



Vol. 8 No. 19 – November 30, 2012

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

- [Welcome!](#)
- [Dates and Deadlines](#)
- [Library to Library](#)
- [Young Adult Corner](#)
- [School Zone](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Tips & Tools](#)
- [Summer Reading News](#)
- [Feature: Meet Kiersten Kerr](#)
- [CE News You Can Use](#)
- [News Beyond Idaho](#)
- [STEM Is Everywhere](#)
- [Book Look](#)
- [Author Birthdays](#)

Welcome!



- *by Stephanie Bailey-White*

It's a great time of year to reflect on what we are thankful for. One of the many things I am thankful for is being a part of the wonderful Idaho library community for the past 21 years! I get the chance to visit dedicated library staff in school and public libraries all across the state and hear all the cool things people are doing to make sure kids have access to books. The things people come up with to help develop a love of reading and support their reading habits all through the school years and beyond are inspiring. It's a great job and it's been even more exciting the past few months as we roll out new projects and continue to spread the word with others outside the library community about all the new things libraries are offering.

Speaking of new programs, if you haven't had a chance to check out the new site www.DayByDayID.org, please click on it now! This new tool is helpful for planning storytimes

and is great to share with parents and early childhood educators in your community.

Did you know that December is **Read a New Book Month**? Reading is not only a great means of entertainment but is also a way to unleash one's imagination. Read a New Book Month is definitely a perfect time to figure out something new to read, so visit your local library and get a new book!

Hot off the press: This week we pulled up the analytics of *The Scoop*. We were disheartened to see that only approximately 40 percent of our subscribers open up their issue every other week. We would like to examine why this might be happening, and what we can do to improve our readership. Please let us know what you like best about *The Scoop*, what is most useful, and what challenges you may be having with format, etc. so that we can better serve you in 2013: www.surveymonkey.com/s/ScoopSurvey2012. The survey is open until December 18.

TumbleBooks and DayByDayID.org promotional postcards are ready to order! If you want to promote these great services to your community, please fill out [this short survey](#) and we will do all the work for you! Customized postcards will be drop shipped to your door – including postage!

On the survey you will be asked to provide the URL you want to direct families to in order to access these great sites, so make sure you have them both up and running before you start promoting! Need help? Check out the new resource page for TumbleBooks and DayByDayID.org [HERE](#).





Dates and Deadlines

- Idaho libraries are encouraged to **apply for the new Books to Go program for Wave 2!** Apply at www.surveymonkey.com/s/books-to-go-application.
- **Books to Go Webinar, December 12** from noon to 1 p.m. (MST). If you've applied to participate in the new Books to Go program or are just thinking about it, this is a great chance to learn more about the program and what to expect when the bins of books arrive at your library. Just log in at <https://icfl.adobeconnect.com/rtm> 15 or 20 minutes ahead of time or contact Stephanie at ICfL for more information.
- You can apply **anytime** for the **Jump Start Kindergarten** program, the **Year-Round Underserved program**, and **Idaho Child Care Reads! workshops**.
- Save the Dates:
 - **Annual Read to Me Meeting**, February 21-22, Oxford Suites in Boise.
 - **Elementary School Library Staff Retreat**, July 16-18, in Boise.
- **Family Reading Week Summary Reports are DUE!** Please fill out this short report to help us gather data on Idaho Family Reading Week events and participation. Thank you for joining us for Idaho Family Reading Week!

Library to Library



Have You Met Rascal Yet?



Rascal is the new mascot at the Meridian Library District. Kids who participated in the 2012 Summer Reading Program got to vote on names selected by students from area schools. His name is on the big dog tag around his neck.

The staff at Meridian also had a friendly competition this summer with staff at Ada Community Library District to see who could accumulate the most adult Summer Reading hours. According to Meridian's Youth Services Supervisor Megan Egbert, much thought and plotting went on when the tally showed that Meridian had racked up more adult reading time. "We got to choose the fate of Ada's Travis Porter. We decided to have him dress up in our mascot costume to promote our Family Read Week event. Travis was a great sport and the kids had SO much fun with him," Megan said.

The pictures show Rascal in front of the library. Rascal's sign says, "Ada Community Library LOVES Meridian Library District. Ask me about Family Reading Week!" The

Rascal is the new mascot at the Meridian Library District. Kids who participated in the 2012 Summer Reading Program got to vote on names selected by students from area schools. His name is on the big dog tag around his neck.

The staff at Meridian also had a friendly competition this summer with staff at Ada Community Library District to see who could accumulate the most adult Summer Reading hours. According to Meridian's Youth Services Supervisor Megan Egbert, much thought and plotting went on when the tally showed that Meridian had racked up more adult reading time. "We got to choose the fate of Ada's Travis Porter. We decided to have him dress up in our mascot costume to promote our Family Read Week event. Travis was a great sport and the kids had SO much fun with him," Megan said.



picture above and to the right shows Rascal, Ethan Carter, and his sock monkey friend sharing a hug. How fun is that!

If you haven't had the chance to meet Rascal yet, watch for him at Meridian parades, school assemblies, and anywhere there's a chance to spread the library message! He gets lots of love and hugs everywhere he goes as shown in this great photo!



Dust Bunnies on Stage

(This is a great idea from Steven Engelfried's blog, Beyond the Book Storytimes, <http://btbstorytimes.blogspot.com/>. Steven has taken a break from the blog for awhile, but gave us permission to reprint this for *Scoop* readers. Thank you Steven!)

Book: *Rhyming Dust Bunnies* by Jan Thomas

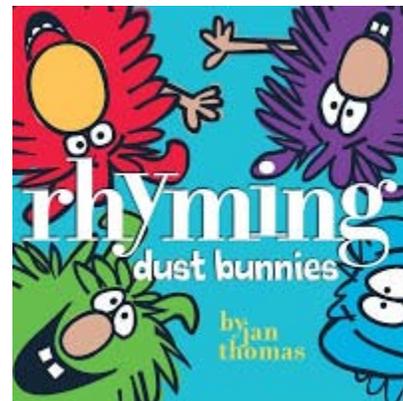
Puppets: 3 Dust Bunnies; Puppet Stage

Props: Broom (with face); Vacuum Cleaner (also with face)

Technology: PowerPoint with projector (optional)

Presenters: 2

Audience: Family Storytime (mostly 3-6 year olds)



When I came to the Wilsonville Library for my job interview two years ago I knew I was in the right place. In the office by the Children's Room were two people (Brad and Sheila) wildly waving around some colored dust mops and trading off rhymes in loud, expressive voices. I realized, of course, that those mops and rhymes could only mean that they were doing something really fun with a very cool new book: Jan Thomas' *Rhyming Dust Bunnies*. They developed the story as a puppet show the next week, and a couple years later Terri and I presented it as part of our "Silly Stories" storytime, using Brad and Sheila's concept and adding one more piece.



The mops, once you add some facial features, are Ned, Ted, and Bob (we dropped Ed to make the puppetry more manageable). The eyes and and mouths are laminated paper, stuck on with hot glue; mouths are big pom poms. The bright colors are really appealing, and stick puppets work great for the story, where the characters' movements are simple and distinct: appear, disappear, side to side, etc. Terri managed Ned, plus the Broom and Vacuum; I was Ted and Bob. We had the DB's do their rhyming exchanges first on the lower platform, then up top, then lower again, to keep movement and variety.

The premise of the story, if you don't know it, is that Ned and Ted are great at rhymes ("Bug...Hug...Mug...Rug..."), but when it's Bob's turn, he gets it way wrong ("Look Out!"). Of course Bob's words are actually meant to warn the others that there's danger coming: first a Broom, then a Vacuum. The Broom is really just another stick puppet, with a face glued on (so the bottom of the



broom is the top of its head) but requires a bit of coordination between the two puppeteers. As she picks up the Broom, Terri hands me Ned so I hold the three mops in two hands, allowing us to have a fun chase segment, again using the lower and upper sections of the stage.



Then the finale, which is even more fun. The DB's think they're safe again, but Bob spots a "Vacuum!" So now Terri lifts the mini Vacuum up to the stage and turns it on. As each DB gets closer to the Vacuum, the audience can see the strings being pulled toward the nozzle, and there's that satisfying "thwump!" when it gets caught. We have them each get thwumped one by one, then put the Vacuum up on the platform for the ending.

The one piece that Terri and I added was to project the rhyming words on the screen right behind and above the stage. We stuck them on PowerPoint slides, and with our clicker we could make each word bubble appear just when it's spoken by the Dust Bunny. Well that's the idea anyway, but managing the puppets, dialog, and clicker is a little confusing, so our timing was right *most* of the time, but not always. (Another reason why it's nice that we repeat our storytimes four times in a week and can get closer to precision each time). Besides being a great story, the book is also excellent for print awareness concepts along with phonological development, so seeing the words as part of the puppet show helped to retain that strong print element.



Family Reading Week Fun

From preliminary reports (28 libraries have completed their Final Report – hint, hint), it sounds like Snuggle Up and Read was a hit in communities across Idaho. Six libraries reported that this was the first time they hosted a Family Reading Week event and I bet that number will increase as we get more reports completed.

Comments from the Final Report are being compiled and will be shared in the next issue.

If you have not submitted your Final Report, please do so by December 5th if at all possible. www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012FRWSummaryReport. Send us pictures - we love 'em! These two photos below are from Twin Falls Public Library. They had a great week and loved snuggling up in the PJs!





KidQuest Winners!

Twenty lucky Idaho tweens or teens were winners in the recent KidQuest Contest. Not only did they learn a lot about online resources available at their library, they also got to take home new iPods. We wanted to share a few pictures of the winners.

Top to bottom: Susan Hollenbeak, Library Director at Salmon River Public Library, Riggins and Heavenly Starr Muench receiving her new iPod touch.

Meaghan Adams with Buhl Public Library Director Cynthia Toppen.



Kathryn Barbour entered the contest at Meridian District Library and was ecstatic to win.



Young Adult Corner



Creature Creation Challenge Winners Announced!

More than 4700 votes were cast in the online voting to determine this year's winners.

Congratulations to the following public and school libraries for receiving the most votes in their categories for their Creature Creation submission:

Public library: Osburn Public library for their Creature "**Zombie**" inspired by **Walking Dead** from *The Walking Dead*, Book 2 by Robert Kirkman

School library: West Junior High in Boise for their Creature "**He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named**" inspired by **Voldemort** from the *Harry Potter* series by J. K. Rowling.

This year's Best of Show winner was selected by Idaho Commission for Libraries staff. And the winner is.....



Burley High School Media Center: **Gwin** was inspired by *Inkheart*, by Cornelia Funke



All winners will receive a set of hardcover books for their collections plus bragging rights for the next year.

In addition to the Creature Creation winners announced below the following libraries are also winners:

First Time participants: Three libraries participating for the first time were randomly selected to receive a Canon Pixma Color Printer:

- Century High School-Pocatello
- Latah County Library District-Moscow
- Orofino Jr./Sr. High School Library

North Bingham County Library District will receive 10 hardcover YA books for their exemplary partnership with Firth and Shelly schools. Here is a description of the partnership:

We partnered with the Shelley and Firth School librarians and art teachers. The art teachers had their students create a creature from literature. When they were completed the teachers chose the 5 or 6 best and brought them to the Library to be displayed. The librarians and the Shelley High School art teacher then picked the 3 winners from each school. The film class at Shelley High also made "scary" short films which we showed at our activity.

Thanks to all libraries who participated in Teen Read Week 2012-you are all winners in your teens' eyes.



CSLP Teen Video Challenge Announced!

For the 2013 Summer Reading Program, the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), working through member states, will be soliciting amateur videos produced by teenagers (ages 13-18) to serve as the official CSLP summer reading teen public service announcements (PSAs). The theme for the PSA Video Challenge is "Beneath the Surface."

BENEATH THE SURFACE

One video from each participating state will be submitted to the CSLP. CSLP will award each State Teen Video Challenge Winner \$275. Their Public library or member affiliate will receive prizes worth \$150 from CSLP and Upstart. Please see the [CSLP website](#) for all rules, eligibility requirements, video criteria, and resources.

Click [HERE](#) for the Idaho entry form, model release, and flyer.



Teens and Technology.....What's Up?

Some of you may be wondering what's up with the 2013 Teens and Technology course.... Well... we are cooking up something different for the 2013 workshops. We will be announcing a small pilot project shortly which will focus on "Maker Spaces" and STEM programming. The pilot will be limited to about five libraries, and we will be announcing those within a few weeks.

The Commission will still support Teen Tech Week events with resources, so stay tuned for the registration to open for this opportunity.



YALSA's MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens

This award honors a YALSA member for developing an outstanding reading or literature program for young adults. Winners receive \$500 and an additional \$500 for their libraries. Applications for the MAE Award, along with all of YALSA's grants and awards, are due to the YALSA office by Dec. 1. The MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens is sponsored by the Margaret A. Edwards Trust.



Take the Morris/Nonfiction Reading Challenge in December!

By Gretchen Kolderup

The shortlists for YALSA's Morris Award and Excellence in Nonfiction Award will be announced in early December. At The Hub, we'll be challenging you to read all of the nominees for either (or both!) awards in our Morris/Nonfiction Reading Challenge! Get to know the nominees before the winner is announced at ALA's Youth Media Awards in January, and get a head start on our second Best of the Best Reading Challenge in early 2013! Details to come!



Share Your Innovative Programs with YALSA!

YALSA will select up to twenty-five innovative teen programs from all types of libraries to feature at the YALSA President's Program at the 2013 ALA Annual Conference and to include in a sixth edition of *Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults*. Successful applications will focus on programs that address new teen needs or interests, or that address ongoing teen needs or interests in an innovative or unique way. The top five programs will receive cash awards of \$1000 each. Up to twenty "best of the rest" applications will receive cash awards of \$250 each. For more details, or to apply, visit YALSA's web site.



School Zone



Letters About Literature (LAL), a national reading and writing promotion program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, invites readers in grades 4–10 to enter the 21st Annual LAL letter writing competition.

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

The contest challenges young readers to write a personal letter to an author explaining how that author's work changed the readers' view of their world. LAL awards prizes on both the state and national level in three competition levels: Level 1 for grades 4–6; Level 2 for grades 7–8; and Level 3 for grades 9–10. National winners will receive a cash award of \$1,000.

Submission deadline: Postmarked by January 11, 2013

State winners will be notified in April 2013 and national winners by May 2.

More Information at www.lettersaboutliterature.org

- [How to Enter](#) (including information for teachers for their classes)
- [Letters About Literature](#) -- with samples of winning letters and 2013 Content Guidelines

This year, for the first time, Idaho Commission for Libraries is Idaho's sponsor for the contest. Letters About Literature information is also available on our website at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/lal>.

Questions about the LAL contest should be directed to: Catherine Gourley, National Project Director, 570-262-7320, programdirector@lettersaboutliterature.org



Upcoming Events



International Children's Book Day Resource Guide

USBBY has been awarded the sponsorship of the 2013 [International Children's Book Day](#), which is traditionally celebrated on April 2, Hans Christian Andersen's birthday. Artist Ashley Bryan and poet Pat Mora have created an inspirational poster themed *Bookjoy! Around the World*.

A Resource Guide with plans for programs and lessons to celebrate the day is being prepared. I encourage you to submit your ideas for inspiring a love of reading and cultural understanding and awareness on the International Children's Book Day page on the [USBBY website](#).

Already planning spring 2013 programs at your library? Have you been thinking about adding international books to your storytimes? The USBBY website already has program plans you can use! Please [take a look](#).



World Book Night 2013

The World Book Nights 2013 Book Picks are posted and giver applications are open. Visit www.us.worldbooknight.org/ to check out the books and read the giver application guidelines. The application process will be open till January, so you have plenty of time to read up on the books, think about where you want to hand them out, and then apply.



World Book Night US: April 23, 2013
Spreading the love of reading, person to person



Tips & Tools



Celebrate the **75th anniversary of the Caldecott Medal** with a mock election program Mock elections can help foster a child's appreciation of fine art and heighten awareness of past Caldecott Medalists and their works. The ALSC [Newbery and Caldecott Mock Elections Tool Kit](#) provides guidance on election program planning; tips for conducting successful book discussions; print-ready, customizable planning tools and program handouts; full-color Caldecott-winning art, demonstrating artistic media, styles, and elements; and much more.



This offer is part of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Caldecott Medal. Throughout 2012 and into 2013, ALSC has many special Caldecott-related events and activities planned, in person, online and in print, to make it possible for all individuals to be involved in the celebration. To learn more about joining in the celebration, visit the Caldecott 75th anniversary page at www.ala.org/alsc/Caldecott75.



Idaho Community Foundation Northern Regional Grant Cycle is open until Jan. 15
The Idaho Community Foundation's grant cycle is open for the north Idaho counties of Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Idaho, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce and Shoshone. The deadline to apply is Jan. 15.

All applicants (new and returning) must create an account in order to complete and submit an application. Click for [more information](#), to [create an account](#) or [to apply](#).



J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Rebooting Idaho Schools Using Khan Academy Request for Proposal Application

The J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation **invites you to apply** for a *Rebooting Idaho Schools Using Khan Academy* grant to enhance environments of limitless learning for all Idahoans.



We invite Idaho schools (traditional, private, charter) as well as nonprofits that provide math education to Idahoans to complete the Request for Proposal (RFP).



ALA Launches E-book Media & Communications Toolkit



As several large book publishers continue to deny libraries access to their e-books, and others make e-books available under difficult terms, libraries find themselves unable to provide the reading and educational materials demanded by their patrons. As a result, many librarians are asking, "What can I do to advocate for fair e-book lending practices?"

To assist libraries in informing the public about e-book lending practices, the American Library Association (ALA) released the "[ALA E-book Media & Communications Toolkit](#)," a set of materials that will support librarians in taking action in their communities.



Public Library Association (PLA) Survey on Digital Learning Centers for Libraries

Reposted from Barbara A. Macikas, Executive Director, Public Library Association

As you know, public libraries and community organizations are becoming the go-to place for digital literacy education. Users come searching for help to understand and use computer programs, printers and other hardware, the Internet (web browsing, e-mail, social media), digital media (cameras, e-readers, music players) and more. PLA is working with COSLA and ALA OITP to create a website that will focus on digital learning. Here is more information about the IMLS-funded project: www.ala.org/news/pr?id=11454.

To get a starting point for the needs of librarians who are providing digital literacy support in their libraries, we have created a survey and are asking for help getting the word out about it. Please share the link to the survey with the librarians in your state or region. It will be open until December 15: www.surveymonkey.com/s/digitallearningcenter



Songs for Children

This great website is designed as a resource tool for parents, children's librarians, and others who are looking for music for young children. In many cases the tunes to the songs are familiar but contain alternative lyrics. For songs less familiar, guitar chords have been included with the words. Songs have been divided into subject categories. Just click on a song title to access the words. Check it out at www.ccplonline.org/kids/songs4tots.html.



Summer Reading News



Upstart Catalog: First order deadline Dec. 1 (to receive materials by March 1)

The 2013 Upstart Catalog is ready for placing orders. Go to www.cslpreads.org, sign in with your username and password, and click the "Shop Now" tab. If you are a staff member in a public library and do not have a log in and password, you will need to create one before you can order. Once you are approved by the site administrator you are free to browse and shop for incentives and promotional items.

School librarians and other school staff may order from the Upstart catalog by partnering with the public library. [See details...](#)

You will not be invoiced until your shipment arrives. Consider ordering now as supplies are sometimes limited in the spring.



School Partnerships titles

Each year the RTM Team invests a lot of time previewing and selecting high-quality titles for the [Bright Futures School Partnerships](#) program. Because we're launching so many exciting new programs this fall, we would greatly appreciate some title suggestions from the library community to help us save some time. Here are the guidelines we generally use for selection:

- Available in hardcover
- Current copyright date

- Award-winners and/or starred reviews
- Range of interest levels, from kindergarten through about grade 6 (target audience is elementary school)
- Range of fiction and nonfiction, including poetry, graphic novels, and picture books

Other considerations:

- Tie-in to summer reading theme (though not required)—2013 is “underground”
- New title in a popular series
- Favorite authors/ local authors
- Kid-appeal
- Great books that kids may not pick up without a book talk from the librarian

Send the following info to [Staci](#) or [Erica](#): Title, author, copyright date, interest level. (It would be great if you also sent a short annotation about why you’re suggesting the title.) Thanks!



CSLP Teen Video Challenge Announced!

See article in [Young Adult Corner](#) above

Meet Kiersten Kerr



Never a Dull Moment

Kiersten Kerr is on the run. She just finished her first year as the Library Media Specialist at Coeur d’Alene High School. With an enrollment of 1,450 students at the school, Kiersten feels like she has made that many new friends. She has struggled with the challenge of trying to keep up with the programs that need to be in place and things she would like to implement. Before working at the high school she was the library manager at Hayden Meadows Elementary School. She fell in love with library work there, and

found that she was smiling a lot at work because she enjoyed working with the kids so much.

Kiersten would like the school library to be the hub of the school. She is responsible for ISAT testing and overseeing the Idaho Education Network (IEN) room, which is a virtual classroom that allows them to broadcast classes around the state, go on virtual field trips, etc. She is also serving as the building technology leader, and serves on the District Technology Committee. Kiersten works with classes to teach research skills and evaluation of resources, and would like to start a book club and game club this year. She is an advisor for the Viking Skeet and Trap Club, and works with the Student Technology Advisory Committee. Whew!



Last year the school purchased ten Nook Simple Touch eReaders, and Kiersten is often exploring new technologies to keep the library current. She wants the teachers and students to know where they can go for help with school and technology issues. Kiersten feels like she did a good job building relationships during her first year at the library, and considers it an accomplishment that she kept her head above water with all of her new responsibilities.

When Kiersten is not at work she is busy with her two boys who have an active lifestyle. They are involved with soccer, cub scouts, and karate. She is active herself and loves living in Coeur d'Alene so her family can ski and snowboard in the winter, and enjoy time by the lakes in the summer. She can't think of a better place to live and raise her children.

As a child Kiersten enjoyed reading the *Little House on the Prairie* series. Her current favorite children's author was hard to choose. She LOVES children's books and enjoys Dav Pilkey (if she has to choose). She thinks that *Hallo-Weiner* and *'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving* are fun to read aloud, and that kids never tire of hearing them. She is working on her MLIS so she doesn't have a lot of time for recreational reading. She has recently read *Insurgent*, which is book two in the *Divergent* trilogy, by Veronica Roth.

One of her favorite quotes is by Ghandi -- "Be truthful, gentle and fearless." Kiersten's favorite Scoop flavor is Pralines and Cream from Baskin Robbins. Hopefully she can find a moment to sit down and enjoy some!



CE News You Can Use



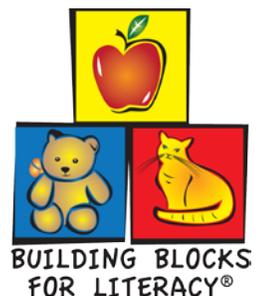
Idaho's Early Literacy Project: Where have they been and where are they going? by Julie Armstrong

The Early Years Conference, sponsored by the Department of Health and Welfare and their partners, was held at Boise State University on November 13-14. There were a variety of inspiring keynote speakers and breakout sessions. One that was relevant to the vision of the Read to Me program was the presentation by Cristianne Lane from the Lee Pesky Learning Center. Cristianne and her colleague, Mary Jo Surges-Prokop, were the driving forces behind the Early Literacy Project that trained hundreds of early childhood educators in Idaho using the Building Blocks for Literacy curriculum. Their work has been evaluated and is under review for publication in a journal article. It has been shown to be an effective tool for strengthening children's early literacy skills.

Building Blocks for Literacy focuses on three core literacy skills:

- Shared reading
- Phonological awareness
- Speech to print connections, including alphabet knowledge

The online course is available at www.buildingblocksforliteracy.org/. It is free, self-paced, and has video clips and short quizzes to review core concepts. This course would be a good refresher course for children's services staff, or a good follow up for parents after taking the Every Child Ready to Read workshops. It also has some great literacy activities that can be used in storytimes.



Cristianne and Mary Jo are currently working on developing toolkits for teachers to use. It will include activity ideas to use during transitions and other teachable moments. Given the strong need for improved early literacy skills in Idaho, it is imperative to have visionaries like Cristianne and Mary Jo joining forces for the children of Idaho.



Serving Spanish-Speaking Populations: An Introduction Webinar

This two-part workshop offered through ALA Editions for \$75 will cover everything from using basic Spanish phrases to communicate with library users, to offering programming and materials for Spanish-speakers. In this workshop, Milly Lugo, joined by Radames Suarez, will demonstrate how you can confidently provide Spanish-language programming, materials and library outreach regardless of your ability to speak Spanish.

News Beyond Idaho

Designing a Unique Library Experience

Steven J. Bell writes: “How would you convert a non-library user into a passionate library user? What must you do to get their attention? Perhaps we should just focus on creating a core library user community of passionate users—those who will give us their loyalty and tell others about the library. Even accomplishing that requires librarians to design a unique library experience that gives individuals something they cannot obtain elsewhere—on the internet, at a coffeehouse, or even in the comfort of their own homes.”...

This article, originally published in the August 15, 2012 Designing Better Libraries, provides some good food for thought and is worth taking the time to read. Click on the headline above to read the whole article.



STEM is Everywhere

Wonder why everyone is talking about STEM in education? Here is just one factoid that might help clarify the issue:

In 2009, only 38.8 percent of Idaho eighth graders scored proficient in math on the NAEP with 8 percent scoring in the advanced range. Research identifies that students who complete algebra by the end of the 8th grade are positioned well for success in upper level math course-taking.



Fun with Math and Science Workshops Update

Several of the libraries participating in our ECRTTR Fun with Math and Science pilot project have hosted their first family workshops. Meridian Library District, Lewiston Public Library, Kuna Public Library, and Garden City Public Library have all sent us their summary reports and parent surveys. Debbie Allen from Lewiston shared this adorable picture of a budding scientist from their workshop recently. Looks like she had fun!



Here are just a couple of the comments we have gathered so far:

The families loved the hands on activities. I think we chose a good variety for all age groups. When the program was over the children didn't want to leave, they just wanted to do more activities. The books we chose were also popular (Press Here, Jack the Builder, and A Pair of Socks).

In addition to using the presentation/materials, we used this opportunity to walk families through a few of our online offerings that are appropriate for small children (World book Kids, Tumble books, and the Spanish version of World Book). Parents LOVED them. We also introduced our science and math kits, which include dvds, toys, books and games designed to teach children about math and science. They were a hit too - we can't keep them on the shelf.

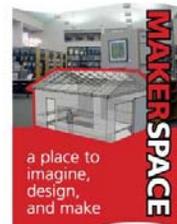


Did you know that an online STEM game was created for this project and is available for anyone to use? It was! And it can be found [HERE](#).



Wilsonville Public Library – Hands-On Activities and Ideas

[Summer Science @ Your Library](#) is a hands-on active experience with science in the summertime – or anytime! Libraries are welcome to download the starter kit with free reproducible materials. Check out [this site](#) for some wonderful ideas on integrating STEM in your library.



Westport Public Library Maker Space

This cool Maker Space opened last July as a place for people to connect, invent and create. It's a new way to use your Library, in addition to finding books and movies, working, viewing art, meeting friends and attending programs. Read all about it [here](#).



Smithsonian's National Zoo – A Wealth of Resources

Smithsonian's National Zoo has several resources that they are happy to share. Their website is full of great information for students interested in biology, life sciences, or conservation fields. Whether you want to find an article about reproductive efforts with giant pandas, are interested in learning what it takes to become a wildlife geneticist, or want to read up on species survival plans, they have cool and interesting stories to share.

They recently launched an app, available through iTunes for \$1.99, that lists nearly all of their animals A-Z (something you can't easily find on the website) and features critter cams and short movies about their animals. You can also customize a tour of the zoo. This is helpful if you're at the zoo, but can be a great way to bring them to your classroom no matter where you are.

Finally, they have a YouTube channel with everything from aww inducing video of cheetah cubs to interviews with our world renowned scientists. Check it out here:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SmithsonianNZP>

Books as Gifts
2012 Booklists



Book Look

Season's Readings from Reading Rockets!

Each year our friends at Reading Rockets develop an awesome booklist, just in

time for holiday shopping. Click below to browse through the 2012 holiday buying guides online or download and print the PDFs before you head out to the library or store.

- [Download 2012 Books as Gifts Buying Guide > \(456K PDF\)*](#)
- [View books for 8-9 year olds](#)
- [View books for 6-7 year olds](#)
- [View books for 4-5 year olds](#)
- [View books for 0-4 year olds](#)
- [View audio books for the whole family](#)

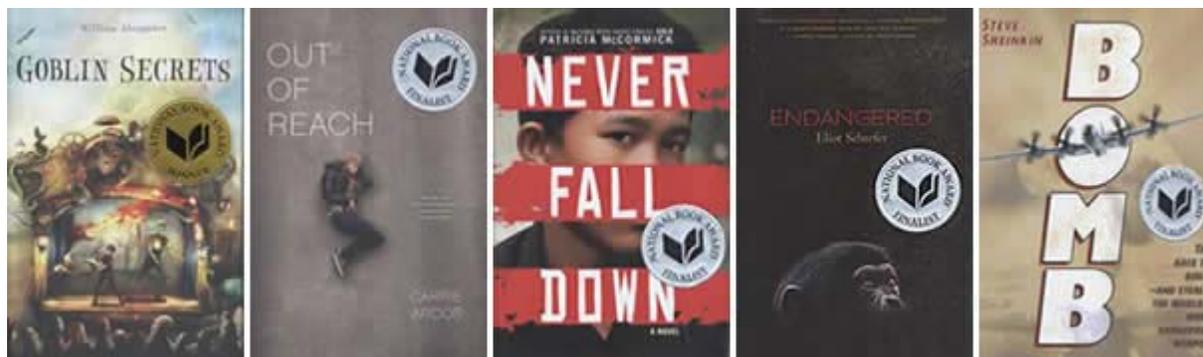


National Book Award for Young People's Literature Announced

The National Book Award was first presented in 1950. At that time, authors in three categories were honored: Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry. Since 1996, the National Book Foundation has chosen to honor the writers of books for youth with their own category and prize. The winners of the award represent the very finest in writing for children and young adults. Congratulations to this year's winner, **William Alexander**, author of *Goblin Secrets*.

This year's finalists were:

- **Carrie Arcos**, *Out of Reach*
- **Patricia McCormick**, *Never Fall Down*
- **Eliot Schrefer**, *Endangered* (Scholastic)
- **Steve Sheinkin**, *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*



To read more about the National Book Award and see who won in the other categories, visit www.nationalbook.org/nba2012.html.



Wonderful Science Picture Booklist

A special thanks to Nancy Peters-Oliver, Taft Elementary School Librarian, for sending us the free link to one of the best annotated science picture books ever. Check it out at www.sbsonline.com/Subaru/Pages/BestPictureBooks.aspx. This is a great collection development resource for the school libraries that received mini-grant funds and for anyone who is looking for good science books for children and young adults.



Author Birthdays

December 1 – **Jan Brett** (born in 1949). With over 34 million books in print, Jan Brett is one of the nation's foremost author / illustrators of children's books. Some of her works include: *Town Mouse, Country Mouse, Christmas Treasury, The Mitten* and more. www.janbrett.com/biography.htm

December 10 – **Emily Dickinson** (1830-1886). Was a prolific private poet, fewer than a dozen of her nearly eighteen hundred poems were published during her lifetime. Three poetry books were published by Emily's family after her death. Many in the academic community feel that these books were poorly edited and are not true to Dickinson's vision. Find out more at www.online-literature.com/dickinson/

December 11 – **William Joyce** (born in 1957). Joyce has written and illustrated over 25 children's books. Some of his best known are: *George Shrinks, Rolie Polie Olie, The Leaf Men and A Day with Wilbur Robinson*. Find out more at www.williamjoyce.com/

December 15 – **Terry Trueman** (born in 1947). Is a poet-turned-novelist who hit the ground running with his debut young adult novel, *Stuck in Neutral*. His other books include *Inside Out* and *Cruise Control*. Read more at www.terrytrueman.com/about.htm

December 19 - **Eve Bunting** (born in 1928). Bunting has written more than 250 books. Her books are diverse in age groups, from picture books to chapter books, and topic, ranging from Thanksgiving to riots in Los Angeles. Read more about [Eve](#).

December 26 – **Jean Van Leeuwen** (born in 1937). Van Leeuwen is the author of over 40 children's books, including: *Timothy's Flower, Tales of Oliver Pig, Oliver and Albert, Friends Forever* and more. Check out www.jeanvanleeuwen.com/meetjvl.html for more.

December 28 – **Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard** (born in 1927). An accomplished teacher and writer, she didn't start out with the intention of writing, rather she just told stories. She is the author of : *Aunt Flossie's Hats, Virgie Goes to School with Us Boys, The Train to Lulu's* and more. Read more about [Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard](#).

December 30 – **Rudyard Kipling** (1865-1936). Kipling was a British author and poet. He is best known for his works of fiction *The Jungle Book, Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, Kim*, many short stories and poems. Find out more at www.online-literature.com/kipling/



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.

Disclaimer The Idaho Commission for Libraries retains sole discretion with regard to the content of this newsletter, and reserves the right to edit, modify, or delete content. Advertising will not be accepted. Permission to reproduce information in this newsletter is granted to other nonprofit organizations, so long as credit is given to the author and source, except for items which are reprinted from other sources and are protected by copyright. The Idaho Commission for Libraries is not responsible for the contents of any linked sites or any link contained within a linked site.

To Subscribe or to Unsubscribe: Visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/the-scoop> and enter in your e-mail address. Subscriptions are free!

Contact Us: *The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact [Stephanie Bailey-White](#), [Staci Shaw](#) or [Erica Compton](#) at 208-334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.