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Welcome

We had a lovely “Best Wishes Party” for our friends and colleagues Peggy McClendon and Erin McCusker here at the Commission on Monday. As reported in the last *Scoop*, Peggy is retiring at the end of December and Erin is moving to Arizona next month. *The Scoop* was Peggy’s idea, along with numerous other contributions she has made in the 25 years she has served the state, and we will really miss her and Erin too. Both of

them say they plan on keeping in touch with the library community by continuing to read the *Scoop* during the next year!

We now have 500 people who subscribe to *The Scoop*. We get positive comments all the time and librarians let us know they find this information helpful in their jobs and a good way to keep up on what's going on around the state. With Peggy's retirement, we need to make some adjustments in 2010 and will publish *The Scoop* once a month rather than the 20 issues we've done in the past. If we have news items that require immediate attention or deadlines that we don't want you to miss, we have the option of sending out an "Extra Scoop" edition. We welcome your stories, suggestions, and tips that you'd like to share with others around the state who are working in youth services. Please send them to [Stephanie](#) or [Staci](#) any time!

Happy Holidays to all of you from Stephanie, Staci & Peggy!



Meet Dorajo Messerly

Dorajo Messerly is the new children's librarian at the Soda Springs Public Library. Dorajo (pronounced Dora Jo) was hired when former children's librarian, Jennifer Balls, went back to teaching kindergarten full time in the fall. "It was good timing for me," Dorajo said. "Both of my children are now in school full-time so I was looking for a way to contribute to my community and children are a big draw for me." She's also been able to stay in contact with Jennifer and get lots of good advice from others at the library.

The library in Soda Springs serves a city of about 3,300. A big sign on the front door lets you know "You've Got a Friend at the Library." That welcoming spirit extends from the director's door and throughout the building. "We are a small town library, but we have great community support," Dorajo said. "Our summer reading program is absolutely phenomenal."



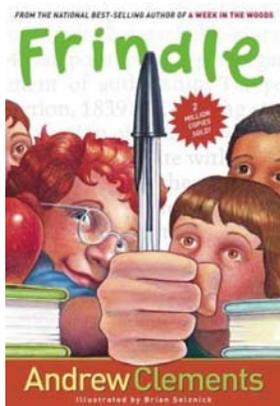
Dorajo got to help out on the tail end of the great summer program this year and has been doing the weekly storytimes, outreach to area daycares, and working with the local elementary school to strengthen programs. She made it through her first Idaho Family Reading Week and hopes to develop a teen program.

She's also been working on the library's "Fantastic Fridays." The school district cut back to a four-day school week so they were getting a lot of children just hanging out at the library every Friday.

"We knew we needed to provide some type of structured programming for them since they were going to be there anyway," she said. They've worked hard to provide an hour or two of science programs and other activities that bring in some learning elements and are still enjoyable for school-age kids. "We don't have a big program every Friday and it can be a challenge to find great stuff for this age group on a limited budget, but we're making it a positive experience for them and providing a valuable community service."



Dorajo said her biggest success so far is landing this job and surviving the first four months. The challenge is “filling some big shoes left by the previous children’s librarian. She was the best!” Dorajo is glad to call Jennifer her friend and have a great example to follow. Her favorite part of her job is “having a child throw their arms around my neck and say how much they love storytime. What could be better than that?” she said.



As a child, she enjoyed the “Little House on the Prairie” series and books by Judy Blume. She says *Frindle*, by Andrew Clements is one of the best books she’s ever read, but says *Little Women*, by Louisa May Alcott is the one she read over and over and would have to list as her very favorite. Favorite authors are J.K. Rowling and Laura Ingalls Wilder. More recently she read *The Undaunted*, by Gerald Lund, re-read *Anne of Green Gables*, by Lucy Maud Montgomery and a lot of “Magic Tree House” books with her fourth grader!

Dorajo’s favorite flavor of ice-cream is strawberry. When she’s not working, she likes spending time with her two boys and husband. “We love to travel, love history, especially American History, and reading of course.” She adds that she is “thrilled to have this job. It is a great experience for me.”

Library to Library



Idaho Family Reading Week Draws in Record Crowds

Several libraries reported they had higher turnouts than ever for their Idaho Family Reading Week events. “We don’t keep an attendance count for all the events, but library staff who had stories in their local papers or TV and those that e-mailed us, said they had great turnouts and enjoyed the things they planned,” Read to Me Co-coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said.

The Commission for Libraries sent books to 128 libraries around the state who said they were planning special events during the week. One of the biggest took place at the American Falls District Library, where over 1,000 people attended every day of the week (we’re going to feature an article in the next *Scoop* about that program to spread out the information a little!).

Sara Pemberton from the **Kuna District Library** sent in the following report of their Family Reading Week:



We decorated our room with fake pines, a black backdrop, a camp tent, a starry sky, a soundtrack of chirping birds, and yes, even pine scent. Our family sing-along was so fun! We had about 50 in attendance, with many younger readers in the audience. Nate the Great made an appearance, leading songs like "I've Been Working on the Railroad," (he found his favorite tracks of all--railroad tracks!), a retooled version of *Blowin' in the Wind* ("How many tents can a camper set, before he runs out of tents? How many marshmallows can a camper burn, before he sets fire to his pants?") and a couple of others. Kids learned about some of the

craziest wildlife in Idaho through a Kuna-created Nate the Great mystery. We turned out the lights and let the kids shine flashlights on the ceiling while we sang "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." Then the kids enjoyed trail mix and bug jar door prizes. Imagine parents cuddling with their children while singing "The Rainbow Connection" around a glowing and completely fake fire. It was magical! The picture above shows Kuna youngster Michael Owens and others coming face-to-face with some Idaho wild life.

Our other event was a visit from Adare Evans of Idaho Fish and Game--awesome! Adare's perfectly "wild" take on local habitats had the crowd paying close attention, and we wholeheartedly encourage libraries to take advantage of her expertise and dynamic presentation style. Families could also participate all week in Nate the Great's Animal Match-Up, a fun take-home / library research activity that let all kids win a prize.

"We loved the theme, and found it very easy to build creative programs around. We did learn one big thing this year: how much school visits pay off. We didn't do school visits this year (our team is close to overscheduled as is), and the numbers really reflected that. We can testify that school visits, while they take a lot of work and time, absolutely work in bringing school-age kids to the library. We missed the seven, eight, and nine year olds that we usually see after a visit. It's something that we'll definitely incorporate into our plans next year.

All in all, we loved going "wild" all week long, and are already itching to hear what next year's theme will be.

Editor's Note: *The partnership with the Be Outside program netted some extra coverage of some Family Reading Week events this year. Fish and Game staff filmed Kuna's event and will air the segment with some of their media partners in November and December. It may air in the Boise area on Channel 6 on December 17 and in other parts of the state at other times.*



Linda Henderson, Children's Programmer at the **Buhl Public Library**, also reported a successful event. "On Monday, November 16th, the Buhl Public Library held their Family Reading Program with stories, a skit performed by the Famous, Fabulous, Bookworm Book Club, games, prizes, snacks, a scavenger hunt throughout the library and a visit by some special guests. Adam Leija (Sammy the Salmon) and Jeremy Trimpey from the Federal Fish Hatchery came to share their expertise on raising and caring for our Idaho fish. Sammy the Salmon was very popular with the children as they all stood

in line to shake hands (fins) with him and Jeremy presented us with a computerized program showing the activities and duties of the Federal Fish Hatchery. We had over 60 in attendance for our program and checked out over 400 books, so we consider our program a success," Linda said.

Cambridge District Library celebrated Family Reading Week with read-alouds, cookies, and book drawings. The photo at the right shows Library Director Nina Hawkins reading *Wild Tracks* to a group of children.



West Bonner Library District's Jean Hauritz said they had a fun and exciting Idaho Family Reading Week. "We were very excited to have Randi and Ali'i join us for our grand finale on Saturday November 21, 2009. Ali'i is a search and rescue dog, Ranid Lui is his owner and best friend. We had a wonderful time with a small group of families here at the library. The morning was titled Breakfast with a Dog! Ali'i joined us for breakfast and was well behaved with excellent table manners. He didn't beg!" Jean said.



"We started our day at 9:30 a.m. with a light breakfast at the library and a question and answer time. We learned many interesting things about dogs, how to train them for search and rescue and in particular about Randi and her dog Ali'i. Her dog's name is Hawaiian for 'guardian of the royal family.' Although there is no longer a royal family to guard, we feel sure that Ali'i would provide security to anyone he may 'find' when he is on duty and working on a search. Ali'i recently found a lost woman here in the Priest River area, his first successful search and rescue. Everyone is very proud to know him and call him a 'star.' Most importantly, Ali'i was a dog rescued from an animal shelter to become a rescuer of people. It just goes to show, there are some real gems waiting for adoption at the animal shelters of America," Jean said. The library provided door prizes of books and games for those

who attended the final event of Family Read Week.

"Other events we had during the week included Tuesday's "Feed the Birds" program. We made bird feeders for the children to take home and share with their feathered friends. On Wednesday we had Family Game Day, Thursday's agenda featured Ranger Ashley from Army Corps of Engineers/Albeni Dam who talked to us about the wild animals found in our area. She brought along a huge collection of animal skins and rubber stamps to create tracks of different animals," Jean reported. Sounds like a fun-filled week!

Nampa Public Library had a great celebration. Librarian Dawn Kindberg said, "We had a fun event with our Idaho is Wild...Storybook on Stage. Children and their families watched while we "acted" out *Bear Snores On*, *The Little Mouse*, *the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear*, *Strawberry Locks and the Three Bears* and *Little Red Riding Hood*! The audience also had lots of time to participate and sing-along!



Nampa Public's Dawn Kindberg, Jerome Stenger, Deborah Babbitt, and Stephanie Taylor



Garden City Public Library had a wild crowd at their event! Kids enjoyed snacks, made masks, and guessed nature objects through feely boxes. They also brought back the popular “Open-Mic Night” where kids can read their favorite books aloud to an audience. Pictured: Youth services librarian Tamara Tipton helps a young patron with *Where the Wild Things Are*.

Those who like to plan ahead will be pleased to learn ICFL staff has selected a theme for the 2010 Idaho Family Reading Week: Join the Curious Crowd, Read Aloud! This theme will feature the ever popular Curious George and many other read aloud favorites.

More Display Pics from Idaho Libraries



Michelle Knapp is in charge of displays and decorating at the Clearwater Memorial Public Library in Orofino and she thoroughly enjoys coming up with creative ideas and carrying them out. “I have made most of the decorations myself using PrintMaster on my computer, printing them out as posters and pasting them together. Every year I try to do a little something different for each season. Of course I always save the decorations from year to year,” Michelle said.

“The Pumpkin Wall in the JE section has been a huge favorite with the young kids. They’ll often say, ‘Look this pumpkin. It’s bigger than me.’”

Orofino, like most libraries in Idaho and around the country, is seeing a big demand for vampire books and movies and they responded with the clever display at the left that extends to another wall.



The picture below and to the left shows the rainbow that flows from the JE section to the J section from the front desk. “Many of our adult patrons have made a special trip into the kids’ area just to look,” Michelle said.



Thanks for sharing some of these great display and decorating ideas. Clearwater Memorial is the winner of the “display picture drawing” and received a Mudgy and Millie puppet set and book. Nampa Public and Ada Community also sent in photos that were featured in past issues and received a hardback book as a thank you for contributing. You can get books for your library too! Just send the Scoop editors, [Stephanie](#) and [Staci](#),

programming ideas, book reviews, or tips you want to share with others in the Idaho library community. We love to hear from you!

First Book Partners Team Up to Promote Library Services

First Grade students at **Koelsch Elementary** (Boise) recently visited **Boise Public Library's** main branch to learn about the library and services available to children and families. Koelsch Elementary registered 48 first graders in the First Book program this year, and several students are English Language Learners. School librarian Jeanette Slichter and first grade teacher Christine Simon manage the book distributions each month, and BPL youth services staff have hosted a parent workshop and student visits to the library. Christine reported that over 50% of the First Book families came to Back-to-School Night, where BPL youth services librarian Azam Houle read a story and presented information regarding early literacy. School libraries are eligible to apply for the Read to Me First Book program if they are partnering with their local public library. Information regarding the application process for the 2010 – 2011 program year will be available after the first of the year.



Linda Brilz takes the Koelsch first graders on a tour

Ada Community Library launched their Learning Resources project last summer (see the [August 14 issue of The Scoop](#)) and report that the project has been highly successful. The project, which was funded with a Strengthening Youth Services Wal-Mart grant, provides learning and study resources for area students. “We are at capacity for the monthly allotment of Tutor.com sessions we contracted for,” said Youth Services Librarian Erin Hasler. “It’s been a great service for our students and we’re getting very positive feedback.” Erin also reported that the main branch’s study/meeting room, which houses a SMARTBoard (an interactive electronic whiteboard) for patron use, is booked almost every day, the new “text reference” service has been widely utilized, and that the student FlipCams are frequently checked out. Ada is now preparing for the final phase of their project, which will provide free student workshops through a partnership with 4-H Extension Services. Topics and logistics are in the planning process, and the workshops are scheduled to begin in the spring.

Young Adult Corner



New Technologies and Literacies for Teens

Are you connecting with teens using the technology they use? ICFL is again sponsoring YALSA’s online course “New Technologies and Literacies for Teens” during February 2010. School media specialists and Youth Services staff are invited to partner and participate in this blended learning opportunity. Learn how technology affects teens’ literacy, network with other staff working with teens, and develop a dynamite program for Teen Tech Week in March. Course fees for publicly-funded library staff are paid for through LSTA funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

[Full course information](#), including the [registration form](#) is available at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/teen-tech>. Hurry, this year we can accommodate only 20 participants. **Registration deadline is Friday, December 18.** If you have questions, please contact Sue Walker at sue.walker@libraries.idaho.gov or 1-800-458-3271.



Teen Reads Ultimate Reading List

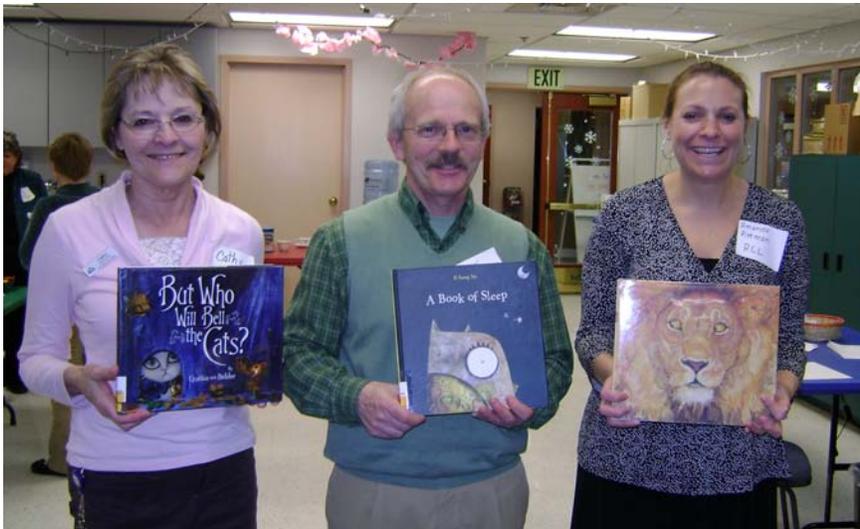
If you're looking for a good reading list that mixes adult books that teens enjoy along with others that teens are talking about, check out www.teenreads.com/features/ultimate-reading-list.asp. They have some great titles listed.

Book Look



Ada Community Library's Caldecott Tea Attendees Pick their Favorites

The **Ada Community Library** in Boise hosted its annual Caldecott Tea last week. They invite public library staff from the area, school librarians, and a few lucky ICFL staff too. Ada youth services librarians pre-select books to review for the event and participants discuss their favorites in small groups. After presenting each group's top choice to the larger group, everyone votes.



This year, the top three vote-getters were:

The Lion and the Mouse, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (receiving the most votes)

A Book of Sleep, written and illustrated by UI Sung Na

But Who Will Bell the Cats? written and illustrated by Cynthia Von Buhler

The winning books are held by (left to right) Cathy Schleif, Stan Steiner, and Amanda Pittman.

Other books that attendees enjoyed are pictured at right. They include:

Chicken Little, written by Rebecca Emberly and illustrated by Ed Emberley

The Last Polar Bear, written by Jean Craighead George and illustrated by Wendell Minor

My Name is Sangoel, written by Karen Lynn Williams and Khadra Mohammed and



illustrated by Catherine Stock

Tough Chicks, by Cece Meng and illustrated by Melissa Suber

See the [complete list](#) that participants reviewed at the Mock Caldecott.

The American Library Association (ALA) will announce the official Caldecott Medal winner, along with the many other Youth Media Awards, including the Coretta Scott King Book Awards, Newbery and Printz awards, and many others the morning of January 18th from the ALA Mid-Winter Meeting in Boston. Stayed tuned to see if Ada's choices line up with those on the committee. Visit the ALA website for more information on the [Caldecott Medal](#).

Upcoming Events



Dive In! at the Read to Me Meeting - March 11 and 12, 2010

This year's Read to Me meeting will focus on outreach to underserved families and incorporating the six early literacy skills into outreach. Priority for attendance will go to staff members from libraries who will be actively working on outreach in the coming year. To see the meeting agenda and registration information, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/RTM-spring-meeting-2010>.



Summer Reading News



Time to order Summer Reading Materials from CSLP – Shipping is FREE!

It's time to pull out the order form that came with your "Make a Splash" manual in October. If you missed the first order deadline, there is still time. The next deadline for ordering theme-related summer reading materials for children, teens and adults is **January 1, 2010** for delivery on **April 1st**.



Before you order, check out the [Bright Futures outreach opportunities](#) and decide which ones you will apply for. Some of those summer reading materials pictured in the catalog will be provided free with participation. You may [order online](#) at the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) website, by phone, fax, or email. Call: 1-800-448-4887 | Fax: 1-800-448-5828 | Email: custsvc@upstartpromotions.com. Remember, this year shipping is free to CSLP member states.



Create an account on the CSLP website

Have you signed up for an account on the CSLP website (www.cslpreads.org/)? By registering on the website, you will get the full benefit of the site. CSLP unveiled a new website in April to

assist librarians in planning their summer reading program. Public librarians and their staff can register to be members on the website and gain additional access to member only downloads (PSAs, approved logos, adult summer reading materials and forms), create your own profile and participate in our member only forum, review Board of Directors information, and gain access to committee members contact information.

The CSLP website still has valuable information even if you choose not to register. Simply move your mouse over the yellow ribbon at the top of the page and see the drop-down menus that will assist you with information on state membership, programs, learning tools, and ordering.

Registration is not automatic. Once someone registers they will need to be approved as a public librarian from a member state. You will then receive an email giving information and a password for access. So it really is best to register now before you are in need of resources for ease of access.

Please use the "Create Account" button in the middle of the page near the username and password boxes. Once you have completed the registration, you will need to confirm with an email address. CSLP will send a response to that email address.

If you have questions, please contact your Idaho reps: [Staci Shaw](#) or [Karen Yother](#).



Read for Your Library

Are you thinking about applying for Read for Your Library? Have you contacted your elementary school yet? The first step to participate in Read for Your Library is to visit the [Bright Futures website](#) and download an application. We recommend you schedule a meeting with the school principal and school librarian this fall or winter to discuss how the school will support summer reading. The school will also need to agree to hold some type of recognition event in the fall of 2010. After the IRI scores for the school have been printed, it's time to fill out the application and submit it by March 19, 2010.

Participation in Read for Your Library is limited to the first 135 libraries and schools who qualify by the deadline. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; once capacity is reached, applications will no longer be accepted. If you have questions, please contact [Staci Shaw](#).

School Zone



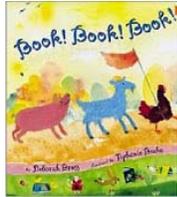
Readers' Theater Can Help Get Kids Excited About Reading

Inspired by [an article](#) in [School Library Journal](#), written by author Avi:

Readers' Theater is an activity in which students read directly from scripts and tell a story in a most entertaining form-- without props, costumes, or sets. This is a *reading* activity, and students are not asked to memorize their lines. They are, however, encouraged to "ham it up" and use intonation and gestures appropriate to their characters and their characters' words.

Readers' Theater serves many useful functions. It provides repeated reading practice, which is an important factor in building fluency. Repeated reading practice also improves students' confidence in, and enthusiasm for reading. It can be an opportunity for children who are used to feelings of failure to be able to succeed and be creative.

Readers' Theater is also "low-budget." You can find lots of entertaining, and often free, scripts on the Internet. Online scripts allow for easy editing and personalization of individual scripts. You can copy the script to a word processing program, adapt the script to your students' needs, and print copies. Most scripts available online are intended only for educational, not commercial, use.



To see a Readers' Theater in action, watch this short video posted by school librarian Sarah Chaucey at Grandview Elementary in New York:

www.vimeo.com/7045802

Here are some great online, no-cost resources:

- Teaching Heart, www.teachingheart.net/readerstheater.htm
- Reading A-Z, www.readinga-z.com/guided/theater.html
- Literacy Connections, www.literacyconnections.com/rasinski-readers-theater.php
- Reading Online, www.readingonline.org/electronic/elec_index.asp?HREF=carrick/index.html
- Reading Lady, www.readinglady.com/index.php?module=documents&JAS_DocumentManager_op=viewDocument&JAS_Document_id=9&MMN_position=34:34
- Richmond School District, <http://richmond.k12.va.us/readamillion/readerstheater.htm>
- Education World, www.educationworld.com/a_curr/reading/index.shtml#theater



Online Web 2.0 Tutorial: The 23 Things Project

Like the Idaho "Splat 101" course, this nationwide project is a self-paced tutorial that introduces simple web tools with which every school librarian should be familiar. Based on Helene Blowers, Learning 2.0 Project, this 23 Things project focuses on the Web 2.0 tools that bring kids in touch with the entire world through social networking, wikis, video, podcasting, and gaming sites. If you follow the recommended course outline, the entire project should take between 8 and 10 weeks. Each week there are a new set of tools to learn about, experiment and use. Participants can track progress, and record reflections in a blog that each person creates. Like Splat 101, this is a great starter course!



Best Websites for Online Teaching and Learning

For those of you who are already using some Web 2.0 tools in your school media programs, here are some great sites, compiled by the American Association for School Librarians (AASL) in a VoiceThread: <http://voicethread.com/share/555191/>



Social Networking as a Professional Resource: How to cite tweets and posts

The use of Social Networking media such as Twitter and Facebook to disseminate news,

research, editorials, policies, etc., is becoming more widely accepted by scholars, law-makers and business people. Tweets concerning the most up-to-date research findings, breaking news, and professional resources are finding their way into academic publications from the university level down to elementary schools. Here's what the American Psychological Association (APA) recommends for citing tweets. To see the rationale and more detailed explanations, see the [full post](#) on APA's website.

To cite a Twitter or Facebook feed as a whole or to discuss it in general, it is sufficient to give the site URL in text, inside parentheses. There is no need for a reference list entry. It's the same method you would use to cite a website as a whole (see [FAQ](#)). Here is an example:

President Obama uses Twitter (<http://www.twitter.com/barackobama>) and Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/barackobama>) to keep citizens up to speed on his initiatives, especially health care reform and Supreme Court nominations.

How to Cite Twitter and Facebook Reference List Entries and In-Text Citations:

The suggested reference list entries below generally follow the format for citation of online sources:

Barack Obama. (2009a, July 15). Launched American Graduation Initiative to help additional 5 mill. Americans graduate college by 2020: <http://bit.ly/gcTX7> [Twitter post]. Retrieved from <http://twitter.com/BarackObama/status/2651151366>

Barack Obama. (2009b, October 9). Humbled. <http://my.barackobama.com/page/community/post/obamaforamerica/gGM5m> [Facebook update]. Retrieved from http://www.facebook.com/posted.php?id=6815841748&share_id=154954250775&comments=1#s154954250775

Know the Numbers

Food Stamp Use Soars

According to researchers, current statistics suggest that approximately half of the children in the U.S., including 90 percent of children who grow up in single-parent households and 90 percent of black children, will be on food stamps at some point between the ages of 1 and 20.

Performed by researchers at Cornell University, the study is based on an analysis of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, which followed about 4,800 households in the U.S. over the course of 32 years.

The authors of the study wrote background information for the article saying, "Research has repeatedly demonstrated that two of the most detrimental economic conditions affecting a child's health are poverty and food insecurity."

Food stamps are part of a Department of Agriculture program for low-income individuals and families, covering most foods. A family of four is eligible if the annual take-home pay does not exceed around \$22,000.

Ninety percent of black children live in households receiving food stamps (as opposed to 37 percent of white children), 90 percent of children who live with single parents receive them (contrasted with 37 percent who live in married and other two-parent households), and 62 percent of those whose head of household did not graduate from high school (contrasted with 31 percent where the head has more than 12 years of school) "encounter spells of food stamp use," the authors wrote.

With these risk factors put together, the study found that 97 percent of black children living in non-married families where the head of the household did not complete 12 years of education will have received food stamps, compared with 21 percent of white children living in married families whose head of household has 12 or more years of education.

Hirschl went on to say that only about 60 percent of families eligible for food stamps actually utilize the program because of the shame and stigma associated with depending on government assistance.

The study was published [Nov. 2 in the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine.](#)

News articles that appeared in the [New York Times](#) and [Idaho Statesman](#) reported that one in eight Americans and one in four children currently utilize food stamps. More than 36 million people use the program for staples like milk, bread and cheese.

One more stat to add: 42% of school-age children in Idaho – 74,433 children per day – receive free and reduced lunch. (Idaho Kids Count 2005)

A Closer Look at Helping Kids in Home-Based Day Care

Children who attend home-based daycare programs are watching twice as much television per day as was previously thought, according to a study published in the December issue of [Pediatrics](#) and reported in the [Washington Post](#).

In a survey of 168 child care programs in four states, researchers found that toddlers, ages 1 to 3, in home-based daycare centers watched an average of 1.6 hours of television there each day, including videos and DVDs. Preschool-age children, 3 to 5 years old, watched 2.4 hours a day in home-based centers.

Prior studies have estimated that preschool-age children watch one to three hours of television a day. But those relied on reports from parents about children's habits at home and did not count the time they spent in front of the television during day care, underestimating the total TV time by up to 100 percent, researchers said.

Studies have linked television-watching in young children to obesity, aggression, cognitive delays and decreased attention spans. The American Academy of Pediatrics discourages television-watching for children under two and recommends that older children watch no more than two hours of television a day.

Research has also shown that some home-based providers are more at risk of having low literacy levels, not reading with the children in their care, not using the library as a family resource, and of being more isolated in their daily work. What can libraries do to provide more

resources and incentives for child care providers to read more to the children in the care and not spend as much time watching TV? Here are several suggestions that might work in your community.

Participate in the Idaho Child Care Reads program. Libraries can sponsor a two to three hour workshop on building early literacy skills and each daycare site will receive a bag of 20 books and resources from the Read to Me program. “We can also contract with other librarians to present and they’ll get Idaho Stars certification,” ICFL Project Coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said. Participant surveys from the past five years show that providers are more likely to utilize public library resources, read to children in their care, and plan early literacy activities as a result of attending a Child Care Reads session at their local library. “It’s a great program and we’d love to see more libraries host workshops.” Contact [Stephanie](#) at ICFL if you’re interested or see more details at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/idaho-child-care-reads> .

Participate in the Read to Me First Book program. “Children in child care settings are considered an “underserved population” and qualify for the First Book program. Libraries who take part in the program deliver new paperback books each month to their partner’s site and give each child there a book to keep. At the end of the nine-month program, the children have a home collection of nine great books and a library card that opens the world of reading to them. By modeling reading and literacy activities at the child care site, the providers learn read aloud techniques, fingerplays, and quick activities they can do on a daily basis. Early literacy information is also sent home with parents who report they spend more time reading and talking about books with their children as a result of the program.

Provide deposit collections. These are usually boxes of books and sometimes other materials that can be left for a month at each daycare site and a fresh supply of new books are rotated through each month.

Explore other options. Learning kits, including child care providers if you have “teacher cards” (these usually extend check-out periods or allow more holds or books out), and accommodating bigger groups of children in storytimes are other methods libraries have used to meet the needs of child care providers.

Many people who have provided services aimed at child care providers report that it is one of the most rewarding parts of their jobs. If your library is doing something to reach out to providers in your community, we’d like to hear more about your project. Email or call [Stephanie](#) at the Commission and we’ll send your library a free children’s book as a thank you.

Tips & Tools



Idaho Community Foundation Accepts Applications from Northern Idaho Libraries

The Idaho Community Foundation grant cycle opened November 1 and runs through January 15. Grants are awarded in June, 2010. Grants are limited to \$5,000. See www.idcomfdn.org for more information.



First 2010 Deadline for Libri Foundation Funding Coming Up

The Libri Foundation is a nationwide non-profit organization which donates new, quality, hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States through its BOOKS FOR CHILDREN program. Application deadlines in 2010 are: (postmarked by) January 15th, April 15th, and August 15th. Idaho libraries have also had good luck with this funding source for books. See www.librifoundation.org/apps.html for more information.



Collection Development Grant for School Libraries

The Laura Bush Foundation has grants available up to \$6,000 for school library for collection development. The grant applications are due December 31, 2009. More information can be found at the Foundation's web-site at www.laurabushfoundation.org and click on "Apply here for regular LBF grant."



***We the People* Grant Opportunity**

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), in cooperation with ALA's Public Programs Office, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 7th *We the People* Bookshelf project. Part of the NEH's *We the People* program, the Bookshelf encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history. This year's theme, "A More Perfect Union," invites reflection on the idea of the United States as a "union," a "One" as well as a "Many," and will complement library programs observing the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. To stimulate programming, the Bookshelf features a DVD edition of *The Civil War*, the award-winning documentary by Ken Burns, including the rights to show the series to public audiences.

Public and school (K-12) libraries are invited to apply online through Jan. 29, 2010, at <http://publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf/>. In spring 2010, NEH and ALA will select 4,000 libraries to receive the 17 books for young readers, as well as bonus materials for readers of all ages, and the option to receive three titles in Spanish translation. Libraries selected will be required to use the Bookshelf selections in programs for young readers in their communities.

CE News You Can Use

Web Tools 4 U 2 Use!

This website -- <http://webtools4u2use.wikispaces.com/Webtools4U2Use> -- offers a place for K-12 school library media specialists to learn a little more about web tools that can be used to improve your programs and services, to see examples of how these tools are used, and to share success stories and creative ideas. There are hundreds of free and inexpensive web tools available for school library media specialists to use that can make you more productive and valued! This is definitely worth an RSS feed!

Here is a link to WebJunction Idaho to learn more about technology -- <http://id.webjunction.org/technology>

News Beyond Idaho



New Parents Receive Born to Read Kits



Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role they play in the development of their children. Parents are presented with a Books for Babies kit containing a board book for baby, baby's first library card and a variety of brochures with reading tips and early literacy information from nationally recognized educational organizations. Organizations such as Friends of the Library groups, junior leagues and other nonprofits purchase Books for Babies kits. Groups often supplement the kits with information about local resources, including library locations and contact information, as well as details about lapsit and preschool story hours.

In partnership with Nordstrom, the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), has awarded 10 grants for \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups and libraries for purchasing Books for Babies kits from ALTAFF. A total of 2,075 English kits and 225 Spanish kits will be distributed to parents of newborns through these grants. For more information about the program, visit www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/altaff/outreach/booksforbabies/index.cfm.

**BOOKS
FOR
BABIES**



The 10 grant recipients are:

- Friends of the Library-Dearborn, Dearborn, Mich.
- Friends of the M.E. Heggan Library, Hurffville, N.J.
- Friends of the Pittsboro Memorial Library, Pittsboro, N.C.
- Friends of the Tecumseh District Library, Tecumseh, Mich.
- Gadsden Public Library, Gadsden, Ala.
- Guilderland Public Library, Guilderland, N.Y.
- Little Elm Friends of the Library, Little Elm, Texas
- Richmond Memorial Library, Batavia, N.Y.
- Seward Junior Women's Club, Seward, Neb.
- Southside Regional Library, Boydton, Va.

In 2008, more than 5,000 Books for Babies kits were distributed to newborns and their parents through a partnership with Nordstrom, one of the nation's leading fashion specialty retailers with 159 stores located in 28 states. The early childhood literacy kits were purchased by 20 organizations across the country that received matching grants through a \$10,000 donation given in conjunction with the publication of Nordstrom's first book, "Once Upon a Holiday the Moon Fell Out of the Sky." The program was so successful that Nordstrom donated another \$10,000 to continue the matching grants for 2009. [Source: ALA press release, Oct. 27, 2009]



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

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