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Published bi-weekly by [Read to Me](#), a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL)

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Welcome



Today, November 20th, is International Children's Day. In 1954, the UN General Assembly recommended that all countries should establish a Universal Children's Day on an "appropriate" day. See the Book Look and News Beyond Idaho sections for more on this theme.

I will be retiring on December 31st and this will be my last *Scoop* to edit. I know that Read to Me and summer reading will be in good hands with Stephanie and Staci and other great staff at the Commission. I'd like to share this quote as I say farewell to the Idaho library community:

"Although we are in different boats, you in your boat and we in our canoe, we share the same river of life." - *Chief Oren Lyons, Onandaga Nation, USA*

It has been a fantastic 25 years that I have had the privilege to work with Idaho librarians across the state. I am especially impressed with those of you working in youth services—in both public libraries and school libraries. I have seen an upswing in lapsit programs, bilingual storytimes, programs and services for teens, summer reading outreach and many other

exciting developments in the time I have been working. Your energy, passion and dedication stand out, and you have been my inspiration. Good luck, and keep rowing!

Meet Peggy McClendon



In 1985, Peggy McClendon started working part-time at the Idaho Commission for Libraries (then the Idaho State Library). She drew on her training in social work and experience owning a used book store to develop and coordinate Let's Talk About It, the reading and discussion program for adults. By 1987, she went full-time and added summer reading and adult literacy services to her job responsibilities. In the late 90s, when Peggy and Stephanie Bailey-White first learned about the research on early brain development that was becoming more widely known, it seemed natural that libraries would be critical to getting the word out to families. In 1997, they began working to create an early literacy program, and Read to Me was born. Over the past 12 years, Read to Me grew into a multi-faceted project offering a variety of outreach programs, professional development, and resources. In 2008 Staci Shaw joined the team as the third projects coordinator.

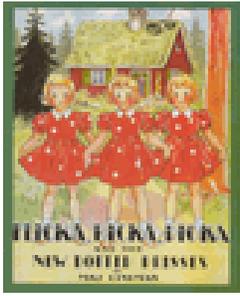
Peggy works with projects that impact all ages. She explains, "Sometimes Read to Me is thought of as a children's program, but really it is directed toward adults—parents and caregivers of children birth to age eight." Peggy also works with public librarians who host the Let's Talk About It programs, which are designed for out-of-school adults.

With the Read to Me team and support staff—who help with everything from collating workshop handouts to distributing project resources—Peggy helps plan, implement, and evaluate the various Read to Me and summer reading programs, including First Book, Child Care Reads, Every Child Ready to Read, Jump Start, and Bright Futures. And she schedules speakers for about 75 Let's Talk About It programs annually and makes sure libraries and speakers have the materials they need for programs.

Peggy feels that her biggest success was probably getting Read to Me off the ground. She and Stephanie did a lot of networking, and the timing was great because the Albertson Foundation was interested in supporting early literacy. Read to Me received a huge boost in the form of a three-year grant to establish professional development and outreach programs in libraries. A decade later, in 2008, the Idaho Legislature provided ongoing funding for Read to Me. Data from the Read to Me evaluation this past year reveal the tremendous impact that the programs have on parents' attitudes and behaviors with regards to their children's early literacy development.

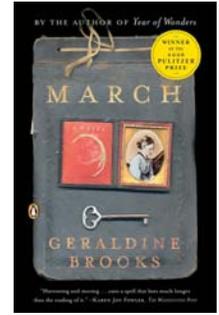
Peggy's biggest challenge has been to work within the limitations that Idaho libraries experience with their budgets. She thinks Idaho libraries are amazing in what they accomplish with few resources and believes that they could do so much more with increased funding. Adding staff hours, especially for doing outreach, is a big need.

Asked about her favorite children's book, Peggy found it difficult to choose just one. Rosemary Wells is pretty high on the list, especially the Max books. As a child, Peggy loved the Golden Books and remembers getting them at the grocery store. She also loved the *Flicka*, *Ricka* and



Dicka series by Swedish author Maj Lindman. Books have always been a big part of her life. She was an avid library user as a child, and by her early teens (way before YA literature was around) she was browsing in the adult section.

Peggy is currently reading *March* by Geraldine Brooks. It is the story of Mr. March, the father in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, and portrays his experiences during the Civil War when he was separated from his family while serving in the Union Army. It is a beautifully written book and features some historical figures including John Brown and Henry Thoreau. Peggy also loves mysteries, biographies, historical fiction, and fiction and enjoys being a part of a book group.



Her favorite flavor of ice cream? Anything with chocolate and coffee flavors. The darker the better!

Because Peggy is retiring December 31st, she is trying to wrap up all the loose ends on projects, write reports, etc. The Read to Me team just finished six Navigating Youth Services workshops around the state and Peggy coordinated the two in north Idaho: Lewiston and Coeur d'Alene. This is also her last *Scoop* to edit.

Peggy's favorite thing about her job has been the people she has worked with. She says, "My colleagues at ICFL are really smart, fun, creative and caring people. It is a challenge to keep up with their ideas and energy, and I will miss that. I also appreciate the librarians all around the state with whom I have had the privilege to work."

Peggy's husband is also retiring at the end of December, and they plan to travel, work on their 120-year-old home (the eternal fixer-upper), do volunteer work, and, of course, read! They are also looking forward to spending quality time with their new grandson who will be born in Portland in February. She has already selected a reading list of board books for his parents.

For Peggy, it has been a rich and rewarding 25 years. She says, "I treasure the friendships I have made with many of you. I will miss the Idaho library community and hope to stay in touch through LIBIDAHO and *The Scoop*. I wish the very best to all *Scoop* readers as you continue to serve the children, teens, and families of Idaho."

We know that the Commission and the Idaho library community will miss Peggy tremendously, and will always value and appreciate her dedication, her compassion, and her commitment to advancing literacy opportunities for Idahoans of all ages.



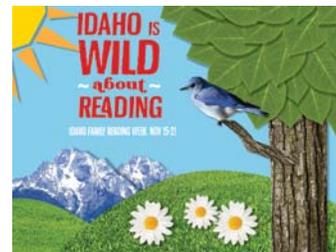
The Idaho Library Community is invited to attend a Best Wishes Party for Peggy and Field Consultant Erin McCusker, who is moving to Arizona, on Monday, December 7 from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Commission, 325 W. State St., Boise, 83702. If you aren't able to make it and would like to send your best wishes to Peggy or Erin, Stephanie will be collecting those between now and then and will pass on your wishes to them at the party.

Library to Library



Idaho Family Reading Week Wraps Up

Libraries around the state are wrapping up their 2009 Family Reading Week celebrations today and tomorrow. We'd love to share some pictures of your events or updates on how things went in the December issue of *The Scoop*. Send them to stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov and indicate if you were able to get photo releases of any that feature children under 18 so we can publish them. We appreciate all the comments and suggestions people provided in the survey monkey questionnaire along with everyone who registered as participating.



Here's a sampling of events that took place this week:

Sonia Beard, from **South Fork Elementary**, took advantage of the outdoor resources in their area for this year's Family Reading Week celebration. "We are a rural Madison County school that is located close to the South Fork of the Snake River, which is world famous for trout fishing. We'll talk about the river and the ecosystem that surrounds it. We are talking now about the wildlife that live in our backyard--moose, white-tail deer, wild turkeys, cougars, porcupines, raccoons, and anything else that the children observe," she said.

Suzanne Davis, **East Bonner County Library** Youth Services Librarian at the Sandpoint Branch, planned a big camping event. "We decorated with wild animal silhouettes, tents, sleeping bags, and a fake fire. We had campfire stories, an animal tracks display with a 'quiz,' a book exchange, and served s'mores," Suzanne said.



"We did a Back Country Family Storytime on Monday," **Liesl Seborg** of the **Hidden Springs Branch of Ada Community Library** said. "We told and read stories and did some singing with our guitar playing staff. We had an outdoorsy treat as well," she reported. The photo at the left shows guitar-playing staff member Jerome, getting ready to entertain families.

"We planned a 'Storybook on Stage' event with stories, puppets, 'acting' and appearances by special guests such as 'Explorer Booker Bee,' and others. The events lasted approximately 40 minutes and were for families and all ages! We also put together literacy packets for all participants that included handouts from the CD as well as fun activity sheets," **Dawn Kindberg** at **Nampa Public** said.

The **Gooding Public Library** and **Gooding School District Libraries** worked together to promote Family Reading Week. All the libraries featured crafts, treats, and activities all week. They had printed passports for everyone, and, if the passports have stamps from a school library and the public library, then children will receive a free book.

Bonnie Pratt, the Idaho Reads! VISTA Volunteer at the **Hayden Kinder Center**, had a fun evening planned. "We will read the book *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*. Various activities centered around weather will be set up for families to enjoy with their children. Each family will

enjoy a spaghetti and meatball dinner and listen to the story. The evening will be capped by each child going home with a copy of the book,” she said.

“On Monday we had a party at the library to kick off and celebrate Family Reading Week. Every year we partner with the local elementary school and put on quite an event! This year we planned to have the principal’s wife as our guest reader,” **Weippe Youth Services Librarian Melissa Mayberry** said. “This is my second year planning Family Read Week and I am really looking forward to it! Last year I didn’t know what to expect and I was very nervous. It turned out to be a blast and now I know that this year will be great as well. I LOVE this year’s theme, as I love the outdoors and the wild! Thank you for all the wonderful resources!”

Amy Despain at **White Pine Intermediate School** is having different students read books that have to do with the wild and will record them on video doing a two-minute booktalk. “We will show one a day to the whole school on the network,” she said. “We will also have a wildlife display for the students to look at in the library, and send fliers home encouraging families to be wild about reading.”

To read more about what libraries have planned, go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/what-libraries-are-doing-for-FRW.pdf>.

Congratulations to the Family Reading Week Drawing Winner! Monique Gardner’s name was drawn at random from the 129 names of people who registered as participating in 2009’s Idaho Family Reading Week. Monique works at **Falls Valley Elementary in Idaho Falls** and we’re sure the 12 nature-themed books will be a big hit with the students there. Thanks Monique and everyone else who registered!



Ada Community Library to Host Caldecott Tea

The Ada Community Library will be holding its annual Caldecott Tea on the 2nd of December at 4pm and anyone who is interested in an invitation can contact Amanda Pittman at pittman@adalib.org or 208-362-0181 ext 4.

The library pre-selects 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. The top three vote-getters are announced at the end of the event. Is there anything more fun than treats, tea and talking about picture books?

Visit the ALA website for more information on the [Caldecott Medal](#).



Buhl Public hosts Fun-filled Gaming Day



Buhl Public Library kicked off Family Reading Week on Saturday, November 14, from 1 to 5 p.m. with a National Gaming Day celebration. “We had tons of board and card games out for everyone -- kids to adults -- to use, as well as hosting an in-house Super Smash Brothers Brawl tournament for ages 13 and up on the library’s new Wii,” staff member Amanda Hatfield said. “We had about 35 people total that participated throughout the day.

The Scrabble Table and the Wii were the most popular games of the day.” The library also provided food and prizes. “Whether people wanted to play, coach, or just watch, it was a fun-filled family day,” Amanda said.



Meridian Library Uses SummerSlam Award for Teen Section, Gaming Day



National Gaming Day was celebrated at the Meridian District Library Main Branch with the grand opening of their new Teen Center. The new teen section and many new games were funded by a cash award from the World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) “SummerSlam Reading Jam.” Five hundred libraries across 47 states and the District of Columbia participated in the program to encourage teens and tweens to visit their local libraries and read throughout the summer. Participating libraries awarded a poster featuring WWE® Superstars to the first 25 teens and tweens between ages 10 and 18, who checked out two books. The posters, each of which was numbered, were available until July 16. On July 17 two poster numbers were drawn randomly and Jessica McKelley, a Meridian Library teen patron, was one of the two grand prize winners. She and another teen were given airfare to Los Angeles for two, two-night hotel stays, two tickets and \$200 spending money for WWE’s SummerSlam pay-per-view event on August 23 in Los Angeles. The Meridian Library was awarded \$1000 to use for teen programs.

Dominique Svamberk-Garner, a teen librarian at the Meridian Library, told us the National Gaming Day/ Grand Opening event was a big hit with their teen patrons. On Friday, November 13, the library closed at 6 p.m. and reopened, for teens only, to play games such as Wii, Xbox, Playstation 3 and board games. Fifty-five teens attended the event, and approximately 80% of them were boys. Because registration exceeded capacity, the library staff plans to host another event on November 27th for the overflow registrants. In addition to playing games, teens were treated to pizza and soda and at the end of the night a drawing was held for used games and consoles, which were donated by a local gaming store.

“It was a well-organized and structured event, and it all went very smoothly,” Dominique told us. “The best thing about it was connecting with teens, telling them about programs and the teen department, and talking to them about their needs, dislikes, and plans that concern the library. I got a great idea about what teens want and hopefully sparked a lot of teens’ interest in teen library programs. The majority of them promised to see me during the day at my new teen desk. All of them wanted to do it again and gave us some great feedback!”



More Display Pics from Idaho Libraries

Last issue we featured display pictures from Ada Community Library and next week we will share some from the Clearwater Memorial Library in Orofino. This issue we wanted to share some frightfully fun



picture from **Nampa Public Library**. Enjoy!

Nampa Public Library currently has a two-part ‘Books with a Bite’ display, using their front window as well as display shelving. The displays bring together



vampire-themed books and media--old and new--for all ages. Nampa Library Director Karen Ganske said some of the items in the displays were purchased for the display and others were pulled temporarily from the existing collection.



We thought the framed pictures of vampires were a pretty creative touch that could be done inexpensively for a number of different themes. Mixing them in with candles and goblets creates a significantly spooky effect.

“Customers are checking them out like crazy. The related window display includes books pulled from donations that are not cataloged for the collection, framed photos of vampires, and a rich assemblage of objects and textures. When you see it at night with the little lights it is wonderful. It is tricky to get photos without glare,” Karen said.

We knew people would want to know where they found “Edward.” They picked him at a local Zurchers store.

“Creativity awards go to several people, but especially Laura Abbott,”



Karen said.

Laura is pictured at the right with Edward – in matching capes no less! Thanks for sharing these great photos with our Scoop readers. We’d love to see what you’ve done in your library. Send photos to stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov .

Young Adult Corner



Malad Teens Benefit from Grant

Teens in Malad say the library is no longer just for “little kids” and are finding all kinds of resources there that meet their needs. The **Oneida County Library District** was one of 14 recipients of Wal-Mart mini-grants this past year. They have been using their \$10,000 grant award to beef up programs and resources for the 12 to 18 age group.

“We have had a lot of success with our youth from birth to about age 11, but were having a tough time interesting our young adults,” Technology Specialist Kathy Kent said. They did have a strong teen summer reading program that has been active for the past two years. The grant program aims to build on this successful model by including more after-school programs and reaching teens who may not have been inside the library for years. The idea is to get more kids in the library and introduce them to what the library offers. A revamped “Teen Central” space lets them have their own space in the library



where they can learn and enjoy resources designed to appeal to them.

The library was lucky to tap into the skills of Scott Austin, a local IT person and father who has an active interest in reading and technology. Scott has led the teen summer group the past two years and has seen the groups grow from about 16 – 20 teens in 2008 to about 100 teenagers who would show up for the Tuesday sessions. “They liked the computer classes and learning new things, but it was also great when they started talking about the books they were reading. We have a great group of kids here who are really interested in a wide range of topics,” Scott said.

Scott has facilitated discussions or demonstrations on everything from spyware, how to use YouTube, author blogs, downloading music and books on MP3-players, and more. He has some contact with authors in the Salt Lake area and is working to get them connected in person or via the Internet to kids who are reading their books. “There’s a lot of potential with podcasts and authors’ blogs to ask questions and get an insider’s view of their work,” he said. “The nearest movie theater is an hour’s drive away, so we try to channel their energy and do some positive things.” Scott makes an effort to read as many YA books the kids are reading as possible and booktalks a lot of science-fiction and fantasy books that he enjoys. “It’s great to

have someone who can be a reading role model for them, as well as having the technical background so they can ask him questions about reading or technology. We really lucked out,” Library Director Kay Caldwell said.



The library used grant funds to purchase several computers, MP3 video players, and young adult books that the teens got to help select. A newer Wii gaming system that is set up for teens to use after school and during the summer along with a chess set and other games are other selling points for making the library a teen destination.

We talked to three teen library users on a recent Friday afternoon. All three had participated in at least some of the summer programs and were enjoying the library amenities that day.



Fifteen-year-old students Ben Lenoghen and Calvin Garred visit the library once or twice a month during the school year and said they like “most of the stuff they have” and the “new computers.” They spent some time on Friday playing Wii games and meeting some friends. Christopher Austin, also 15, said he likes to do his homework there because it’s nice and quiet. “I loved it when I was younger. I like the new summer programs because it gets me to read more. Now that I’m in high school I am pretty busy and it’s a lot harder to do stuff, but it’s still nice when I can get here.”

The library is partnering with the local middle and high school to encourage more teens to participate

in library programs. This month they will experiment with bussing the students to the library for special programs each Monday. "We will also have the D.A.R.E Officer in to do an Internet safety class. We always kick off any Internet program for the youth with this class. Awareness and safety is a big part of our program," Kay said. The library is also planning some family nights for all ages to raise awareness among parents and younger siblings about the teen projects.

The library has seen circulation of their YA materials increase this year. "YA stuff is pretty hot this year," Kay said. "But I think giving the teen points for their summer reading prizes for book recommendations and reviews helped us get more books they want to read."

They also had good luck with 9 a.m. Tuesday morning summer programs for teens and plan on continuing that again next summer. "We provided donuts, cocoa and other refreshments and they showed up. I think some of their parents could drop them off on the way to work and then they had the rest of their day to do what they wanted. It seems like an odd time to get teens to show up--and the food, of course, helped-- but it worked for us," Kay said.

In addition to after-school programs for teens, the library plans to do more with blogging, podcasting, a session on sound effects, research tools, YA authors, and more to meet the needs of teens in this corner of the state. Sounds like they are off to a terrific start!



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 are paid for staff from publicly funded libraries.

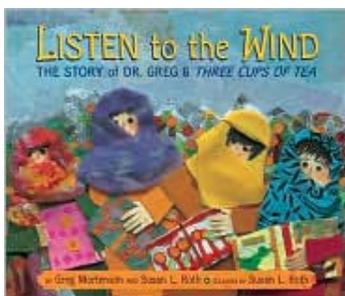
Full course information, including the registration form. Hurry, this year we can accommodate only 20 participants. Registration deadline: Friday, **December 18**. If you have questions, please contact: Sue Walker sue.walker@libraries.idaho.gov.

Book Look



One World, Many Books

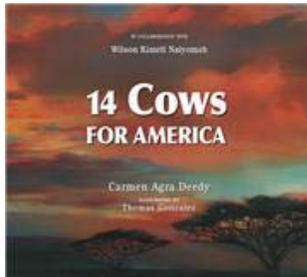
As our world grows ever more interconnected and our attention is captured daily by events and tragedies thousands of miles from home, books offer an avenue to help make sense of what seems like an increasingly hostile and violent world. Here are a couple of favorites:



Listen to the Wind: The Story of Dr. Greg and Three Cups of Tea
by Greg Mortenson and Susan L. Roth

Three Cups of Tea is the story of Greg Mortenson's quest to build schools for girls in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The book has also

been adapted and updated for young readers of all ages. The Young Readers edition, *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World... One Child at a Time* includes new photos and illustrations, as well as a special interview by Greg's twelve-year-old daughter, Amira, who has traveled with her father as an advocate for the [Pennies for Peace](#) program. *Listen to the Wind*, the children's book, is told in the voice of Korphe, Pakistan's children, and illuminates the humanity and culture of a relevant and distant part of the world while sharing a riveting example of how one person can change thousands of lives. Visit www.threecupsoftea.com for more information. (Source: <http://www.gregmortenson.com/gregs-books/>)



14 Cows for America, written by Carmen Agra Deedy and illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez

This true story of hope and generosity is about a gift from a small Kenyan village to the people of America. To the Maasai people of Kenya, the cow is a symbol of life and the most valued possession. After 9/11, Maasai villager Kimeli Maiyomah decides to give up his beloved cow to the grieving Americans as an expression of his sympathy. In similar gestures, his tribe offered more cows - fourteen in all. This beautifully illustrated picture book tells how the gift unfolds. For more information, go to: <http://www.14cowsforamerica.com/>.

The **Children's Literature and Reading Special Interest Group of the International Reading Association** annually selects a list of 25 **Notable Books for a Global Society**. The committee considered "works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry for students in grades K-12 that encourage readers to understand, accept, and celebrate cultural differences as well as recognize shared aspects of the human experience across time and space." See the 2009 list here: http://www.oregonread.org/conf_handouts_09/Evans_Handout.pdf.



The **Mother Goose Programs** is a project of the Vermont Center for the Book, a nonprofit agency affiliated with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Mother Goose Programs are used in more than 30 states and hundreds of professionals and thousands of parents have been introduced to these programs. Their website (www.mothergooseprograms.org/) has great resources and they recently added a [list of science books for young children](#).



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. The first deadline for ordering theme-related summer reading materials for children, teens and adults is approaching. Orders received by December



1st will be delivered by March 1st. The next order deadline 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 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.



Read for Your Library

Read for Your Library, which began in 2005, is the longest running of the Bright Futures outreach opportunities. This program encourages public libraries to partner with up to 3 elementary schools in order to garner support for summer reading from school administrators, teachers and parents.

In 2009, 53 public libraries and 79 elementary schools participated. Here's what some of the libraries said of the impact of Read for Your Library:

- Attending the Principals' Meeting for Read for Your Library (I think...) is another great tactic that Bright Futures spurs us to do. We get to showcase our plans and enthusiasm, and it really rubs off on the principals. (Kuna District Library)
- Partnering with the school was helpful, and I wouldn't have done that if it hadn't been for the incentive and the volunteer who offered to coordinate it. (Middleton Public Library)
- This is the first year that we have tried the Partner school incentive and the first year I was able to meet with teachers during their staff meetings. I had some very positive comments from teachers and some great questions. And, I highly recommend bringing chocolate to share at any teacher's meeting! Chocolate seems to be the great ice-breaker!!! We are providing Otter Pops to the grades with the highest finishing rates at both our partner schools and plan to present the \$300 worth of books at a special assembly in September! (Nampa Public Library)

Examples of fall recognition events include:

- **Barbara Morgan Elementary School** in **McCall** created a large bulletin board display to recognize summer readers. The grade with the most participants got an ice cream sundae bar on a Friday afternoon. The PTA co-sponsored the event.
- **Gooding Elementary** hung the vinyl summer reading banner in the front hallway across from the principal's office. At the end of the summer, the public librarian made a large poster displaying photos of the summer reading programs and some of the crafts that were made, along with a list of how many participated in each grade. The school then attached this poster to the banner.
- At **Spirit Lake Elementary**, the principal handed out summer reading certificates at the first school assembly of the school year.

Read for Your Library is being revamped to increase the collaboration between schools and libraries. To qualify this year, instead of a principal support letter and the public librarian

making a presentation, libraries and schools will need to do some preliminary planning before they fill out a written one-page application form.

Requirements:

- Meet with each partner school's principal and/or school librarian to discuss a participation goal for the school.
- Each partner school must outline how it will promote summer reading to its students. This must be an activity in addition to the school visits by the public library to hand out flying disks (see School Visits opportunity).
- Application must be signed by each partner school's principal, school librarian and the public librarian.
- Each partner school's Fall 2009 IRI scores must be submitted with the written application. [Click here to get Fall 2009 IRI scores for your school\(s\).](#)
- Student participation from each partner school must be tracked.
- Each partner school must set up a fall 2010 recognition event.
- The public librarians must report on student participation goals and fall recognition events by October 1, 2010.

What the library receives: By teaming up with your elementary school administrators and staff, your library and your partner school(s) can each earn \$300 worth of hardback books for your collections, and a 24"x60" vinyl "Make a Splash" banner.



Here are just a few of the titles selected for the 2010 collection:

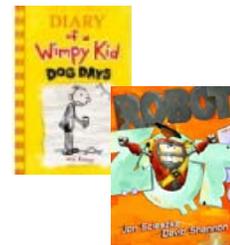


Mermaid Queen: The Spectacular True Story Of Annette Kellerman, Who Swam Her Way To Fame, Fortune & Swimsuit History! by Shana Corey, 2009



Dog Days: Diary of a Wimpy Kid #4, by Jeff Kinney, 2009

The Magician's Elephant, by Kate DiCamillo, 2009



Robot Zot!, by Jon Scieszka and David Shannon, 2009

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 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.



See the **California Library Association's** summer reading website for a ton of resources, including handouts and PowerPoint presentations from their summer reading workshops. Highlights include a school visit script and a PowerPoint presentation on how to set up and staff (with volunteers) an off-site summer reading program
www.cla-net.org/summer-reading/workshop.php

School Zone



ICFL School Library Advocacy Project: Librarians, Principals and Parents Work Together

"School Library Partnerships: Building strong libraries, building powerful students" is a collaborative effort which includes the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL), Idaho Parent-Teacher Association, Idaho school libraries, BSU Albertsons Library and the Department of Education. The focus of this venture is to bring together parents, educators, and administrators to advocate for and understand the value of school librarians, paraprofessionals, and materials.

Statewide conversations, focusing on the school librarian's role, 21st Century learning tools, and partnerships are in progress now. Northern Idaho sessions took place last week and eastern Idaho and the Magic Valley are scheduled for this week. Last minute attendees are welcome to attend. Future sessions will be held in the Treasure Valley. Facilitated by Commission staff Anne Abrams and Shirley Biladeau, the sessions have received positive feedback.



Principal Bill Deakins welcomes participants to Endeavor Elementary School in Nampa.

"The workshop had great information and it was fun," commented one parent that attended. She learned that school librarians do more than check out books and read to children. They also build a safe, welcoming environment for students, pull together theme-centered materials for teachers, and sometimes serve as webmaster for their school. Modern school librarians also build web-based authenticated resource lists, help students write, produce, and deliver video book talks, and teach students how to safely search the Internet.

Librarians who attend the two-hour after-school sessions with a parent and administrator and agree to interview a partner about an upcoming collaborative project receive a FlipCam for their library. "From interviewing veterans to acting out playground dos and don'ts, school librarians, administrators, and parents planned projects with an eye toward sharing them on the Internet," Anne said.

The sessions are free for publicly-funded public libraries. The FlipCams are funded through the support of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

For more information or to register for an event, go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/SLpartners>.



Parma Schools and Panther Library Nominate Author for History Awards

Submitted by Darlene Hotchkiss, Panther Library

Mrs. Helen Lowell was feted at the Idaho Historical Society's annual awards luncheon on September 17th. First Lady Lori Otter made presentations of the American Association of State and Local History national awards to Idahoans, as well as the state's *Esto Perpetua* award.

Mrs. Lowell was the only person there to receive BOTH.



Pictured clockwise from left: First Lady Mrs. Otter; Idaho Historical Society Trustee Tom Blanchard; State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna; Parma Middle School Principal Peg Poling-Sharkey; and author Helen Lowell

Mrs. Lowell is co-author, along with the late Lucille Peterson, of the book *Our First Hundred Years*, originally published in 1976, and re-issued in 2000. The work is the definitive source on the history of the Lower Boise Valley. All proceeds from the book have gone into supporting the Old Fort Boise replica in Parma. Mrs. Lowell's book is an important part of Panther Library's regional history collection, and the library was very happy to be instrumental in helping to bring together the nomination on behalf of Parma Schools, which led to bringing about the attention and the awards Mrs. Lowell so richly deserved. At 104 years old, Mrs. Lowell is a charter member of the OFB Historical Society board, and is still an active member.

Know the Numbers

Social Networking and Educators Survey Report

www.edweb.net/fimages/op/K12Survey.pdf

(From the Executive Summary)

61% of the educators surveyed have joined a social networking website. Facebook is the site most educators have joined (85%). MySpace is a distant second (20%). LinkedIn, a popular site for the business community, is third (14%).

Although 85% of all participants have joined Facebook, 76% state that their usage is "seldom or never." In comparison, My Space, LinkedIn, Ning and the education social networks reported higher usage.

Respondents are using social networking sites primarily to connect with family and friends, although many are also using sites to connect with colleagues and to stay current with Web 2.0 technology.

Educators who have joined a social network are more positive about the value of this technology for education.

Overall, educators see a high value for social networking in education for a wide range of applications.

Social networks dedicated to education (Classroom 2.0, edWeb.net, LearnCentral, Tapped In, TeachAde, WeAre Teachers, WetheTeachers) have low penetration thus far, but there is growing awareness. Some survey respondents were happy to learn about these sites from taking the survey.

Researchers found significant the differences in attitudes and behavior of teachers, principals and library/media specialists. Librarians were the most likely to join a social network (70%), followed by teachers (62%) and then principals (54%).

Librarians are the most positive about the value of social networking in education, but express frustration with the blocking of access to websites by school districts.

Principals have some reservations about social networking and feel behind in the technology, but accept that this is the future.

Teachers see how students use this technology every day and believe they will need it for success in life, but teachers feel they have very little time and some reservations about their privacy.

Many educators recognize that they are behind the times in terms of technology, their students communicate with these tools and educators need to learn how to integrate social networking and content-sharing tools into teaching.

The report was prepared by MMS Education, a national market research, consulting and marketing company specializing exclusively in the education market. You may also read more about the survey in the November 9th issue of *School Library Journal*: www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6705646.html.

A Closer Look at Creating Literacy-Rich Play

(The following article is adapted with permission from "Word Play! Creating Literacy-Rich Play at Home," compiled by Wendy Wilcox, Extension Support Specialist in the Department of Policy Analysis and Management at Cornell University, 2005. Although these suggestions are for parents, they could also be adapted to the library environment.)

Children who are exposed to books and literacy play early and often will seek the pleasure of the print word in the world around them. By incorporating many print-rich activities into your child's play, the value and importance of words are introduced. Keep reading to discover some exciting word play activities!

Engage your child in literacy-rich pretend play.



Create different settings for pretend play in your home. Designate a special location in your home for these specialty play areas. Rotate the settings throughout the year. Some favorite ideas are a post office, library, doctor's office, or school. By incorporating many print-rich props into your child's make believe play areas, your child is gently introduced to the importance and

value of the words around them. When gathering props for each of these locations, include many print-rich items; use the following list as a starting point in developing your settings.

Post Office

- Create a mailbox for your child and “deliver” junk mail into it regularly.
- Use shoeboxes to create mail cubbies for sorting mail.
- Make a mailbag for your child to deliver mail and magazines to family members.
- Provide paper, envelopes, and boxes for your child to create letters and packages.
- Have your child create their own postage stamp.
- Supply your child with rubber stamps and stamp pads to “stamp” the mail.
- Check out relevant library books and keep them in this area. Try *The Jolly Postman* by Allan Ahlberg, *Dear Mr. Blueberry* by Simon James, *Dear Peter Rabbit* and *Yours Truly, Goldilocks* by Alma Flor Ada.

Library

- Place an old key board (or make a pretend one with cardboard) at a “library” desk.
- Make a desk name plate and nametag for your “librarian.”
- Have your child design their own bookmarks and library cards.
- Help your child choose great books for reading aloud to stuffed animal “children.”
- Stock a bookshelf with favorite books for “checking out.”
- Make labels for the bookshelf so your child can categorize books--animals, friends, poetry.
- Help your child make a list of favorite books to pass out to friends and family.
- Help your child create a puppet show for children visiting the library.
- Read *Wild About Books* by Judy Sierra, *I.Q. Goes to the Library* by Mary Ann Fraser and *Beverly Billingsly Borrows a Book* by Alexander Stadler.



Doctor's Office

- Use a blank scrap pad as a pad for writing prescriptions.
- Use a calendar to make appointments for your patients.
- Provide a phone book and phone to use to contact patients and other doctors.
- Provide file folders with paper for patient records.
- Make a sign advertising “Doctor’s Office” and diplomas.
- Provide a clip board and paper for your doctor to take notes.
- Provide reading material for your doctor’s office--magazines, newspapers.
- Design x-rays for your patients.

School

- Stock your child’s school desk with paper, pencils, markers, glue, and scissors.
- Find an old chalkboard or wipe board for lessons.
- Provide a calendar for marking off each day of the week.
- Stock a bookshelf with books for using in school “lessons.”
- Post a world map for your child to explore.
- Make a magnetic board and include magnetic letters, words, and objects for storytelling and lessons.

- Look through magazines and cut out pictures of things that rhyme: bat, cat, frog, log. If you are unable to find pictures, draw them and hang them up on the wall.
- Check out *Froggy Goes to School* by Jonathan London, *If You Take a Mouse to School* by Laura Numeroff, *Miss Nelson is Missing* by Harry Allard, *Chrysanthemum* and *Wemberly Worried* by Kevin Henkes.

Museum



- Children can make pictures for an art museum, stones, leaves and acorns for a natural history museum, or gather interesting objects around the house to display.
- Children can set up their exhibit in their rooms or even on the dining room table.
- Objects will need descriptive signs that information about the artist or collector.
- Make signs announcing the museum opening with hours, location and directions.
- Find books with museum themes to the library, such as *Museum A,B,C's* by the Metropolitan Museum, or *The Art Lesson* by Tomie dePaola.

For more suggestions and for suggestions for older kids, see the entire article at: www.familyreading.org/docs/WordPlay.pdf.

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.



The Art of Reading a Storybook

Trees for Life International is a nonprofit organization which works to empower people to join hands to break the cycle of poverty and hunger and care for the earth. They began in the 1980s by planting fruit trees in India. Another of their projects, called "Books for Life," has an instructional video for teachers, parents, librarians, child care workers— anyone who reads to children! Watch it online or order a free DVD. The website also has other resources for educators.

www.treesforlife.org/learn/the-art-of-reading-a-storybook/the-art-of-reading-a-storybook



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."



A FUSE #8 PRODUCTION

This [blog](#) on the *School Library Journal* website compiles tidbits, news, reviews, and oh-so shiny points of interest regarding anything and everything kidlit related. You can email children's librarian Elizabeth Bird at fusenum8@gmail.com.



(Source for the following: New Mexico Youth Services newsletter)

Home Depot Building Healthy Communities Grant Program

The Home Depot's Building Healthy Communities Grant Program awards grants of up to \$2,500 each to nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, public schools, or tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are made in the form of the Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools or materials.

Grants are for community improvement projects that include activities such as construction or refurbishment of affordable or transitional housing, building, rebuilding, painting, refurbishing, increasing energy efficiency or sustainability, landscaping, planting of native trees, community facility improvements, and the development and/or improvement of green spaces. Grants must support work completed by community volunteers in the United States.

Only registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, tax-exempt public schools, and tax-exempt public agencies in the U.S. are eligible to apply. There are two remaining grant cycles for 2009. The next grant cycle opens October 15, 2009 and closes December 15, 2009. Visit their website for more information: <http://corporate.homedepot.com/wps/portal/Grants>.

Young Adult Literature Symposium Stipend

[YALSA's Young Adult Literature Symposium Stipend](#) will enable two qualified recipients to attend the symposium, which will be held in Albuquerque, NM, Nov. 5-7, 2010. The stipends, up to \$1,000 each, will be awarded as follows: the first stipend is to be awarded to a library worker who works directly with young adults, with one to ten years' experience; the second is to be awarded to a student enrolled in an ALA-accredited MLS program (you must be a MLS student as of Nov. 5, 2010 with a focus on serving young adults in a library setting).

To be considered for either stipend, you must be a personal member of YALSA.

Applications for both stipends must be received in the YALSA office by Jan. 4, 2010, via email to yalsa@ala.org. [Download the application instructions and forms](#): students (Word doc) and library workers (Word doc). Winners will be notified before or on March 1, 2010. Contact Nichole Gilbert at ngilbert@ala.org or 1.800.545.2433 x4387 with questions.

MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens

Another program from YALSA: Here's your chance to win \$500 for your pocket and another \$500 for your library! YALSA members are eligible to apply for this award recognizing an outstanding reading or literature program for young adults. If you have created an exceptional reading or literature program in the 12 months before December 1st, consider applying for the MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens. The MAE Award is sponsored by the Margaret A. Edwards Trust. The winner receives \$500 and an additional \$500 for their library.

Go to www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/awardsandgrants/mae.cfm for info and an application form. Applications must be emailed to Nichole Gilbert at ngilbert@ala.org by December 1.

NaNoWriMo

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) starts November 1 at midnight. The goal is produce a 175-page (50,000-word) novel by midnight, November 30. In 2007, over 15,000 completed their novels. NaNoWriMo also has a Young Writers Program: <http://ywp.nanowrimo.org/>.

Send your motivated, creative writing teens to www.nanowrimo.org for more information and to sign up. (An interesting project: have teens team-write the novel in your library!)

Video Book Trailer Contest

FreshBrain, providing free use of its website for teens, educators, and homeschoolers, is a technology education platform for young people. FreshBrain has teamed up with Susan Taylor Brown to offer a \$1,000 education scholarship to the winner of the contest to create a video book trailer for Susan's Children's novel in verse, *Hugging the Rock* (Tricycle Press). Students can use any technique: animation, acting, photos and text with music, whatever. In addition to the scholarship, the winner will have his or her trailer featured on the Random House website.

Deadline for entries is December 15. Complete details and rules are found at <http://freshbrain.org/index.php?q=scholarship/freshbrain-video-book-trailer-scholarship>.

ALSC Webinar Series Reminder

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of ALA, has announced its 2009/2010 series of free online ALSC Student Sessions. Everyone is welcome to attend; there's no need to register. Location for the webinars: ALA OPAL 100-Seat Online Room.

- Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at 6:00 Mountain:
ALSC Student Session: "Connecting Kids with Great Websites," Presented by Meagan Albright & Sharon Haupt

Learn how to find, evaluate and use Web sites for kids! This presentation features the chairs of the ALSC Great Web Sites for Kids Committee who evaluate 100s of sites every year to find fun and educational tools for children and families. They'll show you what the committee does to come up with their widely used "Great Web Sites for Kids" list and how you can incorporate these resources into your library programming.

CE News You Can Use



StoryTubes Contest

Here is an opportunity to practice a new skill you may have learned recently through the Partnerships & Conversations activity – or an opportunity for you to learn how to do something new altogether!

The annual StoryTubes video contest will be taking entries for the 2010 event from January 20 through February 28, 2010. Start your production now to enter this fun contest! The goal of the program is to harness kids' excitement for books and share it on the Internet. StoryTubes is the "two-minute-or-less my favorite book" video contest sponsored by public libraries.

Why should you bother? Around age eight, kids read less and use technology more. This program uses kids' interest in technology and the Internet to promote reading. Learn how research supports the StoryTubes goal by reading the 2008 Kids and Family Reading Report at <http://www.scholastic.com/aboutscholastic/news/readingreport.htm>.

See the 2009 StoryTubes winners

Three energetic and creative fourth grade boys from Downers Grove Public Library in Illinois submitted the very first entry for StoryTubes 2009, the "two-minute-or-less my favorite book" video contest sponsored by public libraries. Using a multitude of actions and sounds including a reference to "America's Most Wanted," they recommend "The Toilet Paper Tiger" by Gordon Koran.

Here is a Web Junction link to learn more - www.webjunction.org/storytubes/-/resources/overview.

News Beyond Idaho



Books for Life International

Trees for Life International—see Tips and Tools above--has another initiative called “Books for Life.” Books for Life introduces children in developing countries to the joy of reading and learning by:

- Helping to start or enhance children's libraries
- Providing high-quality native-language story books and textbooks
- Working with dedicated volunteers in developing countries
- Partnering with local communities, who determine the scope of the project
- Introducing computers and computer educational software.

Books for Life International has helped foster the love of reading in countries such as India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua. For more information about “Books for Life,” visit their website: www.treesforlife.org/our-work/our-initiatives/books-for-life/.

Featured on their website is the inspiring [story of one man who started a children's library in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia](#). Yohannes Gebregeorgis grew up in Ethiopia and never saw a reading book until he was nineteen, but his love of reading motivated him to eventually become a children's librarian at the San Francisco Public Library. When he learned that children's books were still practically unavailable in Ethiopia, he persuaded the Trees for Life organization to

help him establish the first children's library in his home country. The Shola Children's Library receives more than sixty thousand visits from children each year.

Yohannes also founded the nonprofit Ethiopia Reads, which has already grown beyond the first library. With support from Trees for Life, they are helping nearby schools start their own libraries. In the town of Awassa, they have a reading center and have also created donkey-powered mobile libraries. They have even published several children's books in the native language and English.



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

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