

Family Reading Week 2012 - Snuggle Up and Read!

Comments from Final Report:

Roberts Elementary School

We had a very successful Family Reading Night. We had several "stations": We made sock "reading buddies", had a gently used book exchange, handed out literacy materials we received from you, family reading gift basket give-away, free books and free "snuggle" buddies, reading time with the family to earn AR points, and more. The most popular station was making the sock "reading buddies". They were easy, affordable and a lot of fun.



Gooding Schools

Our Family Read Night was held in conjunction with Family Literacy Night. Over one hundred fifty people came for the evening, many children came in their pajamas, carrying a favorite stuffed animal. Children were encouraged to color a quilt block for the bulletin board quilt while they watched animated books from TumbleBooks. Their quilt blocks created a fun quilt for all to enjoy. Parents explored two different websites they can access at home, 24/7. The first was the TumbleBooks website (www.tumblebookslibrary.com). It includes picture books and beginning chapter books to read or listened to. A recently added feature is a collection of short videos on subjects like animals & nature, space & technology, geography, history, biology and science. Puzzles, games, and book report forms are also available. At the other website, www.lili.org, parents explored several encyclopedias and other



elementary research sites. The World Book Encyclopedia is available there at three different reading levels. Drawings were held for prizes including books, blankets, book covers, and posters. We shared milk (complements of the Idaho Dairy Council) and cookies. Parents and students traveled to classroom for Family Literacy activities.

Camas County Public Library

Watching the kids act out the books. They were really cute. Also seeing the enjoyment on the younger kids faces. They really had fun. We drew for the bags all the kids loved seeing other kids win. Everyone enjoyed the evening.



Jerome Public Library

We do not usually hold many weekend events because of our short staffing on



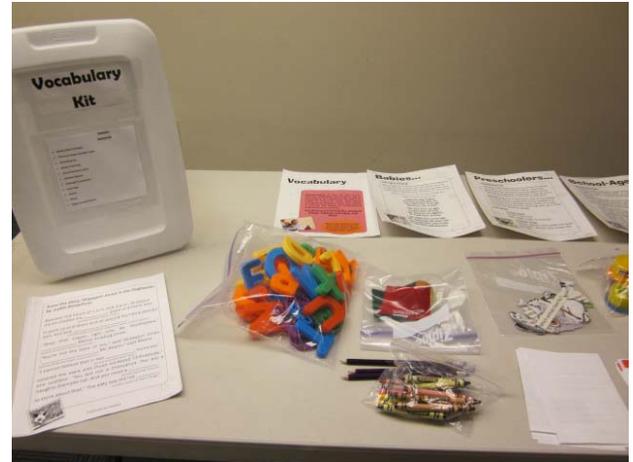
Saturdays, however we planned a special family reading party for Saturday, November 17th. The party was a huge success! We had many families, including a few that do not normally attend programs or visit the library often. I had taught a Math & Science workshop earlier that week at Head Start. It was great to see a couple of the families from that workshop at the Saturday event. We held two main programs during FRW. Our Teddy Bear Sleepover was as

successful as ever and I was very pleased with our Family Reading Party. The party on Saturday consisted of six literacy centers, a snack center and they could grab their free family book before they left. We also displayed a preview of the Math & Science

workshop we will be offering in the Spring. We offered a "Snuggle & Cuddle" reading log program for that week and had a lot of families take home reading logs. We only had one family turn theirs in however, but were still pleased that families were taking the initiative to read together as a family at home.



Meridian Library District



We help "Pajamarama" at our library. We invited families to attend this event in their pajamas where they received a gameboard with 10 different tasks to mark off completion. We set up stations throughout our library that included literacy skills as well as math and science skills. At each station we had games or challenges revolving around each skill. Once they completed one activity they could mark it off and move on to the next. Once all were completed they got a snack of hot chocolate and a cookie and they got to pick a book. We had a huge turnout and everyone seemed to love it! Some of the popular challenges were retelling stories with puppets, making a boat out of tinfoil that could float, memory games, the construction area (block and straws and connectors), and much more! It was a great success; however we'll be cleaning up for the next few weeks. :)



Cambridge Library

We had the children "buddy read" with a teen volunteer, or an adult from favorite books. We had a special display of books parents would remember from their childhood to share with a child, their own or another. Children were encouraged to wear PJ's if they wanted and chose a free book (thanks to you at ICFL). We also served hot chocolate and cookies for parents and children. I will forward some photographs. Thanks for all your support.



Twin Falls Public Library

The biggest hit at our Family Read Week event was the bear bead necklace making. The kids thought it was a lot of fun and they all wanted to make one. They all enjoyed the story time. The books read were "Bedtime for Bear" by Brett Helquist and "Bedtime for Mommy" by Amy Krouse Rosenthal.



Buhl Public Library

Combined Fun with Math and Science and Family Reading Week

I think that the family program on Saturday was great fun because the children and their parents interacted to do the activities and we had great presenters. One of the presenters was a board member who is a former teacher and loved the idea of preschool STEM readiness. Some of the parents said that they do many of the activities already but didn't know that they involved science and math skills. We had moms and their children making teddy bears and quilts to snuggle them up in. (paper ones) The most fun was seeing the excitement the audiences all displayed with all of our programs. That is what makes it all worth it.



More Comments from Final Report:

All of our programs were fun and successful. We did try a new activity this year though. To kick off FRW, we offered families a chance to come to the library for a scavenger hunt. I took photos of recognizable places in the library such as special displays, the library's globe, and certain areas in the library such as New Books, YA, the circ desk, holiday books and more and created a hunt game card. When an area was found during the hunt, the kids took a photo sticker out of an envelope near the area and placed it on

their hunt card (the sticker and the game card section had an identical picture). When their game card was full, the child was able to choose a treat from a treasure box. Each family member was also able to enter for a chance to win one of four stuffed book bags. Families really seemed to enjoy this program!

We had a stuffed toy sleepover, following the suggestion on the CD. Most of the children brought a toy to the evening program, and came back for storytime the next day to pick them up. We took lots of pictures and had the children put together books as our early literacy activity for the week. We actually had more people at storytime than we did at the evening program because many of the children brought different adults.

We put together a special weekend storytime where we encouraged children to come dressed in some fun pajamas and to bring their favorite stuffed animal. We had such a cute array of little stuffed friends join us for the books and activities! After the stories the families were invited to come to the craft area of the room where they could have a "bedtime snack" of milk (provided by the Idaho Dairy Council) and cookies, and where they could make a little bed craft for their stuffed animal to sleep in. We had several parents come up to us afterward and rave about how much fun they and their kids had!

Oakley Elementary sponsored a Family Reading Night with a story time. Three books were presented by three local adults. Families were given time to read together after the story time. Refreshments were served.

Following up the Summer Reading theme of Dream Big, we called our program Make your Dreams Come True. We invited Rachel Sharp, a local illustrator of children's books, who has become quite successful at a very young age in spite of the fact that she could not afford college. She showed the audience how she used her computer to draw, and then led them in a drawing lesson. Our little meeting room was PACKED!

We had a special story time and Teddy Bear Sleep over.

The Reading Rascals (Babies - Preschool) brought their teddy bears to the program and snuggled up and read with them. We had a pajama party set up with snacks and snuggle-spots. The snuggle-spots were just pillows and bean bags that families could snuggle up and read at. All in all I think it was a great success!

This year we hosted a Teddy Bear Sleep over and the kids- and parents- had a fabulous time! Parent after parent thanked us for hosting such a fun and unique program. There were a few tears at the end of the evening; it was hard to say good

night to our stuffed friends. We decorated photo frames and had them available to pick up the next morning with a photo of all the fun our friends had that night.

We held a Snuggle Up and Read event at the library on Wednesday night with 41 attendees. We read stories, made a craft basket and served a teddy bear trail mix for the kids to put in their new baskets. We also crashed the school's Family Fun Night and handed out about 36 books there. We had a drawing for a free family rural library card at both of these functions. While at the school, a Girl Scout Troop was gathering items for children and families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. We gave them 24 books to be distributed to the children who are hospitalized during the holiday season.

Corduroy the Bear came. We had chili, hot dogs, books, a craft, face painting and a storytime. We also had a family drawing and free books!

The Most successful part of our activity was having adults and teens interacting with the younger children, reading them the stories and doing the activities with them. Each book that was read at our activity had an activity along with it. The activities included puzzle races, Bingo, puppet play, sing-along, and stuffing a mini bear! The parents had just as much fun as the kids did! A new parent to the library seen me at the local Walmart and said how much fun she and her 2 children had at the library activity. That is a great plus for us.

We had the children "buddy read" with a teen volunteer, or an adult from favorite books. We had a special display of books parents would remember from their childhood to share with a child, their own or another. Children were encouraged to wear PJ's if they wanted and chose a free book (thanks to you at ICFL). We also served hot chocolate and cookies for parents and children. I will forward some photographs. Thanks for all your support.

This was the first time we have hosted a Family Reading Night at our public library. It was a huge hit!! We set up a table with the free books for the family. And a snack table with chocolate chip cookies and milk. Then we had a craft for the kids to do. The kids seemed to have a ton of fun as well as the grownups. I have a few pictures to share with you guys too.

I used the books to read aloud, and we had enough duplicate copies to give each K student their own copy to take home and keep. I made a bookmark to go with the books so the parents were aware of the involvement of the Idaho Commission for Libraries. The children loved the book, "Bedtime for Bear". My focus was on kindergarten students, and the importance of sharing our joy in books & reading.

This was our 10th annual Dinner & a Book celebration of Idaho Family Reading Week, sponsored by Flying Pie Pizzeria, our Friends group, and ICFL. You can't go wrong when you give them pizza, ice-cream, stories and books. Our customers love this event, and I believe the family reading message gets through!

We had 2 football players as guest readers and a renowned story teller. We served cookies and apple cider as treats, had door prize drawings, and did a craft project with the kids. They made turkeys out of paper sacks.

We held a special storytime for a local preschool and the fire truck came - the kids were so excited.

We combined our Book Fair with Family Reading Week. Each day of the week we had a different dress up day. They were sports star day, pajama day, orange and black day, and career day. One day we hosted a grandparent/family lunch and we had an amazing turnout. We had approximately 120 parents & grandparents attend lunch with their students. After lunch they were invited to come into the library and visit the book fair. We distributed some family literacy handouts.

During the week before we hid the picture of the bear from the CD in the school. When the kids found him, they returned him to the library and received a stuffed bear. We used the winter reading log and gave out 2 prizes. At our event on November 7th, (held early because of the LCEI change to Polaris) we read for 20 min., divided into 4 groups and rotated between: reading in a tent, made a foam teddy bear and blanket, Name That Famous Bear contest from CD, and a song activity. A slipper contest, drawings and refreshments closed the evening. The first six families received the bags and books from you. All other families received a copy of each book.

We were very bad about the picture taking but we did Snuggle Up and read in our gym, we had special reader every 15 minutes kids wore pajamas and brought pillows and blankets and sat laid on mats. Cookies and milk were served. We had so much fun we think we will do it again next year! We had a book fair in the library.

We teamed up with a local company named All About Games. They came to our library and set up a variety of boardgames to play with all of the families that came to the event. We also unveiled the name of our library mascot. Drum roll please.....Whoodini! It was definitely a lot of fun.