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Welcome

Welcome to the third issue of *The Scoop*. We now have over 160 subscribers evenly divided between public library and school library staff. Our goal is to double that number by the end of May. Help us out by telling a friend or making an announcement at a library meeting you attend. Let us know how you're spreading the word and we may be able to reward your efforts. Send an [e-mail](#) or give us a call with your ideas & contributions! The more the merrier!

Meet the e-Advisory Group

We want to introduce four more members of *The Scoop* advisory committee. All are active in their schools and community. One member sums it up when he comments, " I like that my job puts me at the center of the community."



Pam Crawford - Wendell Middle School, Wendell

Pam has been the Media Generalist for Wendell Middle School for 11 years. Three years of that were split with the Wendell Elementary Library. Other hats Pam currently wears include: the ISAT coordinator, the building Tech, and Annual Advisor. She serves on a number of committees, including: Grade Level Teams, District Drug Awareness, Character Ed, and Technology committees. She also manages all computer software the Middle School uses, except SASI. She has completed the classes for Windows certification and is active in the networking technology with the District Tech. Pam also served on the Freedom of Information Committee, School Library's Information Manual (SLIM) www.sde.state.id.us/instruct/docs/librarymediacenter/slim.pdf and the committee that updated SLIM.

Pam works with middle school students in grades 5 through 8. Fifth graders come to the library on a rotation schedule. Grades 6 through 8 have an advisory rotation schedule, meaning they each have their own scheduled time to come and check out books each week. With the exception of the advisory and 5th grade scheduled times, the library uses the open format. Grade levels, departments, and other groups schedule time for class research and projects. Teachers use the open library time for hands on to teach students how to use all library materials for research. This schedule meets the needs of their students.

Pam is a one-woman department-- the sole employee providing all school library and technology services. She also does story times with special needs students. Books in Spanish are available for both students and their parents. The small "donated" collection of novels in Spanish for the parents, is popular. Novel studies are part of the 5th grade library rotations. Library in-service is given to each student and staff member at the beginning of the year and as new members of the school community enroll.

Pam spent eight years as a substitute teacher/librarian, three years in the public library as an assistant, eight years as an elementary library aide, and 11 years as the Certified Wendell Middle School Librarian. When asked about her favorite part of her job, Pam answered, "Everything! However, when students ask me to choose a 'good' book for them to read, and knowing they will read it is awesome. My next most favorite thing: when they bring back the book, and ask me to help them find another, then another and another."



Carolyn Hotchkiss - Pierce Park Elementary School,

Boise

Carolyn has been at the Pierce Park Elementary School Library for 11 years, as the Library Media Paraprofessional. She works with kids from kindergarten through 6th grade providing library services which include: storytimes, book talks, puppet theater, library skills reinforcement, collection development, Accelerated Reader development, and crafts with book tie-in's. In addition to her time at Pierce Park, Carolyn also worked for two summers in Washington state. Carolyn says her favorite thing about her job, "is watching children's faces when storytelling or reading a wonderful book to them and watching them lock into the story world they are hearing. You know, we all have imaginations and we all love to use them!"

Carolyn has also presented as part of the State Library's Survival Skills I and II workshops for school library paraprofessionals and for the Summer Institute track for school library paraprofessionals in 2003 and 2004, where she shared hands on activities to get kids hooked on books. Carolyn says, "We have the honor and responsibility as library professionals to open up the world of literature, encourage research, and make the library a warm and welcoming sanctuary to all who enter."



Tony Hurst - Ada Community Library, Star

Tony has been with Ada Community Library for almost two years, and at the Star Branch of the library for a little less than one. He is currently the Youth Services Programs Coordinator and works with babies through seniors. He is particularly proud of his teen group, which has doubled and tripled since his arrival, and his toddler and preschool story times.

Tony goes to six day cares for out reach each month, as well as having three in house story times. He has a weekly school age activity and two teen activates

per week. He has worked in the library field two short, but fun years. His favorite thing is, "having my own fan club that loves to come to the library to see me." Tony says, "I like knowing half the people at local parades, all the teachers at the school, and most of the seniors at the senior center. I like that my job puts me in the center of the community."

Tony will be finishing his MLS this June and is thrilled to be able to put all his energy into his family and job instead. He says, "I love finding new music and movement songs and CDs. If you have fabulous song suggestions please send them my way!"



Library to Library

Kathy Chick, library director at the Eastern Owyhee County District Library, recommends the book *Totally Tubey's! 24 Storytimes with Tube Crafts* by Priscella Morrow (Upstart Books). The crafts are a fun way to enhance your storytime and programs with creative ideas for each month of the year. Each storytime includes an annotated bibliography, activity ideas and a Tubey pattern with instructions. The Tubey's are made from readily available and inexpensive materials: bathroom tissue tubes or tubes from other paper rolls. Grades PK-3. 88 pp. 8 ½ x 11" Softcover ISBN 1-57950-081-1 2002. The book retails for \$16.95 and Amazon has several used copies for less.



LeAnn Gelsky, youth services librarian at Hailey Public Library, shares a great deal on puppets that fit in great with this year's Summer Reading theme. The Smile Makers company has a medieval puppet set of 12 puppets for \$19.95. The puppets may be ordered online at www.smilemakers.com or the phone number is 1-800-825-8085. Search for puppets. They are cute!



The Library Goes 4th! The Larsen-Sant Public Library in Preston launched a new program this spring to reach 4th graders. They got the idea from Salt Lake Public Library and the funding for give-away books from the Friends of the Library and the Franklin County Reading Association. “We targeted the 4th grade because of statistics that show 4th grade is when there is a large decline in reading especially for boys,” library director Cloteele Dahle said.

There are a total of 204 4th graders in Franklin County. The first group of students will arrive at the library on April 13 and Friends of the Library members will help staff with a scavenger hunt and providing information. Here’s the text of the letter the 4th graders take home to their parents:

Dear Parent,

Today our class visited the Larsen-Sant Public Library. It was great!

The librarians gave us a great tour, helped us do a library scavenger hunt, and showed us how to find information that will help us in school. I received a book from the Friends of the Library and the Franklin County Reading Association. The title of my book is *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate Dicamillo.

If I go back to the library with a parent one more time, I can get another free book. All I have to do is fill out the library application form and have a parent sign it to get a library card. If I already have a library card, I need to take it with me when I visit the library again. Library cards are free and the library is a fun place. Maybe we can go together.

Sincerely,

(name of child)

What a great idea! The Library Goes 4th scavenger hunt is also a clever way to provide some information about the library in an action-packed format. The hunt sheet explains a call number and how to find the juvenile literature. Here’s a few of the items the 4th graders look for during their hunt:

- Libraries are a great place to browse. There is no limit to the information you can find here. As you explore the library today, please list five books you hope to check out.
- Find a computer catalog. Which author wrote *Fourth Grade Rats*?
- How many books about Sacagawea are listed in the library computer?

- How much is the fine for each day a book is overdue?
- How late is the library open on Saturdays?
- Find a mystery book. List the title and call number.
- Use the library computer to search for joke books. Write down a joke you found in a joke book. List the title and call number of the book you found.

In addition to the free book that each child gets to take home, they get a folder with the letter to parents, a list of age-appropriate Internet web sites and tips for safe surfing, a kids' guide to the Dewey Decimal System, information on the library's hours and summer reading program and a "do not disturb" door hanger from the State Library. When they come back to the library with their parents, they will get to select another free book from a variety of titles the library picked out from a National First Book Bank distribution. "We wanted each child to have one book that is popular right now and then one they can pick out by themselves," Dahle said. This is the first year the library has done the program, but Dahle hopes to make it an annual event.

Young Adult Corner: Jerome Public's YAC Café

Teens in Jerome now have a space at the library where they can hang out with their friends and talk about books or what ever else they feel like talking about. Library teen advisor Tina Cherry said one of the biggest benefits of having a teen space is the increased comfort level kids have because they feel like the library listens to them and responds to their ideas.

The library's YAC, which stands for Youth Advisory Committee, began about two years ago as an opportunity for young people to enjoy the library and help them create a place where they belong. The YAC members developed a summer reading program for teens and a homework café. The café is open every Tuesday afternoon and YAC members sell treats and drinks to the students to help raise funds for future projects.

Cherry says the café grosses at least \$20-25 a week and the profits are used to support the summer reading program and other activities. About 25 students of all ages come to the Tuesday homework café every week.

"Some of them actually study here, some just socialize. But it's important to them," she said. Cherry started working at the library as the Read to Me

coordinator, but got more involved in teen issues as her daughters reached the age where they wanted to see more programs designed for teens. She volunteered to spearhead efforts for this age group and the programs starting to build momentum.

“The neat part is the café generates enough money that it is self-sustaining and we can now support more programs. The number one rule with this age group is to always feed them. These kids have bigger appetites than the younger kids, so a couple of cookies and a glass of juice doesn’t really cut it,” she said. Program materials and prizes are also paid for from the café funds.

“When we first started the YAC, there wasn’t really a budget for teen programs, but now that this is going the city has been able to pay for the teen advisor position at about eight to 15 hours a month.” Cherry said the YAC members get a free treat each week at the café in return for helping run it and helping plan programs.

Another activity the YAC members created was the YELL corner. The Youth Exploration Lounge Library area has bookshelves, over stuffed chairs, a couch and coffee table to create a relaxed space for people to read or talk.

Jerome High School senior Jamie Mitchell joined YAC shortly after the group got started and has learned a lot about the library while having fun. “It’s been a blast. I especially like the summer programs. All the fun and games.” Jamie said she was a library user before joining YAC but was surprised to learn how much the library offers. “We did a library tour as part of the summer program and it showed me the different things. I use it more now for research.” Jamie said the tie-dye event, open mike night and some of the book programs have also been favorites of hers.

Cherry has enjoyed seeing the kids enjoy their new space and also seeing what kinds of programs work the best for teens. “I’ve learned that the kids will tell me they think something is a good program idea because they really want to please me, but unless it’s something they really want to do, it won’t work.” She’s had success with movie nights and things that are a little more unstructured. She planned an event for kids who voted on the Young Readers Choice Awards books, but only two had read two books on the nominee list, so that one didn’t turn out as well as she’d hoped. Cherry is launching an event tonight (April 1st) based on a reality TV challenge idea where kids will use library books and get them to explore the library. ***Best of luck Tina! Thanks for sharing some of your ideas with us!***

Does your library collect and promote zines? Do you have some favorites? Are they part of your collection development plan? Share, share, share. We plan on exploring the world of zines in an upcoming issue of The Scoop and want to hear from more of you.



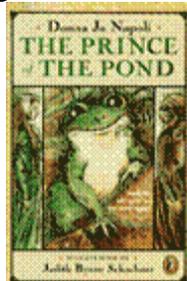
Book Look

Kathryn Poulter, head of youth services at the Marshall Public Library in Pocatello shares some of her favorite fairy tales for elementary age children through YA. "Have you ever been so absorbed in a book that when you put it down to go eat dinner, or in my case, to make dinner, you have to rub your eyes and readjust to the world we live in? I had that experience when I was reading Robin McKinley's marvelous retelling of the fairy tale *Beauty and the Beast*. It was with a real effort that I came back from her world of a magical medieval France and re-entered our disappointingly nonmagical twenty-first century."



Somehow, in the book *Beauty*, and again in *Rose Daughter*, I could feel, if not see, a world of sparkling wonder hovering right beyond the edge of the horizon. It is that way with many fairy tale stories. Both books paint a compelling picture of life in medieval France. I especially liked the beast's library in *Beauty*. That library has everything, including books by Mark Twain and others that hadn't even been thought of for hundreds of years after the story takes place!

There is a huge wealth of fairy tale stories on the shelves at the public library. These include retellings of such tales as the *Frog Prince*, *The Princess and the*

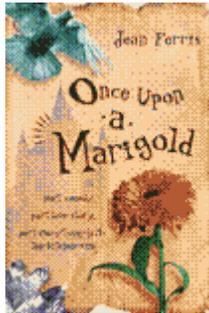


Pea, *Sleeping Beauty*, and *Snow White and Rose Red*, among

others. Although these books are all written by different authors and have their own unique perspectives, they do share a common spark of magic and enchantment.

In Donna Jo Napoli's book *The Prince of the Pond*, we learn new details about the Frog Prince. Then, happily, in the sequel, *Jimmy the Pickpocket of the Palace*, the frog prince's pollywog, Jimmy, is turned into a boy by an angry witch, and the tale continues with some clever twists.

Books that continue the story past the "happily ever after" are particularly fascinating because they show that even though a familiar story ends, the lives of the characters do not, and we see that even in a fairy tale world, there are still problems and the need for resolution. One classic story that goes far beyond happily ever after is *Are All the Giants Dead?* by Mary Norton. Others include *Spindle's End*, by Robin McKinley and *The Firebird*, by Mercedes Lackey.



Then there are stories that are not a retelling of any particular fairy tale but are set in a similar world. Two charming books of this type are *Once upon a Marigold* by Jean Ferris and *The Ugly Princess and the Wise Fool*, by Margaret Grey. Even the middle-grade Young Reader's Choice Award winner *Heir Apparent*, by Vivian Vande Velde is a book set in a fairy tale type world but with an unfamiliar and sometimes quite startling plot.

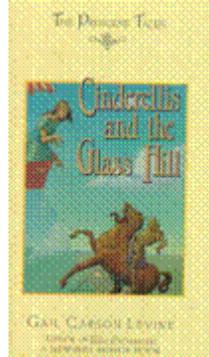
In 1998, Gail Carson Levine won the Newbery Book Award for her original retelling of Cinderella in *Ella Enchanted*. In this story, Ella is the victim of a misguided fairy's gift; she simply must obey any order given to her.



Ella's spunky personality shines through even though she has some very rough times as a result of the spell and the natural consequences of being a lovely orphaned girl mistreated by a mean stepmother and stepsisters. The story is set in a kingdom where magic is not unusual, where trolls infest the waste areas, and where it is not unheard of for a handsome prince to enjoy sliding down banisters. As with many of my favorite books, I was sad when I

came to the end of this one, but then I discovered a wealth of other fairy tale books in our collection.

By fairy tale books, I don't mean only the ones in the nonfiction (Dewey



Decimal number 398) section. There are also an abundance of retellings of old favorites right in the children's fiction and young adult fiction areas. Also in the children's fiction area is a whole series of shorter fairy tale books by Gail Carson Levine: *Cinderellis and the Glass Hill*, *The Fairy's Mistake*, *The Fairy's Return*, *Princess Sonora and the Long Sleep*, and *The Princess Test*. These are set in the same world as *Ella Enchanted*. Even though the characters are not as well developed as Ella, the stories are familiar and the author adds interesting twists to the old tales.



Upcoming Events

Most of the April events were listed in the last issue of *The Scoop*, but here's one we left off. This year's **TV-Turnoff Week** will be held April 25th through May 1st. During that week, families, schools, libraries and other groups will turn off the tube and turn on their minds to other activities. See www.tvturnoff.org for more information.

6th Annual Governor's Roundtables

The Governor's Council for Children and Families will host all day roundtables in the following communities. For more information, see <http://www.gccfc.idaho.gov/>. Interested in hosting a library display? The State Library has several displays available that you can customize with local information. Contact Nancy Reese at the State Library if you are interested in more information about the displays.

- Rexburg, April 28

- Lewiston, May 4
- Mountain Home AFB, May 11
- Twin Falls, May 25
- Cascade, June 2
- Coeur d'Alene, June 6

Video Teleconference to the "Frontier" Region - Ashton, Mackay, Malad, Montpelier, Soda Springs, Salmon, June 11

Are you planning on attending a session at an upcoming Idaho Library Association regional conference that deals with a topic that other youth services librarians might be interested in? Give us the scoop about what you learned and we'll publish it in an upcoming issue.



Summer Reading News

Do you have a great summer reading idea to share? [Send us](#) book titles, program ideas, crafts, refreshments, incentives, games, or other ideas and we will feature them in *The Scoop*.

We are also looking for feedback on the "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds" and "Joust Read" program manuals (remember this year they are packaged as one). The 32-state Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) will be meeting later in April and will be designing the 2006 and 2007 manuals. So, let us know what you liked and what suggestions for improvements you have for future manuals.

Summer Reading Connections began in 2000 as a partnership between the State Library and the Governor's Generation of the Child initiative to bring more awareness and resources to public library summer reading programs. Public libraries who pledge to partner with schools or community organizations to reach more children may order colorful bookmarks and pencils to recruit summer readers.

Participating libraries are expected to send in the Summer Reading statistical report by August 31st. Libraries do not need to use the state theme: "Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds" to qualify. If you have not signed up to participate, you can still send in your pledge/order form. Go to:

www.lili.org/read/summer/sr-connections.htm and follow the links listed at the top of the page.

Participating libraries will also receive a dozen quality books to give away to their summer readers. To find out what the titles are and for tips from other libraries, read on.

Many libraries believe one of the best ways to encourage reading is to use books as reading incentives. Books featuring dragons, knights, princesses, and medieval life will be among the books given away to this year's summer readers across the state. Libraries participating in Summer Reading Connections will receive one copy of each of these titles to give away:

The Tale of Custard the Dragon by Ogden Nash
The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch
King Bidgood's in the Bathtub by Audrey Wood
The Knight and the Dragon by Tomie De Paola
Get Well, Good Night by Shelley Moore Thomas
Knights of the Kitchen Table by Jon Scieszka
The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
Dealing with Dragons, Enchanted Forest Chronicles by Patricia Wrede
A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Grim Grotto (11) by Lemony Snicket
Merlin and the Making of the King by Margaret Hodges
Catherine, Called Birdy by Karen Cushman
Harry Potter by J. K. Rowling



Betsy Bybell, from Latah County Library District in Moscow, shares the following:

Program Presenter Checklist

Summer Reading Programs are fast approaching and everyone's calendars are filling up. If your library is featuring a guest performer (whether paid or volunteer), I've found that it helps to have a checklist for contacts. I use this [one-page form \(in .pdf format\)](#) when first talking with each performer. I can remember to ask all the pertinent questions and jot down the answers as a reminder for the day of the program. Later the checklist reminds me to courteously thank the performer while tying up loose details. I keep the forms in a file for future reference, making sure to include the performer's address and telephone number, costs for the program, and summary of event.

School Zone

Elementary school library personnel invited to 2005 Summer Institute

Elementary school library personnel have two opportunities to participate in the 2005 Summer Institute during the first week in August at Boise State University. A week-long track for people who work in elementary school libraries is planned for August 1st through 5th. Topics covered include collection development, programming, LiLI databases, school & public library cooperation and more. This will be the third year that the State Library has sponsored a track for elementary school library personnel. Add quote from participate here.

This year the State Library is offering a mini-track on August 1st and 2nd called **Taming the Information Jungle**. "We know it's a wild world in cyberspace and you are expected lead the way to good information. This mini-track will give you the navigation skills you need to make sure your safari party bags have the information they need (and to return home safely). Join us on the hunt to find out what LiLI-D can offer you and your school community. After two days in the wild, you'll get your official designation as a LiLI Guide."

For those who have attended Summer Institute in past years, this track provides a great way to integrate basic information literacy skills and LiLI-D advance options into your library services.

Outcomes include:

1. Understand the basic concepts of information literacy
2. Improve skills in using advanced options in EBSCO and eLibrary
3. Improve skills in marketing the databases

Information was sent to each elementary and middle school recently. If you'd like more information or didn't receive the Summer Institute mailing, please contact continuing education consultant Marj Hooper at 1-800-458-3271 or e-mail mhooper@isl.state.id.us. Enrollment is capped at 17 for the mini-track and up to 30 can participate in the week-long school library track.

Know the Numbers

The typical Idaho Hispanic person is young, with ancestral roots in Mexico. The median Hispanic household earns just 77 percent of the income of a non-Latino household. These details and thousands of others are contained in the Hispanic Profile Data Book for Idaho, a 62-page booklet produced by the Idaho

Commission for Hispanic Affairs. The Hispanic population has risen by 92 percent since 1990 to over 100,000 people or eight percent of all residents.

About 32,000 Hispanic residents live in Adams, Canyon, Gem, Owyhee, Payette and Washington counties.

46 percent of Idaho Hispanics are 19 years old or younger, while only 2.4 percent are older than 65. This compares with 31 percent and 12 percent of non-Hispanic whites, respectively.

More than 15 percent of Idaho's children under the age of five are Hispanic.

During the 2002-2003 school year 10.8 percent or 26,966 of Idaho's public school students were identified as being Hispanic. Of this total, approximately 17,500 Hispanic students in Idaho were struggling to achieve English language proficiency.

Latino students drop out of school at a rate three to four times that of white students and fewer read at grade level. Several factors contribute to the academic gap including language barriers, a lack of adequate resources, cultural differences, and the low economic status of many Latino families.

More than 15 percent of Hispanic youths ages 10 to 17 experienced juvenile arrests during 2003, compared to one percent of whites younger than 18.

To view a .pdf version of the Data Book, register at www2.state.id.us/icha/menus/profile.asp. Once you've registered, you have access to the data book online.



A Closer Look: El Día de los Niños

Are you planning an activity or event for El Día de los Niños? [Send us](#) your information and we'll share it with other libraries.

Throughout Latin America, children are honored on a special day of the year. In most Latin American countries El Día de los Niños (Day of the Child) is celebrated on April 30th. This day is set aside to value and uplift *all* children.

Idaho is the first state in the nation to make Children's Day an official commemorative day. Thanks to legislation passed in 2003 and signed into law by Governor Kempthorne, April 30th is now a permanent observance.

"Help create a literacy fiesta in your community," is the challenge author Pat Mora, who spearheads the event in Texas, extends on her web site. Some Idaho libraries have taken that to heart and are assuming a leadership role in their communities to celebrate El Día de los Niños, putting an emphasis on literacy:

The **Caldwell Public Library** and the **Caldwell School District** are part of a community planning group that plans to hold a community-wide celebration. A community fair will be held in Serenity Park on April 30th from noon to 3 p.m. It will feature free handouts, activities, snacks, educational literature, and entertainment. Community partners include the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, KWEI Spanish radio station, Head Start, Even Start, Idaho Reads VISTA, and others. Community organizations and businesses are contributing cash and prizes which will include books, party favors, and refreshments. The Caldwell celebration has grown each year and organizers are anticipating at least 2,000 children will attend. For more information, contact Candi Ciscell, Caldwell Public Library at (208) 459-3242 or cciscell@hotmail.com.

The **McCall Public Library** will partner with the **McCall Elementary School** and Chapala's Mexican Restaurant. Children will parade from the school library to the public library, where they will hear a mariachi band and every child will receive a free book. The celebration will also include piñatas and art activities. For more information, contact Meg Lojek or Lida Clouser, McCall Public Library at (208) 634-5522 or library@mccall.id.us.

For more on what Idaho libraries are doing, go to:
www.lili.org/read/readtome/idahoninosdia.htm.

Resources on outreach to Latino populations may be borrowed from the Idaho State Library. Four titles are listed below.

The Best of Latino Heritage 1996-2002: A Guide to the Best Juvenile Books about Latino People and Cultures, by Isabel Schon. Scarecrow Press, 2003.

This is a good resource for librarians and teachers interested in exposing students to the cultures of Latino people. The books listed offer new insights and understanding of different cultures while entertaining the intended audience. The book is arranged in chapters, by country. Each listing includes grade level and a summary of the book. Four indexes, author, title, subject and

suggested grade level, plus a “series roundup” that lists nonfiction titles are useful features.

Library Services to Youth of Hispanic Heritage, ed. by Barbara Immroth and Kathleen de la Pena McCook. McFarland, 2000.

A series of essays by librarians and national leaders that address topics such as the programming, building collections, and planning and evaluating services. Bibliographical resources include planning school library media services K-8 and a bibliography for collection development.

Serving Latino Communities: A How-to-Do-It Manual for Librarians, by Camila Alire and Orlando Archibeque. Neal-Schuman, 1998.

Detailed practical information on serving the Latino community begins with methods for justifying the program, such as doing a community needs assessment. Additional chapters include programs and services, funding, customer service, partnerships, collection development, and outreach and marketing.

25 Latino Craft Projects, by Ana-Elba Pavon and Diana Borrego. American Library Association, 2003.

The projects in this book are easy to organize and don't require expensive or hard-to-find materials. Activities are included for preschoolers, school-age children and families. Chapters include activities specifically for El Día de los Niños, Cinco de Mayo, Hispanic Heritage Month, and Días de los Muertos, as well as crafts and programs that can be used any time. Each craft includes a list of recommended books.

“*Growing Up Latino in the U.S.A.: A Bibliography*” ***Children and Libraries***. vol, 2, no. 3, Winter 2004.

A three-page annotated bibliography of recommended titles, prepared for the Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table program at the 2004 ALA annual conference. This article can be found in the EBSCO database **Academic Search Premier**, available to Idaho residents through LiLI-D. It requires a LiLI Portal user ID and password which may be obtained online at www.lili.org/portal/password.php. With a user ID and password, you may link directly to the article at:
<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&an=15741957>

The State Library also has a wealth of [El Día resources](#) on the Read to Me web site, including links to multicultural book lists and other resources especially for public and school libraries.

Tips & Tools

West Bonner Library District in the Priest River area recently received a grant from the Libri Foundation allowing them to get 68 new hardcover children's books worth \$1,050. The goal of The Libri Foundation is to help as many rural libraries as possible through its Books for Children program. In general, county libraries should serve a population under 16,000 and town libraries should serve a population under 10,000 (usually under 5,000). Libraries should be in a rural area, have a limited operating budget, and an active children's department. (Rural is usually considered to be at least 30 miles from a city with a population over 40,000.)

The Foundation works with the library's Friends of the Library or other local groups because they believe in community involvement and want to encourage and reward local support of libraries. The Foundation will match any amount of money raised by local sponsors, from \$50 to \$350 on a 2-to-1 ratio. Thus, your library could receive up to \$1,050 worth of new children's books (about 70 books). Local sponsors have five months (or longer, if necessary) after their library has been selected as a participant in the program to raise the matching funds. The Foundation awards grants three times a year. Application deadlines are: (postmarked by) March 15th, July 15th, and December 15th. Grants are awarded April 30th, August 31st, and January 31st. Application guidelines and forms can be found at www.librifoundation.org/.

News Beyond Idaho

The South Carolina State Library has published "Youth Services Guidelines for So. Carolina Public Libraries" (2002), a tool for public libraries to use to evaluate current services for children and teens and to help with planning for the future. The 56-page guide covers administration, personnel, collections, services, programming, facilities, outreach, and YA. You can find it online in .pdf format at: www.state.sc.us/scsl/pubs/ysguide.pdf.

Check out these web sites:

nancykeane.com/booktalks/title.htm **Nancy J. Keene's Children's Literature Webpage.** Nancy Keene, former school librarian and adjunct faculty at New Hampshire Technical Institute, has a site featuring ready-to-use book talks and lists of recommended reading.

www.kidsreads.com/ **Kidsread.com**

Another fun web site to explore is this kids' site featuring information about favorite books, series and authors. It includes reviews of the newest titles, interviews with authors and special features on great books. For even more reading fun, find trivia games, word scrambles and contests.

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