Welcome!

By Stephanie Bailey-White, Read to Me Program Co-Coordinator

Since this is the end of Children's Book Week and the beginning of Get Caught Reading month, I'm sharing what I'm reading right now along with some titles that you have on your bedside tables. My 13-year-old daughter, Addie (pictured above), and I are into the third book, Under the Jolly Roger, of the Bloody Jack Adventures by L.A. Meyer. We listened to the audio version of Bloody Jack after seeing it listed on the Odyssey award site for best audio books. We haven’t been on any long road trips for awhile so we’ve resorted to reading it aloud with very bad British accents. There are eight books in the series so it could take a long time to get through them all, but we’re enjoying every minute.

I also wanted to put in a plug for City of Thieves, by David Benioff – a book recommended by my ol' Read to Me buddy Peggy McClendon, and my favorite book of the year so far.
I love seeing what librarians from around the state are reading. Be sure to add yours to the list by going to www.surveymonkey.com/s/get-caught-reading. We’ll do a prize drawing at the end of May among everyone who has listed a title or two.

Karen Willis at Clearwater Memorial Public in Orofino is reading *White Cat*, by Holly Black, *Dogsbody*, by Diana Jones and *Dark Tort*, by Diane Mott Davidson.


“Lisa Scottoline's new book *Save Me* is one you just can't put down!” Lisa Harral at Blackfoot Public Library said.

Jeanie Johnston, YA librarian at Hailey Public Library, is reading *Incarceron*, by Catherine Fisher, *Poison Study*, by Maria Snyder, and *Ender's Game*, by Orson Scott Card.

Cora Caldwell at the Gooding School District is reading *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, by Mark Haddon.

Lizard Butte Library Director Janna Streibel is reading *All That is Bitter and Sweet*, by Ashley Judd

Tina Roehr, a media generalist with alternative schools libraries at the Meridian School District, has a good sized list of titles including *Losing My Cool: How a Father’s Love and 15,000 Books Beat Hiphop Culture*, by Thomas Chatterton Williams; *The Magician: Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel*, by Michael Scott; *Deathnote*, by Tsugumi Ohaba; and *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*, by Barbara Kingsolver.

Lynda Smith at the West Side High School, is reading *Enrique’s Journey*, by Sonia Nazario.

Krissi Hansen at the Council Valley Free Public Library is reading *What's Going on in There? How the Brain and Mind Develop in the First Five Years of Life*, by Lise Eliot

Midvale Community Library Director Myrna Weikal is reading *People of the Book*, by Geraldine Brooks.

South Fork Elementary Librarian Patti Lehman recently read *Fairy Tale Detectives*, by Michael Buckley

Rubie Gallegos at Mary McPherson Elementary in Meridian is reading *Between Shades of Gray*, by Ruta Sepetys
Sharon Harris at the Nezperce Community Library Branch of the Prairie-River Library District is reading *Blue Heaven*, by C.J. Box.

Notus Public Library Director Jo Ellen Ringer is reading *Sarah’s Key*, by Tatiana De Rosnay.


Darbie Chocker at Jerome Public is reading the Harry Potter Series, by J.K. Rowling.

Janice Simon at Centennial Elementary in Lewiston is reading *11 Birthdays*, by Wendy Mass.

Isn’t it fun to see what your colleagues and friends around the state are reading? Don’t forget to add your titles to the list and be entered into a special door prize drawing!

**Dates and Deadlines**

- **Month of May**: Get Caught Reading Month: Take the [Get Caught Reading Survey](#)
- **May 12, 2011**: Deadline to apply for [Read to Me First Book](#)
- **May 20, 2011**: Deadline to apply for [Every Child Ready to Read](#)
- **June 3, 2011**: Deadline to apply for [Six SkillsTubs Pilot Program](#)
- You can apply anytime to participate in the [Idaho Child Care Reads Program](#)
- You can apply anytime to participate in the [Jump Start Program](#)

**Library to Library**

**Congratulations Lewiston!**

Congratulations to the staff at Lewiston City Library and the citizens of Lewiston as their long-awaited building project moves forward. The Lewiston Tribune reported that an agreement to purchase the Cornerstone/Erb Hardware building at 411 Main St. for a new library was approved by the Lewiston City Council last month on a 6-1 vote.

According to the Tribune article, about $1 million more is needed to completely remodel the building, depending on the final design and amenities, but supporters think that fund-raising will be easier now that a building site will be purchased.

Move-in day is expected to be about 18 months away because of advertising for an architect, design and construction. The $595,000 the city will pay is only a portion of the $800,000 price tag. The owner, Bennett Industries, is donating the remaining $205,000.
The building will provide five times the space of the existing Thain Road structure, also a converted hardware store acquired about 1970. Fund balances and the city's reserves, will be used to pay all but $100,000 of the price, with that coming out of the facilities property maintenance account.

Kiosks where books can be ordered and delivered and a bookmobile are being discussed by the library board as a means to continue to serve the part of town where the current library is located.

📚 Every Child Ready to Read applications Due May 20
“I believe that ECRTR is valuable as hands-on literacy training for early childhood programmers. The program is easy to use and is fun for everyone involved. Why would anyone NOT sponsor it?” We couldn’t resist reprinting this quote from Francine Rudeen, youth services librarian at the American Falls District Library, as a great testimony for the program.

We do think that Every Child Ready to Read family workshops are working well in nearly every community where they have been implemented. The Read to Me program provides a starter set of hardback books, a CD, and a table-top display unit for each participating public library. The program also provides six give-away books, Read to Me canvas bags, and letter magnets for all participating families to keep. Twenty-three library sites reached approximately 900 families with early literacy information and materials during this last year.

New and returning participants for the 2011-2012 program are invited to attend an orientation and sharing meeting each August. For more information about the program, visit http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/every-child-ready-to-read or contact Stephanie Bailey-White at ICfL.

 güne Garden City Public Library’s Kindergarten Readiness Initiative Features Fun Videos and More
The Garden City Library recently started a Kindergarten Readiness initiative. They have created a special website that has links to resources for parents and also videos, reading lists, and upcoming events. We loved to see Joy Steiner sharing books with children, and the videos on the six early literacy skills are great. Check out the link at http://gardencity.lili.org/ReadySetKindergarten if you get a chance!

According to Tami Tipton, Youth Services and Outreach Coordinator, the library also provides Kindergarten Readiness packets that they hand out to the children of Garden City. “They contain things like story books, flash cards, little book marks, activity books, Read to Me support materials, and crayons,” Tami said.

Young Adult Corner

🎉 Creative Teen Prizes and Giveaways
There was a recent thread on the yalsa-bk listserv that discussed prizes and giveaways for teens at the library. Here are some of the most popular ideas according to the librarians participating:
• Ear buds
• Water bottles
• **Bindi jewels** (temporary, stick-on face decorations)
• **Mood pencils**
• Dogtags
• Guitar picks
• Robot Series Acrobat Pen
• Glass Love Meter
• Mood Rings
• Mini Lava Lamps
• T-Shirts from **Threadless.com**
• Smart Putty, Acrobats, and Key Caps from **www.thinkgeek.com/**
• Coupons for library fines

**Diversity in YA Fiction** is a website and book tour founded by two young adult authors, Malinda Lo and Cindy Pon, to celebrate diverse stories in YA. Check it out!

**Free Download of YALSA Quick Pick – Dead Girl Walking**
Thought you might like to know that during the month of May, *Dead Girl Walking*, by Linda Joy Singleton will be a free Nook and Kindle download.

**Tweet your US Senator to support library services to teens**
May 10th is National Library Legislative Day (NLLD), and it only takes a minute of your time to make a difference! All you need is Internet access and a Twitter account.

1. Make sure you’re logged into your Twitter account
3. Click on the push pin in your state
4. Click on the “Tweet Me” link
5. Click on the “Tweet” button (the text of the message has already been created & appears in the text box)
6. Encourage others to do this by forwarding the link of the map to them, adding the link to your Facebook page, blog or web site, etc.

To learn more about NLLD, please visit [www.ala.org/nlld](http://www.ala.org/nlld). To learn about other ways you can advocate for library services to teens specifically, visit [http://tinyurl.com/YAadvocate](http://tinyurl.com/YAadvocate).

**School Zone**

**MARC in a Minute**
*From School Library Journal Extra Helping, by Lauren Barack, April 21, 2011*

A new program called Web2MARC now helps school librarians capture science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) materials online—updating resources that can quickly become outdated due to the nature of their subject matter, says its developer Marcia Mardis, associate director of the **PALM Center at Florida State University**.
The Web2MARC tool allows school librarians to automatically generate MARC (Machine-Readable-Cataloging) records for anything they see on the web, STEM-related or not, and tailor the records to their local needs—no cataloging required. All that's required is entering a URL, and Web2MARC will generate a MARC record. The tool works with Alexandria, Destiny, and other widely-used catalog software. Read more » » »

🌟 Idea for Getting Students on Your Facebook Page

Here’s an idea that ICfL School Library Consultant Glynda Pflieger saw on the AASL forum and passed on. “My library has a Facebook page, but I didn't have a whole lot of students becoming fans. Last week for ‘Random Acts of Kindness’ week, I decided that I would forgive overdue fines for any students who became a fan of the library’s page and who requested their fines be removed.

“I figure that this strengthens my ability to reach out to them where they live and interact (my library postings should show on their wall) and generates some good will in forgiving their fines. I did ask that books be returned before forgiving any overdue fines and I told them that I could not forgive the cost of lost books. I generated QR Codes that could be hung in every teacher's classroom, posted signs around the building, ran announcements, and made bookmarks with the QR code and a bit.ly URL <http://on.fb.me/WAHSLibrary> and even encouraged kids to go ahead and do it while they were in the library.

“The kids have been mostly positive about it, although there were some mutterings that it was just a way for the school to get access to their Facebook and what they're doing that's inappropriate.

“We had parent conferences last Thursday and Friday and I promoted the option with them as well. It's generated some good will among kids who weren't happy about owing money to the library and I'm hoping it'll bring them back to borrowing books!” Special thanks to Kimberly A. Brosan, Teacher-Librarian at the Williamsport Area High School (PA), http://wahslibrary.info/, for sharing this good idea!

🏆 Upcoming Events

-Free Comic Book Day is May 7! www.freecomicbookday.com/

On Free Comic Book Day, the first Saturday in May each year, participating comic book shops across North America and around the world give away comic books absolutely free to anyone who comes into their stores. Check with your local shop for their participation and rules. Participating shops are listed on the Free Comic Book Day website.

-May is also Latino Book Month - Throughout the month of May, booksellers, librarians, and others in the book industry are encouraged to promote reading among Latinos in their communities, and to raise awareness of the rich variety of books authored by Latinos that are available in both English and Spanish. Read more at www.publishers.org/main/Latino/latino_02.htm
**Tips & Tools**

**QR Code Quest: a Library Media Scavenger Hunt**
Check out this great idea from The Daring Librarian. She remixed a hunt that was originally created by Joyce Valenza by adding a QR Code twist.

**Free Webcast on Booktalks Offered**
School Library Journal and Junior Library Guild offer this free one-hour online event including a sneak peak at soon-to-be-released books and an introduction to a Whole Book Approach Booktalk (developed at The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art) that provides a unique dimension to read-aloud story time. Registration for the Thursday, May 12 Webcast from 3 - 4 p.m. EDT is required, and registrants may view the webcast archive at their convenience if unable to attend on May 12. For details and registration go to [www.slj.com/jlgbooktalks](http://www.slj.com/jlgbooktalks).

**Super Storytime Tip**
A simple thing like name tags can make a big difference in setting a welcoming tone in your storytimes. Saroj Ghoting, national early literacy consultant, recommends having both parents and children wear them on a regular basis. “Not only will you see the parents’ names, but it’s nice for other parents to get to know each other,” Saroj said during the last Read to Me meeting. Parents don’t often introduce themselves to other parents at playgrounds or other community settings where their children might be playing together, but a library storytime provides a great social setting for sharing information and experiences.

Some libraries use a big roll of masking tape to save money rather than the traditional “sticker-type” tags. Darbie Chocker, youth services director at Jerome Public Library, uses blank envelopes with two holes punched on top and yarn tied through them for name tags. She lays them out on a table, and kids and parents can find their tags before storytime begins. She also has plenty of blank ones for newcomers. What a great way to reinforce letter knowledge skills! The envelopes are a fun idea because you could also put a letter, shape, bookmark, or other fun item in them if you wanted. Another great idea is to collect those plastic name badges from conferences and workshops and reuse them for storytimes. Consider putting out a collection basket at the Circulation Desk or put a blurb in your library newsletter or website.

**Summer Reading News**

- by Staci Shaw

**Clearance!**
Blue Light Special this week:
- Item: Summer Reading drawstring backpacks
  Quantity: A lot
News from the Collaborative Summer Library Programs (CSLP)

🎉 Teen Video Challenge Winners
The CSLP has announced the winners of the 2011 "You Are Here" 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 "You Are Here" Teen Video Challenge winner for 2011.

Winner: Lorry Hernández of Boise
Honorable Mention: Stephen Byrum of Sagle in Northern Idaho (View Stephen’s PSA here.)

The winning videos are available for viewing and download at www.cslpreads.org/winners.html. These videos can be used by all teens and all public libraries to promote summer reading nationwide. You are welcome to view and share these videos, link to them from your library webpage, post them to social networks, and use them to promote summer reading to your teens.

See the complete press release here.

🎵 A video PSA for “One World, Many Stories” and audio PSA for “You Are Here” are available for you to download and use on your library website, blog, Facebook page, etc. The 30-second video by Secret Agent 23 Skidoo (www.secretagent23skidoo.com) and a cast of children is available in English and Spanish. There are also several 10-second video clips encouraging kids to use the library this summer. To download any of the files, go to www.cslpreads.org and log in. Click on "Downloads" and then "PSAs." Follow the directions on the webpage.

I also have six copies of the PSAs in DVD format, which I will send free of charge to publicly-funded public libraries on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact me at staci.shaw@libraries.idaho.gov.

✅ CSLP Summer Reading Manual: Corrections and suggestions
Corrections to the Africa map in Chapter 6, and suggestions for the Helping Hands service project on page 224 can be found here.

☕ Program Resource:
Delightful Children’s Books has assembled a booklist and passport activity for the One World, Many Stories slogan. Also check out their resource page, full of links for early literacy, booklists, storytime programs, and more.
Book trailers are the new way people are sharing and learning about books. A book trailer is a short video clip, not usually longer than a few minutes at most, and features images, music, and/or text that captures the theme or plot of a book. Book trailers are produced by publishing houses, but the newest trend is for readers to produce book trailers for their libraries, schools, and classmates. Teachers and librarians are beginning to use book trailers to capture the digital literacy tech-savvy students have while reinforcing the same traditional literacies of reading comprehension. Just as a typical book report or book talk requires readers to understand the theme, plot, and other elements of a body of literature, a book trailer does, too. Readers need a thorough understanding of a book in order to create a relevant trailer through storyboarding, prewriting, and drafting outlines. Readers then mix digital elements to reinforce the points of the book they choose to communicate in the trailer.

So why book trailers? In the days of yesterday, readers wrote book reports or composed book talks to share books with each other. In today's world, the digital existence of the Internet, with its video and music, allows for a new way to share books. Already, motion pictures and the music industry create videos to highlight their products in order to capture the attention of their target audience. With this new trend, book readers and publishers are creating short video book trailers to illustrate the key points or themes of a book in order to capture the attention of potential readers. Couple that with the tech-savvy people of today, and the newest way of sharing books explodes. Digital natives are comfortable operating video, images, and music sound bites, and book trailers are a way of easily reinforcing the literacy skills learned through the production of book reports or book talks. Furthermore, enabling young readers to use modern digital technology to create book trailers encourages students to read, get excited about sharing their favorites, and learn about books they'll like. Book trailers are the new book reports, and resonate with today's tech-savvy people.

Encouraged by the Idaho Commission for Libraries, Idaho librarians came together in February to learn how to create book trailers using JayCut, a free and easy-to-use video editing/creating software. The librarians then returned to their home libraries in order to host Teen and Technology week events with their local young adults, creating book trailers using the young readers' favorite books and the JayCut software.

During the process of learning how to make the book trailers and exploring their value and use to communities, Mary Nate, director of the Bear Lake Library in Montpelier, asked the question, “why can't we put these book trailers into the catalog?”

Our library catalogs are our master index, our way of organizing, tracking, and sharing the materials we house in our buildings for our users. The library catalog shares the basic bibliographic information and subject headings, and nowadays, often has cover art, summaries, and even book reviews. Inserting trailers into the catalog for our community is a natural way to allow the community to share their favorites while learning about books they'll find interesting.
The process of inserting the book trailers is very easy, and Mary detailed the process for the Horizon system step-by-step with images. First, you’ll need to contact your ILS support system to enable the system to display the videos, if it is not already enabled. A quick call will solve this. Next, ensure that you have the 856 field in your bibliographic record for the title. You may have to add it if it is not already available to you. Then, capture the URL to the video posted on the web, and paste it into the 856 field, subfield $u. If your library participated in the Teens and Technology event and produced Teen Book Trailers, we also ask that you add “Teen Book Trailer” to the 449 field subfield $a for indexing purposes.

So what kinds of videos can up insert into your catalog? Well, any kind that has a static URL and is posted to the web! Of course we love to reward our brilliant teens by featuring their trailers in our catalogs for the books they reviewed, but you can also link to movie reviews for DVDs, music videos for CDs, famous speeches into the records of biographies, and more. Put on your creative thinking caps and find all those great videos and match them to your library collections!

See Mary Nate’s full instructions to inserting book trailers into the catalog [here](http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/Showing%20Videos%20in%20OPAC.pdf).

### Bibliography


### CE News You Can Use

**Library Basics via WebJunction Idaho**

New to the world of libraries or just want to brush up on some skills? This basic library skill learning pathway provides introductions to some of the basic tasks performed in libraries. After completing this series you will be able to:

- Accurately shelve library materials using either the Dewey Decimal, Library of Congress or National Library of Medicine classification system
- Understand the basic concepts of cataloging
- Perform basic research using both databases and the Internet
- Help your library provide web-based reference services

You can find this learning path at [http://id.webjunction.org/librarybasicslp](http://id.webjunction.org/librarybasicslp) -- make sure you are signed in to WebJunction Idaho so you can access the courses for free [the fee is paid for by a grant from the Library Services Technology Act/Institute of Museum and Library Services].
El día de los niños Celebrations Highlighted

- **Mountain Home Public Library** – “We hosted El Día de Los Niños/ Day of the Child event on April 28, 2011. The event began with the story *Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children’s Day/ Book Day*, by Pat Mora read by librarian Patti Shields. Following the story the children made a mini chili pepper piñata that they enjoyed and would take home later that evening. After all the children finished making their piñata, the evening continued with a performance by our partners the Elmore County Hispanic Organization Folkloric Dancers that was enjoyed by all. The end of the evening was wrapped up with the book giveaway. The event was a great success with 52 children and 42 adults in attendance and a total of 10 new library cards issued. “Bianca Brito, Mountain Home Public Library

- **McCall Public Library** – “To celebrate Día, we hosted a large booth and game at the elementary school's carnival. With a large rug depicting the Earth and its continents, students rolled fuzzy dice to land on a continent and answer trivia questions based on that part of the world. There was a globe and reference books on a side table to help students "research" the answers to the trivia, if needed. Also, the three librarians in attendance helped the students if needed. After answering the question, the children got to choose their prize: a new book from the book basket! We also had a clipboard for early registration for Summer Reading, and made contact with eight NEW families who hadn't participated in the public library's summer programs before. There was also story time information for the preschoolers. On display were the Día posters and the summer reading *One World Many Stories* banner. Children truly enjoyed the free books as prizes. Partnering with the elementary school librarian was fantastic, as we had a "ready-made" audience to celebrate multicultural awareness and literacy. It allowed us to reach out to some families we couldn't have reached otherwise.” Meg Lojek, McCall Public Library

- **Caldwell Public Library** – “We partnered with Idaho Reads! VISTA. We offered the following activities for children that day: Toma Todo (a game from Mexico),
bean bag toss, temporary tattoos, and jump roping with a competitive team called the Summer Wind Skippers. We gave away Summer Reading backpacks, Summer Reading information for parents, books for kids, educational literature for parents, jump ropes from the Modern Woodmen of America, granola bars, and water bottles from Tom Scott Toyota. There were many activities for kids during the event, including the competitive jump roping with The Summer Wind Skippers of Meridian. They were key entertainers throughout the afternoon. The library provided chairs, tables and other materials to the organizations participating in El Día. The library also provided Summer Reading information in English and Spanish, and the children's librarian and children's assistant talked in English or Spanish to nearly every adult who visited our booth. We gave out 37 library applications, but did not issue library cards at the event. We also gave away stickers, bookmarks and other small prizes to kids when they participated in the games at the library's booth.”

Kimbre Chapman, Caldwell Public Library

Foreign Language videos available through CSLP website

Remember to check out the video that CSLP had as a part of their diversity campaign. The video was created by Anne Horjus, who works at the Baraboo, (WI) Public Library, as an example of how, even in a small community, you can find and collaborate with foreign language speakers.

You can use the video:
• To view as a guide to pronunciation
• As a model for how to teach phrases, numbers, and songs in other languages
• With children as part of your programming

There are segments on Spanish, German, Mandarin Chinese, French, Dutch, Swahili, and Norwegian.

La Latina Book Club

The Latina Book Club’s goal is to promote Latino authors and literacy by reading at least one Latino book a month; thereby broadening minds and corazones. It’s also an attempt to embrace Hispanic heritage; make new friends; and have something to read on the subway. They have started a Book Club Directory to keep tabs on other Latino book clubs. Visit www.latinabookclub.com for more information.

Know the Numbers


Even as budget-cutters take aim at libraries and their services, more than two-thirds of the 1,000-plus adults contacted in a survey in January said that the library’s assistance in starting a business or finding a job was important to them, according to the poll, conducted for the American Library Association (ALA) by Harris Interactive.

Sixty-five percent of those polled said they had visited the library in the past year; women are significantly more likely than men (72 percent vs. 58 percent) to fall into this category,
especially working women, working mothers and women aged 18-54. Overall, 58 percent of those surveyed said they had a library card, and the largest group was, again, women, especially working women and working mothers. College graduates and those with a household income of more than $100,000 were also well represented among card holders, according to the survey.

Thirty-one percent of adults — and 38 percent of senior citizens — rank the library at the top of their list of tax-supported services. Overall, the library’s most highly valued services pertain to the provision of free information and programs that promote education and lifelong learning. Ninety-one percent (up 5 percentage points from the previous year) place great value in the library’s provision of information for school and work.

See the full report at:
http://ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/mediapresscenter/americaslibraries2011/index.cfm

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**Book Look**

🎉 **Children's Choices Book Awards** were announced this week during Children’s Book Week. Check out the complete list of winners at [www.bookweekonline.com](http://www.bookweekonline.com)

👉 **Great Early Literacy Booklists**

Our friends at the Johnson County Library in Kansas have some great early literacy resources we hope you check out. We think their “Recommended Books for Developing Early Literacy Skills” are terrific. And we’re also fans of their “New Staff Picks” list. The lists highlight great books for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and kindergartners recommended by their staff. You can also subscribe to the RSS feed. Here are a few from their “new picks” list we’re reprinting here for fun:

**Lola Loves Stories**, by Anna McQuinn, 2010

Lola and her daddy love to go to the library together. Each night Lola reads a story and the next day she acts it out. She becomes a fairy princess, a pilot, a farmer, and more! Don’t miss the last page where Lola wears a white wolf suit and makes mischief of one kind and another. This book is a companion to Lola at the Library where Lola and her mother check out books, go to Story Time, and visit a coffee shop. *(Tell stories about everything)*

**Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes**, by Eric Litwin, 2010. This book is another staff favorite!

Pete the Cat loved his new white shoes so much that he walked down the street singing a song. But, oh no! he kept stepping in stuff that changes the color of his shoes. “Did Pete Cry? Goodness No! He kept walking along and singing his song” with each change of color. Yes, it’s a book about color, but mostly it’s a book about having fun. And here’s a [YouTube video](http://www.youtube.com) of the author reading his book and singing.
Summer Wonders, by Bob Raczka, 2009
You can feel the warm sun in this brightly illustrated book about the joys of summer. Short rhyming text includes the sights and sounds of this wonderful season. Pictures that include familiar details for children to talk about, celebrate the many wonderful things to do, from eating watermelon to catching fireflies. Check out this book before summer begins. (Take Time to Rhyme & Talk, Talk, Talk About It)

Except If, by Jim Averbeck, 2011
Young children are naturally curious, especially about animals and dinosaurs. This book opens on a large, blue egg with a single crack. The story begins, "An egg is not a baby bird, but will become one except if. . ." The reader is led down a winding road of possibilities. It can be tough to find fun, engaging science books for very young children. With his simple illustrations and clever text, Averbeck will earn points with parents, teachers, and librarians for introducing children to the many different animals that hatch from eggs. (Have fun with books; Talk, Talk, Talk.)

The 2010 Guide Book to Gift Books is free and features:

- Brief annotations for over 300 of the best books for giving (and receiving). Entries (divided by age group) include author, title, publisher, and the current list price.
- Convenient downloadable PDF format that allows you to print out and use the guide right away.
- Listed books have all been recommended in full Bulletin reviews from the last three years and are verified as currently in print.

The guide is available for downloading at http://bccb.lis.illinois.edu/GB2/2010GB2.html.

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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