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DATES & DEADLINES

- **Family Reading Week**, Nov. 16-20. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Letters About Literature:** Grades 9 – 12, December 15
Grades 4 – 8, January 15
More information can be found [here](#).
- November is **National American Indian Heritage Month**
- Idaho public libraries can apply to participate in the new EatPlayGrow program. Applications and information can be found [here](#).

WELCOME

By Stephanie Bailey-White

The Read to Me team enjoyed traveling to the Idaho Library Association Conference in Lewiston and joining 34 Idaho librarians at the Idaho Early Years Conference last week. What a great chance to learn, connect, and share great ideas. We've included a few things we learned at both of those conferences in this issue. Enjoy!



Just for Fun

I also enjoyed seeing the creative literary jack-o'-lanterns at Book Riot. Kelly Jensen writes: "For fans of Halloween and books, there's something irresistible about a good literary jack-o'-lantern. It's not only fun to see what other book lovers have created on the canvas of a pumpkin, but it's also neat to think about what possibilities are out there for your own bookish carving." Check out more bookish pumpkins at <http://bookriot.com/2014/10/22/15-awesome-bookish-jack-olanterns/>. Something to think about for next year!



LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

Ada Community's Whoodini in Dance-Off

Approximately 1,100 elementary students from Boise and West Ada school districts attended the 2014 Red Ribbon (Drug-Free Idaho) Rally Mascot Dance-Off at the Idaho State Capitol Friday, October 17th. Justin Corr from KTVB Channel 7 was the event emcee who also served as the crowd noise judge.

All mascots were introduced and called up to dance for 30-45 seconds. After each performance the emcee determined a winner by asking the students to cheer for their favorite. The mascots with the loudest cheering sections moved to the next round. "The kids were chanting, 'The owl, the owl,'" said ICfL's Public Information Specialist Teresa Lipus. "Whoodini had this round hands down and should have gone on to the finals." The Idaho Steelheads mascot Blue took home the trophy, but Whoodini's moves were certainly a hoot. Owl bet he's already practicing his moves for next year...



Afterschool Network in Idaho!

The new Idaho Afterschool Network is led by the Mountain States Group in partnership with University of Idaho 4-H Youth Development, State Department of Education, Idaho Commission for Libraries, Boise Parks & Recreation, Idaho Department of Health & Welfare, and Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health. These statewide partners provided the one-to-one match required for a three-year C. S. Mott Foundation grant totaling \$450,000.

The coalition will build awareness about the importance of quality afterschool programs, develop standards and training, and create a GIS-based map that will help parents find afterschool activities in their communities. See more about the need for quality afterschool learning opportunities in KNOW THE NUMBERS below.

Two Idaho Communities to Host Pete the Cat Celebrations

Families in Driggs are looking forward to the grand opening of a new library branch in their community, and Pete the Cat will be a part of the celebration. The Read to Me program promoted the opportunity to have a Pete the Cat costume, 50 Pete books and a plush Pete for communities who collaborated with as many different partners as possible to jointly plan an Idaho Family Reading Week or Week of the Young Child event. Valley of the Tetons District Library is partnering with public and private elementary schools, Head Start, WIC, local businesses and others to promote Family Reading Week and the big grand opening.

"We've been so excited about the new library ever since the bond passed. People in this small county deserve all the opportunities a library offers and it's great that the opening coincides with Family Reading Week and ties into the theme of building a community of readers. Pete the Cat will be a 'purrfect' addition to the grand opening celebration," Valley of the Tetons staff member Rasheil Stanger said.

The community of Nezperce will also be receiving 50 Pete the Cat books and a small plush Pete. They are working with nearly all the teachers in their elementary school and with the local daycare provider to plan fun activities and events to draw in as many families as they can during the week. Creative ideas including serving cookies in the shape of cats and saucers of milk to a cat-themed scavenger hunt and family games.

"We know that working with community partners to plan family events can lead to more collaboration and community-building activities down the road," ICfL Program Coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said. "We know



this is often where real change can take place. Getting to know community partners by planning events together is a great way to establish or build relationships.”

Idaho Libraries in the News:



Caldwell Public Library's "Grand Reopening"

See article in Idaho Press Tribune



Garden City Public Library

"Legacy Courtyard Grand Opening"

See KTVB news story



Idaho Afterschool Network Kick-off (ICfL is a partner) at **Whitney Community Center**: See Press Release on City of Boise's [website](#) and photos on their [Facebook page](#)

YOUNG ADULT CORNER

Deadline Soon: Apply Until Nov. 17 to Receive a Free 3D Printer – or Four!

3D Systems is providing new 3D printers for free to museums and libraries across the country that join a new MakerLab Club and establish access to 3D printing and design opportunities for their communities. Online applications accepted until Nov. 17, 2014 at <https://3dsystems.teamplatform.com/pages/78593?t=pz9ril1dlnna>. Printers allocated on a competitive basis. Learn more at www.3dsystems.com/education/partnersandresources/makerlab-club

All You Need for Teen Tech Week™ 2015!

YALSA will launch its 2015 Teen Tech Week web site on Nov. 17th. Visit www.ala.org/teentechweek to access everything you need to plan an event for March 8 – 14, 2015. This year we'll be celebrating with the theme

“Libraries are for Making _____” (YOU fill in the blank to customize the event for your library!). Teen Tech Week is a great opportunity for library workers to demonstrate to their communities all the services they provide to teens to help them build the digital literacy skills they need to be successful in 21st Century jobs. Artwork will be revealed in mid-November so stay tuned!

How was YOUR Teen Read Week™?

Please take 3-5 minutes to share your feedback with YALSA about Teen Read Week:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5DGKT8D>

AND don't forget – if you registered for the Commission's opportunity, send in your [template](#) with your teen's creations AND complete the [Final Report](#). It will only take a few minutes to do, and you will be eligible for great hardcover YA best sellers!

Info2Go! Gaming in Libraries – Webinar Archive

Nick Grove and Nick Madsen did an awesome job of providing ideas and answering questions regarding gaming in the library – both low tech and high tech in last month's Info2Go webinar. Don't worry if you missed it, you can view the archive here: <http://icfl.adobeconnect.com/p4lxybj6qfm/>



SCHOOL ZONE

By Jeannie Standal

Low Hanging Fruit

ICfL has a new tool for School Librarians! It is a newsletter for you to use as your own, with information about ICfL tools and other resources for your teachers. Here is the kicker: it comes from your library – from you! This little something you just threw together is called **Low Hanging Fruit** because it is easy. It's easy for you – just forward it to your teachers' email or stuff their school mail boxes with paper copies. It's easy for teachers - every bit of information and every suggestion in this short and sweet little newsletter is easy to get and easy to use. Easy. This month's Low Hanging Fruit is a blurb about **Letters About Literature and resources for your teachers**.

[Continue Reading...](#)

Letters about Literature Contest: Reminder

The Idaho Commission for Libraries is once again sponsoring the Letters About Literature writing competition for Idaho. The annual competition is coordinated and funded by the Library of Congress Center for the Book.

Students write a personal letter to an author, living or dead, and explain how his or her work changed their perspective on the world. The contest has three competition levels:

- Level 1: Grades 4-6 Submission deadline date: **January 15, 2015** (postmark)
- Level 2: Grades 7 & 8 Submission deadline date: **January 15, 2015** (postmark)
- Level 3: Grades 9-12 Submission deadline date: **December 15, 2014** (postmark)

For more information see [Low Hanging Fruit](#) link above.

Grants for Book Collections Available

The Laura Bush Foundation funds up to \$7,000 grants for school libraries to expand their book collections. At least 85 percent of the school's student body must qualify for free and reduced lunch rates. Go to their website at www.laurabushfoundation.com/ to get the details and see if your school meets the eligibility requirements. **Submission deadline is December 15th, 2014.**

Best Practice of the Month: Self-Selection

Do you have a roommate in your library? Did you decide it would be a good arrangement, or did you realize one day that you had extra software on the computer and a drawer full of colored dot stickers that were not yours? Have you found reading level numbers in the front of books that boss you and your students around? "Read this, not that!" "No, that's too hard." "No, that's too easy." Pushy roommates, those reading incentive programs.

To be fair, reading incentive programs (the most well-known is Accelerated Reader, or AR) were not intended to be the tyrannical task masters they've become. Somehow, instead of serving as a fun incentive, participation has become a required assignment and it is limiting reading selection to students' prescribed reading ranges. Perhaps it's time to relieve text complexity based reading incentive programs of their rule-making status and put them back in the guideline category, where they belong.

Continue Reading...

UPCOMING EVENTS

Idaho Family Reading Week is Fast Approaching!



Building a Community of Readers at your library encourages families and communities to come together to read, build, and have fun. Visit libraries.idaho.gov/page/2014-idaho-family-reading-week to see great information on how families can support and develop literacy. As always there are program ideas you can use year-round, plus handouts that support family reading, early literacy skills, booklists, and more.

Bring Computer Science to Your Community Through an Hour of Code

Computers are everywhere, but fewer schools teach computer science than 10 years ago. Thankfully, Hour of Code is working to change this.

The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. Sign up to host an Hour of Code this December 8-14 during Computer Science Education Week, and help reach 100 million students by the end of the year. Watch the video and ask all librarians to give it a shot. Every participating organizer will receive thank you gifts. Add your library to the map, go to <http://hourofcode.com>.



TIPS AND TOOLS

Rural Public Libraries Encouraged to Apply for Libri Foundation Funds

Are you a rural public library with a small operating budget? If so, consider applying for a Libri Foundation grant to help purchase quality children's books. See www.librifoundation.org for all the details and applications. The next grant round is due January 23, 2015. New, quality, hardcover children's books were recently awarded to **Lizard Butte Library, Marsing** and **Stanley Community Library** through the Foundation.

SPLAT Wants You!

ICfL is accepting applications for positions on the Special Projects Library Action Team (SPLAT). There will be at least three positions to fill by the end of 2014 and potentially a few more after the first of the year. If you are interested, please discuss with your library director/supervisor, and then complete the application form at www.surveymonkey.com/s/SPLAT by **November 15, 2014**. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by December 15. Consider joining SPLAT. See <http://splat.lili.org> for more details.



Libraries Receive Funds from Idaho Community Foundation

The Idaho Community Foundation is seeking applications from libraries and others in northern Idaho for grants of up to \$5,000. The grant cycle opened November 1 and closes January 15. Distribution of funds is in June. See www.idcomfdn.org/Regional_Cycle for details.

Grants for Afterschool Programs now Available

The State Department of Education will award \$1.5 million in grants to fund afterschool programs across the state for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year. Grant applications are due January 30, 2015. Those considering applying for funding are strongly encouraged to attend a Bidder's Workshop. *Continue Reading*

University of Washington's ProjectViews2 Resources

Check out these great resources and tools from University of Washington's ProjectViews2 storytime initiative. Although it is still a work in progress, you can see where they plan to upload new items as they become available and there's plenty of information to get started at <http://views2.ischool.uw.edu/resources/>

Two ALSC Professional Award Deadlines on Dec. 1

ALSC is reminding members to apply for professional awards by December 1. Applications are open, and several deadlines are approaching. There are awards for Distinguished Service, Library Outreach and a Bookapalooza Award. For more information, visit www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/profawards

Join the Maker Movement with a Grant from Cognizant

By [Anita Krishnamurthi](#)

Cognizant is now accepting applications for the 2015 *Making the Future* afterschool and summer program. Developed in partnership with the [Maker Education Initiative](#) and the [New York Hall of Science](#), the program provides grants to community organizations to run hands-on, Maker-Movement inspired programs in an afterschool or summer-camp setting. Cognizant believes that Maker activities not only engage and excite kids but can spark interest in STEM and the arts, as well as develop their creative capabilities. Maker programs include a diverse range of STEM topics, including electronics, robotics, computer programming, digital fabrication, 3-D printing and wearable technology.

Child-serving U.S. nonprofit organizations wishing to run afterschool, in-school and summer Maker programs can [apply](#) from now through Nov. 15, 2014. *Making the Future* grants can cover costs for tools, materials, instructor fees, and other expenses essential to meeting the needs of the children participating in the program.

[Continue Reading...](#)

Call for Program Proposals – PNLA 2015

The 2015 PNLA Conference will be held August 5-7, 2015 at the [Hilton Vancouver](#) in beautiful Vancouver, Washington. Vancouver is an historic town located on the north shore of the Columbia River. The 2015 theme is "Pushing the Boundaries."

The PNLA conference planning committee is seeking program proposals for one-hour presentations at the conference. **Please submit your proposal** to Karen Yother at kareny@communitylibrary.net or mail to: 8385 N Government Way, Hayden, ID 83835 by **January 9th**. Submissions will receive a response from the planning committee by March 6, 2015. Contact Karen for submission details.

Serve on the LiLI Steering Committee

The LiLI Steering Committee currently has openings for two public librarians and one school librarian representing libraries in southwest or southeast Idaho. Representatives on the LiLI Steering Committee are appointed by the State Librarian for a four-year term of service. If you think you might be interested in being considered for an appointment to the LiLI Steering Committee, please (1) review the information below, then (2) email

gina.persichini@libraries.idaho.gov with a brief statement about why you would be a valuable addition to the steering committee before **November 15th**.

Important Information About the LiLI Steering Committee:

The LiLI Steering Committee works in partnership with the ICfL staff to plan, initiate and evaluate LiLI services. The charge and responsibilities of Steering Committee members is outlined in <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/ChargeGper.pdf>.

- Term: Appointed by State Librarian for four-year term
- Meetings: Full-day meetings take place two to four times per year
- Travel: Meetings are held in Boise, travel costs are reimbursed according to established policies
- Content: Participants should be familiar with all LiLI Programs and Services

If you have questions about the LiLI Steering Committee or would like more information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Gina Persichini at gina.persichini@libraries.idaho.gov.

The Art and Science of Corporate Sponsorships

by Julie Armstrong, ICfL Project Coordinator

I was able to attend the Idaho Statewide Nonprofit Conference in September and learned some tips about obtaining corporate sponsorships from the workshops I went to. One workshop was taught by a national trainer who works with clients and sponsors, matching them up to the resources and outcomes they want. The other workshop was a panel of donors, who shared what they felt were best practices for people approaching them for support. The donors represented credit unions, banks, and car dealerships. The following is a list of golden nuggets from the workshops:

- Find out what the organization's fiscal year is. If you don't ask before they budget, there may not be money when you ask.
- The donor will most likely look at your website, so make sure it is succinct and easy to read. They should easily be able to determine your mission and programming.
- Only ask once for support during a fiscal year. If you know you have more than one event you want funded, include it in your one "ask" letter.
- Know the audience that your corporate sponsor serves geographically. Some will want to know you are serving people throughout the state, and some in a certain region.
- Average pay-outs are \$2,500-\$5,000. An amount of \$10-15,000 is a big ask but is doable for worthy causes. These donors had also given amounts as small as \$50.
- Ask for a face-to-face meeting if possible. This is about relationships to the givers. They want to know who you are and create a partnership. They get their feelings hurt if you don't ask them for funding from year to year if it is a yearly event (even if they can't fund all that you need).
- They spoke a lot about sponsoring tables at events and having corporate bigwigs show up to events. They have a hard time filling tables and may not be able to get bigwigs there. It is sometimes easier to buy the table and have you fill it. It's easier to get people to go to breakfast or lunch, as opposed to a dinner.
- Pay attention to who is sponsoring specific programs similar to yours and follow their lead.
- Find out who the regional decision maker is for national companies. They will be the person to contact.
- An email request is casual, not a formal proposal. Some funders would appreciate a phone call to discuss the potential for funding before getting a written proposal.
- Think about sponsorship exposure before, during, and after an event.

- Create a general outline of how sponsors can be involved. Ideas include volunteering, marketing, funding, and helping plan special events. They appreciate being involved in ways that aren't just financial.



SUMMER READING NEWS

2016 CSLP Adult Summer Library Program Manual: Call for Ideas

Theme: Wellness, Fitness, Sports

Slogan: Exercise Your Mind – Read

Deadline: Friday, November 23, 2014

Send to:

Rhonda K. Gould, editor

rhondakgould@gmail.com

812 North Steele Street

Tacoma, WA 98406

[Click here](#) to find some of the ideas suggested at the spring CSLP conference. If you have presented a program on one of those topics or have ideas for other programs or decorating/display ideas, send them in with details along with any special space needs or personnel. Portable program ideas, ideas for reaching underserved populations are needed as are crossword puzzles, quizzes or other reproducibles.

Summer Reading 2015 Program Manuals

Manuals will be distributed very soon. A message will be sent out on LibIdaho when they are shipped.

Each library that submitted a 2014 Summer Reading Report will receive a manual and an order catalog. A survey was sent on LibIdaho last spring; if you requested the DVD-only format, a CD-rom version, or additional catalogs for your schools, those requests will be included in your library's package. If you did not make a request at that time, a traditional package containing a paper copy of the program manual, three identical DVDs, an order catalog, and one extra catalog to give to a school or community partner will be shipped to you.

You can request additional manuals or catalogs here: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/request-program-manuals>.

Fun Photo-editing Tool for Heroes Theme

The photo editing program, Pic Monkey, has a new comic book feature at www.picmonkey.com/. It appears you do not need to upgrade from a free subscription in order to utilize this function.



FEATURED:

Highlights from Year Two of Books to Go

The Commission for Libraries wrapped up Year Two of the National Leadership Grant provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services in October. The Books to Go project had a great second year. Highlights from the research study conducted by BSU Literacy Professor Dr. Roger Stewart and the interim report completed on October 31, 2014 follow:

- The Books to Go project is well ahead of targets set for the program. The grant funds have made it possible to provide 391 bins containing over 43,000 age-appropriate, high-quality books to over 7,000 children in Idaho.
- Like Wave I of *Books to Go*, Wave II was a success. All of the data, with the exception of the quasi-experimental study, showed strongly positive effects. Libraries liked the program and found it easy to implement, and partners felt the same way. Parents/caregivers appreciated the program and found it convenient and easy to use. Everyone said that the selection of books was superb. Both open-ended responses commenting on the wide variety and quality of the books and also the high percentage of parents/caregivers reporting reading three or four books from each bag support the assertion that the selection of books was excellent. Importantly, for a second year in a row, critical parent/caregiver early literacy behaviors increased because of the *Books to Go* program. Finally, although the quasi-experimental study did not find *Books to Go* superior to the other interventions or the control condition, it did not fair any worse than the other treatment conditions since no intervention was superior or inferior to any other.
- At the end of second year of the Books to Go program, 86 percent of parents showed an increase in the amount of reading done in homes. A total of 65 libraries and 176 partner sites participated in Wave 2 of the program and we currently have 72 libraries participating in Wave 3.
- For Wave 2, 34 of the 65 participating libraries submitted 3,014 Quick Surveys. A sample of surveys was drawn for analysis resulting in 99% confidence intervals with +/- 3% error. Of the 1,507 in the sample, 177 were in Spanish. Receiving this large number of surveys is commendable. Results across the two waves are very consistent with 85 percent or more of respondents saying they read all four books in a bag. Only four percent of respondents in each wave reported reading just one or two books in a bag. All of the books in a bag were overwhelmingly popular with large majorities saying during both waves that their child liked all four books. The fourth question asked respondents to write comments about the books. When

aggregated across Waves I and II over 1,500 comments were received. Virtually all of the comments were positive with many of them glowing. The following verbatim comments are representative of the tone and content of the body of comments:

“Thank you. I spend more time with my son. We talked more and he pays more attention to the sound and changes in my voice when I’m reading.”

“He loved *Froggy Gets Dressed* and liked to see what Froggy had missed. He also loved telling the pigeon no; We have a 2 yr. old who also loved to read the books and kept walking around the house saying More Bears!! It is fun to have these new books that my kids haven’t seen before and we can read together as a family!!”

“We loved this program!”

- About 80 percent of respondents reported that they talked more with their child. Again, this is a highly favorable outcome since reading to and speaking with children have been shown to be strongly correlated to children’s development of early literacy skills. These percentages are similar to those found in other ICFL program evaluations of *Read to Me* programs such as *My First Books*. It appears that *Books to Go* is just as successful and consistent over time at fostering these important behaviors in parents/caregivers. Over half of respondents reported doing activities from the *Bookworms* that were enclosed in each bag of books. Again results were quite consistent over the two waves.
- For Wave 2, surveys were returned by 90 of 176 partners and 69 percent rated their relationship with their public library as excellent or good. No one rated their partnership as poor. When asked to rate their overall experience with the *Books to Go* program, 54 (60 percent) said excellent, 34 (30 percent) said good, and five said neutral.
- Public libraries completed summary reports for Year 2 of the program. In the 31 submitted reports, no one indicated that the project took too much of their time; 47 percent reported doing storytimes at their partner sites, 24 percent also did the My First Books program with at least one of their partners, and 43 percent hosted their partner site during a library visit. Comments about the program were very positive overall. A sampling of comments follow:



“All of the sites were very thankful to get the books because they don't have access to books for the children to take home. Many of our daycare children live in rural areas so they do not have cards. Reading is a priority with all of the partners after this project.”

“It made it super easy for us to get books into the hands of the parents of preschoolers. That is a group that can be hard to reach in other ways.

Parent of a daycare child told me that her daughter was so happy when she came home and told her she had to go to the ‘Real Library.’”

“By offering this project, the ICFL made it really easy for libraries to distribute bins of high-quality books and extension activities to two preschools in our community. Having such easy access to books was great for the

families to just "grab 'n go" when parents picked their children up each day. Much goodwill for and increased awareness of our library was generated in the community as a result."

"I think that having these books available for the kids to take home is fun for them because they can take the books back and get another set of books. I don't see a lot of these children in the library, so it gives them an opportunity to grow in their love for books and reading. It also may spark an interest to go to the library at an older age."

ICfL staff are looking forward to Year 3 of the Books to Go and Routes to Reading program. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov or 1-800-458-3271 or 639-4145 in the Boise area. We are looking for two more Idaho public libraries to participate in the program to meet our grant goal! More information can also be found at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/route-1-resources-and-information> along with a 40-minute archived webinar at <http://icfl.adobeconnect.com/p8y9asg428p/>.



CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

Every Kid Ready to Read: Tech Tools for Early Literacy

TechSoup for Libraries is offering a FREE webinar to learn more about how to integrate technology into early literacy programming in your library **Wednesday, November 19, 11 a.m. - noon PST**. What's the best way to bring technology into a storytime? How do you evaluate apps for early literacy? Every day there are new apps and technologies being made available to young children. Libraries are integrating technology into children's programming, including storytimes and other early literacy services. When used correctly, technology can be used to increase early literacy skills in young children.

This [free webinar](#) will share best practices, resources, and ideas to help you easily and effectively bring technology to your library's early literacy programming. We will hear from two guests with expertise in early literacy and childhood education. [Continue Reading...](#)

Multicultural Children's Literature Course Available

A four-week online, asynchronous course which requires about five hours per week is being offered through Infopeople November 18 - December 15, 2014. Idaho librarians may request access by November 10 at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/infopeople>.

Interactive Books for Children Webinar Offered

Idaho librarians may request access to either live session or archive to this webinar offered by PCI Webinars by completing the form at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/pci-webinars>. The webinar will be live on **Thursday, November 13th at noon MT**. The webinar features Jill Burket-Ragase presenting "*One Red Dot to Press Here* and *Everything in Between: Interactive Books for Children*."

MULTICULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Spanish Simplified Set Available

Spanish Simplified author Gail LeBow has donated her book and CD set to the first Idaho library that emails Stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov when you read this issue of *The Scoop*.

2015 Día National Program Registry Now Open

The 2015 [Día National Program Registry](#) is now open, and the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) is inviting libraries to begin registering their upcoming programs. By using the national registry, libraries help build a searchable database that showcases all types and sizes of library programs that highlight *Diversity In Action*.

Each registered event is given its own unique webpage allowing for libraries to share information about their Día program on their own website and through their social media outlets. Families are able to use the searchable Día map to find programs to attend in their communities.

The national registry is also a great way for libraries to share diversity programming ideas and best practices with colleagues across the country. To learn more about Día and to download free resources including booklists, coloring sheets, toolkits, book club curriculums and more; please visit <http://dia.ala.org>.

Last year alone, there were over 6,000 program searches completed within the national registry; make sure you register your programs today to share with your community how you celebrate diversity!

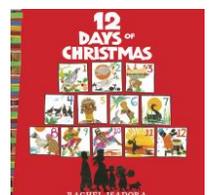
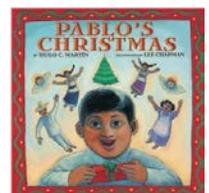
Saroj Ghoting Shares New Resource

Our favorite early literacy expert Saroj has created a wonderful site chock-full of resources! You can choose to read it in Spanish or English and it has some nice aids for library programming. [Check it out](#).

Multicultural Winter Holiday Books

The ALSC-I listserv had a recent thread about multicultural winter/holiday books suitable for pre-k and early elementary storytimes that highlighted some great titles. Here is what came out of that online discussion:

- *Hanukkah Bear*, by Eric Kimmel. Previously published as Chanukkah Guest.
- *Daddy Christmas & Hanukkah Mama*, by Selina Alko
- *The Christmas Coat: Memories of My Sioux Childhood*, by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve
- *Pablo's Christmas*, by Hugo Martin
- *The Legend of the Poinsettia*, by Tomie De Paola
- *Too Many Tamales*, by Gary Soto
- *Seven Spools of Thread*, by Angela Shelf Medearis
- *My First Kwanzaa*, by Deborah Chocolate
- *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, by Leuyen Phan (Random House) that is multicultural/international in its depiction of character and setting.
- With [The Night Before Christmas](#) and [12 Days of Christmas](#), Rachel Isadora continues her luminous re-imaginings of favorite folktales, songs, and poems by setting them in Africa.



- *Grandma's Gift*, by Eric Velasquez is set in Spanish Harlem at Christmastime. It's available in both English and Spanish.
- Featuring a small child, *A New Year's Reunion*, by Li-Qiong Yu is a warm celebration of a family's Chinese New Year.
- Any title from National Geographic's gorgeous Holidays Around the World series would make a lovely non-fiction introduction to winter holidays. Try [Celebrate Hanukkah](#), [Celebrate Kwanzaa](#), [Celebrate Christmas](#), and [Celebrate Chinese New Year](#). The full-color photos make excellent conversation pieces for both preschool and elementary-age kids.

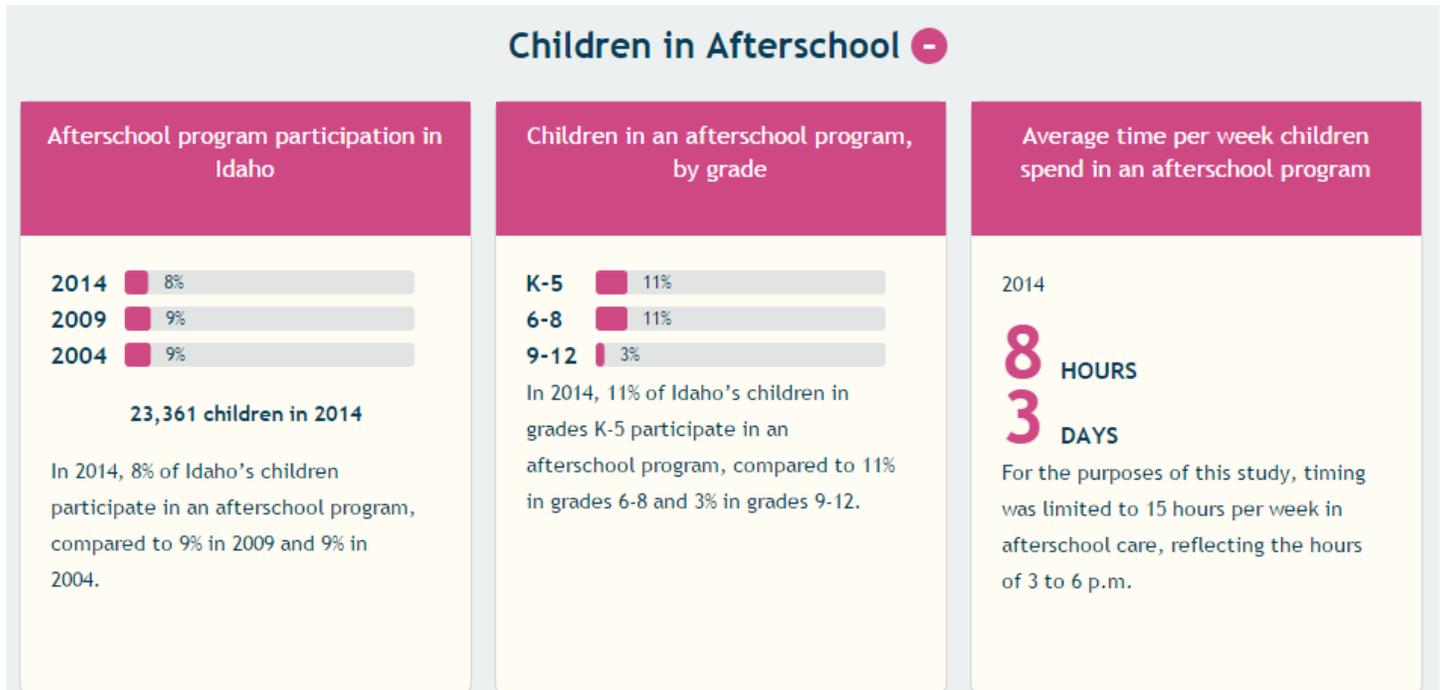
KNOW THE NUMBERS

America After 3PM Report Released

The nation's largest household survey of how kids spend their time after school has just been released. [The interactive dashboard](#) allows you to explore every facet of the data from the national and state level:

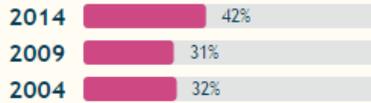
- overwhelming program demand
- parent satisfaction
- what parents value in programs
- support for public funding of afterschool programs.

Wondering what the report shows for Idaho? Here is a snapshot of some of the data reported. For the complete report visit http://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/AA3PM-2014/AA3PM_National_Report.pdf.



Children Unsupervised After School & Unmet Demand -

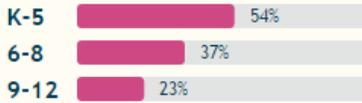
Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available



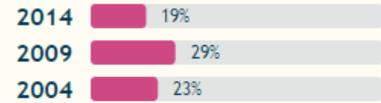
111,583 children in 2014

In 2014, 42% of Idaho's children would participate in an afterschool program if one were available, compared to 31% in 2009 and 32% in 2004.

Children who would participate if an afterschool program were available, by grade level



Children unsupervised after school



54,797 children in 2014

In 2014, 19% of Idaho's children are alone and unsupervised between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m.

STEAM IS EVERYWHERE

Free iPad Apps for Virtual Field Trips

Not every school has the resources necessary to take their students on an airplane . . . or spaceship. The iPad can bring the world to your students' fingertips in ways never before possible.

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Tech in the Early Years: What Do We Know and Why Does It Matter?

~From Fred Rogers Center blog

A new book is on its way out and is discussed in this short article from one of our favorite sites.

"The authors stress several important distinctions about technology and young children, many of which have been explored on this blog, including the importance of [developmentally appropriate practice](#); the important role of attentive, responsive [caring adults](#); the importance of [using media together](#); and the importance of using media to help kids engage in what they do best: [explore and discover through play](#) and hands-on activities."

[Continue Reading...](#)

HowToSmile.org – A Wealth of Math & Science Activities

How To Smile has a great blog, a badge system, and an easily accessible page full of [topics](#) to explore. Each activity is well laid out like this one:

Ponds Freeze in Winter -- Why Doesn't the Ocean?



ADD TO LIST
GO TO ACTIVITY

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
🗨️ 2

Description

In this activity, learners explore how salt water freezes in comparison to fresh water. Use this experiment to consider how pond animals survive cold winters in comparison to animals that live in the ocean. This resource includes information about freezing points as well as examples of how different animals respond to the winter cold.

Quick Guide

🕒 Preparation Time:	Under 5 minutes
✅ Learning Time:	1 to 2 hours
💰 Estimated materials cost:	1 cent - \$1 per group of students
📖 Age Range:	Ages 6 - 14
Resource Types:	Activity Demonstration Experiment/Lab Activity Model
Language:	English

Materials List (per group of students)

- 2 small paper cups
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup cold tap water
- pen/pencil/marker
- level space in the freezer

Source Institution



Source Collection



Keywords

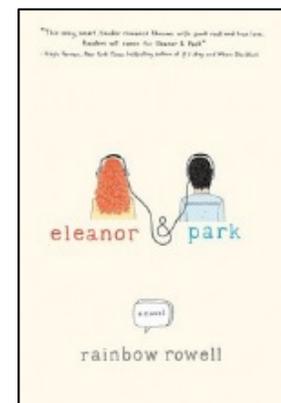
pond
ocean
water
freeze
winter
ice
temperature
hibernate
saltwater
freshwater
salinity
frozen

BOOK LOOK

YALSA'S Teens Top Ten List Announced

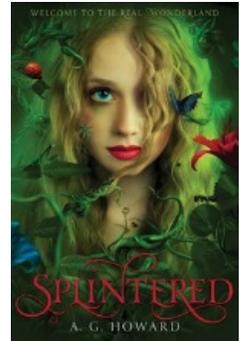
The Teens' Top Ten is a "teen choice" list, where teens nominate and choose their favorite books of the previous year.

1. *Eleanor & Park*, by Rainbow Rowell (Macmillan/St. Martin's Griffin)
2. *Splintered*, by A.G. Howard (ABRAMS/Amulet Books)
3. *The Rithmatist*, by Brandon Sanderson (Tor Teen)
4. *The 5th Wave*, by Rick Yancey (Penguin/Putnam Juvenile)
5. *Monument 14: Sky on Fire*, by Emmy Laybourne (Macmillan/Feiwel & Friends)



6. *Earth Girl*, by Janet Edwards (Prometheus Books/Pyr)
7. *The Testing*, by Joelle Charbonneau (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
8. *Steelheart*, by Brandon Sanderson (Random House/Delacorte Press)
9. *Siege and Storm*, by Leigh Bardugo (Macmillan/Henry Holt Books for Young Readers)
10. *The Eye of Minds*, by James Dashner (Random House/Delacorte Press)

To see book trailers for the winners, and to see a list of all 25 nominated books, go to www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten.



Talk Back: *We welcome your feedback on anything in The Scoop. Just email [Stephanie](#), [Staci](#), or [Erica](#) and we'll print your comments in The Scoop.*

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