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## Welcome

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January is full of possibilities--a fresh start to the year and all those plans we have for great activities that will unfold later in the year. At the State Library, we are looking forward to summer reading, meeting with youth services outreach staff, seeing more libraries participate in outreach projects like Child Care Reads, and, of course, publishing *The Scoop*. We are also taking a look at how Idaho libraries use their web sites to serve their communities, and we're investigating tools that will make having a good web site "doable." We hope to showcase some of the best youth service-related web sites to inspire and encourage us to reach more children and youth who are, as they are called in the techie world, "digital natives."

A sure sign that it is January is the arrival of our legislators and the beginning of the Legislative session. Several advocacy groups may be of interest to youth services librarians:

- Idaho Voices for Children, formed in November of 2004, works to address a coordinated statewide effort to establish a policy agenda that would result in improved quality of life for all children and teens across Idaho. The group promotes policies that ensure each of our state's youth has an advocate and representation in the laws that protect and support them. To find out more, visit their web site: [www.worldportico.com/voices/](http://www.worldportico.com/voices/).
- The Idaho Library Association will be monitoring legislation which affects libraries. To find out more, visit: [www.idaholibraries.org/](http://www.idaholibraries.org/).
- The Idaho Education Association monitors legislation affecting public schools. For more information, go to: [www.idahoea.org/](http://www.idahoea.org/).



## Meet JaNeil Buttars

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**JaNeil Buttars** is the Library Media Specialist at **Preston High School**. JaNeil has been at Preston High for six years. The school has approximately 740 students in grades 9 through 12.

In September the school got a new media center. JaNeil says, “Right from the start the District involved me in the planning and design. I’m so excited about the new space! We have lots of room; I even have some empty shelving space. It is not unusual to have 80-90 students in the library before school each morning. During lunch the number is usually around 50.

“Besides coming in to read or study, students can be found on the computer, playing a quick game of chess or checkers or working on a big puzzle. For those serious chess players there is a space in the workroom where they can save games in progress. Our new media center includes plenty of workroom and storage space, a soft-seated reading area, reference study area, computer lab, small instruction room and a conference room. I thought we were busy before, but since moving into our new space our circulation statistics have doubled and library usage during class time has also increased.”



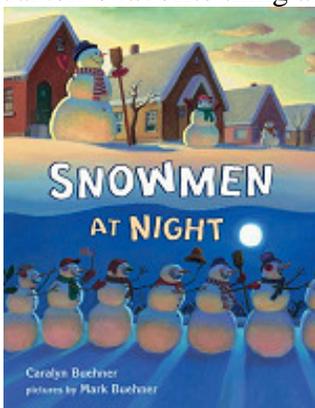
JaNeil works with both students and staff. “At Preston High we use the LiLI databases heavily. This took some training with the staff and students. I try to visit with most of the staff one-on-one during the year showing them what resources I have that supports their curriculum. I seek input on materials I could order that would support what they are doing in class.

“Since moving into our new space and having room available, I have added the English Department’s classroom novels to the library’s collection. This arrangement helps the English Department as I maintain the collection and keep track of students with the class novels. In addition to increasing circulation statistics, I’m making contact with more students who wouldn’t come to the library otherwise.

“I am also doing booktalks this year. While library circulation is up, I am not certain how much of that is a result of the booktalks.”

What attracted JaNeil to library service for youth? “I just fell into it. I was looking for a teaching job when my youngest entered kindergarten. A school library job was open and I applied for it. I loved it so much I went back to school to get a Media Generalist endorsement.”

JaNeil’s favorite thing about her job is the people. “I love being around people. I also like the fact that no two days are the same. Library work is ever changing.”



Carolyn Buehner is a favorite children’s author. “My favorite book is probably *Snowmen at Night*. I have a small collection of children’s fiction. Teachers find ways to incorporate them into their curriculum, and the students, even though they are big high school kids, check them out for things such as speeches.”

As a child, JaNeil read anything she could get her hands on, and currently she is a big fan of David Baldacci and Patricia Cornwell. Recently she has read *The Camel Club* and *Predator*.

Outside the library, JaNeil loves to play the piano and work on computers – in addition to reading. Working in her yard is a favorite summer activity.

## Library to Library

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 **Lynne McCall**, librarian at **Hayden Meadows Elementary School** in Coeur d’Alene, reports that a book fair held before Christmas grossed over \$10,000 for the library.

 At a recent meeting of the **Canyon Owyhee Library Group (COLG)**, one of the members shared some information about free teaching materials she got for her library and teachers. "Teaching Tolerance" ([www.teachingtolerance.org](http://www.teachingtolerance.org)) provides educators with free educational materials that promote respect for differences and appreciation for diversity in the classroom and beyond. They have many educational kits and subscriptions to magazines that are FREE to classroom teachers, school librarians, homeschool network leaders, and many others in

education fields. Information about those materials can be found at [www.tolerance.org/teach/resources/index.jsp](http://www.tolerance.org/teach/resources/index.jsp). Descriptions of materials include appropriate grade levels, a description of the content/lesson, and a description of what materials are included. Materials include a mix of print, video, lesson plans, teachers guides, and resource booklets.

**Leann Wicks**, Media Coordinator for **Joint School District #241** in the **Grangeville** area, sends us this report on their project to join VALNet. VALNet, a participating member of WIN (Washington Idaho Network), is a consortium of libraries in Southeastern Washington and North Central Idaho that share an automated, integrated circulation, cataloging and acquisition system.

Joint School District #241 received an LSTA grant in the spring of 2005 so that the four elementary school libraries could join VALNet. The high schools were already members. Librarians worked extra hours and additional personnel were hired to add holdings to the VALNet database. The grant also paid for the initial subscription to join the VALNet / WIN Consortium.

Leann says, "This is the fourth year the high schools of our district have been members of VALNet – also obtained through various grants. This grant allowed us to become hooked into the same system our high schools are plugged into."

The elementary schools are: **Clearwater Valley Elementary in Kooskia, Grangeville Elementary/Middle School, Elk City Library, and Riggins Elementary School.**

Library users now have access to over 721,000 volumes within VALNet and nearly eight millions items in WIN. Courier service delivers directly to libraries usually within 48 hours after a request. Users may log on to VALNet from home or school and request materials to be delivered to their school by using their VALNet library card.

At this time, one school is completed, one is 95 percent finished and the other two are more than 50 percent complete. They were up and running in September.

Library users now have access to over 721,000 volumes within VALNet and nearly eight million items in WIN. Courier service delivers directly to libraries usually within 48 hours after a request. Users may log on to the VALNet home page from their home computers or at school and request materials to be delivered to their school by using their VALNet library card.



## **NexGen YS: Igniting the Web**

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**By Dylan Baker**

One technology is arguably the greatest revolution in both librarianship and our society as a whole: the Internet. Ready Reference is now only a click away with search engines like

Google and reference tools like Answers. Databases, serials and other publications are a breeze to search, browse and cross-reference online, whether from the library or the comfort of your own home. Professional degrees and spirited discussions about librarianship can both be had within the bounds of cyberspace.

Despite the innovations of the Internet in this Digital Decade, many of us insist on browsing from the Stone-Age. Do you still click the blue “e” on your desktop and lumber online with the antiquated Internet Explorer? Are you pelted with pop-ups and infected with spyware at every corner? Stuck waiting for your search engine to load before you can even start finding the information you need? It’s time to look to Firefox.

Mozilla Firefox is a free, open-source web browser designed to help you “rediscover the Web.” Firefox boasts a number of improvements beyond the meager offerings of Internet Explorer (IE), including those that address security, speed and ease of use. Since our library switched over to Firefox last year, I’ve heard many coworkers tell me how they couldn’t imagine ever going back to IE. Nearly all of Youth Services staff now use Firefox exclusively at home, even encouraging friends and family to make the switch.

First, Firefox provides greater protection and security from the multiplying threats that IE users are increasingly vulnerable to. Unlike IE, Firefox will not download, install or execute software without the user’s direct consent. Firefox has also foresworn ActiveX, a component of IE that gives hackers and malicious websites the capability to install software under the radar, compromising privacy and performance. Disrupting pop-ups are prevented with Firefox’s top-notch pop-up blocker, giving you the ultimate choice as to which pop-ups you do and don’t want to see.

Not only is Firefox safer, it’s also much faster to use for everyday tasks. Firefox includes an integrated search bar that makes using any of your favorite search engines as easy as a mouse click. Choose from library favorites such as Google, Amazon, IMDB, Answers, or even your library’s own online catalog. (See the Library Search website for more details about that last one: <http://librarysearch.sourceforge.net/>) It’s also a snap to find words in a webpage with Firefox’s unobtrusive Find toolbar that searches as you type.

Despite all these extras, Firefox is still easy to use right from the start. Firefox imports bookmarks, options, and Internet history from IE, letting you access the Internet your way, right away. Multiple browser windows are a thing of the past, as Firefox’s tabbed browsing lets you open, close and flip between several webpages within a single window.

Whatever you’re looking for in a web browser, Firefox probably does it better, faster and easier than IE. Get out of the Stone-Age and ignite your library’s access to online information with Mozilla Firefox ([www.getfirefox.com/](http://www.getfirefox.com/)). Test drive it awhile and you may never click on the old blue “e” again.



**Talk Back:** Dylan welcomes your feedback. Just email [Peggy](#) or [Stephanie](#) and we'll print your comments in *The Scoop*.

## Young Adult Corner

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Patrick Jones has written so much good stuff on serving young adults in libraries that I usually look in one of his books or his web site ([www.connectingYA.com](http://www.connectingYA.com)) when I'm looking for something for this column. If you haven't checked this web site out, it's full of great information including up-to-date booklists and tips. He includes handouts from workshops he does around the country including some great ones on reaching reluctant teen readers. That handout series includes a core collection for reluctant readers. Here's some other programming ideas and tips culled from his web site:

**T-Shirt Decoration.** Teens create their own t-shirts to wear when they volunteer.

**Teen Art Show.** One library hosted an art show and reception by working with local art teachers. They had 300 entries.

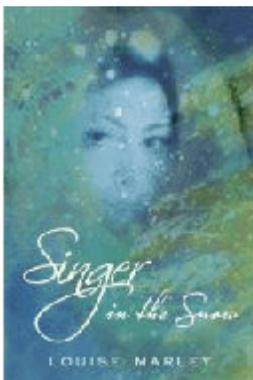
If you are providing **prizes for teens** (for Summer Reading prizes, Teen Read Week, etc.) have teens select them.

Put a **suggestions box** in your teen area stating "We listen to you" and have them suggest titles, genres, and music. Put purchases on display with the suggestion card.

**Create an internship program** by working with the high school Service Learning Coordinator or counselor. Provide a course credit and hire teens to help with all aspects of library service.

Post a **loose-leaf notebook** in your teen area where teens can write suggestions, reviews and requests.

**Teens need high-touch programs** that they can get involved in. They don't like the "we perform and you watch" model of programming.



## Book Look

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Louise Marley was a speaker during the Vision 2020 Think Tank held in Boise in August. She is the author of several science fiction books for young adults and wrote to us recently. "I spoke to some of you about my new young adult novel at the Library Futures Conference; I hope I'll wangle an invitation or two to come and visit your schools or libraries! I'm pleased to announce that *Singer in the Snow*, a new novel

in the Singers of Nevyra series, came out today. Viking did a lovely production, from the cover to the interior design. I hope you'll enjoy it! If you would like to read reviews, please visit [www.louisemarley.com](http://www.louisemarley.com) and don't forget to let me know what you think!"

### Nancy Pearl's Favorite of 2005 -- Children's and YA Books

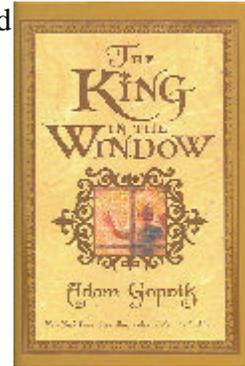
Nancy writes, "Here are my favorite books of all the ones I read in 2005 (in no particular order). Some of these were published in 2004, but I only discovered them this year."

Adam Gopnik. *The King in the Window* (Hyperion, 2005)

Michael Gruber. *The Witch's Boy* (HarperCollins, 2005)

Julie Ann Peters. *Luna* (Little Brown, 2004)

Judy Schachner. *Skippyjon Jones* (Dutton, 2005)



Mo Willems. *Knuffle Bunny* (Hyperion, 2004)

Lois Ehlert. *Leaf Man* (Harcourt, 2005)

Mini Grey. *Traction Man Is Here* (Knopf, 2005)

Melissa Sweet. *Carmine: A Little More Red* (Houghton Mifflin, 2005)

*What were your favorite children's and young adult books from 2005? Send us a quick e-mail and let us know. We love to hear what you're reading and what you liked!!*



**Amanda Pittman, Idaho's Young Readers Choice Award committee member, sent us this information.**

Young Reader's Choice Award nominations are due Wednesday, February 1! Nominations are taken from children, teachers, parents, librarians, media specialists and other adults living in the Pacific Northwest ~ Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. Nominations will not be accepted from publishers.

Nominated titles for the 2007 list must have been published during 2004 and printed in the U.S. or Canada. All nominations will be read and voted on by a committee assigned to a particular division (Junior/Middle/Senior) and consisting of at least four people (two YRCA state/provincial representatives and a person or persons of their choosing). Books will be judged on popularity with readers. Other considerations may include reading enjoyment; reading level; interest level; genre representation; gender representation; racial diversity; diversity of social, political,

economic, or religious viewpoints; regional consideration; effectiveness of expression; creativity; and imagination.

Only 4th to 12th graders in the Pacific Northwest are eligible to vote. Annual voting takes place March 15th through April 1st. Balloting results are sent to the State/Provincial YRCA Representative. These are then sent on to the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington.

When nominating a title please include the following: Title, Author, Copyright Date, Division where you feel the title is most appropriate -- Junior Division: Grades 4-6 -- Middle Division: Grades 7-9 -- Senior Division: Grades 10-12 .

For more information, visit [www.pnla.org/yrca/index.htm](http://www.pnla.org/yrca/index.htm) or email [Amanda](#). To submit your nomination, email [Barbra Meisenheimer](#), YRCA Chair.



## Upcoming Events

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**Groundhog Day** is February 2. Just for fun, read about the origins of Groundhog Day at: [www.stormfax.com/ghogday.htm](http://www.stormfax.com/ghogday.htm) or find out more about the celebration at [www.groundhog.org/celebrate/](http://www.groundhog.org/celebrate/).

**Valentine's Day** is February 14. Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday? For more go to [www.historychannel.com/exhibits/valentine/?page=history](http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/valentine/?page=history). Cupid is the most famous of Valentine symbols and everybody knows that boy armed with bow and arrows, and piercing hearts . He is known as a mischievous, winged child armed with bow and arrows. The arrows signify desires and emotions of love, and Cupid aims those arrows at Gods and Humans, causing them to fall deeply in love. Cupid has always played a role in the celebrations of love. For more on the legends of Cupid see [www.holidays.net/amore/cupid.html](http://www.holidays.net/amore/cupid.html).

**President's Day** is the third Monday in February. This holiday was created to celebrate the deeds of two legendary American Presidents: George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Learn about these great leaders in this collection of sites and activities at [www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/presday.html](http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/presday.html).

**Susan B. Anthony Day**, February 15, is a commemorative day to celebrate the accomplishments of a great leader in the movement for women's right to vote. Susan Brownell Anthony was born February 15, 1820 to Daniel and Lucy Anthony in Adams, Massachusetts. Early in her life she developed a sense of justice and moral zeal. After teaching for fifteen years, she became active in temperance. Because she was a woman, she was not allowed to speak at temperance rallies. This experience, and her acquaintance with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, led her to join the women's rights movement in 1852. Soon after she

dedicated her life to woman suffrage. Ignoring opposition and abuse, Anthony traveled, lectured and canvassed across the nation for the vote. She also campaigned for the abolition of slavery, women's rights to their own property and earnings, and women's labor organizations. In 1900, Anthony persuaded the University of Rochester to admit women. Anthony, who never married, was aggressive and compassionate by nature. She had a keen mind and a great ability to inspire. She remained active until her death on March 13, 1906. For more, games and fun go to <http://pbskids.org/stantonanthony/>.

February is **American Heart Month**. For more information go to [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org). There is also a link there to Children's Health.

February is also **Black History Month**, an annual celebration that had its origin in 1926 when Harvard scholar Dr. Carter G. Woodson organized the first annual Negro History Week, which took place during the second week of February. Woodson chose this date to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln - two men who had greatly impacted the black population. Over time, Negro History Week evolved into the Black History Month that we know today - a four-week-long celebration of African American History. For resources, see:

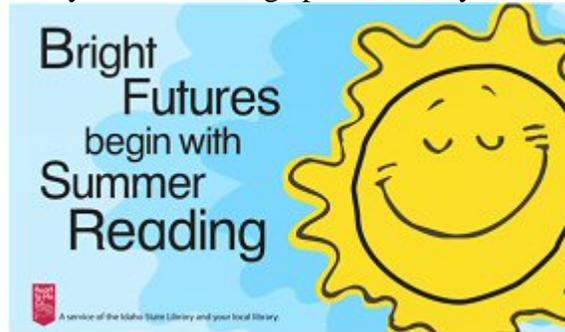
- The **National Education Association** web site for educational materials, lesson plans, and other resources. [www.nea.org/webresources/blackhist05.html](http://www.nea.org/webresources/blackhist05.html)
- Family Education Network** web site for a comprehensive section featuring resources and information for Black History Month  
<http://fun.familyeducation.com/black-history-month/holidays-and-celebrations/32871.html?yah>
- The **History Channel's** web site for resources including video clips, maps and other resources  
[www.historychannel.com/blackhistory/?page=home](http://www.historychannel.com/blackhistory/?page=home)
- The **Edmonton Public Library** (Canada) for a booklist divided by age groups from preschool to 6th grade.  
[www.epl.ca/EPLMaster.cfm?id=BLACKHISTORY](http://www.epl.ca/EPLMaster.cfm?id=BLACKHISTORY)
- The American Library Association's **Coretta Scott King Award** is given to an African American author and an African American illustrator for an outstandingly inspirational and educational contribution. The books promote understanding and appreciation of the culture of all peoples and their contribution to the realization of the American dream.  
[www.ala.org/ala/emiert/corettascottkingbookawards/abouttheawarda/cskabout.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/emiert/corettascottkingbookawards/abouttheawarda/cskabout.htm)



## Summer Reading News

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*The Scoop* has been profiling new opportunities to expand summer reading participation in 2006. In this issue we will look at **"Read for your Library."** This incentive program was developed last year to encourage public library and school library cooperation to promote summer reading and increase participation. This year the program has been expanded to include up to 150 public and school libraries. Each participating public library and school library will receive a colorful banner (pictured right) and \$200 worth of hardback books for their collections or to use as give aways.



The first step is to review **IRI scores** from the elementary schools in the public library's services area to help target the students most in need. Up to three elementary schools may be targeted. The second step is to make contact with the principal(s) and school librarian(s), explain the program and get their commitment to participate.

The principal(s) and public librarian then set a goal for participation by students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade. The public library needs to figure out a way to keep track of the number of students from partner schools who participate. Another requirement for public library staff is to make two presentations to parents and/or educators outside of the public library. This could be at a PTO meeting, kindergarten registration, or a faculty meeting.

The principal(s) are asked to write a letter of support for the "Read for your Library" application telling:

- Why summer reading is important for kids
- What the school will do to get kids interested in participating
- Why the school is partnering with the public library

The principal(s) and school librarian(s) are also encouraged to attend one summer reading program, if possible. And, they are encouraged to recognize students in the fall who participated in summer reading.

Here is what some of the 30 public librarians who participated in "Read for Your Library" in 2005 said about the project:

- Enjoyed forming the connection with the school. Might consider going with another school, but it would be nice to continue building on the relationship established.
- A good way to get the kids reading in the summer.
- Everyone benefits from free books and it is a great way to partner with the school.

- Good comments [on the books] from both children and parents.
- Challenged us to reach out to parents and teachers.
- Good publicity for libraries to do anything to help out schools and community. It was fun - enjoy helping the teachers.
- Students were excited to help put new books in library. Parents were pleased about state level participation with local libraries. I did not realize how little funding there is for school libraries.
- Also the opportunity to go to the schools - this is a multilevel event because of reaching so many different groups. The books received have all been checked out, so you did a good job selecting the books.
- A good way to promote cooperation and good feeling with schools.
- This program even pulled in teachers with young children who have not been library users.
- It was exciting to see some partnership and see how much we can accomplish by working together with the school.
- Wonderful opportunity for libraries to get books - last year's school had no budget. Books were chosen. It was easy to do.
- We are a small library so it helps to have books to encourage kids to read.
- These books were definitely what the kids wanted, but could not have purchased because of small budget. I would not have thought of making presentations to the school without this program.
- The contact with the school is beneficial to me. I might go to another school with lower scores.
- The easiest way to get in the door with schools is by having an incentive to offer. I do not need an incentive to do the program, but it helps with schools.
- An opportunity to build relationship with parents.
- If you'd seen the excitement of the librarian and teachers - the entire school!
- Little schools/communities just don't get things like this. It also gave me an opportunity/incentive to get out into the school. It really helped the school library.
- Great to have partnership with VISTA Volunteers - they were great. Not sure how it would have gone if working just with school people.
- School librarian was very enthusiastic.
- The four days the principal and school librarian were present [at summer reading programs] were fantastic - the interest level and numbers in attendance testify to the importance of their participation.
- What a great way to build a program and a structure for enhancing student achievement. Both principal and school librarian have already volunteered to help again next year.

 **"On the Case with Get a Clue" (2007 theme) from Patti Sinclair, CSLP  
Manual Editor**

Hi everyone,

Can anyone help me track down a few good ideas for school visit presentations? I need some clues! I've lost the scent! I've run into a dead end.

Too many puzzles, codes, literary snoops and lost civilizations are rattling around in my brain. Any ideas for skits, stories, jokes, a monologue, some fun patter...,etc. that will entice young readers to the library next (2007) summer for "Get a Clue @ Your Library"

For example,

"Dress up like a detective and..... Bring a secret message written on a poster board and see if kids can figure it out; give them hints as to the type of code you are using." "Bring something in a mystery box" and have kids try to guess what it is in twenty questions...." Deadline: Feb. 1

Thank you! Patti Sinclair



*Please respond to Patti at [trishsinclair@sbcglobal.net](mailto:trishsinclair@sbcglobal.net) by February 1, 2006.*

### **New 2006 Summer Reading Audio PSA Available**

CSLP has a new audio PSA available on their web site. The young adult PSA will be available in early February. Go to: [www.csllpreads.org/psa.htm](http://www.csllpreads.org/psa.htm).

*Tip from Stephanie Stokes, CSLP Marketing and PR chair:* Stephanie tested the audio PSAs on a variety of systems and found that in some Windows systems, when Internet Explorer has been configured to play the files using the QuickTime plug-in, the first second or two of the file may not be heard.

The solution is to right-click on the hyperlink to the audio file and then select "save target as" to download the .mp3 file to your computer. Then play the file from your local drive with whatever audio playback software you wish to use.

Windows Media Player works OK.



## **School Zone**

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*"No longer is the connection between school library media centers and student achievement an opinion or belief. The connection has been confirmed as a statistically significant, true relationship based on hard data."*

This is the conclusion of a study conducted in 2003 for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Missouri State Library. Results of the findings are summarized in a 10-page report, ***Show Me Connection: How School Library Media Center Services Affect Student Achievement***, available online at [www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/librarystudy/plainenglish.pdf](http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/librarystudy/plainenglish.pdf).

Library usage, summer reading programs, and library access ranked highest for having the most positive relationship to student achievement. Based on these findings, recommendations include:

- School library media specialists should have clerical help to allow the professional to work directly with students and teachers.
- A variety of print and online resources, including an online catalog, improves both library usage and library access.
- Cooperating with the local public library for summer reading programs increases students' opportunities to access reading materials.

In addition to this report, the complete statistical studies and PowerPoint presentations may be found on the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Web site:

[www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/lmcindex.htm](http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/lmcindex.htm).

## Know the Numbers

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Students who are not reading at grade level by the end of first grade have a one in eight chance of ever catching up to grade level without extraordinary and costly interventions. (Juel 1988, 1994 as cited in *Teaching Reading Sourcebook for Kindergarten Through Eighth Grade*, by Honig, Diamond, and Gutlohn)

## A Closer Look: Dr. Seuss' Birthday - March 2, 2006

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TM & © 1997 Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P. and NEA  
Cat in the Hat image TM & © 1957 Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P. All Rights Reserved.

Many Idaho libraries and schools will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2nd. Originally created as a one-day event to celebrate the joy of reading on March 2, Dr. Seuss's birthday, the National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America has grown into a nationwide initiative that promotes reading every day of the year. NEA's Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on or around Dr. Seuss's birthday. (This is only a guideline. Please feel free to celebrate on the day that

best coincides with your calendar.)

Here are some resources to help plan your celebration:

The **National Education Association** web site has an online resource kit, links for parents and educators, a biography of Dr. Seuss, booklists, Dr. Seuss products for

purchase, publicity tips and event ideas from different states.  
[www.nea.org/readacross/index.html](http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html)

The **A to Z Teacher Stuff** web site--created by and for teachers to find online resources--includes lesson plans, thematic units, teacher tips, discussion forums for teachers, downloadable teaching materials and eBooks, printable worksheets and blacklines, emergent reader books, themes, and more.  
[www.atozteacherstuff.com/Themes/Dr\\_\\_Seuss/index.shtml](http://www.atozteacherstuff.com/Themes/Dr__Seuss/index.shtml)

**Random House Publisher's Dr. Seuss** web site has resources for teachers, librarians and parents on this web site.  
[www.seussville.com/seussentennial/participation2.html](http://www.seussville.com/seussentennial/participation2.html)

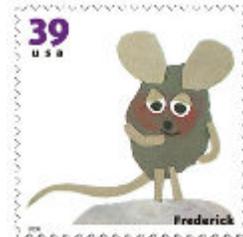
**Scholastic's Teachers** web site has activities for several of Dr. Seuss titles.  
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/instructor/drseuss.htm>



## Tips & Tools

**SO CUTE!** Children's storybook fans will be delighted now that cherished characters from children's literature are featured on the "Favorite Children's Book Animals" commemorative stamp pane. The 16-stamp pane, bearing eight children's storybook characters on 39-cent First-Class stamps, are available nationwide at post offices as of January 11.

"These wonderful books have been passed from generation to generation," said Linda Kingsley, Vice President of Strategic Planning for the U.S. Postal Service. "The lessons learned from many of these charming animals are priceless. This is a wonderful way to celebrate the joy they've brought to so many children and adults."



The stamps also depict Curious George ("Curious George Flies A Kite" by Margret and H.A. Rey, 1958); Fox in Socks ("Fox in Socks" by Dr. Seuss, 1965); Frederick ("Frederick" by Leo Lionni, 1967); Olivia ("Olivia" by Ian Falconer, 2000); Wilbur ("Charlotte's Web" written by E.B. White and illustrated by Garth Williams, 1952) and Wild Thing ("Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak, 1963).



"Getting children interested in reading at an early age is paramount to their success both in the classroom and in life," added Dr. DeBow Freed, President of The University of Findlay. "The commemorative stamp issue is an admirable tribute to the authors and illustrators who have created the books that generations of families have and will continue to enjoy."

More information about the stamps is available at  
[www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/2006/sr06\\_002.htm](http://www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/2006/sr06_002.htm)

 Lucy Schall, a retired English teacher, has written two excellent books for choosing books for teenagers. *Booktalks Plus: Motivating Teens to Read* (2001) and *Booktalks and More: Motivating Teens to Read* (2003) – both are published by Libraries Unlimited.

These books serve two purposes. First, they provide annotated lists of quality books on topics that are relevant to the lives of today's teens – more than 100 titles are listed in each book. Second, for booktalks, they include a short summary or description of the book, presentation tips, curriculum connections, and suggestions for related reading. There are also follow-up discussion questions and ideas for activities. The titles listed are grouped into themes centering around issues that teens are facing.

Both of these books are in the Idaho State Library collection and can be checked out either by direct loan or through interlibrary loan at your library. Go to [www.lili.org/isl/card-application.htm](http://www.lili.org/isl/card-application.htm) to fill out an application for a State Library card.

 **The Baldwin Online Children's Literature Project**  
[www.mainlesson.com/main/displayfeature.php](http://www.mainlesson.com/main/displayfeature.php)

The mission of the Baldwin Online Children's Literature Project is to bring together a wide selection of literature for children from the period from 1880 to 1920. The project is named after the noted author James Baldwin (not to be confused with the noted African-American novelist of the 20th century) who was responsible for adapting a number of stories (such as the story of Siegfried) for children in the late 19th century. The creator of this fine online archive is Lisa Ripperton, who has a background in classics, and maintains a strong affinity for the ancient world and children's literature. First-time visitors to the site will want to read an introductory piece offered here that explains how the site works, and then proceed to one of the 256 books that are currently part of the archive. Some of these titles include classic works by Beatrix Potter, Clara Dillingham Pierson, and M. B. Synge. Visitors may also peruse the offerings here as listed by author, title, genre, or subgenre.

## News Beyond Idaho

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The Public Library Association is meeting in Boston, March 20-26, 2006. The deadline for early registration just passed, but there is still time to register. For more information, go to: [www.placonference.org/](http://www.placonference.org/). *The Scoop* editors hope to have some first hand reports from Idaho librarians who attend. If you are planning to go, let us know.

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**Contact Us:** *The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho State Library's Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact [Peggy McClendon](#) or [Stephanie Bailey-White](#) at (208) 334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.