

## The Scoop - Volume 3; Number 7 April 6, 2007

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## Welcome

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What's happening at your library that you are proud of? April 15-21 is National Library Week, a time when libraries of all types and people who use them come together to celebrate the contributions of all libraries, librarians and library workers in our nation's schools, campuses and communities.



According to the [American Library Association's NLW website](#), libraries today are enjoying a golden age in which public, school, college and university libraries are flourishing not only within the

physical confines of bricks and mortar, steel and glass, but also in the continuously expanding Internet universe. The acts speak for themselves: library use is up nationwide. More than 2 billion items were checked out last year, and librarians serve nearly 1.8 billion visitors annually. So, don't be modest. Make time to celebrate your library as the heartbeat of your community!



## Meet Sharon Walker

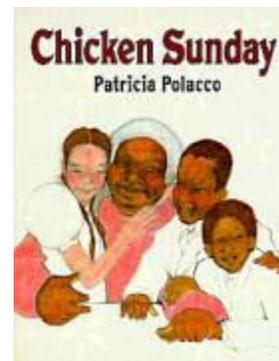
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While attending her first Read to Me meeting in Boise in February, Sharon Walker took a few minutes to share with us a little about herself for *The Scoop*. Sharon is a Youth Services Librarians Assistant II at the Meridian District Library. She has been working in the library field for 15 years. She moved to Idaho from Alaska almost five years ago and began working at the Meridian Library one week later.

Sharon works with children preschool through 6th grade. She helps with an all ages knitting club and makes monthly visits to two nursing homes for an outreach program. Sharon does storytimes, is the teen volunteer coordinator and also does craft programs for kindergarten through 5th grade.

What attracted Sharon to library work was her love of children and her years of community service working for children in such programs as Girl Scouts, Artists in the Schools program, Boy Scouts, Junior Achievement, and Alaskans for Drug Free youth. Sharon is currently working on plans for summer reading, a youth services newsletter, and bulletin board displays. Her favorite thing about her job is assisting children to find a "just right" books for them. She says, "It's like giving a Christmas gift every day!"

Sharon's favorite book is Patricia Polacco's *Chicken Sunday* because the book is multicultural, multi faith, and provides a very personal connection to the author. As a child, Sharon read biographies, mysteries, and historical fiction. Her recent reads include *Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DeCamillo, *Ida B* by Katherine Hannigan, and Geraldine McCaughrean's *Peter Pan in Scarlet*.



In her free time, Sharon spends time with her "little brother" from the Big Brothers, Big Sisters Program; climbing mountains, traveling, needlepoint, and dancing. Her favorite ice cream flavor is Orange Swiss.

# Library to Library

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## Advisory Council seeks nominees

The Idaho Board of Library Commissioners is seeking nominations for two seats on the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Council. One seat would represent public libraries from northern Idaho. The second seat is for a school library representative. Council members are asked to consider plans and issues from a statewide perspective.

Ellen Duncan from Idaho Falls High School has completed one term on the LSTA Advisory Council and is seeking a second term as the school representative. The public library position does not have an incumbent seeking a second term.

Advisory Council members provide input to the ICFL Board on the development of the state plan for LSTA, the annual LSTA program, and evaluation of LSTA grant applications and projects.

The Council meets once a year in Boise for two days; additional input is solicited as needed via conference call or e-mail. Members are reimbursed for travel expenses. More information about the Council is available at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/forlibs-lsta-advisory-council> or contact Sonja Hudson ([sonja.hudson@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:sonja.hudson@libraries.idaho.gov)) or Marj Hooper ([marj.hooper@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:marj.hooper@libraries.idaho.gov)) or at 208-334-2150.

Individuals interested in applying should send a letter to Ann Joslin, State Librarian, ([ann.joslin@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:ann.joslin@libraries.idaho.gov)) describing his or her interest in and experience with libraries. Appointments are scheduled to be made at the June 8, 2007 board meeting. When sending an e-mail notice of interest, please also include a mailing address and phone number where you may be reached. All letters must be received at the Idaho Commission for Libraries by 5 p.m. on May 15, 2007.



The **Orofino Elementary School Library** has received a \$4,500 grant from the J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation Education Fund in the Idaho Community Foundation to purchase new books. Books in the area of science, technology, biographies, and award-winning fiction will be purchased. The school library serves about 500 students, faculty and staff.

“The grant will make it possible for us to update the nonfiction section of our library, Orofino Elementary School Librarian Kathi Howard was quoted in the Clearwater Tribune as saying. “The Idaho Community Foundation deserves special thanks for helping us with this.”

The Idaho Community Foundation has distributed more than \$27 million for projects and programs in Idaho. Grants are made in all 44 counties of Idaho. For more information, visit [www.idcomfdn.org](http://www.idcomfdn.org).



The **Latah County Library** has created 80 Emergent Literacy Book Bags. There are approximately seven bags at each of the 12 levels. Youth Services Director Cathy Ensley said in an article in the Moscow Daily News that the bags have been popular with parents, especially those who are home schooling their children. Kathy said that nationally, home schoolers now account for 20 percent of all public library checkouts and the Literacy Book Bags help parents provide appropriate reading materials for those starting out with reading on their own. The Emergent Literacy Bags are leveled by reading ability and once a child has read all the books within that level, he or she is ready to move up. By the time the child has completed all 12 levels, he or she is reading at a mid-first grade level and is ready for Beginning Readers such as "Frog and Toad" or "Henry and Mudge."

## Young Adult Corner

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### **YALSA Celebrates the First Ever Support Teen Literature Day As Part of National Library Week**

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA), is celebrating the first ever Support Teen Literature Day on April 19th, 2007. Support Teen Literature Day will be celebrated in conjunction with ALA's National Library Week (April 15-21, 2007).

Librarians all across the country are encouraged to participate in Support Teen Literature Day by hosting events in their library. The purpose of this new celebration is to raise awareness among the general public that young adult literature is a vibrant, growing genre with much to offer today's teens. Support Teen Literature Day also seeks to showcase some award-winning authors and books in the genre as well as highlight librarians' expertise in connecting teens with books and other reading materials. Many of these activities can be featured throughout National Library Week or simply featured on Support Teen Literature Day.

Support Teen Literature Day will also be the official launch of YALSA's 2007 Teen Read Week initiative, which will be celebrated October 14-20, 2007 with the theme "LOL @ your library. The humor theme is meant to encourage teens nationwide to make time to read something light and entertaining just for the fun of it.

Since about one in every four library users is a teen, Support Teen Literature Day is the perfect time to plan a program specifically for teens," said Judy Nelson, YALSA President.

YALSA has compiled a list of activities, display ideas, and contests to help librarians and Teen Advisory Groups celebrate Support Teen Literature Day. For these ideas and more, visit their website at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/supportyalit.htm>. (Source: YALSA, 2007)

## Book Look

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Thanks to **Nancy VanDinter, school librarian at Bishop Kelly High School in Boise** for the following book reviews:

**Code Orange** by Caroline B. Cooney. Delacorte, 2005

While doing research for his biology paper on smallpox, Mitty Blake finds an envelope of scabs in an old medical text. He handles them before he realizes the danger. The more he researches, the more frightened he becomes. He poses some questions on the Internet which alerts the FBI and the CDC, as well as, a terrorist group. The bad guys kidnap Mitty and hold him as a human time bomb. Mitty is an engaging character, and this is a fast-paced, modern thriller that explores the threat of bioterrorism.

**The Hunter's Moon** by O.R. Melling. Amulet, 2005

Fairies, leprechauns, witches and dark spirits – they're all in this great Irish fantasy. Gwen arrives in Ireland to spend the summer with her cousin Findabhair. Before long, they're entangled in the world of fairies and magic. Findabhair is kidnapped by the King of Faerie, and Gwen is left alone in a strange country to try to rescue her. Things are further complicated by the Hunter's Moon and the fairies' need for a sacrifice. Findabhair's rescue becomes more difficult when she falls in love and doesn't want to return to the world. Lots of action and adventure makes this a fun read.

**Notes from the Midnight Driver** by Jordan Sonnenblick. Scholastic Press, 2006

This is a hilarious story with a great message. After his parents' divorce, Alex loads up on liquor, jumps in his mom's car and decapitates his neighbor's lawn gnome. He then throws up all over the arresting officers. He is sentenced to community service in a nursing home taking care of cantankerous, old Sol. The two finally make peace through their mutual love of jazz, and Alex grows to love his work. Snappy dialogue makes this a great story.

**Rebound** by Bob Krech. Marshall Cavendish, 2006

At Ray's school, the Polish kids go out for wrestling and the African American kids for basketball. But Ray really loves basketball and tries out even though he's been rejected twice. When he finally makes varsity, his new friends raise eyebrows in his family and his neighborhood. But the prejudice goes both ways, and Ray himself becomes a target. He finds out that the most beautiful girl in school is shallow, and his lifelong friend is the worst kind of racist. Lots of basketball action keeps the story moving.



## Upcoming Events in May

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Looking ahead, save these dates:

**Get Caught Reading Month** - This celebration is sponsored by the Association of American Publishers. Star Wars' diminutive Jedi Master Yoda will be a featured celebrity during May's Get Caught Reading Month. There are images of other celebrities who have been caught reading and you can download copies of the images or order free posters. Additional celebrities include: Jeff Gordon, Patty Duke, John Lithgow, Rugrats and more... check it out at: [www.getcaughtreading.org](http://www.getcaughtreading.org).

**Better Hearing and Speech Month** - This annual event provides opportunities to raise awareness about communication disorders and to promote treatment that can improve the quality of life for those who experience problems with speaking, understanding, or hearing. For more go to <http://www.asha.org/bhsm/>

May 1 – **Mother Goose Day** - Mother Goose Day was founded in 1987 by Gloria T. Delamar in tandem with the publication of her book, Mother Goose: From Nursery to Literature. The day is now listed in many calendars of events and celebrated throughout the United States. For more go to <http://www.librarysupport.net/mothergoosesociety/tips.html>

May 7-13 - **Teacher Appreciation Week** - This activity is sponsored by the National PTA to honor the dedication, passion, and caring nature of teachers. Find out more at the National PTA website and link to Teacher Appreciation at: [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) or <http://www.teacher-appreciation.info/>

May 8 - **National Teacher Day** – “Great Teachers Make Great Public Schools”  
The first Tuesday in May each year, the National Education Organization sponsors National Teacher Day as a way to recognize and celebrate the important roles and contributions of educators. Look at the links on this page for ideas on celebrating a teacher in your life: <http://www.nea.org/teacherday/index.html>

May 14-20 - **Reading is Fun Week** - Reading is Fundamental is the nation's largest nonprofit children's literacy organization. Each year they sponsor Reading is Fun Week as a way to encourage families across the country to pick up the habit of reading for pleasure. Find out more at: [www.rif.org](http://www.rif.org)



**May 31, 2007: Deadline to apply for the 2007-2008 Read to Me First Book program.** First Book is a national nonprofit organization with a single mission -- to give children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books. The program provides a book a month for a year for each participating child and workshops for families. In



addition to the 12 books each child receives, another program goal is to provide library cards and contact with librarians for at-risk children. Applications for new and returning libraries to participate in the 2007-2008 project year are due in May 31, 2007. See <http://libraries.idaho.gov/firstbook> for more information.

### **Author Birthdays:**

May 6 - **Leo Lionni** (1910-1999). Leo Lionni wrote and illustrated more than 40 highly acclaimed children's books. Author of *Alexander and the Wind-up Mouse*, *Frederick*, *In the Rabbitgarden* and others. [www.randomhouse.com/kids/lionni/author.html](http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/lionni/author.html)

May 9 - **Eleanor Estes** (1906-1988). Originally a librarian, Estes' writing career began following a case of tuberculosis. Bedridden while recovering, Estes began writing down some of her childhood memories, which would later turn into full-length children's books. Some of her titles include: *The Hundred Dresses*, *Ginger Pye*, *The Moffats* and more. [www.embracingthechild.org/aestes.html](http://www.embracingthechild.org/aestes.html)

May 10 - **Christopher Paul Curtis** (born in 1953). Curtis grew up in Flint, Michigan. After high school, he worked for 13 years on the assembly line at the Fisher Body Plant. It was during this time that he began drafting his first novel *The Watsons Go To Birmingham-1963*. Curtis's second novel, *Bud, Not Buddy*, was published in 1999. You can also read about the author at: <http://www.kidsreads.com/authors/au-curtis-christopher-paul.asp>.

May 15 - **Norma Fox Mazer**. Norma Fox Mazer is a prolific and beloved YA author who has entertained readers of all ages with her realistic and poignant stories. Some of her works include: *Girlhearts*, *Out of Control*, *Silver* and others as well as short stories and picture books for younger readers. For more on Norma Fox Mazer go to [www.teenreads.com/authors/au-mazer-norma.asp](http://www.teenreads.com/authors/au-mazer-norma.asp)

May 17 - **Gary Paulsen** (born in 1939). Born in Minneapolis, Gary Paulsen is the prolific author of more than 40 books, 200 magazine articles and short stories, and several plays; primarily for Young Adults. Paulsen's interests in books and reading came when he was a teenager and walked into a library to escape the cold of a Minnesota winter. Author of *Hatchet*, *Dogsong*, *The Winter Room* and more. For more go to [www.randomhouse.com/features/garypaulsen/about.html](http://www.randomhouse.com/features/garypaulsen/about.html) or <http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~kvander/paulsen.html#Biography>

May 23 - **Margaret Wise Brown** (1910-1952). Margaret Wise Brown wrote hundreds of books and stories during her life, but she is best known for *Goodnight Moon* and *Runaway Bunny*. Even though she died over 45 years ago, her books still sell very well. She is also the author of *Runaway Bunny* and many more, for a list of her works go to <http://www.margaretwisebrown.com/works.htm> and for more [www.margaretwisebrown.com](http://www.margaretwisebrown.com)



## Summer Reading News

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### Summer Reading Skit Hooks Kids



Bobbi Whatcott and Lucy Barnard, youth services staff at the Post Falls Public Library, demonstrated a great skit at the annual Read to Me meeting. The script she adapted from the 2007 Summer Reading Manual [is available in a pdf format here](#). Lucy and Bobbi will perform the skit at the six elementary schools in their service area. When kids sign up for the summer reading program, the library tracks which school they are from and awards a traveling trophy to the school with the most kids who attend.



[www.KidsLoveAMystery.com](http://www.KidsLoveAMystery.com) celebrates kids' love of mysteries with links to free online mysteries, scary stories, bios of great mystery authors, and lesson plans for teachers.

### Summer Reading Incentives Mailed to Participating Libraries



This week ICFL staff began mailing out the summer reading incentives to those libraries who applied for the Bright Futures Outreach incentive opportunities. Thanks to our dedicated support staff and volunteers they were able to make quick work of over 70 orders. In the photo at the left Angie Clancy (volunteer), Laurel Day (staff) , Betty Hoshaw (staff), Tammy Tipton (staff), and Irene Crane (volunteer) [left to right] prepare to load up another order.

## Treasure Valley Librarians Share Summer Reading Ideas

Librarians from four Treasure Valley libraries met recently to share ideas for summer reading programs. Dawn Kindberg (Nampa Public Library), Kuna Library



director Anne Hankins and her staff: Lorna Thorne, Glenna Rasmussen, and Rainey Friedemann, Joy Lear (Star Library), and Linda Brilz (Boise Public Library) all agreed they love the theme and have some great activities planned to help their summer readers "get a clue." **Kuna District**

**Library** staff hosted the meeting and provided a mystery-themed lunch. Can you guess what they had to eat?

The menu featured:

- White clouds with Burst of Sunshine and Slippery Slush
- Choice of Side of Bessie, Side of Wilbur or Best Side of Tom
- Accompanied by Moonslices and Spyglass Lenses
- Complimented by: Garden of Eden treats
- Libration: Fruit Sour
- Final Chapter: Tempting Turtle Triangles

Menu decoded:

- Rolls with mustard and mayonnaise
- Beef, Ham or Turkey
- Cheese and Potato Chips
- Fruit
- Lemonade
- Turtle Cheesecake

Here are some great ideas they shared:

### **Boise Public Library**

Boise Public will have special programs for school age that will include therapy dogs once a month and puppet shows. Linda also shared about the library's "mystery book" featured in a display case. Examples include *Pizza the Size of the Sun* by Jack Prelutsky (pizza box, yardstick, and photo of the sun). The most popular activities for teens are "treasure hunt" type activities. Linda has organized popular "shelf quests" for after-hours events. For a Lemony Snicket hunt, pictures of 13 eyeballs were hidden throughout the library.

### **Kuna District Library**

They will serve a mystery-themed breakfast to their staff on the first Monday of summer reading and *Star Library branch manager Joy Lear and Kuna Library staff member*



*Rainey Friedemann* open a box of books from ICFL's [Read for Your Library program](#). all staff will be wearing their summer reading t-shirts. Programs run for eight weeks and each week will feature a difference theme related to "Get a Clue," including:

- Get a Clue about Space - Program will feature a special guest from the [Bruneau Sand Dunes Observatory](#) and library staff will be dressed as Darth Vader and other Star Wars characters.
- 4th of July - Kids will parade around the library grounds accompanied by the Kuna High School band.
- Get a Clue about Sports - A Boise Hawks player and mascot and BSU football player will attend.
- Get a Clue about Animals - Fish and Game presentation.
- Get a Clue about Transportation - large vehicles will be parked in the library parking lot for kids to explore.
- A picnic on the library lawn will cap off the program.

To encourage parents to bring their children to the library, the Kuna Library also offers a coupon for parents every time they bring their child to summer reading. Parents drop the coupon in a jar for a weekly drawing.

### **Nampa Public Library**

Nampa staff will visit schools with a mystery-themed skit and Booker Bee mascot. They plan a big kick off registration party for 2,500 kids and parents in the library parking lot. Staff will be dressed as Storybook Characters and community organizations will set up booths to inform families of summer activities for kids. A celebration ending party will be held at the Chamber of Commerce and will feature a movie and ice cream social. Nampa trains about 50 teen volunteers to run their summer reading program. These teens and others who participate in summer reading will be invited to an "After Hours" party at the library at the end of the summer. Sixty teens attended last year.

### **Star Branch, Ada Community Library**

The Star Branch and main library in Boise will coordinate programs between the two locations. They will provide 8 programs - even weeks will feature a puppet show and the odd weeks will be a special program. Program ideas include digging for dinosaurs, exploration boxes for the senses, and a magician.



## **School Zone**

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### **Highlights from recent School Library Journal articles:**

In her article for *Curriculum Connections* (April 1, 2007), "The Things that Unite Us: Teaching Young Children about Other Cultures," author Ann Welton writes, "One book is small, but the changes a classroom, a library, a community full of books and discussion can create in understanding and worldview may, in fact, be big enough. In presenting these materials to our students, it's worth remembering that, in the words of the Select Panel for the Promotion of Child Health, 'Children are one-third of our population and all of our future.'"

Welton goes on to write about picture books which explore family, neighborhood and global connections and are ideal for social studies and language arts extension activities. Read the [full article](#).

### **Hispanic Children Gain an Academic Edge when Their Education Starts Early**

The National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics urges that Hispanic children be enrolled in high quality education programs as early as possible in order to make more rapid progress in closing the Hispanic-White achievement gap. The Task Force released a national report, "Para Nuestros Niños: Expanding and Improving Early Education for Hispanics," in Washington, D.C. on March 8, 2007.

Hispanic children, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, continue to lag behind non-Hispanic Whites on measures of school readiness and school achievement, including in reading and mathematics. At the same time, there is growing evidence that large state-funded prekindergarten (pre-K) programs are producing valuable school readiness gains for Hispanic youngsters who have the opportunity to attend them. Head Start also is beneficial. In addition, high quality infant/toddler programs can contribute to greater school readiness. Thus, the earlier Hispanic children have access to high quality educational programs, the better.

However, despite the benefits of greater access to such programs, Hispanic youngsters continue to be underrepresented among children who attend pre-K for several reasons. Among them are an inadequate supply of affordable preschool seats in many Hispanic communities, a lack of information for Hispanic parents on the programs that are available, and language barriers with program operators.

An important component of high quality early education for Hispanic children who are English language learners (ELLs) is having the opportunity to learn in both English and Spanish. There is a great deal of evidence that K-3 education that provides instruction in both languages leads to higher achievement among Hispanic ELLs. There also is evidence that the use of both languages in preschool can contribute to greater school readiness for these youngsters.

Although extremely valuable, the most effective existing infant/toddler, pre-K, and K-3 strategies are able to close only part of the readiness and achievement gaps between Hispanics and Whites. As a result, there is a need to engage in research and development in these areas that would involve extensive design, testing, and evaluation of new or improved strategies at all three of these levels. A great deal of emphasis should be on pursuing more effective ways to improve early language development among Hispanic English language learners from disadvantaged circumstances, owing to the importance of early language skills in predicting later success in school. (Press release, National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics). Read the entire [report](#).

## Know the Numbers

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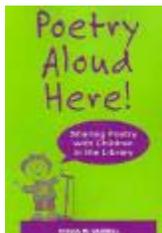
**For every American child through age 14, more than 11 juvenile books were checked out of public libraries during 2002.** [Source: Federal - State Cooperative System for Public Library Data].



## A Closer Look at Promoting Poetry

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April is Poetry Month and a great time to promote poetry in your library. Inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in April 1996, National Poetry Month (NPM) brings together publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, libraries, schools, and poets around the country to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture. Be sure to check out <http://www.poets.org> for more information or to sign up for a Poem-a-Day -- great poems from new books e-mailed each day of National Poetry Month.



The following ideas are from "A Place for Poetry: Celebrating the Library in Poetry" by Sylvia M. Vardell in the Summer/Fall 2006 issue of *Children and Libraries*. Vardell has a great new book, ***Poetry Aloud Here!: Sharing Poetry with Children in the Library*** that's available from the ICFL collection (372.6 Vardell). It's highly recommended! Here's some tips from the author:

### Why share poems?

Because they are generally short, they lend themselves to quick sharing as opening or closing for storytimes or special events.

They lend themselves to oral or choral readings and can involve children in active participation.

They help move children forward in their literacy development, from nursery rhymes on up. "It introduces new vocabulary and figurative language, reinforces phonemic awareness, is rich in imagery and sensory language, and is stimulating to the imagination. It is meant to be spoken and heard and thus provides practice for oral language development, listening, oral fluency, and choral reading and performing. Poetry has value for anyone at any age, but for children, it offers even more benefits. As children grow in their knowledge of language and literature, poetry is ideal for their developing minds and hearts," Vardell writes.

"Sharing poetry can reduce stress, increase laughter, provide comfort, offer inspiration, give relief, mirror emotions, and reinforce identification – even for adults," Vardell says.

How do we guide children in discovering poetry books in the library? Think about what books you have in the children's and young adult area of your library. Consider these questions as you assess your promotion of poetry:

- Are the poetry books as easy to find as the fiction and nonfiction?
- Are the poetry books in a child-friendly location, easily reachable, with the area well-labeled and quickly identified?

- Do poetry posters and poetry book displays invite children to browse through poetry even if they're not immediately seeking it out?
- Are some poetry books displayed face out?
- Is there room on the poetry shelves for expansion?
- Are the poetry books on the shelf current?
- Are the poetry award winners represented and highlighted?
- Are there multiple copies of the most current and popular poetry titles?

### **More ideas for getting poetry into the hands of kids:**

Share a poem with the children you serve each week. One elementary school library media specialist noted an increase in circulation of poetry books when she shared a single poem with students each week as they entered the library.

Good displays generate interest in library materials. When was the last time poetry was featured in your displays? Highlighting new books (and old "gems"), featured poets, and children's favorite poetry make those choices more appealing. It would be great to feature poems that children you serve have written as well.

Favorite poems can be made into posters, following fair use guidelines (more information about this can be found in Vardell's book). These can be displayed in hallways, doors, at the water fountains, pencil sharpeners, school buses and anywhere children gather.

If your library has a web site, consider adding a poem on a rotating basis or showing children's poems with their permission. This is another area where you could have a virtual display and feature different poets, lists of available titles, etc. "Posting published poems generally requires permission from the poet and the publisher, unless the poems are in the public domain," writes Vardell. Having children record their poems or consider adding photography or music are other options for your web site.

Children's reactions to poetry are greatly influenced by your reading and enthusiasm for poetry. Author Iris McClellan Tiedt says that "your presentation as their interpreter of poetry, for attitudes and values are reflected in your voice as you read, in the way you introduce the poem, and in your enthusiasm."

Poet and anthologist Lee Bennett Hopkins shared these tips for reading a poem aloud:

- Choose a poem you like that you think the audience will enjoy too.
- Familiarize yourself with the poem by reading it aloud to yourself several times.
- Get the feel of the words and rhythm.
- Mark words and phrases you want to emphasize.
- Read to the group in a natural style. Follow the rhythm of the poem.

- Note how the physical appearance of the poem on the page dictates the rhythm and mood.
- Stop for a moment at times when it pleases you and when it fits the mood of the poem.
- Use your normal voice, as if describing a daily event. Be sincere.
- Stay quiet at the end of the reading.

Others recommend reading a poem at least twice. “Often, the best way to end a poetry sharing session is to take a few questions and responses, then return to the poem: ‘Shall we read it again?’”

There's more tips than we have room for, but Poetry Aloud Here! by Vardell has information on poetry that kids love, pages of ideas for using poetry throughout the year, and what happens after you share poems. Be sure to check it out!

Other resources:

***Invitation to Read: More Children’s Literature in the Reading Program***, edited by Beatrice Cullinan (International Reading Association, 1992)

***The Poetry Break: An Annotated Anthology with Ideas for Introducing Children to Poetry*** by Caroline Feller Bauer (New York: H.W. Wilson, 1995)

**Poetry 180** -- A poem a day provided by the Library of Congress, one for each of the 180 days of a typical American high school year. Located at <http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/> .

The Children's Book Council (CBC) sponsors **National Youth People's Poetry Week** during the third week of April. See their web site for more ideas: [www.cbcbooks.org/yppw](http://www.cbcbooks.org/yppw).

## Tips & Tools

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### Target Invites Applications for Local Store Grants Program

The Target Corporation is accepting applications from organizations in communities where the company does business for its [Local Store Grants program](#). Grant applications are accepted from nonprofit programs that impact any of the following areas: arts; early childhood reading; and family violence prevention. Arts grants are awarded to programs that bring the arts to schools or make it affordable for families to participate in cultural experiences. Early childhood reading grants support programs that promote a love of reading and encourage children, from birth through age nine, to read together with their families. Family violence prevention grants support programs that strengthen families by preventing or reducing the cycle of family violence.

Applicant organizations must be located in communities where Target does business and must be tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or a school, library, or public agency. The average grant amount is between \$1,000 and \$3,000. To learn more and apply online, visit the Target Web site. Deadline to apply is May 31, 2007. (RFP Bulletin, 3/23/07)

## News Beyond Idaho

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### Library finds fine jar works even better

A mayonnaise jar at the circulation desk has replaced all fines and it's working out great for the Bushnell-Sage Library in Sheffield, MA. The library decided to replace fines last year and they're getting more money than the traditional method -- raising over \$2,000 needed for new computers in just a few months. Library director Nancy Hahn said the earned goodwill is priceless.

According to an article in *Library Hotline*, the rural community of 3,000 has families who simply couldn't afford the fines, especially the \$1 a day for videos. "These are the people we have to reach," said Hahn. Staff also didn't feel comfortable asking people for money so Hahn approached the library board with the jar suggestion and "now the library is a friendlier place," she said.



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

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