

The Scoop

Fun, inspiring and innovative ideas
for library youth services

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August 9, 2018

SECTIONS

- Library to Library
- Young Adult Corner
- School Zone
- Upcoming Events
- Tips and Tools
- Summer Reading News
- Feature: K Ready Grants
- CE News You Can Use
- Diversity in Action
- Know the Numbers
- STEAM Is Everywhere
- Book Look

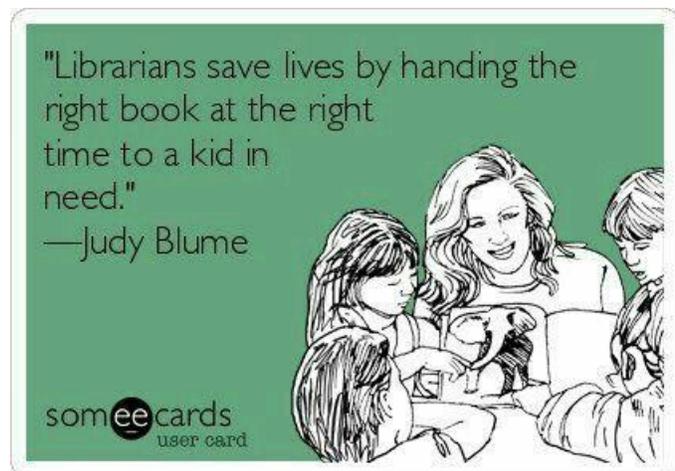
DATES & DEADLINES

- **Kindergarten Readiness Grant** applications due **September 14**.
- Apply now for a **Continuing Education Grant** for fall library conferences.
- **Idaho Early Years Conference:** Apply for financial assistance by **Sept. 7**
- **Summer Reading** reports due on **September 15**.
- **FRW application** open period: **Sept 15 – Oct 15**

WELCOME

By Staci Shaw

As summer reading winds down and preparations for the school year begin, we'd like to take a moment to acknowledge your hard work. From the photos you've sent in and shared on social media, it looks like Idaho libraries rocked summer reading this year! Thank you for working tirelessly, for your patience, for your energy and passion, for your creativity, and most importantly, for getting books in the hands of children.



The Read to Me team has been busy this summer getting programs ready to launch in September, preparing for School Library Access Minigrant training for school library staff, and wrapping up programs from last year. Kristina and I are working hard to ensure you all have what you need to start the year off, and we appreciate everyone's patience as we navigate with only the two of us at the helm this summer.

We hired a new Youth Services Consultant to take the position in September that Tammy Hawley-House vacated when she moved to the CE Consultant position. We'll introduce you to this amazing person in the September issue of The Scoop.

We look forward to supporting our rock star library staff in the coming year!

**IDAHO
LIBRARIANS
ROCK!**

LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

We've seen stranger things...

~Submitted by April Blankenship, Branch Manager, Kamiah Community Library

Teens and adults at Kamiah Community Library helped save Will from the Upside Down as part of their Summer Reading Program at an after-hours program on June 29. Using a BreakoutEDU kit based on the television series "Stranger Things" and clues that must be solved to unlock even more clues, the group split into teams to work on solving them all. Only one group of teen girls was able to solve them all under the time limit.



In addition to the Breakout, we streamed the series on our big screen TV, had Stranger Things Monopoly, and made Stranger Things-themed snacks. Everyone who attended took home a waffle keychain made on our 3D printer as a door prize (waffles are one of the character's favorite foods in the show). The response was so positive, the library plans on hosting this Breakout again in the fall.

Dead-icated to STEM

~ Contributed by Dyan Spence, Clearwater County District Library (Weippe), written by Erin Sellers

On Friday, July 13th, the Zombie Apocalypse took over the basement of the Weippe Library for our Make-It Space program. Three brave teams of young inventors built their best bridges out of the limited materials given to them. Periodically, they would have to face a new twist, like getting bit by a zombie while on a quest for new material. Connor Cox and Zarek Cochrell emerged victorious, with their bridge holding the most books.



YOUNG ADULT CORNER

From YALSA (Young Adult Library Services Association)

New YALSA Report on Making Continuing Education Better for Library Staff

Library staff do important work and they deserve support! [Read](#) our recommendations for supporting library workers through continuing education (CE) to enhance services for/with teens. Be sure to check out page 24 for strategies library staff can use to take charge of your own CE! This report is the product of an IMLS National Forum Grant. [Access](#) the full report and the executive summary [here](#).

Have an Innovative Idea? Present it at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference!

Now through **Aug. 31**, YALSA is accepting [program proposals](#) for the 2019 ALA Annual Conference. To submit your proposal, please use this [online form](#). Please note that the form requires you to use your ALA log-in to access it.

YALSA Introduces New Innovation in Teen Services Award

YALSA has announced its new [Innovation in Teen Services Award](#), which aims to annually recognize a member who has demonstrated a commitment to creating innovative library services for and with the teens in their community. One recipient will be named annually and will receive a \$500 monetary award. Eligible individuals can [apply](#) by December 1 of each year.

Register for the Symposium Early and Save \$50!

Registration for our 2018 YA Services Symposium, which takes place in Salt Lake City, UT, Nov. 2 -4 is going on now. Check out the [preliminary schedule](#) and the additional ticketed events such as an author luncheon, pre-conferences, and more. [Register](#) early by **Sept. 15** and save. It is advised to book your [hotel](#) early, as rooms have sold out in past years.

Upcoming YALSA Activities & Events

August 15: Voting for the 2018 Teens' Top Ten begins

August 23: Community & Family Engagement Twitter chat; <http://bit.ly/2kn8HYU>

Sept. 15: Early Bird Registration closes for the symposium; <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium>



Teen Read Week is October 7-13

It's not too early to start planning for Teen Read Week. Encourage teens to think and read outside of the box with this year's theme, "It's Written in the Stars." Promote out-of-this-world adventures and the many resources your library has available to young adults

[Learn More](#)

SCHOOL ZONE

Hiatus

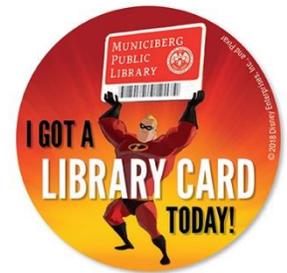
The School Zone is on Summer Hiatus, but we'll look forward to sharing lots of great Back-to-School resources next month!



UPCOMING EVENTS

September Is Library Card Sign-Up Month

September is the perfect time for public and school libraries to collaborate and work to get students signed up for library cards. Check out some great resources and information at the [Library Card Sign-Up Month](#) website. The artwork this year features The Incredibles!



Idaho Out-of-School Network Summit

This conference is for those who run programs or offer services that youth may access out-of-school: summer, afterschool, camps, or even online. The theme this year is "Learn. Connect. Play. Get Your Game On!" The Summit is full of motivating speakers, informative and engaging workshops, time to network with others in the field and potential partners, plus fun door prizes.

Registration is \$65 before August 24; \$75 after.

Banned Books Week

Celebrate Banned and Challenged Books September 23 – 29, 2018. Tools and resources at <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/>.

Outreach for Underserved Children applications open soon

To provide greater clarity and deeper impact, ICfL's Year-Round Underserved program has undergone some revisions and a slight name change. Now called Outreach for Underserved Children (Fall & Spring), this program provides resources to enhance outreach visits, reaching those children who cannot get to their local library and increasing the number of families with access to books in their homes during the school year. Due to increasing requests for this program, the affordability of certain types of books, and ICfL's desire to stress formal community partnerships and meaningful interaction between library staff and parents/caregivers, we have finalized some new program requirements and book limitations for this program this fiscal year. Check them out [here](#). The updated application will become available on our website on August 15th for events on or after September 1st.

[Learn More](#)

International Games Week

International Games Week is an initiative run by volunteers from around the world to reconnect communities through their libraries around the educational, recreational, and social value of all types of games.

Libraries can host a gaming event during or near November 4 – 10, 2018 to be eligible for registration for donations.

[Learn More](#)



TIPS AND TOOLS

Beyond the School Day: Afterschool Meals 101

Thursday, August 16, 1:00 pm Eastern

This free webinar, hosted by the Food Resource and Action Center (FRAC), may be of interest to many libraries:

The Afterschool Meal Program is an important source of federal funding to provide children a supper and a snack at after-school programs. Join this webinar to learn the basics of the Afterschool Meal Program as well as tips and tricks for establishing successful programs – including working with school districts, moving from snacks to suppers, and tapping into existing afterschool program funding. Participants will

leave this webinar with the resources and knowledge needed to launch an afterschool meal program that reduces childhood hunger and draws children into quality programming.

[Learn More / Register](#)

SUMMER READING NEWS

Summer Reading Report due September 15

As you wrap up your summer reading programs, remember that your summer reading report is due **September 15**. You will access the report on our [Summer Reading web page](http://libraries.idaho.gov/summer-reading) (<http://libraries.idaho.gov/summer-reading>).

All libraries that submit their summer reading report by September 15 will be entered into a drawing for a 2019 CSLP "Universe of Stories" t-shirt!

A [copy of the report can be accessed here](#) so that you have all the questions ahead of time. To make things easier, download a Word version of the preview questions from our summer reading web page. Type responses into this document, then cut and paste your responses into the online report. This way you can work on it a little at a time or allow other staff members to add their data to it as a shared document.

If you did not offer a summer reading program this year, simply go to the report link above, fill out your contact information, and check "No" on the first question, "Did your library host a summer reading program this year?" You will be redirected to the end of the report. If your library does not submit a report, you will receive a follow up phone call in September.



If you are participating in any Bright Futures Outreach programs (Parent Outreach, Strengthening School Partnerships, and Summer Outreach to Underserved Children), the results from those programs will also need to be included in this report.

To see which Bright Futures programs your library is participating in this year, [click here](#).

(Reminder: To participate in a Bright Futures program this year, your library also agreed to **formally evaluate your SRP**.)

A handy data tracking sheet is available on our summer reading resources website under **Evaluation Tools**; it can be customized, and you can use it from year to year to compare participation numbers.

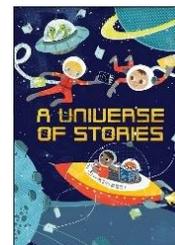
News from CSLP

Looking ahead to 2019

I know most of you have just wrapped up your 2018 program and are eagerly compiling your data for your summer reading report; however, I thought I'd share a sneak peek at what's coming for next year:

"A Universe of Stories"

Here is a [preview of the poster designs](#) for early literacy, children's, teen, and adult programs. Other promotional products and manual artwork will include similar/related designs.



[Leeza Hernandez](#) is the creator of the children's/early literacy artwork.

2019 is the 50th anniversary of one giant leap for mankind, the [Apollo moon landing](#).

Call for Ideas

The Collaborative Summer Library Program's (CSLP) call for programming ideas for the 2020 "Imagine Your Story" theme remains open. The 2020 CSLP program will focus on fairytales, fantasy, and mythology. Ideas submitted should embrace the theme and be complete enough to share. Programming ideas for children, teens, and adults are welcome, as well as intergenerational programs. If your submission is chosen for the 2020 manual, your name and library system will be listed in the chapter which includes your submission. Submit your great ideas:

www.cslnreads.org/2020-idea-submission

Artist for 2023

CSLP announced that the artist for the 2023 program year will be [Frank Morrison](#). Morrison is the award-winning illustrator of many books for young readers, including *Jazzy Miz Mozetta* by Brenda C. Roberts, winner of the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent; Katheryn Russell-Brown's *Little Melba and Her Big Trombone*, a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor book; and Gene Barretta's *Muhammad Ali*. Before becoming a children's book illustrator and fine artist, Morrison toured the globe as a break-dancer. He lives in Georgia with his family. The 2023 theme and slogan are TBD and will be chosen with librarian input as in previous years.

To see a list of all upcoming themes, slogans, and artists visit www.cslnreads.org.

FEATURED:

Kindergarten Readiness Grants from ICfL

Many of you are now aware that ICfL is piloting a new grant to help libraries and their communities prepare young children for kindergarten. Details about the grant and how to apply can be found at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/kindergarten-grant>.

Grant applications are due September 14, 2018

Background:

Roughly half of Idaho children entering kindergarten each year are not able to identify at least 11 letters of the alphabet. Factors contributing to this deficiency include lack of quality preschool educational experiences, lack of access to books and other print materials, lack of awareness by parents and caregivers of what children should know and be able to do before entering kindergarten, and parents'/caregivers' lack of resources to support the development of early literacy skills (education, transportation, financial means, distance from programs or sites, and technology).

Library Services:

Idaho libraries are in an ideal position to help families and caregivers prepare their children for school. Libraries can provide access to books and preschool programming, internet connectivity and access to computers, and experience and expertise to support the development of critical skills. These resources can be provided through traditional in-house services and through outreach to nontraditional locations. However, many Idaho libraries have very limited budgets, and/or find it challenging to reach the families who are in the greatest need of their services.

The Village Approach:

Studies are revealing that some of the most effective efforts to increase school readiness result from communities in which several key constituents come together and set a targeted goal, leveraging their resources to make a more effective and successful impact. And in many communities, two of the key constituents are the public library and school district.

Library-led Community Efforts:

The ICfL pilot kindergarten readiness grants are intended to support libraries' efforts to prepare the four-year-olds in their communities for school, by partnering with the school district or other key constituents to increase access to books and library services for families with limited access, support parents'/caregivers' abilities to be their child's first and best teacher before kindergarten, and increase access to free, quality preschool experiences and resources for young children.

Allowable Expenditures:

- Programs focused on kindergarten readiness for four-year-olds that provide blended learning opportunities (time to socialize with peers, hands-on learning opportunities, introduction to digital learning tools, etc.)
- Devices and mobile hot spots for families to check out to access Smarty Ants™, Tumblebooks™, and other early learning resources
- Dedicated children's computers for the library to facilitate access to Smarty Ants™, Tumblebooks™, and other early learning resources
- Outreach events; taking early literacy programming to where young children and their families gather
- Waiving overdue fines for children (not to exceed 25% of grant award)
- Non-resident library card fees
- Library card materials

- Public Relations materials
- Personnel, especially native Spanish-speakers, for programs and outreach
- Parent & family events (noting that food is not an allowable expense)
- Summer reading / out-of-school reading support
- Community audits or surveying parents of preschoolers
- Translation of materials/signage into other languages
- Other materials and/or services that will support your community plan to increase early literacy

Non-allowable Expenditures:

- Grant funds spent on personnel cannot be used to fulfill regular institution salary costs. Personnel will be required to document time spent working on the grant project to verify that costs are true, accurate and not double-billed to the grant and normal operational costs.
- No more than 25% of the grant funds can be spent to waive overdue fines for children.
- Grant funds cannot be spent on construction or other capital improvements.
- Grant funds cannot be spent on food or snacks.

Innovative Solutions

To help get your creative juices flowing, here are some models from around the country that address school readiness. These examples are by no means the only community solutions that are effective; think about what might work in your unique community, and how the public library can lead the effort:

Mobile Libraries:

[Gaining Ground Bus, Tulsa Oklahoma](#): Gaining Ground is a nonprofit started by teachers to deliver books to underserved neighborhoods in their district, to encourage summer reading.

[Operation Sweet Reads, Winston-Salem, North Carolina](#): The Sweet Reads truck will go through neighborhoods in Winston-Salem to engage local children with ice cream and books, helping build relationships between children and local officers while at the same time promoting literacy and education.

Campaigns:

[Countdown to Kindergarten, Boston, Massachusetts](#): Countdown to Kindergarten engages families, educators and the community in a citywide effort to enhance early learning opportunities and to support the transition into kindergarten. Countdown to Kindergarten is a unique collaboration among the Boston Public Schools, the Office of Mayor Marty Walsh and more than two dozen public and private organizations.

[Too Small to Fail](#): Too Small to Fail, an initiative of the Clinton Foundation, is leading a public awareness and action campaign to promote the importance of early brain and language development and to empower parents with tools to talk, read, and sing with their young children from birth. See their [Community Campaign Guide](#) for cities and localities interested in building or augmenting early brain and language development campaigns.

Leaders Library Card Challenge: A national effort to ensure that every child enrolled in school has access to the valuable learning resources available at public libraries. Launched in 2015 by President Obama as part of his ConnectED Initiative, the Library Card Challenge grew out of a belief that more intentional collaboration among chief elected officials, school superintendents and library directors could improve education outcomes for all students and begin to close achievement gaps and create a framework for an integrated approach to education. Participation in the Library Card Challenge begins with a letter of commitment signed by the chief elected official, school superintendent and library director. (How could your library modify this challenge to focus on families with four-year-olds?)

Utah Kids Ready to Read videos: Part of a large campaign, these videos are a fun way to involve the community in providing resources and developing awareness for early literacy. See songs, rhymes, fingerplays and more, performed in various languages by doctors, dancers, educators, park rangers, performers, and even their state librarian!

Curriculum and Programs:

READY! for Kindergarten: READY! provides parents and caregivers with tools and activities to optimize children's natural curiosity and nurture learning and development. There are six locations in Idaho that are currently hosting workshops, and some libraries are actively partnering with these sites.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten: The 1000 Books Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity which operates the nationwide 1000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge. Parents and caregivers keep track of the books that they read to their children, using log sheets, journals, or an App. The 1000 Books Foundation provides useful information and resources to parents and caregivers and enables libraries, schools, churches, and other non-profit entities to host challenges in their local community.

ReadyRosie: ReadyRosie is an early education tool that helps families, schools, and communities across the nation deepen and scale their family engagement efforts. Their tools leverage the power of video modeling, family workshops, professional development opportunities, and mobile technology to build powerful partnerships between families and educators, resulting in *Ready Families*, *Ready Educators*, *Ready Children*.

SmartyAnts: A free reading readiness subscription for Idaho 4-year-olds. This program can be used on computers, iPads, and Smartphones, and helps children practice early literacy skills such as letter identification and phonological awareness. See this webinar about how your library can promote this program with families and preschools in your area. [See this toolkit of resources](#) for easy signage, communication, and promotional tools.

More!

We'll continue to add models and examples to our website. If you know of great collaborations that are happening, please send them our way so we can share them with the Idaho library community.

Pilot Year

Applications in this first year will be ranked on the quality of the partnerships being leveraged, the need of the community, and the estimated impact of the grant project. Be sure to think about how the project's outcomes can be measured, as this will also be a key component in the ranking process.

We look forward to helping libraries collaborate within their communities to help more Idaho children get ready for kindergarten!

Questions about the grant can be directed to staci.shaw@libraries.idaho.gov.



CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

The latest info from Infopeople & our new CE Consultant

Want to learn something new? We want to help!

While ICfL offers a number of in-person trainings and workshops, we also recognize the value of self-paced reflective learning. It is in this spirit that we offer to staff working in Idaho libraries the opportunity to participate in a class through Infopeople.

Take a look at the [upcoming offerings](#):

- Effective Time Management for Busy Library Staff
- Emotional Intelligence in the Library Workplace (part2)
- Reader's Advisory: Books and Beyond
- Communication Is More Than Words
- Children's Services Fundamentals
- Library Grants 101

If you are interested in taking a class, you can apply for consideration [here](#). We will contact you with details after review of your application. A commitment to finish the course and to provide ICfL with post-course feedback at one- and six-month intervals is required. If you have any questions, please contact [Tammy Hawley-House](#), your new Continuing Education Consultant. Funding for this continuing education opportunity is made possible with IMLS funds.

Assistance Available to Attend Idaho Early Years Conference



The [Idaho Early Years Conference](#) is a two-day event for early childhood educators, practitioners, parents, health professionals, library staff, and library trustees. Registration is \$125.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) has two options available for funding assistance to library staff and trustees who wish to attend this conference.

[Learn More](#)

Become an Emerging Leader

The American Library Association (ALA) is now **accepting applications for the 2019 class of Emerging Leaders (EL)**.

The deadline to apply is August 31, 2018.

The ALA EL program is a leadership development program which enables newer library workers from across the country to participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity. It puts participants on the fast track to ALA committee volunteerism as well as other professional library-related organizations.

For more information, visit the [Emerging Leaders web page](#) or contact the EL project manager at emergingleaders@ala.org.



DIVERSITY IN ACTION

Don't-Miss Blogs from ALSC

Check out these great tips about serving diverse patrons in the library, written by librarians in the field for the Association for Library Services for Children (ALSC) Blog:

How to Address the Pre- and Early Literacy Needs of Young Children Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

July 2, 2018 ~ by Jill Rothstein, Chief Librarian at the New York Public Library's Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library: <http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2018/07/early-lit-kids-who-cant-see/>

Diversity in Children Services via Día Programs!

August 3, 2018 ~ Georgina Rivas-Martinez, Young adult and Youth Services librarian at the South Huntington Public Library in Long Island NY: <http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2018/08/diversity-in-children-services-via-dia-programs/>

Working with Teen Parents at Your Library: Where to Begin

August 4, 2018 ~ by Kathryn Woody, public service specialist in Henrico, Virginia: <http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2018/08/working-with-teen-parents-at-your-library-where-to-begin/>

Serving Children in Crisis

July 31, 2018 ~ by Jonathan Dolce, Branch Supervisor at Astor County Library (Lake County Library System) in Florida: <http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2018/07/serving-children-in-crisis/>



KNOW THE NUMBERS

Pew Study: Teens, Social Media and Technology

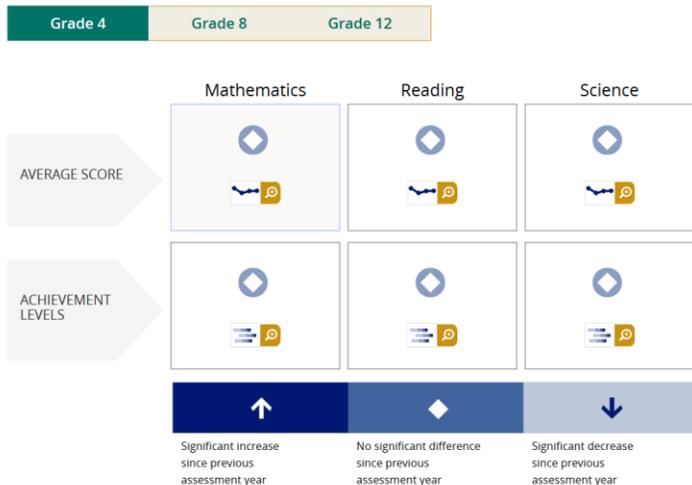
A recently released Pew Research Center survey finds that about 95% of U.S. teens (13-17) have access to a smartphone, 45% say they are online "almost constantly," and there is no clear consensus among teens about the impact of social media on their lives. Facebook use has dropped sharply among teens in the past 3 years, while YouTube, Instagram, and Snapchat are their most popular social media platforms. Read the report, **Teens, Social Media & Technology 2018**: www.pewinternet.org/2018/05/31/teens-social-media-technology-2018

2018 NAEP Scores

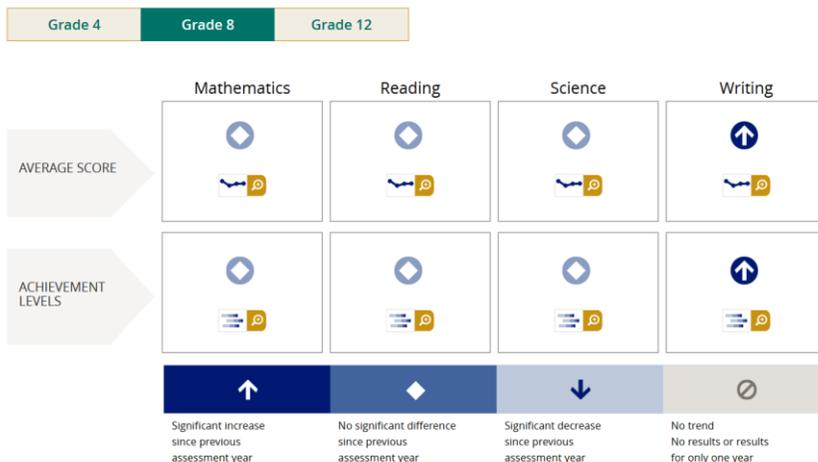
The **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)** is the largest nationally representative assessment of what students in the United States know and can do in subjects such as mathematics, reading, science, and writing. NAEP assessments are administered uniformly across the nation every 2 years. This permits NAEP to provide a clear picture of student academic progress over time. The results of the NAEP student assessments for 2017 have recently been released in [The Nation's Report Card](#). This report can be used to assess student progress, compare progress across states, and develop ways to improve education. The Nation's Report Card also provides important data for librarians to use in planning early literacy programs and other services for young children and their families.

Visit [Idaho's State Profile](#) on the NAEP website to explore Idaho student achievement, trends over time, and how Idaho compares to the nation. Here is a short summary:

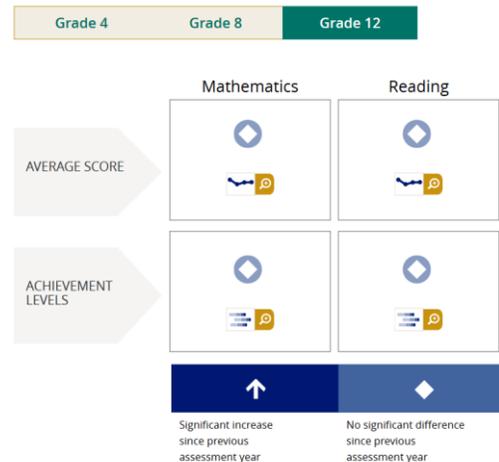
Idaho Performance Trends



Idaho Performance Trends



Idaho Performance Trends



Overall, student scores in Idaho remained about the same as in 2015; however, according to this [Idaho Ed News article by Kevin Richert](#), the gap between high-achieving and low-achieving students appears to be widening.

NAEP is a congressionally mandated project administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

STEAM

Idaho Commission for Libraries seeking “Emerging Trends in Libraries Consultant”

The Emerging Trends Consultant will support ICfL’s mission and provide consulting services, training, support, and programs to meet the needs of Idaho’s library community as it pertains to emerging trends in libraries. STEM programming and services, MakerSpaces, design thinking, and library services for Idaho’s aging population are examples of areas the person in this position will focus on immediately with other emerging technologies and trends to be considered in the future. The Consultant will work as part of the Commission’s Library Development team to ensure services are delivered in a quality manner.

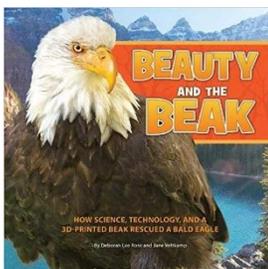
Applications for this position will be accepted through August 17, 2018.

See posting...

BOOK LOOK

Discover Great Places Through Reading

Every year, a list of books representing the literary heritage of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands is distributed by the Library of Congress’s [Center for the Book](#) during the [National Book Festival](#). Each book is selected by a Center for the Book [state affiliate](#) or state library and most are for children and young readers. Books may be written by authors from the state, take place in the state, or celebrate the state’s culture and heritage.

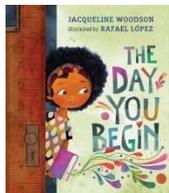


Idaho’s 2018 book is “Beauty and the Beak,” by Deborah Lee Rose and Jane Veltkamp (2017). “Beauty and the Beak” is a nonfiction picture book about Beauty, the wild bald eagle that made world news when she was illegally shot, rescued, and received a pioneering, 3D-printed prosthetic beak.

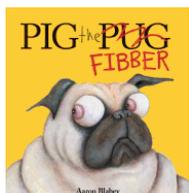
New Releases

Reviewing agencies: Publisher's Weekly (PW); School Library Journal (SLJ); Booklist (BL); Kirkus (K); Horn

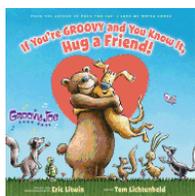
Picture Books



"The Day You Begin," by Jacqueline Woodson (Aug. 28). National Book Award winner Jacqueline Woodson and two-time Pura Belpré Illustrator Award winner Rafael Lopez have teamed up to create a poignant, yet heartening book about finding courage to connect, even when you feel scared and alone. (Starred reviews PW, K)



"Pig the Fibber," by Aaron Blabey (Aug. 28). When Pig hatches a plan to get at the hidden treats in the back of the closet, his lies get Trevor the sausage dog thrown out of the house. Finally he's all alone with those treats. What he didn't expect was the bowling ball.

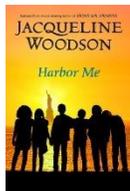


"If You're Groovy and You Know It, Hug a Friend," (Groovy Joe #3) by Eric Litwin (Aug. 28). Groovy Joe is back, and this time he's singing a groovy rendition of the classic favorite preschool song. This story will have little ones singing, dancing, and grooving along to a new favorite beat.

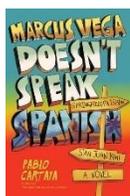


"A Big Mooncake for Little Star," by Grace Lin (Aug. 28). In this gorgeous picture book that shines as bright as the stars in the sky, Newbery Honoree and bestselling author-illustrator Lin shares a whimsical origin story of the phases of the moon. (Starred reviews K, PW, Horn, SLJ)

Middle Grade



"Harbor Me," by Jacqueline Woodson (Aug. 28). Jacqueline Woodson's first middle-grade novel since National Book Award winner "Brown Girl Dreaming" celebrates the healing that can occur when a group of students share their stories. (Starred reviews PW, K, BL)



"Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish," by Pablo Cartaya (Aug. 21). One boy's search for his father leads him to Puerto Rico in this moving middle-grade novel, for fans of "Ghost" and "See You in the Cosmos." (Starred review SLJ)



"Illegal," by Eoin Colfer (Aug. 7). Ebo is alone. His brother Kwame has disappeared, and Ebo knows it can only be to attempt the hazardous journey to Europe and a better life--the same journey their sister set out on months ago. But he refuses to be left behind in Ghana, so he sets out after Kwame and joins him on the quest to reach Europe. Ebo's epic journey takes him across the Sahara Desert to the dangerous streets of Tripoli, and finally out to the merciless sea. (Starred review PW, K, BL)



"City of Ghosts," by Victoria Schwab (Aug. 28). From #1 NYT bestselling author Victoria Schwab comes a sweeping, spooky, evocative adventure, perfect for fans of "Stranger Things" and "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children." (Starred review PW)

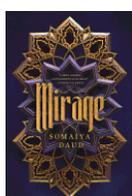
Young Adult



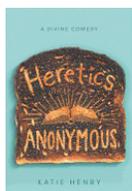
"Resistance," by Jennifer A. Nielsen (Aug. 28). Chaya Lindner is a teenager living in Nazi-occupied Poland, who has lost her entire family. Using forged papers and her fair features, Chaya becomes a courier and travels between the Jewish ghettos of Poland, smuggling food, papers, and even people.



"Darius the Great Is Not Okay," by Adib Khorram (Aug. 28). Darius doesn't think he'll ever be enough, in America or in Iran. Hilarious and heartbreaking, this unforgettable debut introduces a brilliant new voice in contemporary YA. (Starred reviews PW, K)



"Mirage," by Somaiya Daud (Aug. 28). Somaiya Daud's debut novel is an enriching, thrilling, and captivating epic fantasy inspired by the author's Moroccan heritage about a poor girl who must become the body double of a princess of a ruthless empire. (Starred reviews SLJ, BL)



"Heretics Anonymous," by Katie Henry (Aug. 7). Put an atheist in a strict Catholic school? Expect comedy, chaos, and an Inquisition. The "Breakfast Club" meets "Saved!" in debut author Katie Henry's hilarious novel about a band of misfits who set out to challenge their school, one nun at a time. (Starred reviews K, PW)

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