

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Nurture a love of reading with TumbleBooks™ and DayByDayID storytimes

BOISE, ID — "Research shows that the best way to improve a child's reading skills is to provide convenient access to reading materials," said State Librarian Ann Joslin. "When children have access to books, they read them. And, when they read a lot or have parents reading to them on a regular basis, all aspects of literacy improve."

Sometimes a trip to the library may get bumped by busy family schedules or winter weather, but that doesn't mean opportunities for reading have to be cancelled. As part of its <u>Routes to Reading</u> grant project, the Idaho Commission for Libraries purchased a three-year subscription to TumbleBooks™ for all publicly-funded public libraries. This subscription allows Idaho library users—from anywhere they have Internet connection—access to hundreds of stories including fiction, non-fiction, and foreign language titles; Read-Alongs (chapter books with sentence highlighting and narration but no animation); Tumble TV (pre-set playlists of a sequence of books); and Tumble Puzzles & Games. This fun and valuable early learning resource can be accessed through the TumbleBooks™ link on Idaho public library websites.

Another component of the Routes to Reading grant is a website called <u>DayByDayID.org</u>, where complete storytimes are delivered online, everyday. Daily content includes a book a day through TumbleBooks™, rhymes, song, videos, and more. Other sections available at the site are Arts and Crafts, STEM, Be Healthy, and bilingual resources. "DayByDayID.org is the perfect tool for families unable to make it to their public library for storytime," said Erica Compton, Commission project coordinator. "Available 24/7, it's a ready resource that can be used anytime, anywhere with Internet access."

"Research clearly shows that the amount of reading done in the home is crucial to developing good readers," Commission project coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said. "We are excited about the incredible opportunities that TumbleBooks™ and DayByDayID storytimes bring to Idaho children and families."

Check out TumbleBooks™ and DayByDayID.org on your library's website and click open a world of 24/7 reading.

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In September 2012, the Idaho Commission for Libraries received a \$250,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to promote early learning among low-income children with the "Routes to Reading" project. The Commission is partnering with the J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation and Idaho Kids Count on the project.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele. To learn more about ICfL, visit <a href="http://libraries.idaho.gov/">http://libraries.idaho.gov/</a>.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit <a href="http://www.imls.gov">http://www.imls.gov</a> and follow IMLS on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a> and <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>.