Welcome

“If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.” ~ Anne Bradstreet

And that seems to be a good quote for April, 2009. Best wishes to all for a happy spring.

May is Get Caught Reading Month! What are you reading? Send your titles to Peggy, Stephanie or Staci and we'll include them in the May issues. We'll even enter your name for a fun Summer Reading prize drawing!

Meet Susan Long

Susan Long is the director of the *Salmon River Public Library* in Riggins where she has worked for the past two and a half years. Susan also serves as the Deputy City Clerk in Riggins. Luckily for Susan, the library and city hall are located in the same building which saves a few steps as she often has to switch hats!

Riggins is located smack-dab in the middle of the state and has a population of 410 people. “We have 140 children in the school system here and more than half of the population uses the library on a regular basis,” Susan said.

Susan is a long-time library user and ran the “tiny tots” program as a volunteer when her children were little and loved it. She said her favorite part of her job now is “working with the kids.” She enjoys reading to them and giving them books.

Although the library does now have access to paid substitute staff and has some active volunteers, Susan is basically a one-person librarian and does it all. She orders and processes all the books, trouble-shoots computer problems, does a regular storytime, participates in the Read to Me Jump Start Program, facilitates an adult reading program, and is working on another big summer reading program. This is the second year the Salmon River Public Library has participated in the First Book program. This year they are partnering with the Lewis-Clark Early Childhood Program and Riggins Elementary to reach over 80 children. Susan says she loves the program and also attends the parent meetings at the elementary school and Head Start to promote early literacy. The library also got new carpet and a mini-makeover this winter and her other duties keep her on her toes.

Her favorite children’s author is Dr. Seuss. “I love the rhyming and his bright and fun books.” As a child, she enjoyed books by Laura Ingalls Wilder and Dr. Seuss. A few titles she’s read recently include *The Secret*, by Beverly Lewis, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, by Khaled Hosseini, *Whisper of Evil*, by Kay Hooper, and *Run for Your Life*, by James Patterson and Michael Ledwidge.
When she’s not at the library or city hall, Susan can be found doing activities with her kids. She also enjoys reading and crocheting. Her favorite flavor of ice-cream is licorice.

[Editor’s Note: If you’re ever driving through Riggins and have time to stop, be sure to check out the Salmon River Public Library. They have the river in their back yard and the library is always busy, especially in the summer when river guides and outdoor enthusiasts check their e-mail and get their recreational reading from the library along with a big summer reading program for the area kids. It’s always fun to see what Susan is doing for that community.]

**Library to Library**

✏️ **Weippe Library gets nice write up in Library Hotline**

The two finalists for Best Small Library in America Award will receive conference costs for two library representatives to attend the 2010 PLA meeting and award celebration. Weippe Public Library and the Pinewoods Library in Athens were the two national finalists. Here’s what the Hotline said:

“At Weippe, director Terri Summerfield serves a town of 416 and a service area of 1,000 people. This tiny library in Idaho’s mountains packs series programming into a 42-hour weekly schedule, pulled off thanks to critical partnerships with the city and the local Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee to use a vacant church for the Weippe Discovery Center, now home to both the library and visitors’ center. The library offered a wireless provider a spot on the roof for an antenna in exchange for the waiver of the library’s phone and Internet fees, saving the library money and making high-speed access available to all. Also a draw: a tech-savvy Teen Zone, 14 PACs, and programs for all ages.”

*Congratulations Terri and the staff at Weippe! You make Idaho proud!*

✏️ **Read to Me Success Stories**

In our continuing series on sharing success stories from Read to Me program sites around the state, this issue features:

**Kuna District Library**
Contact Person: Sara Pemberton, Program Specialist
kunalibprograms@yahoo.com
“Disco dancing with Dr. Seuss? Baking cupcakes in daycares? Dogs in the library? Yeah, that's Kuna, alright. This year, we've built up our connections with local daycares by continuing our traveling daycare storytime program and adding in literacy kits funded with Read to Me mini-grant dollars. We also had a blast practicing our dreadful pirate voices with school visits in the fall and assemblies in May. Young adults have had big fun with Wii gaming, gross-out food challenges, and murder mystery parties. Younger crowds have really enjoyed Mini Monet process art programming -- so much so that we had to expand our offerings by 50 percent,” Sara said. The photo at the right shows the Kuna staff during the 2008 Family Reading Week.

The Kuna library was also a recipient of a $4,000 Wal-Mart Foundation grant for their Gaming Programs for Kids and Teens. The library will expand video gaming programs to reach more children (6-9, 10-13, 14+ and families) and then integrate those programs with the children’s and young adult book collections. Booklists will be available to help match a child’s gaming interest to books with similar themes. Highlights include:

- setting up in a large community room, leaving room for tables around the perimeter for board games, card games, and reading zones,
- bringing additional gaming magazines into the program room during gaming sessions,
- setting up a gaming wiki where kids can add tips and information about the games they are playing, and
- providing materials for kids to create their own games.

**Caldwell Public Library offers April Showers program**

Children had the chance to get close and personal with plants during a recent Saturday program at the Caldwell Public Library. Called April Showers, the interactive hands-on program was co-sponsored by the University of Idaho Canyon County Extension Service. Kids learned how plants get water, what they look like inside and how they sprout from seeds. The program was designed for elementary-age students, but preschool age children were also encouraged to attend.

**More Día Programs Planned by Idaho Libraries**

**Nampa Public Library**
On May 2, 09, at 10:15 am, the library will host a Family Fiesta Storytime with rhymes, stories, songs, activities and crafts for the whole family.

**Hayden Branch of Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries**
On Thursday, April 30, from 10 am to 2 pm, the library will provide a day of fun activities at no charge for children in the community ages 0 to 8. In addition, community partners will have resource materials available for the adults attending the event. Partners include Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries, Kootenai Head Start, Mountain States Early Head Start, Panhandle Health District, North Idaho AEYC, Idaho Stars, KMC Safe Kids, ICARE, St. Vincent DePaul, Art on the Edge,
Project CDA and the University of Idaho Nutrition Program. Activities include a bookwalk, puppet show, photo booth, farm themed art projects, pig slop (make your own trail mix), bread in a bag, make your own butter, hook a book, open play area and horse play.

Planning a Día event? Be sure to register on the ALSC website, Día’s official home.

Want to share your library’s events? E-mail text and photos to Peggy, Stephanie or Staci and we’ll include them in an upcoming issue! (Remember to get photo release forms signed for youth under 18.)

Young Adult Corner

Cool furniture and great ideas help revamp alternative schools

Pam Rybus, the Alternative School Teacher/Librarian at the Meridian School District, has a lot of energy. You may remember reading about her trip to Saudi Arabia or hearing her talk about her trip at the Idaho Library Association conference in Caldwell. She was also the recipient of a $18,000 Library Services and Technology Act grant this past year that was matched with $10,000 from the Meridian School Foundation and a recycled materials grant from Sanitation Services, Inc.

Pam is the librarian for five alternative schools is the Meridian School district. Her grant project created a library space in a couple of these locations, and expanded or improved the library space in the others. She is also working to teach students how to select appropriate library material and help them develop information literacy skills with hands-on projects.

Her grant application tells a little about what it took to get to this point. “When I began my job as librarian at the five alternative schools it seemed overwhelming. There was much that needed to be done just to get the libraries functional and up to date. First, I needed to organize each library and process each book. Prior to having a librarian most of these schools had a small library but the books were outdated and in disarray. At the same time I knew I needed to promote reading to these hard-to-reach students. I soon discovered that the teachers and students were not aware of the services a librarian could provide. In addition to organizing the collection, I worked hard to ‘sell’ myself and what I could offer...
the teachers and students. After two years of work, I can say that each school has an organized and much more current collection.”

Pam showed in her grant application that circulation has steadily increased and she had received other grants to build the collections and bring in authors and programs to get the students interested in reading. Pam’s grant application also showed that more work needed to be done with information literacy skills and involving students in hands-on projects to get them more involved in the library. A small part of the grant involved revamping the libraries to make them more teen-friendly and using as many “green” materials as possible.

This article shows a few photos of the great “new” furniture and materials she was able to get for the libraries. “I found information on the Internet about the furniture to begin with. I then found a local builder, Marc Peterson, who built them for me. The book ends were made by Amy Armstrong’s father. I traded for the skateboards (the top part is called the deck) with our students. I would trade fruit, drinks, or food for a used plank. The snowboards were purchased by my builder. I also had a magazine rack made from recycled metal. I worked with Women of Steel in Garden City.”

Pam suggests keeping ideas in a folder. “I got the magazine rack idea from a newspaper article about a funky bookshop. I saw the snowboard furniture at sporting goods store and then searched online. The kids love it and I get a lot of comments about the furniture. The most common ones are ‘whoa dude’ and ‘that is cool.’ But many comment that the furniture is what they like… not what adults like,” Pam said.

For more information about the project or the furniture, contact Pam at Rybus.Pamela@meridianschools.org. If you have some ideas you’ve used for your teen spaces, please share them with The Scoop!

Book Look

🌿 PNLA announces 2009 Young Readers Choice Award winners

The winners have been announced. They are:

Junior division – The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, by Kate Dicamillo.
Senior division – *New Moon*, by Stephenie Meyer.

Be sure to check out the 2010 nominees at www.pnla.org/yrca/index.htm.

2009 Summer Reading Lists For Kids and Teens

Elizabeth Kennedy, a blogger for About.com Guide to Children's Books, has compiled a great 2009 Summer Reading Lists For Kids and Teens from some excellent educational sources. The books on these lists are ones children and teens will enjoy reading year-round. Most of the reading lists are annotated and arranged by grade level. You'll find children's books for youngsters to teens, including picture books and other children's books to enjoy together, children's fiction and nonfiction for middle readers, and young adult books for teens. Check it out at http://childrensbooks.about.com/od/forparents/tp/summer_reading.htm

Upcoming Events


Read to Me First Book provides children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books. The program provides a book a month for nine months for each participating child. First Book parents also receive a monthly newsletter, "The Bookworm," which suggests tips and strategies to support early literacy skills at home. In addition to providing children with books, a goal of the Read to Me program is to encourage contact between at-risk families and librarians, in order to promote local library services.

Upcoming Events:

May is Get Caught Reading Month – It is a nationwide campaign to remind people of all ages how much fun it is to read, but the campaign is promoted throughout the year. For more see: www.getcaughtreading.org/getcaughtreading.htm.

May is also Latino Book Month - Throughout the month of May, booksellers, librarians, and others in the book industry are encouraged to promote reading among Latinos in their communities, and to raise awareness of the rich variety of books authored by Latinos that are available, in both English and Spanish. Read more at www.publishers.org/main/Latino/latino_02.htm
May 11-17 **Children's Book Week** (May 11-17) The ALSC Public Awareness Committee has lots of free and creative ideas for celebrating using materials found in the Kids! @ your library® tool kit! In the toolkit, you'll find games and activities that will make planning easier than ever! Check out the reader's theater scripts of The Library Dragon and The Chicken and the Librarian. You'll also find a great Mad Lib game that will thrill your patrons! The tool kit can be found here: http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/initiatives/kidscampaign/kidstoolkit.cfm.

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**Summer Reading News**

**Bright Futures: Time to Think about Web 2.0**

Spring is such a busy time. Not only are youth services librarians visiting schools to promote summer reading and to reach parents of kindergarten children through Jump Start, but at least 70 libraries have committed to ramping up their website to deliver interactive features for summer reading. These libraries have pledged to include blogs, wikis, online registration, photo sharing, contests, documents [like reading logs, program schedules] to download, etc. for summer readers. For more information, visit the ICFL Bright Futures Web 2.0 page.

Here are some resources for those Web 2.0 applications:

- Bear Lake County District Library’s website. Director Mary Nate has graciously offered for anyone to use her website as a model. See it at: http://bearlake.lili.org/summer.
- WebJunction: http://id.webjunction.org/technology/cop
- SPLAT 101 http://splat.lili.org/splat101/intro
The Commission will make available a web banner for the “Be Creative” (see above) and “Express Yourself” themes. They will be available to put on public libraries websites in early May. Be looking for an announcement on LIBIDAHO and in The Scoop when they are available.

弁 How Do You Play a Kazoo?
That is a question we’ve heard from a few libraries. Here is a handout that explains the mystery.

弁 Fred Meyer’s “Books for Summer Readers”
Would you like free books for your summer readers? Public libraries have until May 1st to sign up for free paperback books to use as give-aways this summer. The Commission has been invited to apply for $15,000 to fund the “Books for Summer Readers” project which supplies free paperback books to Idaho public libraries hosting summer reading programs. We probably don’t know about funding until late May, and it will be early June before we can order books and ship them to libraries. We hope you will sign up for this wonderful resource by filling out a simple form on the summer reading website.

If funding is received, books will be ordered from Scholastic. The number of books each library receives will be based on participation listed on your 2008 summer reading report.

弁 Other Summer Reading Program Resources

Art Junction http://www.artjunction.org/index.php
Art Junction is designed to provide a safe and structured virtual environment for teachers and students to pursue artistic and educational goals. The site promotes art education practices that foster artistic expression and broadens children’s perspective on the role art plays in the lives of people around the globe. This eclectic site offers projects, context, and artistic inspiration for the inner artist in all of us (even the cat – see the “Draw Like a Cat” link).
Kids at Art www.kid-at-art.com
If you’re thinking of going green, check out one of their subpages that matches up trash with art projects.

School Zone

Idaho Library Association’s Idaho School Library Media Program of the Year

Glynda Pflieger, Teacher Librarian for the Melba School District sent a message through libidaho reminding teachers to nominate a fellow teacher-librarian for this annual award. Nomination forms can be accessed at www.idaholibraries.org/awards. She added:

“The ILA Awards committee is working on a rubric for all awards but with the end of the school year quickly approaching, teacher librarians should start thinking about submitting a fellow teacher librarian or take a minute to forward this to your classroom teachers and principals.

Idaho has many deserving teacher librarians that are working hard to integrate information and communication technology into the curriculum to improve student academic achievement.

Although the award needs to be updated with the new 21st century standards, please don’t let another year go by without recognizing the amazing work in school libraries across Idaho.”

Summer Reading Approaching Fast!

Most public libraries around the state are currently gearing up for this year’s summer reading theme, “Be Creative @ Your Library.” During the month of May, 88 libraries will be visiting 242 schools, handing out 80,000 kazoos to promote their summer reading programs. As a school librarian, here are some things you can do to help support your students over the summer:

- Invite your public librarian for a school visit.
- Have your class visit the local public library.
- Publicize to increase awareness of the 2009 Summer Reading Program in school newspaper on bulletin boards
on library and school web pages

- Place announcements on computer screen savers.
- Put bookmarks in books as students check out.
- Plan fall follow-up recognition for those who participated in the public library summer reading program.
- Promote the summer reading program and theme with faculty throughout the school. Use this as an opportunity to work with the art, music, drama, and dance teachers in your school to link library and their subject area resources and activities.
- Display student art work in your school library media center.
- Display the works of area artists in your school library media center.
- Ask for volunteers to creatively interpret the letters from the slogan BE CREATIVE @ YOUR LIBRARY and decorate it with whatever medium they prefer: markers, paint, photos, collage, etc. When finished, arrange them on a wall or tape to a string like a banner to spell out the summer’s theme.
- Display art books on easels.
- Set up a director’s chair as a reading corner and take pictures of summer readers.
- Ask local video stores to donate movie posters.
- Cover a styrofoam rectangle with a book jacket. Glue a lightweight paintbrush on the front. Above the brush write “Be Creative.” On the brush, write the words “@ Your Library.”

Did You Know?

- 45,850 kids in Idaho registered for summer reading programs in 2008
- 44% more children participated in summer reading through outreach programs in 2008 than they did in 2007
- 44% of Idaho kindergarteners were reading below grade level (fall 2008)
- 36% of 3rd graders were reading below grade level (Spring 2008)
- 13% of Idaho kids are Hispanic, and 41% of Hispanic 3rd graders were reading below grade level
- 53% of children in public school qualify for free or reduced lunch

Research shows ...

- Low SES (socio-economic status) children lose more reading skills over the summer than middle and upper SES children. They have the most to gain from participating in summer reading. (Karweit, Ricciuti, and Thompson, 1994)

- 61 percent of low-income families have no books at all in their homes for their children. (Reading Literacy in the United States, 1996. US Department of Education)
WASHINGTON STATE MAKES SCHOOL LIBRARY HISTORY
From School Library Journal, April 20, 2009

Three Washington Moms have helped make history again. For the first time, media specialists and library materials are now officially part of the state’s definition of basic education for "prototypical" schools.

After months of wrangling, Washington lawmakers late last night passed the basic education reform bill, which includes a permanent line item for school library materials—and an allocation of funds to pay for a certified librarian in every K–12 school by 2018. Read full story...


KNOW THE NUMBERS

NEW REPORT SHOWS LIBRARY USE IS GROWING DRAMATICALLY

The value of libraries in communities across the country continued to grow in 2008—and accelerated dramatically as the national economy sank and people looked for cost effective resources in a time of crisis, according to the American Library Association’s (ALA) annual State of America’s Libraries report, released as part of National Library Week, April 12-18, 2009.

U.S. libraries experienced a dramatic increase in library card registration as the public continues to turn to their local library for free services. More than 68 percent of Americans have a library card. This is the greatest number of Americans with library cards since the American Library Association (ALA) started to measure library card usage in 1990, according to a 2008 Web poll conducted by Harris Interactive.

The report also says library usage soared as Americans visited their libraries nearly 1.4 billion times and checked out more than 2 billion items in the past year, an increase of more than 10 percent in both checked out items and library visits, compared to data from the last economic downturn in 2001.

However, public funding did not keep pace with use, according to a survey conducted by the ALA. Forty-one percent of states report declining state funding for U.S. public libraries for fiscal year 2009. Twenty percent of these states anticipate an additional reduction in the current fiscal year.
ALA President Jim Rettig said, “As illustrated in the ALA’s State of America’s Libraries Report, in times of economic hardship, Americans turn to – and depend on – their libraries and librarians.”

Other key findings in the 2009 State of America’s Libraries report:

- Children are among the heaviest users of public-library resources. Children’s materials accounted for 35 percent of all circulation transactions, and attendance at library-based children’s programs was 57.8 million.

- Individual visits to school library media centers increased significantly at the schools that responded to both the 2007 and 2008 surveys: up 22.7 percent for the 50th percentile, up 12.5 percent for the 75th percentile, and up almost 25 percent for the 95th percentile. There were no major year-to-year differences in the responses with regard to the other variables.

- A survey of public, academic, school libraries and special libraries revealed that 40 percent of the 404 libraries that responded circulate games; PC games were the most frequently circulated type, offered by 25 percent, but the number of libraries circulating console and handheld games rose slightly from 2006 to 2007, while those circulating PC games and board/card games decreased slightly.

- The number of mobile library service vehicles continues to increase from more than 930 in 2008, vs. 825 nationwide in 2005.


### A Closer Look at the Title 1 Program

**Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged**

During the spring Read to Me meeting, participants had the opportunity to talk with teacher Carolyn Loffer about ways in which libraries can partner with Title I programs in their communities.

Title I is a federal program. It was originally enacted in 1965 as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The Title I section recognized that low-income families required additional academic support, and local educational agencies would be provided financial assistance in order to meet those needs. During the Bush Administration Title I was revised and included in the No Child Left Behind Act.

Title I funding is given to the states annually, to be used on programs that help disadvantaged students. There are several Title I programs: Title I-A focuses on improving the basic programs operated by local education agencies, such as schools, while other Title I programs focus on improving programs for special populations, such
as family literacy, migrant education, neglected and delinquent children, etc. Title I funds may be used to provide additional instructional staff, professional development, extended-time programs, and other strategies for raising student achievement in high-poverty schools.

No Child Left Behind brings greater accountability to Title I states, districts, and schools for improving the academic achievement of all students and turning around low-performing schools. These and other changes to the Title I program require all stakeholders in school communities to work together to help close achievement gaps and ensure that all students in Idaho can meet the state’s high academic standards. Public libraries offer many resources that can help support schools and individual students; however, many schools are unaware of these resources. During the spring Read to Me meeting, participants in Carolyn Loffer’s Conversation Café sessions brainstormed some ways in which libraries can partner with Title I programs:

- **Awareness**: Find out if your local schools/preschools are Title I schools. To be eligible for Title I funds, at least half of the enrolled students must be eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch rates. You can also view the Consolidated Plan for the current school year to see if your schools are eligible: [www.sde.idaho.gov/ConsolidatedPlan/manager/reports.htm](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/ConsolidatedPlan/manager/reports.htm)

- **Identify your audience**: Become familiar with the academic achievement levels of the youth in your service area. All public schools are required to post a “report card” on proficiency levels (test scores) and graduation/drop-out rates. You can view your district and/or individual schools’ report cards at [www.sde.idaho.gov/ipd/reportcard/SchoolReportCard.asp](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/ipd/reportcard/SchoolReportCard.asp). For additional information about elementary school-age children, examine your schools’ Idaho Reading Indicator scores, found at [https://www.sde.idaho.gov/ipd/iri/IriAnalysis.asp](https://www.sde.idaho.gov/ipd/iri/IriAnalysis.asp). The spring shortlist from the school will give you a good overall picture of how many children are reading below grade level.

- **Build relationships with Title I teachers**: Contact teachers and let them know about services your library can offer to children and families. Invite them in for special events or meetings at the library. During Family Reading Week, invite teachers to come in and read or be special guests for events. Put together a bibliography of library resources that may be helpful to them.

- **Partner with the local schools**: Your relationship with the Title I teachers can help strengthen the school partnership. Ask to be a part of school events such as Family Literacy Nights, Back-to-School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Kindergarten registration (Jump Start!), spring carnivals or fundraisers, PTA/PTO
meetings, etc. Work with the teachers and principal to send home library program information, such as Every Child Ready to Read family workshops, summer reading programs, or special family programs.

- **Consider dual site programming:** Offer Every Child Ready to Read workshops at the school, or contract with Title I teachers to facilitate the workshops at the library.

- **Summer programs:** Most schools are closed in the summer, but the public libraries are open. Work with Title I teachers to get students reading over the summer months by getting them involved at the library or outreach programs. Some schools offer Title I summer programs at the school. This is a great place to do some outreach as well. Consider a rotating collection for checkout or get involved in ICFL’s Underserved program for book giveaways.

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**Tips & Tools**

**Art Rights and Wrongs.** "This site created by 6th graders helps kids understand the importance of copyrights. There is advice from more than 20 museum and educational webmasters and publishers about getting permission for materials on the Internet. It features an interview and tour of the National Digital Library of the Library of Congress. The site gives many tips and tools for getting permission and acknowledging sources."

**Tips and Tools for Children's Book Week**

"Every child needs a safe place to fall - a place where he or she can explore things without worrying about failure and judgment. A library is one of those places. In a library you can learn by following your own nose, which is very different from someone telling you what you should learn. Once a kid learns a library is hers, to use as she wants, the world opens up., I've seen it happen. It happened to me."

~ Grammy-winning singer, songwriter, and storyteller, Bill Harley

Children's Book Week is coming up May 11-17, 2009. What will your library be doing to celebrate? If you need some ideas, check out ALA's Kids! @ Your Library Campaign Tool Kit. The kit includes programming ideas, downloadable PSAs, quotes, logos and line art, and more. Additional resources are available at Children's Book Week - be sure to click on the "For Teachers, Librarians, and Booksellers" box.
CE News You Can Use

As a member of the Idaho library community you are eligible to become a member of WebJunction Idaho and take free self-paced, online courses and interactive webinars.

30 Minute Webinar: Technology Services for Children

http://id.webjunction.org/programming-and-outreach/-/articles/content/47292014?OCLC_ARTICLES_getContentFromWJ=true

Originally presented February 17, 2009.

Discover best practices for libraries working with children and technology as presented by Kelly Czarnecki, a Technology Education Librarian at PLCM's ImaginOn -- a public library that is also a partnership with the Children's Theatre of Charlotte. She received Library Journal's Mover and Shaker award in 2007 for working with youth and technology. She writes a monthly column called the Gaming Life for School Library Journal. Kelly enjoys trying new things and making those 'aha!' moments happen with others when new things are discovered. ImaginOn's mission is to "bring stories to life through extraordinary experiences that challenge, inspire and excite young minds." (WebJunction, 2009)

Along with the link to the archived presentation there are links to a variety of other resources.

News Beyond Idaho

An extra scoop of fun for tweens at library

The Kalamazoo Public Library's sponsored an "Ice Cream Taste Off." The program, designed for youths entering grades five through eight, was held in July in honor of National Ice Cream Month. Participants were invited to taste different flavors of ice cream; vote for their favorites; and make old-fashioned sundaes. The program was free, and no registration was required. The Scoop editors thought that was a pretty simple and fun programming idea. And yes, we like our ice-cream too!

Here are a few facts about ice cream you can share with tweens or others during National Ice Cream Month (or really any time of the year!).

- Based on ice cream consumption figures, the top five individual flavors in terms of share of segment in the United States are: vanilla (30%), chocolate (10%), butter pecan (4%), strawberry (3.7%) and chocolate chip mint (3.2%). Source: The NPD Group’s National Eating Trends Services
- In 2006, total U.S. sales of ice cream and frozen desserts reached nearly $23 billion. Of that total, $8.9 billion was spent on products for "at home"
consumption, while $13.9 billion was spent on "away from home" frozen dessert purchases. Source: 2007 Dairy Facts/International Ice Cream Association

- Ice cream and related frozen desserts are consumed by more than 90% of households in the United States. Source: Mintel
- The United States leads the world in annual production of ice cream and related frozen desserts at about 1.6 billion gallons in 2006. Source: USDA
- In 2006, about 8% of the milk produced in the U.S. was used to make frozen dairy products. Source: USDA

(From www.idfa.org/facts/icmonth/page1.cfm, viewed 4/20/09)

Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in The Scoop. Just e-mail Peggy, Stephanie or Staci and we'll print your comments in The Scoop.

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