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- [Welcome!](#)
- [Meet Kit Parker](#)
- [Library to Library](#)
- [Young Adult Corner](#)
- [Book Look](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Summer Reading News](#)
- [School Zone](#)
- [Know the Numbers](#)
- [A Closer Look at Changing Parent Behavior](#)
- [Tips & Tools](#)
- [CE News You Can Use](#)
- [News Beyond Idaho](#)



Welcome

Happy October! We're wrapping up youth services workshops in Caldwell and Chubbuck today, many of you are finishing a week of Teen Reading Week events, and others are planning harvest and Halloween storytimes and family events at your libraries. Good luck with all of these and we hope you have some time to enjoy Idaho's beautiful fall colors and a good book this month.

We wanted to share two fun signs/displays we saw at the **Stanley Community Public Library District** last fall. The one at the left was used in the children's section and the other greeted people who were browsing through the adult fiction selection -- two creative, low cost ways to promote some great fall reading.

We'd love to feature pictures of your library displays and will enter your name in a drawing for a *Mudgy and Millie* book and



puppet set if you send in one by the end of Idaho Family Reading Week, November 21. Send all pictures to [Stephanie](#) and we'll feature as many as we can in upcoming issues.



Meet Kit Parker

By Stephanie Bailey-White

Les Bois Junior High was awarded the Idaho School Library Media Program of the Year at the October Idaho Library Association (ILA) conference. The award, sponsored by Follett Library Media Resources and ILA, goes to a school media program that is fully integrated into the school's curriculum and is central to the learning process and student achievement. Other criteria include use of technology through the district or library website to expand the reach of library services, significant library use, and access and a commitment of the media center's teacher-librarian to educate colleagues about their school's library programs and services. Follett provides \$400 toward ILA conference costs. Any remaining funds can be spent on library materials. Kit is shown in the photo above to the left of Glynda Pflieger, Melba School District Teacher Librarian, who presented the award at the conference earlier this month.

I sat down with **Kit Parker**, Les Bois' teacher-librarian, to talk about the award and what else is going on at her library. Kit has been in charge of the library for the past 11 years. Before that she was a math teacher at the junior high level. She made the switch from classroom teacher to the library world because it combined three of the things she liked most about the education field – sharing the love of reading, technology, and research/problem-solving skills. She went back to school during some of those transition years to get a master's in reading education at Boise State University and learned a lot about what she could do with picture books, graphic novels, and updating the library's nonfiction resources. She's also changed the library's look and feel along with the collection.

Les Bois is a part of the Boise School District and serves 850 students in grades 7 – 9 along with 55 classroom teachers and 28 additional staff members that work directly with students in classroom support situations. "We have students of all ethnic backgrounds and academic abilities. There is an ELL (English Language Learners) program, a special education program, a classroom for those students with severe and profound handicaps, in addition to the regular student population and programs. There is a strong elective program with foreign languages, music, art, photography, technology, teen life, and computer offerings. All of these programs and academic areas use the library and its resources," Kit said.



When I visited the library, I was drawn to the great collection of graphic novels and comic books, along with the nice displays of books she has throughout the space. Comfy reading chairs and a nice mix of computers along with the books made it feel very inviting. With over 51,000 visits a school year, the library is certainly active. Kit said they have a collection of over 14,000 titles in print, including sub-collections of reference, graphic novels, picture books, books in Spanish, magazines, newspapers, audio books, and a collection of books "free for the taking."

She has been spending more of the budget on digital resources in the past few years and has a nice collection of eBooks and play-aways that have been popular. With over 11,000 circulations last year and over 400 class periods of research time logged in during the same time, it sounds like they are getting what they need!

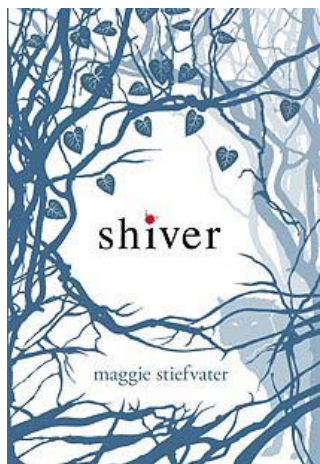


Kit couldn't come up with one singular success when asked about successes and challenges, but said there are a lot of little things that have been successful. "I think the library's atmosphere is really important. I want kids to feel welcome and safe here and I think we've achieved that. We've built up the trust level with teachers too, by picking out the very best stuff to support their classroom work and keep saying 'try this.' They don't have the time to search through everything, so I keep feeding them things that will work." Her biggest challenge is stretching the budget to help meet the needs of all the students. "There is such a range of kids at this level, from English-

language learners to students of all reading levels and interests. It's a broad spectrum to cover. And now that we're spending more on electronic resources, it can be a tough balancing act," she added.

Her favorite part of her job is finding out what works best and sharing that information with others. She's also been working on some fun projects the past year or two using book trailers and digital booktalks. I had the chance to see her present these at the Southwest Idaho Library Association conference last year and thought they were a great way to combine technology with reading to get kids engaged and interested. Check out her handouts from that session at <http://swila2009bloggers.pbworks.com/browse/#view=ViewFolder¶m=Book%20Trailers>.

Kit is also going to be managing the entire school's website this year, not just the library's web portal. She credits library assistant Diane Atkinson as a big part of the library's success as well as being part of a progressive and forward-thinking district. "I know all the librarians I've worked with throughout the district are so hard-working and eager to share. We're moving into 'the Big 6 Skills' as a district and I'm really excited about the potential to all get on board with such an important library focus, from the elementary level all the way up," she said.



As a child, she spent lots of time at the "old" Boise Public Library and read many mysteries and historical fiction. She says the Olivia books are her current favorites. She tries to read as much of what her students are reading as possible. Some titles that are currently flying off the shelves include anything similar to the "Twilight" books and most fantasy/adventure, romance and realistic fiction. The *City of Bones (Mortal Instruments)* series by Cassandra Clare, *Warrior Heir* series by Cinda Chima, and "urban fantasy" books like *The Devil's Kiss*, by Sarwat Chadda, and *Shiver*, by Maggie Stiefvater have been popular so far this year.

Kit's favorite ice cream flavor is mint chocolate chip. When she's not working in the library or reading, she can be found hanging out with her six grandchildren, researching her family's history, gardening, or cross-stitching. She's also the wife of a football coach so this time of year is even busier than most!

Thanks, Kit, for sharing some information about you and your library and congratulations on your award!

Library to Library



Library Knitting Programs Still Going Strong

This summer we featured an article about library knitting clubs in other states. Several Idaho libraries have hosted successful knitting programs, including the [Harrison branch of the Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries](#). Branch Manager Dorothy Blackmore said their teen knitting classes, held on the first Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m., have been a big hit. They were pleasantly surprised to see teen boys participate.

Harrison has a population of 284, but they also offer a monthly adult knitting class, weekly preschool storytimes, an “Adventure Hour” each Monday from 3:45 – 4:45 for K-6 students, and a book discussion group each month.

I happened to see this list of [knitting books for kids and teens](#) on Elizabeth Kennedy’s children’s book blog and it looks like there are some fun titles to consider adding to your collections. Here are a few she recommends:

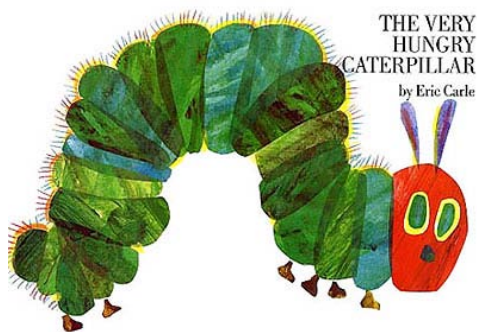


Teen Knitting Club: Chill Out and Knit. “This beautifully designed 142-page book features photographs of teenage boys and girls knitting and modeling their projects, quotations from teenagers as to why they knit, easy-to-follow illustrated knitting instructions, and more. The book is divided into three sections: All You Need to Know (knitting basics), Teen Knitting Club Projects (scarves, hats, bags, ponchos, sweaters, and more), and Start Your Own Knitting Club.” (Artisan, A Division of Workman Publishing, Inc. ISBN: 9781579652449)

She has five more on her linked list and says all of them provide instruction on the basics of knitting through detailed illustrations and clear step-by-step directions. Another good one for libraries is *Charmed Knits*, which has Harry Potter-related knitting patterns for a range of knitting abilities, from beginning knitters who already know how to knit and purl to advanced knitters.



Idaho Libraries Contribute to One Million Children Reading Goal



The Read to Me First Book program, sponsored by the Idaho Commission for Libraries Read to Me program and 22 Idaho libraries, provided over 800 copies of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle to children participating in the First Book program this year. About 1,000 other Eric Carle titles were distributed to the children in the other age groups who are participating in the program. Idaho libraries, schools, and daycares helped the national Jumpstart’s Read for the Record program reach its goal of reading to more than ONE MILLION children on October 8,

breaking the world record once again!

The goal of the Read to Me First Book program is the same as that of the Jumpstart program's – to improve the literacy skills and overall school readiness of low-income children prior to school entry. Preschoolers from low-income families have fewer home and preschool language and literacy opportunities than children from economically advantaged backgrounds – a major reason that they lag behind in reading achievement throughout the school years. Access to age-appropriate books and early education programs can help level the playing field for these children. Thank you to all the Idaho libraries and programs that provided books and read to children during this event and throughout the year!



Navigating Youth Services in Northern Idaho

Lewiston: Forty public and school librarians gathered at the Lewiston Community Center on October 8th to share their ideas and plans for kids' library services.

Peggy Brockman from **the Lewiston School District** brought the "Little Old Lady who Swallowed the Fly" and demonstrated for the group how a fly, spider, bird, cat, dog, goat, etc. could disappear inside the doll.

Betsy Bybell, Outreach Services Manger, for the **Latah County Library District** brought her puppets and talked to the group about how to use puppets to enhance early literacy skills at the library. Betsy recently returned from a trip to Africa and is working her African animal puppets into her repertoire. Betsy's told the audience, "Puppets are magic." She elaborated by saying that she always looks at the puppet when the puppet is "speaking." That's where the kids are looking too. And, she always puts a puppet on her hand when her hand is out of view of the children. She usually keeps her puppets in a bag. When it is time for the puppet to appear, she puts her hand into the bag so it is out of view of the children, puts it on her hand and then the magic happens! Librarians in attendance had an opportunity to use puppets for a couple of stories that Betsy demonstrated.



Here are a couple of puppetry resources:

Folkmanis Puppets: www.folkmanis.com/

LibraryPalooza: www.librarypalooza.net/index.html

Coeur d'Alene: The meeting room at the Coeur d'Alene Public Library was full of school and public librarians who gathered on October 15th. Among the presentations was musical maven **Joan Colwell-Hartung**, a music educator who shared how to add music to a library program, keeping the focus on literature. Audience members accompanied Joan with a variety of instruments while she read "Three Billy Goats Gruff" and other stories. Joan uses scarves and other props to add drama and movement. She brought a wealth of resources and entertained and educated the librarians.



Lucy Barnard, Post Falls Public Library, shared her puppet project, which was funded this past year by the Wal-Mart Foundation. She

brought her small traveling puppet theater that can be set up and taken down by one person in about five minutes. Their project also includes getting teens to film their puppet shows and post the videos on the library website. The library also has purchased some small “puppet theater kits” that may be checked out by daycare providers and parents to do a puppet show at home.

The afternoon focused on tweens and teens. The group shared ideas for Teen Read Week and summer reading. **Dawn Schatz** from the **Clark Fork Branch of the East Bonner County Library District**, **Lucy Barnard**, and **Susan Thorpe** from **Coeur d’Alene Public** brought gaming equipment and let the group “play.”



Mudgy Moose, Millie Mouse and ICFL staff represent Idaho in D.C.

The 2009 National Book Festival was held last month in Washington, D.C. Marj Hooper and Pam Bradshaw from the Idaho Commission for Libraries represented Idaho in the Pavilion of the States, promoting reading, sharing information about Idaho literacy and library programs, and answering questions about Idaho writers and libraries.

Marj and Pam traveled with Mudgy Moose and Millie Mouse, creations of author Susan Nipp and illustrator Charles Reasoner and part of a library fund-raising and public art project in Coeur d’Alene. Mudgy and Millie like to play hide and seek, but they remained at the Idaho booth in the Pavilion of the States for the entire festival, meeting and greeting the many children who stopped by to learn about this and other Idaho books. To see photos of the trip, go to www.flickr.com/photos/icflphotos/sets/72157622488410008/. Click on “Detail” above the thumbnail pictures to see the captions for each picture.

The festival was sponsored by the Library of Congress, and the Pavilion of the States was sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Marj and Pam were able to attend the festival because of a grant from COSLA (Chief Officers of State Library Agencies). See more about the National Book Festival at www.loc.gov/bookfest.

Young Adult Corner



Did Your Teen Read Week Exceed Your Expectations?

Thirty Idaho school and public libraries received Flip Video Cameras and key chain wallets to support their Teen Read Week programs. The contest received 1,578 votes! Teen Read Week ends tomorrow, but we wanted to share the top 11 vote-getting ideas. It has been really fun to read all the creative things Idaho libraries are

doing. What a busy week it has been for many of you! Visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/doc/teen-read-week> to see all the ideas and list of winners.

1. **Taylorview Junior High -- Imagine Infinity - i squared I2 – (i squared).** Imagine Infinity is the tie-in theme for the TMC programs. The week will start off with a trail of slime that will show the way to the media center where students will discover that a Borg type creature has invaded and left the message that “resistance is futile...read”. Students can then place a piece of

“slime” containing a book recommendation on the Borg. During lunch the TMC will transform into the Twilight Zone, complete with short stories, comic books, eerie music and video clips. Friday will feature an alien invasion. Students may pick up a potato or pumpkin any time during the week and transform it into an alien character or beyond reality invention. Daily activities will include making book marks, word count guess, a canned food gathering and a box top collection with contributors’ names be entered into a drawing for Barnes and Noble gift cards.

2. Centennial High School – What Are You From? Be creative and express yourself! Use your own images or those you find on the Internet to produce your own free, 30 second, Animoto video that answers the question, “What are you from?” Show others what you believe, what you stand for, what you like, etc. Videos will be shown the next day at lunch in the library and the audience will vote for their favorite. The winner will receive a Flip camera so you can continue to be creative and express yourself through video.

3. Hayden Library -- "Slam Beyond Reality" Celebrate Teen Read Week by joining the Hayden Library for our first ever Poetry Slam! Poetry slam for teens--two original works of up to two minutes each. The five judges will be members of the community, i.e., instructors from North Idaho College, members of Friends of the Library, and KSAL Foundation. The teens will be broken up into two grade groups--6th to 8th and 9th to 12th. First place prize is a \$25.00 gift card and second place is a \$15.00 gift card--both gift cards from Borders. Participants will be judged based on poetry content, performance and how well their original poem relates to the teen read week theme.

4. Wendell High School Library -- I Was Caught Reading. We will decorate our library with the Teen Read Week Theme “Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library.” We have three colorful bulletin boards with pictures of staff who were “Caught Reading.” The staff and students can enter a contest to guess who was caught reading. They will each win a gift certificate from Barnes & Noble. We will have an after school event in the library doing the following: 1. Award prizes for the contests. 2. Give everyone a free “Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library” bookmark. 3. Give glow in the dark wrist bands for the first 20 participants. 4. Have theme-related refreshments. 5. Have guest speakers (both adults and students) that will tell about their favorite fantasy, science fiction or space books. The library will have a display of books in conjunction with a poster contest following the theme displayed in the library for the month of October.

5. Gooding High School -- Read People, Read Food? We'll focus on books about food, both non-fiction and fiction. Sharing books at our October Reading Club meeting will start the ball rolling. Bookmarks with suggested titles will be handed out. Then, the real fun begins when we have our Real Food Extravaganza!!! We will pit pizza against pizza in a Taste of the Best contest. Participants will taste pieces of many different pizzas and the votes will determine the best one!

6. West Junior High School Library -- Recycle Books for Mustang Pride. Our Teen Read Week activity will consist of a contest between Homerooms to bring in used books, (age appropriate) CDs, and videos to create a Book Swap Nook in our school library. This activity will combine three school-wide efforts: (1) to promote reading and literacy, (2) to increase recycling awareness, and (3) to create a non-food reward source for our weekly Mustang Pride Card drawings. The winning classroom will get to participate in a Library Book Truck Derby that will be videotaped.

7. Garden City Library -- Teen Trailers (Bring Books 2 Life). Teens will collaborate to make a digital video book trailer for their favorite sci-fi or fantasy novel, while learning to use a camcorder and video-editing software. Once the teens have the finished product, we will display their hard work on the library website and blog, and they will get a DVD copy of the trailer for themselves! Teens will film on Thursday the Oct. 22 and edit on Saturday Oct. 24. They will also make "Alien Abduction Lamps" on October 20 to kick the week off right!

8. Nampa Public Library -- Get Into The Game: Go Where No Teen Has Gone Before... We are going to be celebrating Teen Read Week by throwing an after-hours Teen Gaming Night! Our LAN gaming system will be up and running and teens will be in the heat of the action in a galaxy far, far away as they play Star Wars Battlefront or clash with their opponents in our fast-paced Starcraft strategy games. We will make rock history when our adult nonfiction section is transformed into Abby Road Studios as teens reenact some of the most famous performances of all time with the help of The Beatles Rock Band. Teens can also select from a variety of Wii games to play like Mario Cart, Wii sports, and many others. Snacks will be provided (of course) and teens will also have the option of bringing in a favorite treat to share.

9. Idaho Falls High School -- Are you smarter than a high school student? *Two staff members will be on "stage" at once. *Each will dramatically read two statements, one being true and one being false. *The two staff members will then select a student from the audience to judge who told the truth. *If the student is right, he gets to squirt whip cream into the mouths of the teachers. *If the student is wrong, one of the teachers will squirt whip cream into the student's mouth. *Statements will be taken from books such as "Urban legends," "Ripley's Believe it or Not," "Guinness Book of World Records," etc. *Refreshments will be served to all in attendance.

10. Boise Public Library-- Reading Beyond . . . After brainstorming ideas with a group of teens we decided to take a book and go "beyond" what the author had written. We looked at several books and decided on *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* by Van Allsburg. We'll take several of the pictures and short lines that he wrote and flesh out what happens. We're going to do some of it as a round robin type storytelling and some of it will be written. We'll start with one written line then pass the paper to someone. That person will write a second line to the story then fold the first line so it can't be seen and pass the paper. The next person will write a line to go with the line they can see, fold the paper and pass it along and continue until we feel like we've got a complete story. Then we'll unfold it and read the story that they wrote. We always include time to talk about what everyone is reading at these programs as well.

11. East Bonner County Library -- Party Beyond Reality. We will have a Friday afternoon / evening showing of Coraline (w/ the projector), followed by a pumpkin carving contest and a monster makeup contest. We will vote on favorite scary movies and books. We will supply a taco bar and ice cream for ice cream sundaes. On the Wednesday preceding the contest, we will have a planning meeting to plan a New Moon Launch Party for November.



2009 Teens' Top Ten

More than 11,000 teen voters chose *Paper Towns* as their favorite book in the 2009 Teens' Top Ten! The online poll took place from Aug. 24 through Sept. 18, with the winners announced Monday, during Teen Read Week by WWE Divas Brie Bella and Nikki Bella, with a special appearance by John Green. See [the video](#). Fifteen teen book groups across the United

States choose 25 nominees each year for the Teens' Top Ten, a booklist chosen entirely by teens!



1. ***Paper Towns***, by John Green (Penguin/Dutton)
2. ***Breaking Dawn***, by Stephenie Meyer (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)
3. ***The Hunger Games***, by Suzanne Collins (Scholastic)
4. ***City of Ashes***, by Cassandra Clare (Simon & Schuster/Margaret K. McElderry)
5. ***Identical***, by Ellen Hopkins (Simon & Schuster/Margaret K. McElderry)
6. ***The Graveyard Book***, by Neil Gaiman (HarperCollins)
7. ***Wake***, by Lisa McMann (Simon & Schuster/Simon Pulse)
8. ***Untamed***, by P.C. and Kristin Cast (St. Martin's Griffin)
9. ***The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks***, by E. Lockhart (Disney-Hyperion)
10. ***Graceling***, by Kristin Cashore (Harcourt/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Promote the Teens' Top Ten at your library with [free downloadable bookmarks](#) (PDF) from YALSA! The bookmarks are customizable, so you can add each book's location in your library, plus your library logo and contact information.

Book Look



Idaho participates in Children's Choice Award

An annual project of the [Children's Book Council](#) and the [International Reading Association](#) the Children's Choices list is chosen by students across the country. Each year publishers submit hundreds of titles to be evaluated and voted on by over 12,000 children. Throughout the school year, five review teams across the country work with their local classroom teachers and librarians to incorporate the books into classroom activities. The top favorites are announced at the IRA Annual Convention in the spring. The list is designed for use by teachers, librarians, administrators, and booksellers, parents, grandparents, caregivers, and everyone who wishes to encourage young people to read for pleasure.



Boise State University Literacy Professor Stan Steiner is one of the five team leaders this year, working with teachers at five elementary schools in the Boise School District: ANSER Charter School, Grace Jordan, Highlands, Trailwind, and Whitney. Steiner said that in addition to having the opportunity to review newly published children's literature, the teachers and students will receive thousands of dollars worth of books to add to their classroom libraries. Steiner participated as a team leader once before, and is also chairing the Children's Choices National Committee this year. Other teams are located in California, Connecticut, Tennessee and Illinois.

Another benefit of the Children's Choices project is having the opportunity to introduce new nonfiction titles to children. “[Nonfiction] is very popular with reluctant readers,” says Steiner (interview in [School Library Journal](#), September, 2009). “You read nonfiction a little differently, with pictures and a couple of captions first, and then for information. Quite a few made our list last year.”

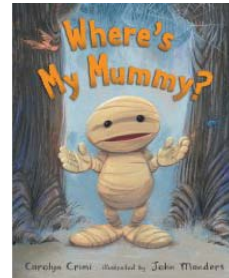
“It’s wonderful to have so many new titles rotate through the classroom,” said ANSER kindergarten teacher Anne Moore. “Some of the books the kids have liked the best are not necessarily the ones I would have chosen, so this is an opportunity for them to have their voices heard.”

Winners for 2009 – 2010 will be announced in April/May, and we’ll feature them in The Scoop for you.

Here are just a few of the winners from 2008-2009, which will be favorites at this time of the year:

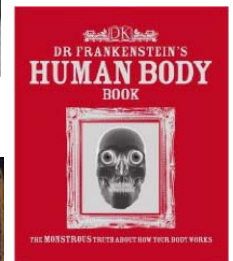
Beginning Readers, Gr. K-2:

Bats at the Library, by Brian Lies
Goodnight Goon: A Petrifying Parody, by Michael Rex
Where’s My Mummy, by Carolyn Crimi



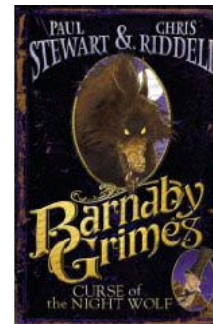
Young Readers, Gr. 3-4:

Babymouse #9: Monster Mash, by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm
Dr. Frankenstein’s Human Body Book, by Richard Walker
Spooky Cemeteries, by Dinah Williams



Advanced Readers, Gr. 5-6:

39 Clues: The Maze of Bones, by Rick Riordan
Barnaby Grimes: Curse of the Night Wolf, by Paul Stewart
Peeled, by Joan Bauer



[Complete downloadable list](#)



Upcoming Events



National Gaming Day @ your library

ALA’s second annual National Gaming Day will take place on **Saturday, November 14, 2009**. There is a new blog for this event, which you can find at <http://ngd.ala.org> or check out the [website for National Gaming Day](#). On November 14 libraries across the country will participate in the largest, simultaneous national video game tournament ever held! Kids will be able to compete against players at other libraries and see their scores in real-time online while playing at their local library.

Saturday, November 14, 2009
READ, LEARN, PLAY
NATIONAL GAMING DAY
@ your library

But gaming in libraries isn’t just about video games. ALA also has big plans for board games for all the ages. The goals of this event are to:

- Raise awareness about the use of games as a library program;
- Expose people to a new type of board game;
- Establish connections between local board game groups and the library.

Why promote video games at the library? Lots of kids play video games at home – alone, with siblings, or with friends. The library is a safe and non-commercialized space. At the library, kids socialize with their friends and play video games while surrounded by books, librarians, and knowledge. Video gaming at the library encourages young patrons to interact with diverse peers, share their expertise with others (including adults), and develop new strategies for gaming and learning.

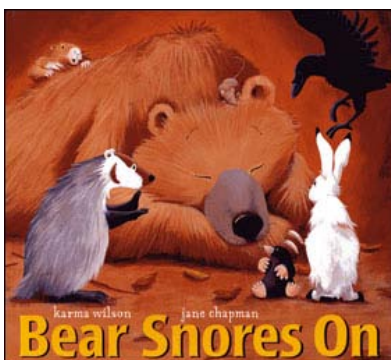


Idaho Family Reading Week is next month

Here are some ideas from libraries around the state who have **Registered online** to win free books!



- The West Bonner Library District is planning a Saturday breakfast and book reading with guests from the Albeni Falls Dam Corp of Engineers Ranger. Youth Services coordinator Jean Hauritz also writes “This is a great way to promote reading and our great state.”
- Judi Owens, librarian at Mullan Trail Elementary School in Post Falls tied the Family Reading Week theme in with their school’s mascot. “We are the Mullan Trail Moose and will be holding a ‘Moose and a muffin’ event before school featuring moose stories, moose antler displays and information from Idaho Fish and Game Department, and a moose craft.
- Madison Junior High District Librarian Linda Hill isn’t going to let the elementary students have all the fun. “We are planning to bring in outdoor specialist that would appeal to our junior high students. Possible ideas include: A surgeon who grows giant pumpkins, a rock climber, kayak videos, & a slack lining demonstration.”
- “For our family event we plan to invite children from the summer reading program who received cameras as prizes to share photos they have taken in their own Idaho backyards. We will present a slide show of the photos and Idaho trivia on the “big screen.” Snacks will include Idaho potato chips,” writes Plummer Public Library Director Paulina Freeburg.
- Ida Courier, an Idaho Reads! VISTA volunteer at Potlatch Elementary School is planning on tapping into some area authors. “We have many authors in our community who write about local history and the outdoors. Having them come to our school and share their stories will encourage our students to be more aware of their environment and read more to explore other nature topics,” she said.
- We plan to have Ken Thomsma, author of *Naya Nuki*, come and do a storytelling. We will also have a sing along of campfire songs etc, along with refreshments and crafts. - Emily Hansen, Children’s Librarian at the Fremont County District Library, St. Anthony Branch



So far 90 Idaho libraries have signed up to get their free books and enter the big prize drawing (to be held November 9th). There are still plenty of copies of *Bear Snores On* and *Wild Tracks* to give to any Idaho school or

public library who is planning a Family Reading Week event. Register today and we'll get your books to you in the next week or two.



Summer Reading News



Have you checked out your summer reading DVD that came with your manual? It has all the artwork, PDF version of forms, PowerPoint templates for promotion, booklists and websites. If your computer cannot open the DVD, contact [Peggy](#) and request a CD version.



Idaho libraries served 38 percent more kids in 2009 summer reading programs than they did in 2008. That's a big increase. What do librarians wish they had more of? According to the 2009 online survey results:

- 50 percent would like more books to give away
- 44 percent would like more reading prizes or incentives
- 42 percent would like larger facilities



Get Ready for Summer Reading 2010



Heather and her assistant Gini are getting ready to "make a splash" in 2010.

Lewiston City Library's Heather Stout had this message for librarians attending the Navigating Youth Services workshop, "It's never too early to get ready for summer reading." Here are some of the tips Heather shared with librarians attending the workshop in Lewiston:

- **Look for** bargains at craft and dollar-type stores. Heather made a catch when she found this cool dancing lobster marked for clearance at the end of the summer! →
- **Go through** the CSLP manual several times and mark any idea or activity that looks interesting. You will be on your way to having a plan.
- **Use** the calendar and program planning sheet (page 17) provided in your manual. Heather marks each of her programs on the calendars and then goes to work planning each week's program and activities.
- **Get** staff on the summer reading team. One idea is to buy t-shirts for all staff. They are \$4.25 to \$6 in the CSLP order form. Share your successes and why summer reading is so important to the kids in your community.



Public Libraries and Schools Collaborate on School Visits



It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a nylon flying disk! Every kid will want one, and they can get one from you if you sign up for **Bright Futures School Visits**. We know one of the best ways to reach kids in your community is to find them at school. Librarians in the know visit their elementary schools each spring. If this is something you already do or would like to start doing, be sure to [sign up online for School Visits](#), one of the Bright Futures outreach opportunities

Contact your school now and get on the spring calendar for a school visit to promote summer reading. If you sign up for Bright Futures, you'll also receive a package of 25 plastic book bags with handle to use as a thank you to principals and school librarians.

Experienced librarians recommend doing a skit and/or dress in costume to capture the kids' attention. Starting on page 53 of the CSLP manual you'll find ideas for costumes, including how to dress as a fisherman, surfer dude, pool partier, or pirate. Scripts for two skits: Beach skit and Magic Fish skit are also included.

Here are some additional ideas for working with your school librarian:

- Find out from the school librarian what the most popular titles and/or genres for students are and make sure you have them in the public library collection.
- Ask the librarian or a teacher to select students to help perform a summer reading promotion skit.
- Ask the librarian to display samples of your summer reading incentives at the school library.
- At the beginning of the school year, provide the schools a list of summer reading participants so teachers may give the students who read in the program a free "no homework" day.
- At the end of the school year, initiate an "early bird" at-school sign up for summer reading in the school library.

For the past several years schools in the Post Falls area compete for a traveling participation trophy. The library tracks summer reading participants by school and then notifies the school that they have won the trophy. The kids are very excited to see the trophy come to their school and have a sense of ownership that they contributed to the school winning the trophy.

School Zone



Primary & secondary elementary school librarians!

Join us at a school library near you to talk about how your library program supports student achievement. Two hours of your time will give you ideas on how to build your library resources and you may qualify for a FlipCam for your library. Prizes, treats, and great conversation guaranteed! Find out more at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/SLpartners!>



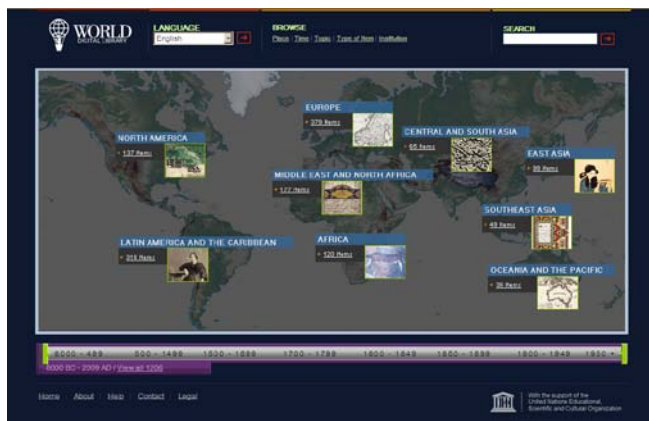
Web 2.0 Curriculum Connections

Here are some great sites to help your teachers incorporate Web 2.0 technology into curriculum standards (from [e School News](#)):

Shmoop: A new website to make learning and writing more fun and relevant for students in the digital age. Designed by Ph.D and master's students from top universities such as

Stanford, Berkeley, Harvard, and Yale, Shmoop features deep analysis of topics in history and literature, sprinkled with a heavy dose of wry humor. Each analysis is accompanied by challenging study questions, trivia, and links to audio, video, photos, documents, and other supporting materials that can be found online. Shmoop also has a teacher page that offers ideas for using the site in lectures, assignments, and classroom activities. (Upper elementary - college) www.shmoop.com/teachers

World Digital Library: National libraries from more than a dozen countries, in coordination with the United Nations' education agency, have put some of humanity's earliest written works online for student access. The World Digital Library website (in several languages) leads readers through a treasure trove of rare photos, maps, documents, films, cartoons, and audio tracks. Among these are a 1562 map of the New World; 1912 photos of a Suffrage parade; a film of Ellis Island emigrants shot in 1903; the political cartoon featuring Theodore Roosevelt and his bear hunt, which inspired the first "teddy bear," and much, much more. The site is easy to navigate. Users simply click on the sections of the world they want to access. (Upper elementary – college) www.wdl.org



ASK IT! The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has launched ASK IT!, a moderated forum and free online resource designed to model the scientific process. Students are invited to identify and formulate a scientific question, expand upon an existing question, or pose possible answers to questions posted on the forum. This feature is part of the "I Was Wondering...A Curious Look at Women's Adventures in Science" website, which also features games, biographies of contemporary women scientists, and lots of links. Though designed to target girls, boys will also find this website full of great resources. (Middle-school) www.iwaswondering.org/askit.php



Technology Grants

Once you've helped your teachers incorporate web resources such as the ones above, submit the lesson plans to Digital Wish for the chance to win a technology grant!

Digital Wish Grants

Deadline: Ongoing

Source: Tool Factory and Olympus

Web Site • [Digital Wish Grants](http://www.DigitalWishGrants.com)

Digital Wish helps teachers find funding for classroom technology. All teachers who submit a lesson plan will be automatically entered to win up to 43 technology grants. Through Digital Wish, teachers can tell their stories and let the world know how they will use technology in the classroom. Class stories will be publicly posted so that potential donors can make a contribution. (From www.Grantwrangler.com)

Know the Numbers

Read to Me Program Produces Stellar Results



Read to Me is an early literacy program designed to help public libraries and their community partners assist parents in nurturing their children's early reading skills. A total of 84 public libraries representing service areas in all geographic regions of the state participated in one or more of the Read to Me programs during fiscal year 2009. The Read to Me program is administered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries and the programs studied were funded, at least in part, with state funds last year.

A year-long evaluation of the FY2009 Read to Me program was conducted by Dr. Roger A. Stewart using a variety of qualitative and quantitative data sources. The evaluation covered the following RTM program elements:

- Mini-Grants. 30 libraries served over 17,000 children
- Every Child Ready to Read (ECTRR) Family Workshops. 23 libraries served over 1,055 children in 691 families
- First Book. 25 libraries distributed 19,568 books to 2,174 children
- Jump Start. 61 public libraries and 27 schools served 10,000 families

According to the report, all the programs have been highly successful to date.

- The changes in parent behaviors in regard to children's early literacy are striking. (To see more details in changes in parent behaviors, click on this chart.)
- Parents are reading more to their children and focusing on the six early literacy skills.
- Parent evaluations of all of the programs where they have been surveyed have been stellar.
- Daycare providers, preschools, Head Start programs, and public school Title I programs have proven to be wonderful partners.
- The high level of visibility that all of the programs and grant activities have provided local libraries is a strong, positive outcome.
- Read to Me libraries are doing more outreach work than they have done in the past, taking a more active and dynamic role in their communities.
- Participating libraries are very positive about their experiences with Read to Me programs and mini-grants.
- The high degree of success of the programs and the lack of significant problems underscore the superb level of coordination and implementation by the ICFL as they work closely with local libraries.

There is ample evidence in the wide variety of data collected for this evaluation that the Read to Me programs and mini-grants have significant legacy value for the participating libraries, their service areas, and the State of Idaho.

- The libraries gain and retain important knowledge and capacity as a consequence of participation.
- Evidence strongly suggests that this knowledge and capacity will continue to have quite positive effects on early literacy development in Idaho as the libraries continue their outreach efforts centered on the six early literacy skills and continue to incorporate the skills into all their early literacy programming.

The complete final evaluation report can be found at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/2009-ReadtoMe-final-rpt.pdf> . The Read to Me program is working with Dr. Stewart again this year to

take a look at five Read to Me and summer reading programs in depth. We are excited about the results the Read to Me programs are showing and look forward to continuing this level of evaluation.

A Closer Look at Changing Parent Behavior

Many of the Read to Me programs are designed to increase the knowledge, skills, and comfort level for parents in the six early literacy skills. Getting parents to utilize library services and promoting library collections are also outcomes for the programs. As shown in the above article, Idaho libraries are doing an amazing job achieving these goals. Parents and caregivers who participate in First Book and Every Child Ready to Read family workshops are reading more to their children, finding good age-appropriate books to read to them, and attending library programs as a family. They are also talking more to their children about the books they read, encouraging their children to retell stories, and “playing” with letters.

Two areas ranked slightly lower on the list of things parents are doing differently as a result in participating in the programs: singing with their children and playing rhyming games. Both of these areas had better results in the ECRTTR program, likely due to the modeling and working directly with parents that is done throughout the six sessions. ([Click here to see a chart that compares the survey results of both programs.](#))

Here are a few more ways libraries can promote singing and music in their libraries.

- Include more singing and musical resources in deposit collections your library might be providing for daycares and preschools.
- Provide the words to songs and rhymes you use at your storytimes for parents to take home. When possible, post the words on a flip chart so parents can read along with the songs during storytimes.
- Provide the free Literacy on the Go, Music for Babies, Rhymes for Babies, and the Spanish-language version of Rhymes for Families at your library, at area schools, preschools and daycares, your local WIC (Women Infant and Children) program, Head Start, doctor and dentist offices, laundromats, churches, etc. Find the order form on the [Read to Me Resource Page](#).
- Beef up your library’s CD collection and promote it widely. Boise Public’s Tamra Hawley-House provided this [list of music she uses at her “Music and Movement” programs](#). Librarians in western Massachusetts have compiled [a list of recommended CDs](#) on their blog and the [Multnomah County Library](#) also has a list that may be helpful if you’re looking for some new sources of songs that other libraries like.
- Do a display promoting singing and music resources your library offers. Include the “Literacy on the Go” booklets and other handouts parents can take. Display some great “books to sing” (Google “Books to Sing” for great booklists – many titles are already in your collections).
- Provide rhythm sticks, scarves, shakers, bells or other musical props to use at storytimes.
- Consider providing a “Music and Movement” programs at the library. Even if you can’t offer these programs weekly, a monthly program would model singing and movement activities for parents to do in their own homes.
- Experiment with different songs and music in your storytimes.



- Considering contracting with someone in your community who loves music and singing to do some music programs or concerts in your library.
- Play different CDs in the children's section of the library and highlight those selections ala "Starbuck's-method" of noting which CD you're featuring that day.
- Write a grant to improve your library's music collection, resources, and services for families.
- If your library provides story kits or "books in a bag" type of projects for parents to check out, add more music resources to these.

Is your library doing something to promote music and singing? We'd like to hear more about what Idaho libraries are doing. Please e-mail [Stephanie](#) with any information we can share with others.

Tips & Tools



Here is a fun finger play that **Heather Stout** demonstrated at the Lewiston Navigating Youth Services workshop:

Five Fat Peas

Five fat peas in a pea pod pressed (*Children hold hand in a fist*)
 One grew, two grew, so did all the rest. (*Put thumb and fingers up one by one*)
 They grew and grew (*Raise hand in the air very slowly*)
 And did not stop,
 Until one day
 The pod went POP! (*Children clap hands together*)



Wild Things

Wild things are all the rage right now with the popular "Where the Wild Things Are" movie release. Check out this newsletter on the Librarypalooza website with activities and resources for wild thing programs. www.librarypalooza.net/puppettales.html



Thanks to the New Mexico State Library's August 2009 YS Newsletter, edited by Beth Crist, Library Development Bureau Director, for these two items:

Booklist's Quick Tips for Schools & Libraries

Booklist has updated and expanded its newsletter, formerly called Quick Tips. The free monthly e-newsletter will draw from Booklist's feature articles and book reviews. Check out the current issue at <http://link.ixs1.net/s/ve?eli=a429588&si=s323119422&cfc=3html>.

Getting boys into reading through non-fiction material

This recent entry in the Literacy, Families and Learning blog offers good suggestions to get boys interested in reading: <http://trevorcairney.blogspot.com/2009/08/getting-boys-into-reading-through-non.html>.



Idaho Children Encouraged to Enter Writing Program

Letters About Literature, a national reading and writing promotion program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, invites young readers in grades 4 – 12 to enter this year's letter writing competition. Young readers simply write a personal letter to an author explaining how that author's work somehow changed the readers' view of their world.

Teachers, librarians, and parents can download free teaching materials on reader response and reflective writing, including assessment checklists at www.lettersaboutliterature.org.

Deadline: Submissions must be postmarked by December 12, 2009. State winners will be notified in March 2010 and national winners by mid-April, 2010. For more information, please visit www.lettersaboutliterature.org.

CE News You Can Use

There are about 150 course units available through WebJunction Idaho (<http://id.webjunction.org>) for FREE! These units need to be accessed before December 31, 2009. You don't have to finish the course – just check it out before the end of the year. Please sign in (create an account if you don't already have one) and check out the private course catalog.

One suggestion might be “Planning Storytimes for Children.” This course is intended for anyone who works or volunteers in a library and is responsible for planning, developing and delivering story time programs. The course will help you develop successful library story time programs for children of different developmental age groups, and covers planning and preparation, presentation tips and techniques, and sample story time programs.

There are many others available from Word and Excel to library programming and management. This is a great resource! Any questions, please contact Shirley Biladeau, Continuing Education Consultant, shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov or 208-639-4149.

News Beyond Idaho



As seen on the [Pittsburg Public Library YA Services Facebook Page](#) . . .

Don't let a library fine stop you from reading!

The library will offer waivers on overdue fines up to \$10 to teens in the 7th-12 grades. This applies to current overdue fines only. Lost items are not included and the offer is only good during Teen Read Week. Call 231- 8110 or visit the Youth Services Department for more details.



Hands-On Reading: The Pioneer Book Club

By Carol Elizabeth Jones. *Note: This originally appeared in the January/February/March 2009 issue of Virginia Libraries, a publication of the [Virginia Library Association](#) and was found in the [“I Love Libraries Newsletter.”](#)*

In 2007, the Rockbridge Regional Library began an association with Boxerwood Nature Center and Woodland Garden in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Our goal was to create programs that encouraged children to read, while also getting them outdoors to enjoy nature. Bonnie Bernstein and Hannah Klein from Boxerwood helped us to create the Survival Book Club for fifth through eighth graders. The book club featured novels about kids surviving in the wilderness, and gave the kids the opportunity to spend time outdoors learning survival skills. The culmination of the experience was a campout in May, using a shelter we built for ourselves in the woods.

The growth we saw in the Survival Book Club participants was very gratifying. Members included both home-schoolers and public-schoolers who were not necessarily acquainted when we began. Through the book discussions and hands-on activities, the club members formed a real community, showing respect and patience for one another and working together to complete projects. One or two members tended to take over discussions early on, but gradually learned to make space for others. One member's accomplishment was reading a whole book—something he had struggled with previously. When we saw how much the youngsters had grown from the combination of reading, talking, and doing, we wanted to try another hands-on book club with a fresh theme for 2008-09. We settled on the Pioneer Book Club, with books about frontier life and activities and experiences related to life as a pioneer.



During the summer of 2008, I did some related research as part of my MLIS work at the University of Alabama. I wanted some background on what makes pre-teens and young teens want to read. Linda Teran Strommen and Barbara Fowles Mates used surveys and interviews in their 2004 study of children's reading habits. Strommen and Mates were interested in identifying older children and teens who were passionate about reading and identifying what influences the readers had in common. They were not looking for excellent readers, but for young teens who chose to read just because they enjoyed it. [More here . . .](#)



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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Contact Us: *The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' 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.