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Welcome

Hope you are finding time to cool off this summer.

You are invited to nominate an Idaho book for children--it should be by an Idaho author, have an Idaho setting or other connection to Idaho-- to be featured at the [2006 National Book Festival](#) in September in Washington, DC. One of the major features in the Pavilion of States, where every state library is invited to host a table, is a brochure featuring a national map with a booklist from the 50 states. Idaho books featured in previous years include:

- 2002 *Caddie Woodlawn* by Idaho author Carol Ryrie Brink
- 2003 *Mailing May* by Michael O. Tunnell (setting is Grangeville, Idaho)

- 2004 *Lewis and Clark's Bittersweet Crossing* by Idaho historian and author Carol Lynn MacGregor
- 2005 *P is for Potato: An Idaho Alphabet* by Idaho authors Joy and Stan Steiner

Send your nominations to [Peggy McClendon](#) by July 26th.

Curious George @ Your Library!



Curious George will be visiting up to 25 Idaho communities in November during Idaho Family Reading Week! This year's theme is "Curiosity Begins @ Your Library" and the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me program and local libraries around the state will be sponsoring special events to show families there's no better place to satisfy their curiosity than the library. The Read to Me program will pay the shipping costs for the costume. Public libraries selected to take part in "Curious George @ Your Library" need to arrange for Curious George to visit at least one other venue (another library, school, Head Start center, etc.) in their community during Idaho Family Reading Week, November 12 – 18, 2006. **If you're interested, please fill out this online form by July 24, 2006.** We'll notify people if we can get a costume to them by August 23.

Meet Karen Yother



When **Karen Yother** was hired to provide children and youth services at the **Hayden Branch of the Kootenai-Shoshone Areas Libraries (KSAL)** and told she'd be working primarily with two-year-olds, she admits to feeling a surge of panic. "They've been called everything from ankle biters to carpet monsters. I'd never worked with this age group before and wasn't sure what I'd do with them," she says. Nearly nine years later, however, she is adamant that she wouldn't trade "her" two-year-olds for anything.

As with most library staff, Karen wears multiple hats. She has the pleasure of doing story time every week with children of all ages as well as doing outreach with children and their families who can't come in to the library in their service area. She maintains the children's webpage, is involved in marketing and public relations for KSAL, conducts parent workshops, and participated in the Idaho Child Care Reads Program. In addition, she works closely with the Acquisitions Librarian to develop the children's, juvenile, and young adult collections. She is also part of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Daring Dreamers committee and is the Idaho public library representative to the Collaborative Summer Library Program. Along with her responsibilities for summer readings programs, Karen is project director for the

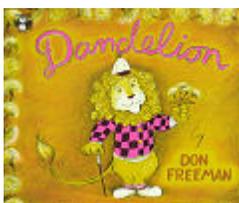
Smithsonian exhibit, Key Ingredients (<http://www.keyingredients.org/>), currently on display at the library.

Hayden Branch Library serves the people of Hayden, Dalton Gardens, and the northern areas of Coeur d'Alene and includes seven elementary, two middle, and two high schools in addition to a large private and home school population. Due to the size of the area, a number of children are not able to walk to the library so many of the services are outreach based. Along with services offered in the library, programs, especially the larger summer programs, are held at locations such as Summer PLUS, Kids Day in the Park, Summer Meals, Transitional Housing, Head Start, and day care centers.

Karen views one of her biggest successes to be watching strong local partnerships such as those with Kootenai Head Start and Mountain State Early Head Start expand thorough visits with the Bookmobile, monthly story times, and attendance at Head Start family events. Karen says, "I believe that these partnerships are the reason our programs are so successful." Over the past two years, partnerships with the KSAL summer school coordinator, the Friends of the Library, the Fernan, Winton, and Dalton Elementary School PTOs and the Idaho Community Foundation helped Hayden Branch Library acquire over \$4,250 in funding and reach more than 225 students. "The first year we offered a story time to students in kindergarten and first grade. Last year we handed out over 825 books to children from kindergarten through fifth grade. Many of the students don't have books at home and some received six books!" Karen is excited to relate. "My goal was that every child receives a free book every day they came to summer school. I'm eager to continue this program and watch the partnerships grow," she adds.

Of all the challenges in her position, Karen believes the biggest is getting the word out to everyone from parents to business leaders to government officials about all the services her library provides to local communities each and every day. Karen laments, "I'm frustrated when talking to people who only know that we check out books and have story times. They have no idea of the tremendous work libraries do or their impact on the community."

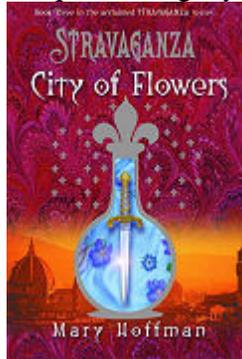
Karen comes to the library world through teaching. While attending Carroll College in Helena, Montana, she worked on campus at Corrette Library. After graduation she taught a third and fourth grade combination class in Rupert then moved back to Coeur d'Alene in 1997 where she took her present library job, thinking it would be transitional until she found a teaching position again. Fortunately for people served by the Hayden Branch Library, teaching jobs fell through and Karen decided to work at the library full time. She is very glad she made that decision.



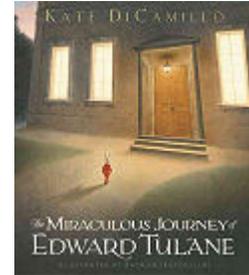
Karen was a childhood reader. Some of her favorites were *Frog & Toad*, *Arthur and his Honey Bear*, *Dandelion* by Don Freeman and the Stephen Cosgrove books. An incident with regard to her older sister's books, however, served to keep her away from mysteries

and Stephen King. "One day she caught me looking at her bookshelves and told me that if I read her books, it would make the words disappear," Karen remembers.

As far as favorite children's authors go, Karen recently finished *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo and this author's unique writing style has made her one of Karen's favorites. For a



great young adult book, she recommends Mary Hoffman's *Stravaganza* trilogy, which is a mix of mystery, adventure, a touch of romance, and time travel.



Outside the library, Karen's taste in books and activities runs to cookbooks and other food related topics---because of her work with the Smithsonian exhibit---non-fiction primarily about World War II, and biographies. And, somehow she manages to fit in more reading, quilting, traveling, and outside activities such as camping, hiking, and swimming.

In summing up her feelings about her work Karen says, "I want to bring library programs and services to as many children and families as I possibly can. It's very difficult for me to say "no" to anyone asking for a program. Every day I have the pleasure of coming to work and sharing a book with a child. Every day I have the opportunity to turn a child on to reading or help them further their love of books. My job is fun and engaging, and I am proud to be a librarian."



Library to Library

The **Patricia Romanko Public Library in Parma** held a fly tying program/craft at the library as part of their summer reading program on June 28th. "We had about 10 kids show up to learn how to tie flies," library director Cheryl Taylor said. "George McGaffick from Gem State Fly Fishers club came out to teach to kids how to tie flies. George and the Gem State Fly Fishers were gracious enough to supply the vices and tools for the craft while the library supplied the materials. The summer reading kids that participated learned a little about fly fishing and then successfully tied their own woolly buggers. We had a great time."



The library's summer reading program also included a visit from Fish and Game Officer Adare Evans who came from Boise to teach participants about wild animals from the area and their habitat. Cheryl said the program took about an hour but the kids really loved it. "This program included a wide variety of



animals such as a wolverine, grizzly and black bear and birds. When Adare was finished with her presentation, she allowed the kids hands on exploration of the animals and hides she had brought with her, with the exception of touching the birds and a porcupine. It was a big hit with our kids. We had about 35 participants," Cheryl said.

Anyone who wants more information about the programs can contact Cheryl at 722-6605 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

 **Marshall Public Library director Mike Doellman** recently shared this information on LIBIDAHO about the library's new Book Wagon:

"About a year or so ago we began discussing how to bring service to areas of the city outside of the library. Bookmobiles were expensive, branches and stations have to be staffed and operated -- not to mention building them!

The idea of small trailer, towable by the Library's Subaru station wagon, was conceived. We discussed how to fund such a project, what it would look like, what it would do -- and then the community got involved and things moved quickly. Rollout was on June 14. The three Rotary Clubs in town, the **Portneuf District Library**, and other organizations are partners in the project. You can see a picture of the Book Trailer at <http://www.marshallpl.org> -- if you click on the picture it takes you to the Book Wagon page.



The Wagon is 8 feet long, 5 feet wide, and is towed by the Library's Subaru station wagon. It will accommodate about 500 books on the shelves and of course more can be carried inside. Total cost of the project has so far been under \$5,000 -- the trailer sales company provided it at their cost and picked up the cost of larger side doors than we originally thought we would have. There is no connection (yet -- we're working on it) to the Horizon system; circulation is done by the paper & pencil method.

On one side are books from this library and on the other are books from the Portneuf District Library. Both libraries staff the Wagon. We are taking the Wagon to parks, the farmers' market, and similar places this summer; last Saturday it was at Riverfest. When summer is over we plan to take it to schools, nursing homes, the Senior Center, the community recreation center, even up into the neighborhoods. Being small it can visit where a bookmobile can't go -- and it costs far, far less to operate.

Does it work? Well, since June 14, 495 people have visited the Book Wagon in the parks, at Riverfest, and elsewhere. Seven new patrons have been registered at the Marshall Library and 15 volunteers have told or read stories. Sixty-five children have signed up for the summer reading program."

 The Coeur d'Alene Kiwanis Club has provided the **Hayden Branch of the Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries** with a \$1,000 grant to benefit the Tots and Tales program for new parents in Kootenai County. The grant enables the library to purchase board books and bags to distribute to all new parents at the Kootenai Medical Center. "Every parent who leaves the birthing center with their new baby receives a bag with music and rhymes for babies, a free book, grow charts and library information," children's librarian Karen Yother said.

Young Adult Corner:

Weren't able to attend ALA's Annual Conference? YALSA is providing [handouts from the sessions they sponsored](#). Check [YALSA's Blog](#) for some other great tips and information gleaned from the conference.

 The New York Public Library recently released the latest edition of **Books for the Teen Age**, which offers 1100 titles selected by a team of young adult librarians and teen literature experts on subjects ranging from stories of urban teens and poetry to mysteries, biographies, romance, and sports. All titles are arranged by subject and divided into five main sections: "The Creative Spirit," "Science," "Here and Now," "One World," and "Action and Adventure." These categories are further broken down into sections like humor, sf, and manga. This year, there's also an area for memoir that includes titles such as Frank McCourt's *Teacher Man*.

 **Fewer states doing their own stand alone summer reading programs, but here are several who have recently shared their teen programs:**

Julie Duke, Children's Service Consultant with the **Tennessee State Library and Archives**, shared a link to their Teen Summer Reading program "Jungle Tales: Hiss, Rumble and Roar," and the Teen Program, "Tune in @ Your Library," at <http://state.tn.us/tsla/lps/srp/index.htm>.

Anne Simon, Division of Library Development, **New York State Library**, invites librarians to see her summer reading program web page for teens at: <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/teens.html>.

Book Look

Choose Your Own Adventure Novels Making a Comeback

From the Star-Telegram (Fort Worth, TX) as reported in [Reading Rockets](#)

Growing up, millions like me who read "The Abominable Snowman" and other "Choose Your Own Adventure" books were quickly hooked. The first eight titles in the series have recently been re-released, and the first in a planned series of DVDs on the original titles comes out later this month. But this isn't just an opportunity for a new generation of young people to become fans of the CYOA

genre. Although the first title in the series was published in 1979, these slim and gratifying books may be more relevant than ever. [Read more . . .](#)



Curious about what books will be released in the months ahead? Then be sure to check out the new [Coming Soon section](#) on [Kidsreads.com](#). Here's a sampling of their July and August books that caught their eye:

Chapter Books/Middle Grade Novels:

CORNELIA AND THE AUDACIOUS ESCAPADES OF THE SOMERSET SISTERS by Lesley M. M. Blume (Knopf)

IN THE COMPANY OF CRAZIES by Nora Raleigh Baskin (HarperCollins)

INGO by Helen Dunmore (HarperCollins)

THE LEGEND OF ZOEY by Candie Moonshower (Delacorte)

ORPHAN OF THE SUN by Gill Harvey (Bloomsbury)

WEREWOLF RISING by R. L. LaFevers (Dutton Children's Books)

Nonfiction:

THE AMERICAN STORY: 100 True Tales from American History, by Jennifer Armstrong, illustrated by Roger Roth (Knopf)

ESCAPE! The Story of the Great Houdini, by Sid Fleischman (Greenwillow)

THE HERO SCHLIEMANN: The Dreamer Who Dug Up Troy, by Laura Amy Schlitz (Candlewick)

Series Books/Sequels:

Ulysses Moore ULYSSES MOORE #2: THE LONG-LOST MAP (Scholastic Inc.)

The Wednesday Tales THE PALACE OF LAUGHTER: The Wednesday Tales No. 1 by Jon Berkeley (HarperCollins)

PETER AND THE SHADOW THIEVES by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson (Disney Editions/Hyperion Books for Children) - Follow-up to PETER AND THE STARCATCHERS

Geronimo Stilton GERONIMO STILTON #26: THE MUMMY WITH NO NAME by Geronimo Stilton (Scholastic Paperbacks)

Golden & Grey GOLDEN & GREY: THE NIGHTMARES THAT GHOSTS HAVE by Louise Arnold (Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster)

Nancy Drew (All New) Girl Detective THE ORCHID THIEF: Nancy Drew (All New) Girl Detective, #19 by Carolyn Keene (Aladdin Paperbacks)

Pure Dead PURE DEAD BATTY by Debi Gliori (Knopf)

Picture Books:

EATS, SHOOTS & LEAVES: Why, Commas Really Do Make a Difference! by Lynne Truss, illustrated by Bonnie Timmons (G. P. Putnam's Sons)

THE ADVENTURES OF THE DISH AND THE SPOON by Mini Grey (Knopf)

SABUDA & REINHART PRESENT CASTLE: MEDIEVAL DAYS AND KNIGHTS by Kyle Olmon, illustrated by Tracy Sabin (Orchard Books/Scholastic)
- A brand new pop-up book

A VERY BRAVE WITCH by Alison McGhee, illustrated by Harry Bliss (Simon & Schuster)



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Training Events:

Mark your calendars for **Opening Doors for Families @ the Library**. Join us for a day of learning, sharing and planning with Idaho librarians as we focus on best practices in serving families. From storytime to family programs, from child care outreach to school partnerships, hear from practicing librarians how they do it and get practical solutions for ramping up your services to meet the needs of today's families. You will also learn how you can promote your great programs to the community. [For Online Registration Click Here](#). Dates are set for September 7 at the Boise Doubletree Downtowner, September 11 at the Coeur d'Alene Inn, and September 19 at the Pocatello Holiday Inn. Contact [Peggy](#) or [Stephanie](#) for more information.



Sign up for **New Technologies and New Literacies for Teens**. The Idaho Commission for Libraries will be offering Idaho public and school librarians an exciting opportunity this fall. A cohort of 12 - 15 people will participate in an online class October 2 - 30, 2006, to learn how teens' use of technology to play, learn, and create improves their text-based literacy skills. This group of people will meet face-to-face in Boise before and after the online course. The Commission is negotiating a group rate and will pay the \$195 registration fee, plus travel and related expenses for the two meetings in Boise (one half day session on September 28th before the online class starts and one day-long meeting on November 17th.) For more information or to register, go to <http://www.lili.org/forlibs/ce/new-literacies-for-teens.htm> by September 11, 2006.



 The **2006 ALSC Institute** will be held September 14-16, 2006 at the Hilton Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA. The theme is CHILDREN'S SERVICES TODAY AND TOMORROW. "Plan to join ALSC for its biennial Institute in 2006 and take advantage of this opportunity to recharge and network with other library professionals. This three-day event includes a preconference focusing on legal issues and children's services (e.g., copyright, intellectual freedom, public behavior, abuse reporting); stimulating continuing education workshops; exciting keynote speakers; an informative program on ALSC's Kids! @ your library® campaign; and much more." See <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscevents/06Institute.htm> for more information.

 **Idaho's 4th Early Years Conference** will be held at the Grove Hotel in Boise on November 29 - 30, 2006. The Early Years Conference is a celebration of Idaho's accomplishments and intends to recognize, support, and energize the early childhood community. At this important conference more than 450 parents and professionals from an array of disciplines will gather to learn, share successes and best practices, and focus on solutions to the challenges that face families with young children. Keynote presentations by nationally renowned experts and 45 workshops will explore what's new and what's working to support Idaho's young children and families.

Judith Viorst, author of *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* and other children's books as well as several adult books including *Imperfect Control* and others, will be one of the keynote presenters. An evening event featuring Viorst will also be open to the public. Registration information can be found at <http://www.eventville.com/Catalog/EventRegistration1.asp?EventId=1001390>.

August Events:

August is **Get Ready for Kindergarten Month**. For a great parent checklist to help prepare for the big day go to www.cms.k12.nc.us/resources/kinderhandbook/readyChecklist.asp.

August 3-6 - **Steinbeck Festival**. Author John Steinbeck is celebrated at this festival.

August 14-20 – **National Aviation Week**. In the late 1930s, there was tremendous progress in aviation. Aviation was opening up for commercial, military, and private interests, causing a great excitement. The holiday was also purposed to recognize the contributions of Wilbur and Orville Wright and other flying pioneers. While December 17, the day of first flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in 1903 might have been a better date, August 19 was Orville Wright's birthday, so August 19th was proclaimed National Aviation Day.

More Events & Author Birthdays . . .

August 19-25 - **Children's Book Council of Australia, Children's Book Week**. The Children's Book Council of Australia celebrates this event each year,

identifying award-winning books in various categories and encouraging children to read. The theme for 2006 is "Book Now!." Learn more about at:
www.cbc.org.au/bookweek.htm

Some other fun days to celebrate in August are: National Mustard Day, August 5th, National Kid's Day, August 6th, S'mores Day on August 10th, Sandcastle Day, August 17th, National Dog Day on August 26th, National Toasted Marshmallow Day, August 30th.

Author Birthdays

August 1 - **Herman Melville** (August 1, 1819 – September 28, 1891). Melville was an American novelist, essayist and poet. During his lifetime, his early novels were popular, but his popularity declined later in his life. By the time of his death he had nearly been forgotten, but his masterpiece, *Moby-Dick* (which during his life was largely considered a bomb responsible for Melville's fall from grace), was "rediscovered" in the 20th century. Melville also wrote *Billy Budd* and other fiction. For more on Melville go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herman_Melville.

August 12 - **Walter Dean Myers** (born in 1937). Walter Dean Myers discovered he loved to write when he was in fifth grade. His teacher required that all her students read in front of the class. Myers, who had a speech impediment, froze with fear at the thought. But when the teacher allowed the students to read something they had written themselves, Myers relaxed. He began writing poems made up only of words he could pronounce. He hasn't stopped writing since. Some of his titles include *Hoops*, *145th Street*, *Handbook for Boys* and more. See www.eduplace.com/kids/hmr/mtai/wdmyers.html.

August 15 - **Edith Nesbit** (married name Edith Bland; August 15, 1858 - May 4, 1924). Nesbit was an English author and poet whose children's works were published under the androgynous name of E. Nesbit. She wrote or collaborated on over 60 books of fiction for children, several of which have been adapted for film and television. Among Nesbit's best-known books are *The Story of the Treasure Seekers* (1898) and *The Wouldbegoods* (1899). For more go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E._Nesbit.

August 22 - **Ray Douglas Bradbury** (born on August 22, 1920). Author of short stories, novels, plays and more science fiction, including *The Martian Chronicles*, *Fahrenheit 451*, and *The Halloween Tree*. www.spaceagecity.com/bradbury



Summer Reading News

The **Mountain Home Public Library** hosted a family storyhour on June 24th which featured guest reader Idaho Congressman Butch Otter. Library trustee Kelly Everitt, director Luise House, and youth services librarian Robin Murphy were on hand to welcome families to the library. Mr. Otter read to the 40+ children and parents and engaged the children in discussing the books. Children received bobblehead animals at the close of the program.



Burley Public Library hosted a pet contest as part of their Summer Reading Program in June. The photo at the left shows Chassidy Kimber who won an award (as did all the children who entered their real or stuffed pets in the contest). A local elementary principal was also on hand to help distribute medals and certificates and support the library's program.



🍦 CSLP member Terri Wilhelm from the **North Dakota State Library** shared this resource for a great teen program. She used the book: *Generation T: 108 Ways to Transform a T-Shirt* to create a cool t-shirt in 40 minutes. See a preview of the book at: <http://marthastewartstore.shopthescene.com/detail.php?p=9298>.

🍦 And from CSLP member Stephanie Stokes of the **California Summer Reading Program**, comes this invitation for libraries to link to their "pawdcasts" which feature summer reading songs at <http://www.summerreading.clanet.org/srpgpodcast.html>. The link includes instructions for downloading the "pawdcasts."



School Zone

Idaho school board rejects request to ban book

Salmon School District board members have rejected a minister's request that Robert Cormier's *The Chocolate War* (Pantheon, 1974) be banned from Salmon High School's freshman English curriculum. The book, which topped the American Library Association's most challenged books in 2004, is about a teen who refuses to sell chocolate bars for a fund-raiser at an all-boys Catholic school. "The book is anti-Christian," Rev. Timothy Gordish, who led the effort to ban it from ninth-grade classrooms, told the *Idaho Falls Post Register*.

“There are some things you cannot discuss by law in public schools, and they have crossed that line.”

The school board voted in March to temporarily ban the book, but recently a review panel made up of administrators, teachers, and a school librarian said the title should be allowed, reports the *Idaho Falls Post Register*.

The novel appeared in 1974 and has since been praised by some for its realism but panned by others for its portrayals of immorality and foul language. Three of the board members at a May 8 meeting said they had read the novel.

The *Post Register* reported that Board member Pat Hurt said, "Emotionally, it's tough to read the hard and cruel things that happen in the book. I like books and movies that make you feel good, and this doesn't make you feel good."

But she also made the motion to accept a committee's recommendation that the book be allowed to return to the classroom.

"We need to trust the evaluation of our faculty and administrators," she said.

Rev. Timothy Gordish, a Lutheran minister was not pleased with the board's decision. "They have not yet addressed my issue that this book violates civil rights by denying religious freedom," he said.

Parent Chris Swersey said that concern wasn't a good enough reason to ban the book from the school.

"The Bible has all kinds of incest, adultery, murder, betrayal, take your pick," Swersey said. "That doesn't make it anti-Christian. There are people other than clergymen who can talk about morality."

The teacher who will again be allowed to use the book in her class noted the parallels between the novel and the attempt to ban it from the school.

"The board made their decision in spite of the fact they felt uncomfortable," said second-year teacher Jesse Bender. "One of the main points of the book is that sometimes you have to make the right decision even though you know repercussions are going to occur."

(Sources for this article were the *The Idaho Falls Post Register*, the Associated Press, *School Library Journal* and the [First Amendment Center](#). Related links can be found there.)

Know the Numbers

Idaho's dramatic population growth is spreading to more rural communities as people migrate toward more affordable homes and a less hectic way of life. The

Census Bureau estimated that 118 of Idaho's 200 cities gained population from mid-2004 to mid-2005 and another 19 saw their populations hold steady.

The bulk of last year's growth remained concentrated in the communities near Idaho's metropolitan centers – Meridian, Eagle, Kuna, Star, Middleton, Nampa and Caldwell near Boise in southwestern Idaho; Hayden, Post Falls, Hayden Lake and Spirit Lake around Coeur d'Alene in the Panhandle; and Ammon, Rigby, Ucon and Shelley near Idaho Falls in eastern Idaho.

All had growth rates above the statewide rate of 2.4 percent, which was the third highest among the states.

(Source: Idaho Dept. of Commerce and Labor, [June 21, 2006 press release](#))



A Closer Look at Emerging Trends in Youth Services

by Peggy McClendon

Trend #3 Public libraries can better serve their clientele when they engage the community and partner with schools and other organizations who serve children.

Youth Services librarians are often on the front line of developing partnerships for their libraries in order to serve the children in their communities. Why should libraries collaborate? Foremost, it is a powerful way to build your library's capacity to provide more services targeted to a specific population. If you are serving school-age children during your summer reading program, working with the schools is an obvious choice.

Here are some steps to consider when forming a partnership:

- **Develop a shared vision.** A shared vision helps guide your program or service and provides a focus when obstacles arise.
- **Know resources and limitations.** This will help you in planning the scope of your project or service.
- **Have the key people involved.** Decision-makers are necessary to help create the shared vision and to allocate resources, but front-line staff also need to be involved in planning as they are the ones who will probably oversee the day-to-day activities.
- **Communicate regularly.** It is all about building trust and sharing information. Email can be an efficient way to update partners, but don't overlook the need for personal contacts. Set up regular face to face meetings or phone calls as well, especially in the beginning.

- **Start with a pilot program or a short-term activity.** This allows you to develop a working relationship with your partner.
- **Know what the library is bringing to the table.** Be ready to articulate what the library can offer both the target population and the partnering organization. How will they each benefit?

This summer, over 100 public libraries and elementary schools are partnering to promote summer reading to children K-3rd grade. School principals have written letters of support. Some will attend summer reading programs and will recognize summer readers in the fall. Public librarians used this partnership opportunity to make presentations to parents, teachers and other adults in the community about the importance of summer reading.

Idaho libraries are also partnering with other organizations to expand their reach into the community. The 2006-07 Read to Me First Book program enables nine libraries and their partners to put books in the hands of approximately 700 underserved children, and partnerships are key to accomplishing this. The Saint Maries Public Library and the Nezperce Community Library will partner with local daycares; Boise Public Library, Idaho Falls Public Library and Bear Lake County District Library in Montpelier will work with local Head Start programs. Kuna District Library, Shoshone Public Library, Eastern Owyhee County District Library in Grand View, and Armoral Tuttle Library in New Plymouth will be working with an elementary school in their areas.

Idaho's population is growing. The 2005 US Census data shows that rural areas are experiencing much of the growth. Part of this growth is increasing the diversity of communities, especially by Hispanics, Idaho's number one minority group. Libraries recognize they must find new partners to reach all segments of their community. The Caldwell Public Library will hold one of their summer reading programs at Farmway Village, a labor camp. American Falls Public Library partners during summer reading with the Migrant Summer School.

For more about partnerships between public and school libraries, see the clearinghouse of information about school/public library cooperative activities compiled by the ALSC/AASL/YALSA Joint Task Force on School/Public Library Cooperation at:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/forlibrarians/librarianseducators.htm>. For a list of other collaboration resources and contact information, visit the Read to Me web site: <http://www.lili.org/read/readtome/collab.htm>.

Tips & Tools

New Books at the Idaho Commission for Libraries:

Extreme Teens: Library Service to Nontraditional Young Adults, by Sheila B. Anderson. Libraries Unlimited, 2005. [027.62 ANDERSO 2005]

Extreme teens are those who are nontraditional and do not fit into the mainstream. These teens need specialized programs and services. This is a guidebook with practical suggestions for how libraries may help teens with various problems and issues. Discussion points include needs, staff training, collection, and promotion.

More Teen Programs That Work, by RoseMary Honnold. Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., 2005. [027.62 MORE TE]

Part of the *teens @ the library series*, this book follows *101+ Teen Programs That Work*. Among the creative and successful programs presented are programs for summer reading and Teen Read Week, independent programs that can be used anytime, craft programs, and book-themed programs. There are also programs that target specific groups, such as girls, boys, and tweens.

Newbery and Caldecott Mock Elections, by Kathleen Simonetta, Nancy Hackett, Linda Ward-Callaghan. Rev. ed. Association for Library Service to Children, 2001. [028.5 SIMONET 2001]

This practical guide contains all the information needed to successfully plan and execute a mock election, including: procedures, checklists and evaluation forms, tips for book discussions, guidelines for evaluating picture books, and reproducible certificates and tally sheets.

Sizzling Summer Reading Programs for Young Adults, by Katharine L. Kan. 2nd ed. Young Adult Library Services Association, 2006. [027.625 KAN 2006]

Librarians nationwide share more than 50 successful programs, including details like handling registration, getting donations, creating partnerships, tracking reading, and promoting programs. Also includes ideas for reading incentives, volunteering, and programs for special teen populations.

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Kids and Family Reading Report

A new report released by Yankelovich, a national consumer research organization, and Scholastic, titled "The Kids and Family Reading Report," looked at why kids and their parents do or don't read. This is a national survey of kids 5-17 years old and one parent or primary guardian. According to a news release on the Scholastic web site, some of the findings include:

Kids' Relationship with Reading:

- Kids perceive reading as enjoyable and important
- 92% of kids enjoy reading books for fun and 90% say reading books for fun is important.
- Nearly two-thirds of kids surveyed agree that they have to be a strong reader to get into a good college (64%) and that being a strong reader will help them get a good job when they are older (63%).
- High frequency readers are more likely to describe themselves as smart (84% vs. 64% of low frequency readers), a good student (84% vs. 60%), creative (78% vs. 60%) and well behaved (66% vs. 49%).
- Contrary to popular belief, kids who use technology platforms to read or listen to books are more inclined to be high frequency readers (34%) than those that do not (25%).

Kids' Reading Attitudes Change As They Get Older:

- Almost half of the 15-17 year olds surveyed say they are low frequency readers compared to 14% of kids ages 5-8.
- Although nearly all kids consider reading for fun somewhat important, 65% of younger kids ages 5-8 think reading for fun is very important compared to 40% of teens ages 15-17 years old.
- More kids ages 5-8 years old link being a strong reader to getting a good job (67%), compared to kids ages 15-17 years old (58%).

Boys vs. Girls:

- Boys are less likely than girls to have positive attitudes about reading. Three times as many boys think that reading for fun is “not at all” important. Fewer boys than girls say they enjoy reading for fun and engage in the activity on a regular basis.

Summer Reading:

- Most kids and parents acknowledge the link between reading during the summer and academic success during the school year.
- 78% of kids who report reading more books for fun during the summer “agree a lot” that reading during the summer helps them do better in school, compared to 35% of other kids.
- 71% of 9-17 year olds who report reading more during the summer say that their parents encourage them to do so, versus 28% of other 9-17 year olds.

For more information about the report, go to:

http://www.scholastic.com/aboutscholastic/news/press_06142006_CP.htm.

News Beyond Idaho

Meaning of Grade-Level Reading Varies

From the July 5, 2006 issue of The Post and Courier (Charleston, SC) as reported in [Reading Rockets](#)

It seems like a simple question: What does it mean for a child to read on grade level? The answer is much more complex, and it depends on whom you talk to, what county or state you live in and the tests your children take. [Read more . . .](#)



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

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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.