

## Teen Read Week 2011 Highlights

Teen Read Week 2011 is over, but the posters live on! 36 public libraries and 29 school libraries participated in either the Picture It With Posters project or held a Teen Read Week event. In total, almost 4,800 Idaho teens joined in; an increase of more than 50% from TRW 2010.

Here's just a few of the fun activities that occurred that focused on reading and integrated the 2011 TRW theme: Picture IT @ Your Library.

- We had a teen craft called "Create a Snapshot of Your Life" where they created collages reflecting their interests (or just pretty pictures). We used magazine cut-outs, letter art, and some scrapbooking materials. Next we held an Open Mic Night, where teens came in to sing along to their favorite songs, sing original songs, play guitar, etc. We held the event in our meeting rooms, with the lights out except for spotlights on the performer. We offered snacks and candy. Many teens performed and we still had a long list of those who wanted to perform when we finally had to call it a night!
- We held a "how many words can you read" contest that lasted the month of October. With our junior high population, to date, we read over 30,000,000 words and still have a week to go. We also had a "books to movies" display that brought a lot of students in and a World War II display.
- We had a teen activity where we invited a local photographer to come and talk to the teens about cameras, (how to decide what kind you wanted to use, Point and shoot or a camera where you choose the settings) , how to use your camera and how to take good pictures. Then she let them use her camera to take pictures of each other and showed them how motion could be captured on that camera. And of course we had food. If you feed them they will come!
- We watched a movie based on a book - I Am Number Four, & we had a video scavenger hunt with flip video cameras.
- We had some of our student aides learn how to use the program in advance so they could show other teens how to create posters. We set up a "green screen" in the computer lab and had the students take pictures of each other and then they used the computers in the lab to create their posters. We had several new ideas spring from the event. A couple of students are members of state

champion sports teams and are planning to take pictures of their team members with their favorite books, create posters and hang them in the halls of the high school. These students would like to develop the project enough that they can use it as a Senior Project, which will be required for all students beginning with the graduating class of 2013. Our participation was low initially, but interest is increasing as posters are becoming public.

- We used teen read week this year as an opportunity to introduce our new " YA Traveling Collection". Our new high school Librarian worked with us to create flyers for the teachers to let them know the collection is there. She cleared off a prominent shelf for us to display the books, and along with the media class created a new bulletin board to display the "Read" posters the students created. We estimate an average of 75 students per day checking out the posters and browsing the new collection.
- We had a fantastic Teen Read where we focused on a teen photography contest. We just built our new library and needed art to decorate the Teen room. The Garden Valley Youth Advisory Bard came up with the idea to have a teen photo contest in conjunction with teen read to encourage teens that might not come into the library to start to engage with the library. We had 12 youth age 10-17 each submit 3 photos each for 36 total photos. Of these 12 youth, five had never been engaged with library activities before. We now have the top 8 photos hanging in our library and the other photos are on the library computers as screen savers. We also took photos of local youth to make teen read posters for the teen room. Due to the hiring of our children's librarian (we have not had one for a couple of years!) we have not yet printed the posters. As soon as the children's librarian has had a chance to adapt to her new job we will work on printing the posters out.
- We took pictures of all the teachers in the High School and students in Library Science and plastered the school with BHS READS posters! We had a local author come and read from his newly released "creative biography", had a movie night and created a montage of book trailers we had created last year, and showed on the wall of the library.
- We had a poetry slam, the 2nd annual for TRW. In cooperation with the school, we get grades 7 through 12 to write poems with a theme, this year the theme was picture it (or images). The poems were judged and winning poems were read by their authors at a special event at the Roxy Theatre. After the winning poems were read we hosted an open mike session.

View all the poster [submissions](#) and get some creative ideas for using the ALA READ poster software because Teens and Technology 2012 is just around the corner, and we have great workshops lined up to use technology for both teen programming and marketing. Stay tuned for more details!