Participants will come away with some great ideas on engaging teens and will host Teen Tech Week events at their libraries the week of March 6 - 12. Click [HERE](#) if you want to learn more about this year's course.

- **Teen Tech Week 2011** is March 6-12! Teen Tech Week is a national initiative aimed at teens, librarians, educators, parents, and other concerned adults that highlights nonprint resources at the library. The 2011 theme — Mix and Mash @ your library — focuses on encouraging teens to use library resources to express their creativity by developing their own unique online content and safely sharing it by using online collaborative tools. Check out available resources on ALA's website [HERE](#).



- **The Amanda Project** is the story of Amanda Valentino, told through an interactive website and book series for readers aged 13 & up. On the website, readers are invited to become a part of the story as they help the main characters search for Amanda.



➤ **CSLP Video Challenge**

For the 2011 Summer Reading Program, the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), working through member states, will be soliciting amateur videos produced by teenagers to serve as the official CSLP summer reading teen public service announcements (PSAs). The theme for the PSA Video Challenge is "You Are Here." One video from each participating state will be submitted to the CSLP. CSLP will award each State Teen Video Challenge Winner \$250. Their public library or member affiliate will receive \$100 from CSLP.

For details on Idaho Contest Rules click [HERE](#). Check out the CSLP website for all eligibility requirements, video criteria, and resources at www.cslpreads.org.



School Zone

➤ **Science Fair Resources**

Now is a great time to start collecting resources for those spring science fairs. Here are some great websites to share with your elementary and middle school students:

[What Makes a Good Science Fair Project?](#)

[Science Fairs: Why and How?](#)

[Organizing and Conducting a Science Fair Project](#)

[Science Fair Project Do's and Don'ts](#)

[Understanding the Scientific Method](#)

[How do I start my science fair project?](#)

[Energy and Science Projects](#): From the California Energy Commission

[Fun Science Gallery](#): More than fifteen activities and experiments detailed here, and most can be adapted for science fair projects.

[How Stuff Works](#): Science topics from A to Z

[Math Ideas for Science Fair Projects](#): Targeted more toward middle school

[Science Fair Central](#): From the Discovery Channel

[USDA](#): Selected Internet Resources for Science Fairs, Animals in Education and Research, Kids Pages and Animal Careers

[Science Fair Theme Page](#)

[Simple Machines](#): From the Franklin Institute

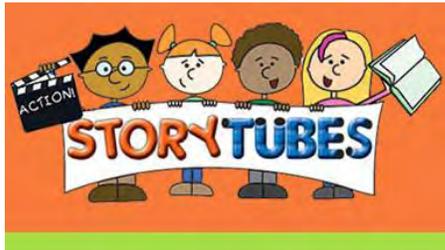
[Successful Science Fair Projects](#): From Neuroscience for Kids

[The Ultimate Science Fair Resource](#): Resources on every page, even includes —operation science fair projects”

[The WWW Virtual Directory...Science Fairs](#): An attempt to provide a single comprehensive list of every science fair accessible through the World Wide Web, whether of global or local scope.

➤ **StoryTubes 2011**

StoryTubes is a national contest for kids and teens age 5-18 to create videos about their favorite books.



School and public libraries across the United States can help kids in grades K–12 prepare videos for the StoryTubes 2011 contest. School libraries can secure parental permission, work with students to develop their booktalks, or provide technical expertise to tape and upload the entries. Public libraries can structure the contests, provide the staff time to review entries and

manage the event, or secure prizes.

Entries can be submitted between January 19 and February 28, 2011. For more information, see www.storytubes.info/.



Upcoming Events

➤ **Annual Read to Me Meeting set for March 1 – 2, 2011 in Boise**

For past 13 years, the Read to Me program has sponsored an annual training meeting. This year the meeting is designed to build the capacity of libraries to provide information on the six early literacy skills to Idaho families through outreach and at the library. Here's an overview of the meeting content:

On Monday, February 28 we'll be hosting two optional "preconference" learning opportunities from 1 – 5 p.m.

Six Skills overview and Read to Me 101: Tamra Hawley-House, Youth Services Librarian at Boise Public Library, will lead this session for those who are new to the six early literacy skills or for those who want a refresher. ICfL Read to Me coordinators will also provide an introduction to the Read to Me outreach opportunities. Register at <http://rtm101preconference.eventbrite.com>

Bilingual Storytimes / Services: Anna Rosa Trelles from the Jerome School District has conducted bilingual family workshops and is an expert in bilingual instruction. She will lead this session and Read to Me project coordinator Erica Compton will facilitate sharing what libraries are doing and can do to promote bilingual storytimes and services in libraries. Register at <http://rtmbilingualpreconference.eventbrite.com>.

Tuesday, March 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: The morning will start with Boise State University Education Professor and Read to Me Researcher Dr. Roger Stewart discussing reading research and libraries. He'll go over what the research is telling us and what we can do with that information. He'll also share results from recent Read to Me research studies. Lunch is provided. During the afternoon, national early literacy consultant Saroj Ghoting will share information on how to do parent asides and there will be time to work on storytime templates.

Wednesday, March 2, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.: Wednesday will focus on outreach models. Librarians who have started successful outreach efforts will share their secrets for success. Read to Me coordinators will talk about new pilot programs you might want to participate in. Lunch will be provided and we'll hear from a panel of partners. After lunch we'll continue to talk about working with partners and sharing ideas that help reach more Idaho families.

Travel costs for library staff traveling more than 45 miles one way to the meeting will be reimbursed. For more information or to register, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/read-to-me-meeting> or contact Stephanie Bailey-White at ICfL, Stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov.

February Events

- Each February, the American Dental Association (ADA) sponsors **National Children's Dental Health Month** to raise awareness about the importance of oral health. Read more at www.ada.org/2714.aspx
- February 1-7 – **Children's Authors and Illustrators Week**. During this annual event, authors and illustrators from Children's Authors Network (CAN!) visit schools, libraries, and children's shelters and do other things to inspire a life-long love of reading. See www.childrensauthorsnetwork.com/caiw.htm for more.
- February 2 – **Ground Hog Day** – Although some states have in some cases adopted their own groundhogs, the official groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, lives at Gobbler's Knob near Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Read more at www.punxsutawneyphil.com/
- February 14 – **Valentine's Day** - Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday? Go to www.history.com/content/valentine/history-of-valentine-s-day to find out.

- February 15 - **President's Day** - Washington's Birthday is the official name designated to what many of us know as President's Day. During the month of February the birthday of two of our greatest President's takes place: George Washington who was born on February 22 and Abraham Lincoln born on February 12.



Tips & Tools

- **2011 Read Across America Calendars Available**
The 2011 Read Across America Calendars, featuring award-winning books and links to keep you reading all year long, is now available from NEA's Read Across America while supplies last. E-mail readacross@nea.org for more information.

- **Teaching Tolerance**

Teaching Tolerance magazine focuses on the tough problems faced by America's rural schools.



It also takes a look at cyberbullying and the life-or-death controversies surrounding online harassment. And this issue gives teachers tips on how to help hard-to-reach homeless students. Click [here](#) for the PDF version of this issue.

Teaching Tolerance kits and magazine subscriptions are free to educators. Order their materials [using this form](#).

- **TechSoup Resources**

TechSoup is a nonprofit program that distributes donated and deeply discounted software and technology products to eligible nonprofit organizations and libraries. You can save 80 – 96% on brand-new software donated by top companies. All products are available either for a small administrative fee if donated, or at prices that are deeply discounted.



- For library-specific resources or to sign up for their monthly library newsletter TechSoupforlibraries.org.
- Check out the many helpful articles, webinars, and toolkits in TechSoup's [Learning Center](#)

- **Target provides Early Childhood Reading Grants.** Reading is essential to a child's learning process. That's why Target awards grants to schools, libraries, and nonprofit organizations to support programs such as after-school reading events and weekend book clubs. Together we're fostering a love of reading and encouraging children, preschool through third grade, to read together with their families.

Early childhood reading grants are \$2,000. Grant applications are typically accepted between March 1 and April 30 each year, with grant notifications delivered in September. Check <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821> on March 1 to apply for these Early Childhood Reading Grants.

- **[Literacy Empowerment Foundation](#)**

The Reading Resource Project is an ongoing program that runs throughout the year. The program distributes **paperback books FREE** of charge for Read Across America day, National Drop Everything and Read Day, Children's Book Week, International Children's Book Day, and other literacy programs.

Recipients merely pay shipping, handling, and administrative costs, which is only \$0.68 per paperback book (\$68 per set of 100 books). Reading Resource Project books come in sets of 100 books. Reading levels are available for Pre-K through Second Grade. Get more information [HERE](#).



Summer Reading News

➤ **Bright Futures: Reaching Underserved Children**
Application deadline: March 18, 2011

Last month we featured our Bright Futures outreach opportunity —~~S~~ool Partnerships.” This month we’d like to share a little about —~~R~~eaching Underserved Children.” This outreach program is designed to bring books to children up to age 18 who are not likely to visit a library, own a library card, or participate in library programs over the summer.

Libraries will need to partner with one or more agencies or organizations in the community. Together with the partner organization the library will plan at least two programs to be held off-site in *June, July and/or August** that target these underserved children. The ICfL will provide your library with age-appropriate paperback books to be given away to children attending the off-site programs. Libraries will also receive ready-to-paint sheets for younger children and an outdoor "One World, Many Stories" yard sign to promote the library’s summer outreach programs.

In the past, libraries have formed successful community partnerships with:

- Summer Nutrition programs
- School Districts
- Parks and Recreation
- Local hospitals
- Community Event organizations
- Daycares

To apply, visit our website.

You'll need to provide the following information on the application:

1. Name of community partner(s)
2. Dates and locations of your off-site programs
3. Number and ages of children you plan to serve

To see a list of current library applicants and their community partners, visit our [Summer Reading website](#), scroll down to Bright Futures, and click on “Open a List of Bright Futures

Applicants.” This list is updated weekly.

*If you are interested in providing books to underserved children in the months of September – May, please contact Stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov.

➤ **News from Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)**

News Release from Matt Mulder at Highsmith:

Upstart, the exclusive vendor of the CSLP, has been acquired by DEMCO from W.W. Grainer, Inc. Upstart is currently based in Janesville, WI, and will operate from the DEMCO facilities in Madison and Deforest, WI.

This change of ownership will not impact the 2011 CSLP product shipments. Upstart has already begun shipping 2011 product and will accelerate shipments in anticipation of an April move to DEMCO’s Madison location.

Throughout the transition, all contact information will remain the same, including phone, fax, e-mail and the website URL. A link to coverage of the acquisition is included below. Please contact Matt Mulder at m.mulder@highsmith.com with any questions or concerns.

News release: www.businesswire.com/news/home/20101220005889/en/DEMCO-Announces-Acquisition-Highsmith

➤ **CSLP “Rules of Use” Agreement**

Each year the CSLP contracts with nationally known illustrators to design the artwork for the children’s and teen Summer Reading Program slogans. Any artwork from these illustrators is deemed the property of the illustrator, with permission granted to CSLP members to use for one year. Contracts are valid from October 1 through September 30 of each year. CSLP contracts with an exclusive vendor (see news release above) to create promotional items with this artwork, which are available to member libraries through the CSLP catalog. There has been some confusion as to how member libraries can use this artwork. For the complete Rules of Use, visit www.csllreads.org, click on —About CSLP,” and then choose —Rules of Use.”

Here are the answers to some FAQs regarding having custom products created with CSLP artwork:

Reading Records/Logs: You *may not* photocopy reading records ordered from the CSLP catalog. You *may* use the graphics that come on your DVD to create your own reading records as long as you print them in-house. If you need more custom copies than you can print in-house, you must contact Matt Mulder at Highsmith (see email address above). They will either print them for you at low-cost, or give you permission to use your local printer.

T-shirts (or other promotional items): You *may not* give the artwork or iron-ons to a local vendor to create custom t-shirts or other promotional items for your library. If you would like custom products you must contact Highsmith. They will either print them for you at low-cost, or give you permission to use your local vendor.

In short, member libraries have permission for in-house use of the artwork for display, promotional, or programming purposes. If there is an opportunity for an outside vendor to

profit from any item containing CSLP artwork, you must first extend that opportunity to Highsmith. If they do not wish to accept your project they will give you written permission to use your vendor of choice.

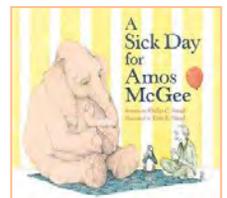


A Closer Look at the ALA Media Awards

It's the equivalent of the Academy Awards to anyone with a passing interest in children's books and publishing. Each year the American Library Association (ALA) honors books and media for children and teens. Recognized worldwide for the high quality they represent, the ALA Youth Media Awards guide parents, educators, librarians, and others in selecting the best materials for youth. Selected by committees composed of librarians and other literature and media experts, the awards encourage original and creative work in the field of children's and young adult literature and media. The award announcements were made as part of the [ALA Midwinter Meeting](#), held in 2011 at the San Diego Convention Center from January 7 to 11.

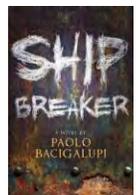
A list of the top award winners for 2011 are as follows:

Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children is —*A Sick Day for Amos McGee*,” illustrated by Erin E. Stead. The book was written by Philip C. Stead, and is a Neal Porter Book, published by Roaring Brook Press, a division of Holtzbrinck Publishing.



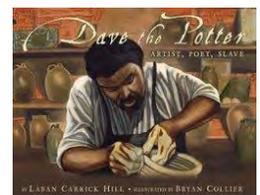
John Newbery Medal for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature is —*Moon Over Manifest*,” written by Clare Vanderpool. The book is published by Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Random House, Inc.

Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature written for young adults. —*Ship Breaker*,” written by Paolo Bacigalupi, is the 2011 Printz Award winner. The book is published by Little, Brown and Company, a division of Hachette Book Group, Inc.



Coretta Scott King (Author) Book Award recognizes an African American author of outstanding books for children and young adults. —*One Crazy Summer*,” written by Rita Williams-Garcia is the 2011 King Author Book winner. The book is published by Amistad, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers.

Coretta Scott King (Illustrator) Book Award recognizes an African American illustrator of outstanding books for children and young adults. —*Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave*,” illustrated by Bryan Collier, is the 2011 King Illustrator Book winner. The book was written by Laban Carrick Hill and published by Little, Brown and Company, a division of Hachette Book Group, Inc.





Pura Belpré (Author) Award honoring a Latino writer whose children’s books best portray, affirm and celebrate the Latino cultural experience. —“The Dreamer,” written by Pam Muñoz Ryan, is the 2011 Belpré Author Award winner. The book is illustrated by Peter Sís and published by Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic Inc.

Pura Belpré (Illustrator) Award honoring a Latino illustrator whose children’s books best portray, affirm and celebrate the Latino cultural experience. —“Grandma’s Gift,” illustrated and written by Eric Velasquez, is the 2011 Belpré Illustrator Award winner. The book is published by Walker Publishing Company, Inc., a division of Bloomsbury Publishing, Inc.



Laura Ingalls Wilder Award honors an author or illustrator whose books, published in the United States, have made, over a period of years, a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children. The 2011 winner is Tomie dePaola, author and illustrator of over 200 books, including: —“2 Fairmont Avenue” (Putnam, 1999), —“The Legend of the Poinsettia” (Putnam, 1994), —“Over Button Is a Sissy” (Harcourt, 1979) and —“Sega Nona” (Prentice-Hall, 1975).



Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for the most distinguished beginning reader book —“Bink and Gollie,” written by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee and illustrated by Tony Fucile is the 2011 Seuss Award winner. The book is published by Candlewick Press.

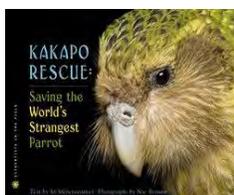
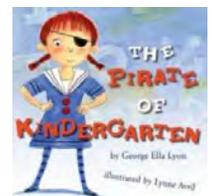
Margaret A. Edwards Award honors an author, as well as a specific body of his or her work, for significant and lasting contribution to young adult literature. Sir Terry Pratchett is the 2011 Edwards Award winner. His books include: —“The amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents,” —“The Wee Free Men,” and —“A Hat Full of Sky” published by HarperCollins Children’s Books; and —“The Color of Magic,” “Guards! Guards!,” —“Equal Rites,” “Going Postal,” —“Small Gods,” and —“Mort” all published by HarperCollins Publishers.



Mildred L. Batchelder Award for an outstanding children’s book translated from a language other than English and subsequently published in the United States. —“A Time of Miracles” is the 2011 Batchelder Award winner. Originally published in French in 2009 as —“L’Étemps des Miracles,” the book was written by Anne-Laure Bondoux, translated by Y. Maudet, and published by Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children’s Books, a division of Random House, Inc.

Schneider Family Book Awards for books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience.

- Elementary: *The Pirate of Kindergarten*, by George Ella Lyon
- Middle School: *After Ever After*, by Jordan Sonnenblick
- Teen: *Five Flavors of Dumb*, by Antony John

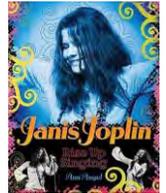


Robert F. Sibert Medal for most distinguished informational book for children —“Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World’s Strangest Parrot,” written by Sy Montgomery, is the 2011 Sibert Award winner. The book features photographs by Nic Bishop and is published by Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Co.



William C. Morris Award for a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens. –“The Freak Observer,” written by Blythe Woolston is the 2011 Morris Award winner. The book is published by Carolrhoda Lab, an imprint of Carolrhoda Books, a division of Lerner Publishing Group.

YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults honors the best nonfiction book published for young adults during a November 1 – October 31 publishing year. —“Janis Joplin: Rise Up Singing,” written by Ann Angel, is the 2011 Excellence winner. The book is published by Amulet/Abrams.



For a complete list of all winners and honor books please visit ALA's website [HERE](#).



CE News You Can Use

- **Reader-Friendly Library Design (Texas State Library)**
January 25, 1 p.m. MT (Click the course title to register)

This free webinar will focus on changing current library interiors to make them reader centric. Rachel Van Riel will talk about designing library interiors that work for readers. How can we find out what people want? How can we design libraries which are tempting for customers, drawing people into the space and encouraging them to linger and browse? Rachel will present evidence of changes in patron behavior in the UK and illustrate how a reader-centered approach to library layout can help to meet new needs. Putting readers at the center of your design may change the way you organize and promote your collections as well as your space. It will probably change the role of library staff too. If you are seeking a new look for your library, join this webinar to discover a fresh approach.



Multicultural Connections

- **Resources in Spanish to Support Early Literacy Skills at Home!**
Get Ready to Read! now has new resources to assist Spanish-speaking parents in helping their children build skills before kindergarten. Our Spanish Resources (Recursos en Español) are designed to help parents and families talk with teachers and day care providers about questions they have about their child's development. [Visit the new Get Ready to Read! Recursos en Español today!](#)
- **February is Black History Month**
We owe the celebration of Black History Month, and more importantly, the study of black history, to Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Woodson chose the second week of February because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population. For more, see:
www.infoplease.com/spot/bhmintro1.html;
www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/index.html
www.biography.com/blackhistory/

- **International Friendship Month** is also celebrated in February. Find some great ideas for crafts, games and other activities to observe International Friendship Month at: <http://familycrafts.about.com/library/spdays/blfebmon3.htm>
- **Chinese New Year starts February 3:** Known in China as **Spring Festival**, this is the most important of the traditional Chinese holidays. 2011 marks the start of the Year of the Rabbit on the Chinese Lunar Calendar. For more information and some fun celebration ideas go to: www.chiff.com/home_life/holiday/chinese-new-year.htm
- **Building Inclusion...**
Each month we will be exploring a brief concept taken from *Working With Differences in Communities: A handbook for those who care about creating inclusive communities*, by Ann C. Schauber. It's a great book and provides some simple, yet concrete ways to foster inclusion. This month we set the stage by exploring the idea of "difference" as it relates to communities.

Seeing the world from our own perspective to the exclusion of others is called ethnocentrism. It's pretty hard not to be ethnocentric – but some people are more so than others. Some believe that their way is THE right way – and the only way for all people. In order to address differences and resolve conflict we need to step out of our ethnocentrism. Stepping out of our ethnocentrism does not mean giving up who we are or what we believe. But it does mean opening ourselves up to more (and different) ways to see challenges and possible solutions. It encourages us to step into others' ways of feeling, acting, and thinking. In the book Schauber talks about the four essential principles to successfully work with differences. These include: 1) believing that each person has a special talent or gift to share; 2) realizing that the only person you can change is yourself; 3) understanding that by opening yourself to others' gifts, you create opportunities for resolving community challenges; and 4) being willing to examine, and possibly change, dominant-culture structures to create accessibility for all members within the community. Schauber believes that embracing the four principles allows us to see others as equal, worthy of respect, unique, and as having needs and perceptions as important and valid as our own. An important step if we are to create an inclusive community – one which "offers a welcoming environment where all who share in the community's purpose feel invited, safe, accepted, respected, included, heard, and understood." And isn't this what a library should be?



Know the Numbers

- **2010 Kids & Family Reading Report™: Turning the Page in the Digital Age**
In Spring 2010, Scholastic, in conjunction with Quinley Research and Harrison Group, conducted a survey to examine family attitudes and behaviors regarding reading books for fun in today's digital age.

Some of the key findings of this research, based on a nationally representative sample of 1,045 children age 6–17 and their parents (2,090 total respondents) are as follows:
 - It is clear that letting kids choose which books they want to read is key to raising a reader. Nine out of 10 children say they are more likely to finish books they choose themselves. Parents also recognize the power of choice — nearly nine out of 10 parents

say —“As long as my child is reading, I just want my child to read books he/she likes.” (Pages 34–35).

- In addition to choice, parents use other tactics to encourage reading that appear to result in more frequent reading, including making sure there are interesting books at home (for kids age 9-11 and 15-17), putting limits on the amount of time spent using technology (for kids age 9-11), and suggesting books they might like (for kids age 12-14) (Pages 31–32).
- While only 25 percent of kids have read a book on a digital device (including computers), many more (57 percent of kids age 9-17) are interested in doing so. When asked if they would read more books for fun if they had access to eBooks, one-third of kids age 9-17 of kids said yes, including frequent readers (34 percent), moderately frequent readers (36 percent), and even infrequent readers (27 percent). (Pages 14–16).

Read the complete report [HERE](#).



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