



Vol. 6 No. 3 – March 19, 2010

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

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Welcome



Spring is near! The snow is finally beginning its retreat up the mountains, the daffodils and tulips are poking their tiny shoots up through the earth, and the neighborhoods are filling with the sounds of children's laughter (cue the spring music and bird chirping sound effects). For Idaho youth services librarians, these signs of spring have a different meaning: [Teen Tech Week](#), the [Read to Me meeting](#), the [Bright Futures deadline](#), [El día de los niños/El día de los libros \(Children's Day/Book Day\)](#), and [Earth Day](#). This month's *Scoop* features these favorite spring events; celebrating libraries, librarians, and the amazing things you do for Idaho's young people. So "spring forward" and enjoy the issue!

Spring is near! The snow is finally beginning its retreat up the mountains, the daffodils and tulips are poking their tiny shoots up through the earth, and the neighborhoods are filling with the sounds of children's laughter (cue the spring music and bird chirping sound effects). For Idaho youth services librarians, these signs of spring have a different meaning: [Teen Tech Week](#), the [Read to Me meeting](#), the [Bright Futures deadline](#), [El día de los niños/El día de los libros \(Children's Day/Book Day\)](#), and [Earth Day](#). This month's *Scoop* features these

Meet Bonnie Speas...



Bonita (Bonnie) Speas is a library coordinator for the Caldwell School District. She has been in the library field for five years and at Jefferson Middle School in Caldwell for three years. Her school serves 700 students in grades 6, 7, and 8 (ages 11–15) and includes a large population of students from low-income families, as well as a large Spanish-speaking population. The collection has about 13,000 titles.

Bonnie holds scheduled classes to teach library skills. Each class comes in every two weeks but the library is open to students before and after school. During lunch she also holds the Lunch in the Library book club. She loves the school environment and finds it's really fun to work with the kids.

Last year when she was interested in attending the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) National Convention, Bonnie submitted a successful LSTA Continuing Education First Time Attendance grant proposal to the Commission for Libraries. As soon as she could after returning from the convention workshops, she began implementing the ideas that intrigued her the most. She now offers Tech2Go for teachers, where she spotlights a different technology or Web 2.0 resource each week. She encourages teachers to pop into the library for 15 minutes after school and see one cool tech thing—telling them that it's easier than doing the McDonald's drive-through! Once she used the Xtranormal text-to-movie website to create a cartoon to invite teachers to her Xtranormal demonstration. Often, when a teacher uses a new technology in the classroom, student demand goes up and then other teachers develop an interest in that technology. Bonnie has a good working relationship with the IT team at her school and they will usually unblock sites so they can be accessed for learning projects. Her frequent collaboration with the teachers has drummed up more interest in technology and added to the success of classroom projects.

Another idea that Bonnie implemented from the AASL Convention was to arrange some of the collection in the library in a "bookstore" style, setting up tables with various genres such as Chic Lit, GUYS READ, and Historical Fiction. This gets the students' attention and she has been scrambling to keep those tables stocked ever since.



Bookstore style fiction display

Bonnie says that her biggest success so far is improving the collection through weeding and book purchases. She has written several successful grant proposals for books, most recently to Idaho Community Foundation for \$2,000 to buy cultural books and DVDs for the library and to host monthly cultural events in the school.

Bonnie's biggest challenge is increasing the use of the library and getting students to hang out more. Although drop-in times are somewhat flexible, the location of the library within the school presents a challenge, and there are classrooms connected to the library so noise is an issue. Bonnie is looking into setting up some tables for games such as chess, starting a boys book

club, and hosting other events to bring in students who might not otherwise come to the library. Another challenge is finding the time to keep up with current literature trends.

One of her Bonnie's favorite things about her job is buying books. She also loves the flexibility and variety that her job provides.

As a child, Bonnie enjoyed reading the Nancy Drew mysteries by Carolyn Keene and the Anne of Green Gables series by L.M. Montgomery. She also has great memories of her mom reading the Little House series by Laura Ingalls Wilder to her and her siblings when they were kids. Her favorite children's authors include Avi and the Young Readers Choice Award (YRCA) authors. "*The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak was excellent," Bonnie says, and "*The True Meaning of Smekday*, by Adam Rex was really funny." Bonnie is currently reading *The Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, by Jamie Ford.



Bonnie's favorite flavor of ice-cream is frozen yogurt with fresh berries. When she's not working, she loves doing anything with her family. They love to travel when they've got the time and money.

Library to Library



2010 Idaho Library Association Call for Award Nominations

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF NOMINATIONS: May 1, 2010

Nominations are now being accepted for the six Idaho Library Association Awards. The Idaho Library Association honors individuals and groups who have served the Association and/or the Idaho library community with distinction.

Aside from the School Library Media Program of the Year Award, each nomination packet should include the completed [ILA Awards Nomination Form](http://www.idaholibraries.org/awards) (www.idaholibraries.org/awards) and three letters of support; one from the nominator and two from other supporters of the nomination. No more than three letters of support will be considered by the selection committee.

The School Library Media Program of the Year Award nomination packet should include the [Idaho School Library Media Program of the year application and profile information](http://www.idaholibraries.org/awards) which can be found at www.idaholibraries.org/awards.

All nominators will be notified in August by the Scholarship and Awards Committee if their nominee has been selected, and will be invited to make the presentation of the award at the annual conference. Awards will be presented to the recipients during the annual conference in Post Falls, Idaho from October 6-9, 2010. The awards committee will create a press release to announce the award recipients using various means throughout the state.

Please take this opportunity to acknowledge outstanding colleagues and outstanding work. Through identifying those who exemplify the very best in the field, we honor our service and advance the profession!

Please mail nomination packets to:
Sherrilynn Bair
Attn: ILA Awards/Scholarship
924 W. Highway 39
Blackfoot, ID 83221
208-684-3063
snakeriverlibrary@gmail.com



Dr. Seuss Day at Council Valley Library

Council's Friends of the Library sponsored a Dr. Seuss Day at the Council Library Saturday, March 6. Over 100 kids and parents attended the event, which was a great showing for a small community of 800 people! The library opened with a free breakfast of green eggs and ham, muffins, and fruit. The fun continued through the morning with craft stations set up around the library for kids to make silly masks, goofy magnets, and Cat in the Hat rhymes and mazes. The afternoon featured a special appearance by Cat in the Hat. The first 25 kids to attend this storytime received free books. Cat in the Hat read several Dr. Seuss books, and the day ended with a showing of the movie *Horton Hears a Who* with free popcorn. "We are so excited to have this fun experience for the children to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday," said volunteer youth librarian Krissi Hansen, "and so thankful for our wonderful Friends of the Library organization to sponsor it!"



International Book Festival Draws Crowd in Buhl

Buhl Public Library held its first ever "International Book Festival" on February 25th. The afterschool book club planned and implemented this program. Each child chose a country to feature and made posters, gathered books, and made a sample of food from their chosen country. Two speakers were invited to attend: One of them spoke five different languages, and the other was a man from Mexico who talked about the ruins and hidden cities. Library staff read *Whoever You Are*, by Mem Fox and the kids did an international dance. About 50 people attended the event.



Tips on Reaching Non-English Speakers

McCall librarians Meg Lojek and Lida Clouser facilitated a discussion during last week's Read to Me Meeting about why programs for non-English speakers are important, as well as how some libraries are meeting the needs of this audience. Here are some tips that were shared:

- Make the library a welcoming place for non-English speakers. Place welcome signs from different languages around the library, especially near the front door.
- Provide book suggestion lists in several languages so that patrons can let you know what they would be interested in checking out. These can be translated by key patrons or leaders in each cultural community.
- Consider forming a multicultural advisory group and ask leaders of local ethnic groups to become members.
- Whenever possible, hire staff members who speak local languages.
- Find volunteers who speak the local languages to do a storytime or other program. Ask local school personnel, community organizations, religious leaders or library patrons to contact potential volunteers. You will need to provide some training.

- Consider providing late fee “amnesty” for patrons.
- Programs for the Spanish-speaking community can be advertised in *Idaho Unido*, (see Tips and Tools) a bilingual Idaho newspaper.
- Speak *slowly*, not *loudly*.
- Feature children’s art, families will come to the library to view
- Wear nametags or share your name when doing outreach. Consider putting your photo on your business card.
- Smile, and let non-English speakers know they are truly welcome!

Young Adult Corner



LEARN CREATE SHARE @ Your Library

Teen Tech Week is a national initiative aimed at teens, librarians, educators, parents, and other concerned adults meant to encourage teens to take advantage of libraries' nonprint resources. The 2010 theme — Learn Create Share @ your library — fosters teen creativity and positions the library as a physical and virtual place for safe exploration of the many types of technology available at libraries, including

DVDs, music, gaming, video production, online homework help, social networking, tech workshops, audiobooks and more. Teen Tech Week was celebrated by Idaho libraries and school March 7-13, 2010.

Thank you to the following libraries and schools for sending us information about their events:

✚ Boundary County Library – TNT 2010

On Saturday, March 6th from 11a.m. – 3 p.m., the Boundary County District Library hosted an open house where students used programs such as Wordle, Glogster, and Animoto to begin creating projects. They then showcased these projects throughout Teen Tech week as the projects were completed and ready to view. They also used this day to promote a new online teen magazine from the High School that was recently launched.

The library’s goals were to encourage more teens to come to the library and create a welcoming environment to ensure they would want to return. It was their hope that teens would take what they learned and utilize it in other aspects of their personal and school life.

✚ Jerome Public Library/Jerome Middle School - Tiger Tech Week

During the week of March 8-11, 2010 Jerome’s public library and school collaboration offered four workshops on various technology features that allowed teens to *Learn, Create, Share*. Each day they spotlighted various technology avenues. During the school day, Sonja Humphries introduced the technology of the day, and then the kids came to the public library to learn, create and share that particular technology. They spotlighted Glogster.com, GoogleDocs, Voicethread and “Teen Tech Teaching Thursday” where teens had the opportunity to share their knowledge with their peers and



teachers! They gave raffle tickets to participants each day, which put them in a drawing to win a pair of SkullCandy Headphones. The highlight was a display of “Technology Past to Future,” which highlighted the finest technology of yester-year! This was a great opportunity for the library and school to collaborate and share resources!

✚ Moscow High School/Moscow Junior High School – Celebrating Teens and Tech Week

Staff encouraged students to learn how to use online programs that allowed them to use creativity and demonstrate critical thinking skills and knowledge. They wanted to support visual literacy skills, as well as improved critical thinking skills and new ways for teens to demonstrate their learning and knowledge. Staff utilized high schools students who were knowledgeable in various Web 2.0 programs as mentors and trainers for the other students for this project.

✚ Orofino High School/Kamiah High School - Teen Tech Week 2010: Creating Online Tour Guides for New Students at OHS

Students attended programs at the the library to discover, create and publish using new technologies to design online tour guides that will introduce new students and their parents to Orofino High School. After brainstorming and collaborating, students presented the many aspects of life at OHS through these online tour guides, which will become part of 9th grade orientation this spring. Other important project goals were to introduce 2.0 technologies to students, promote fun learning and sharing, and discover tools that students could share with faculty and staff.

✚ Garden City Public Library - Teen Tech Week: Film a Backwards Video!

Garden City’s event is scheduled for Monday, March 29th at 3 p.m. and is for teens ages 11 and older. They will meet in the Community Room and create a series of video clips doing everyday things, such as eating a slice of pizza, doing somersaults, or knocking down a pile of blocks. They will then reverse the clips and slow them down to make really cool effects! Everyone is invited to come back on Friday, April 2nd and watch the video at their Teen Tech Week Party!

✚ Ada Community Library - Teen Tech Week

The Ada Community Library had a great idea of **waiving up to \$10 of overdue fines for teens** in celebration of Teen Tech Week! They also hosted a “Create It” on Monday, March 8th from 6 - 7:30 p.m., where teens got the chance to **make their fanfic story ideas come to life** on the computer screen with digital media!

Additional Resources

www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw10/home10.cfm - ALA’s YALSA site
http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Teen_Tech_Week - Teen Tech Wiki

Voice Threads about Teen Tech Week:

- “Getting Started with Teen Tech Week” <http://voicethread.com/share/283695/>
- “Teen Tech Week in the School Libraries” <http://voicethread.com/share/285786/>
- “Teen Tech Week on a Budget” <http://voicethread.com/share/285022/>

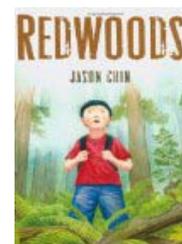
If your Teen Tech Week event was not highlighted this month and you would like to share your ideas, please email us information and photos so that we may include it in next month’s Scoop. Send your information to Erica Compton at erica.compton@libraries.idaho.gov.

Book Look



Going Green

Check out Booklist's new selection of [Top 10 Books on the Environment for Youth](#) to inspire your young patrons to go green. This is a great list for Earth Day!



Celebrating Children

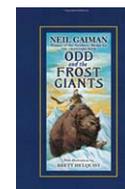
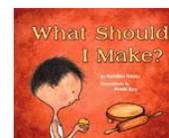
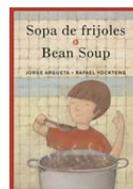
United States Board on Books for Young People ([USBBY](#)) has selected an honor list of international books. The 41 books on this year's list were chosen from well over 300 titles. Outstanding literary quality was a top priority, and the committee was also interested in finding books that introduce American readers to outstanding artists and writers from other countries, help American children see the world from other points of view, provide a perspective or address a topic otherwise missing from children's literature in the U.S., exhibit a distinct cultural flavor, and are accessible to American readers. To access the full list, see the article [Crisscrossing the Globe: A world of international books for young people](#) by Elizabeth Poe -- *School Library Journal*, 2/1/2010.

Sopa de frijoles: Un poema para cocinar/Bean Soup: A Cooking Poem, by Jorge Argueta.

What Should I Make? by Nandini Nayar.

Odd and the Frost Giants, by Neil Gaiman.

Journey of Dreams, by Marge Pellegrino.



[More...](#)



2011 Young Reader's Choice Nominees Announced!

See the PNLA website for more information: <http://pnla.org/yrca/2011nominees.html>

JUNIOR

Amulet: The Stonekeeper, by Kazu Kibuishi

Dog Lost, by Ingrid Lee

Found, by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Ignatius MacFarland: Frequent!, by Paul Feig

The Maze of Bones, by Rick Riordan

Savvy, by Ingrid Law

The Seer of Shadows, by Avi

Swindle, by Gordon Korman

INTERMEDIATE

Airhead, by Meg Cabot

Airman, by Eoin Colfer

Chains: Seeds of America, by Laurie Halse Anderson

The Graveyard Book, by Neil Gaiman
Juvie Three, by Gordon Korman
Rapunzel's Revenge, by Shannon Hale
Zorgamazoo, by Robert Paul Weston

SENIOR

A Curse Dark as Gold, by Elizabeth C. Bunce
Graceling, by Kristin Cashore
The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins
Identical, by Ellen Hopkins
Little Brother, by Cory Doctorow
Paper Towns, by John Green
The Summoning, by Kelley Armstrong
Sunrise Over Fallujah, by Walter Dean Myers

And don't forget to vote for the 2010 Young Reader's Choice Nominees! Send ballots to Joy Lear at Ada Community Library by April 15.

Upcoming Events



Participate in the 2010 Jump Start Program! Idaho librarians are encouraged to sign up for the 2010 Jump Start program. A short application form can be found at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/jump-start>.



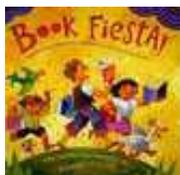
Applications to participate in the 2010-2011 **First Book program are due Thursday, May 13, 2010**. The [application is available in a Word format here](#) so you can type in your answers, get it signed, and mail it in along with a letter of support from your community partner(s). If you have any questions about the program, please contact Stephanie or Staci at 1-800-458-3271. For more information about the Read to Me First Book program, see <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/first-book> .



Celebrate El Día de los Niños /El Día de los Libros this April!

El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), known as Día, is a celebration EVERY DAY of children, families, and reading that culminates every year on April 30. The celebration emphasizes the importance of advocating literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Sponsoring a Día event is an excellent way for libraries to increase patronage and extend their reach into the community.



Host a Día event and help celebrate cultural diversity in Idaho. If you register your event on the [ALA website](#), ICFL will send you a **FREE** copy of *Book Fiesta!* by Pat Mora for your collection. Please register by April 30th to be eligible for the free book.

Last year several Idaho libraries hosted Día events. Here are some past celebrations to help spark your imagination.

Garden City Library had members of the Jalisco Dancers stop by and perform some traditional dances. The Boise Hawks mascot "Humphrey Hawk" was there to add some silliness and fun for the children. Games, crafts, and music were all a part of the celebration. Volunteers from the community read stories in Spanish and English. Fun for the whole family!



Hayden Public Library's goal last year was to provide a day of fun activities at no charge for children in the community ages 0 to 8. In addition, community partners had resource materials available for the adults attending the event. Partners included Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries, Kootenai Head Start, Mountain States Early Head Start, Panhandle Health District, North Idaho AEYC, Idaho Stars, KMC Safe Kids, ICARE, St. Vincent DePaul, Art on the Edge, Project CDA and the University of Idaho Nutrition Program. Activities included a bookwalk, puppet show, photo booth, farm themed art projects, pig slop (make your own trail mix), bread in a bag, make your own butter, hook a book, open play area and horse play.



Nampa Public Library hosted an event on May 2, 2009 during Family Fiesta Storytime. They had rhymes, stories, songs, activities and crafts for the whole family.



Last year **Boise State University** hosted a day to spread the joy for books, honor children, and celebrate diversity. Student and community organizations worked together to host the celebration, where children received free books, toys, candy, dental care tools, literacy and library information, and safety information from numerous booths. Families enjoyed fresh authentic Mexican food while listening to mariachi and watching some fabulous Aztec dancers.



There are many helpful resources on the Internet for hosting Día celebrations. The following ideas are taken from "A Celebration of Childhood and Bilingual Literacy," a [downloadable tool kit](#) (PDF) featuring ideas and book suggestions from Random House.

- Celebrate other languages and being bilingual with posters, banners, murals, speakers, author visits, book fairs, and displays.
- Invite parents/family members who speak a language other than English to share bilingual stories and games as honored guests.
- Assist young people in writing and illustrating bilingual books.
- Involve families in bilingual writing projects such as family stories or neighborhood oral histories.
- Present bilingual plays and choral readings.
- Use the observance to encourage parents who are learning English to utilize the school library by initiating a parent library.
- Invite bilingual community members to speak about the advantages of being bilingual in various fields.
- Assist parent groups in writing bilingual collections of traditional songs, recipes, games, and *dichos* (proverbs), or neighborhood oral histories.

More Resources

- National Día website hosted by ALA and ALSC.
- National Latino Children's Institute
- www.patmora.com/dia.htm
- Colorin Colorado - provides resources for parents and teachers of English Language Learners.
- Texas Library Association: Día Celebration Toolkit and Resources for Teachers and Librarians
- Criticas magazine - Great article on planning an event.
- Get Caught Reading – Dia Bibliography from 2009
- REFORMA - the national association to promote library and information services to Latinos and the Spanish speaking community
- Dia Toolkit from Random House
- Webjunction – Dia Programming and Outreach Quick Links

Remember to register your event and receive a FREE book from the ICFL!

<https://cs.ala.org/websurvey/alsc/dia/> We also encourage you to send us information and photos on your celebration after the event, so that we can include it in next month's Scoop. Email your information to Erica Compton at erica.compton@libraries.idaho.gov.



Earth Day, most often celebrated on April 22, is a day dedicated to bringing awareness to the environmental health of our planet. Earth Day is observed in the United States, Canada, and many other countries around the world with programs and activities designed to educate people about Earth's environment and threats to the environment.



Earth Day was first observed on April 22, 1970. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, who is considered the founder of Earth Day, first brought forth the idea for a nationwide demonstration in support of bringing awareness of the issues then facing Earth's environment. On the first Earth Day in 1970 as many as 20 million Americans in schools and communities across the country participated in rallies and demonstrations in an attempt to bring environmental issues such as air pollution, water pollution, soil pollution, and the destruction of natural habitats and to the awareness of the American people and elected officials.

For a list of Earth Day resources, see "A Closer Look at Earth Day," The Scoop, March 27, 2009.



Summer Reading News



List of participants now on website

You can now check to see who in your area has applied for Bright Futures outreach programs by going to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/summer-reading> and clicking on the chart at the bottom.



Read for Your Library (RFYL):

It looks as though we may have a few additional sets of books this year. If your library had to leave out one or two elementary schools in your district this year in order to meet the limit of three, we will accept applications to add additional schools. Application requirements and procedures are the same; however, we will place all additional schools on a “waiting list,” and approve them in the order in which they were received. Contact Staci for more information.



Sizzling Summer Reading: Programming Tips and Titles for Children and Teens: Booklist Webinar

Date: Tuesday, March 30

Time: Noon (MST), 11 a.m. (Pacific)

Presenters will share their knowledge on planning, partnerships, incentives, and the latest research, and offer looks at both new titles and books that tie into this year's summer reading theme—water. [Register](#)



From Collaborative Summer Library Programs (CSLP):

Public Service Announcements:

Individual libraries in your states will be able to order PSA products beginning March 22, 2010 through the CSLP order site: www.upstartpromotions.com/cslp.

Early Literacy Component of Manual:

A new component of the *Make a Splash- Read!* manual is now available for the birth through preschool age groups. Fingerplays, storytime scripts, crafts, books, and songs that relate to the water theme, as well as family reading activities, can be downloaded from the CSLP website (www.cslpreads.org) under “Learning Tools,” and then “Family Literacy.”

Library staff do need to register for complete access to this resource. Registering is easy!

1. In the middle of the webpage click on CREATE ACCOUNT.
2. Complete the registration form and click on register at the bottom of the page.

Suggested Slogans and Themes for 2012 and 2013

To see the list of suggested themes for the 2012 theme (Night) and the suggested general themes for 2013, please visit ICFL's summer reading page and click on the individual documents. <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/collaborative-summer-library-program>. Staci will be attending the national convention April 6-9, where the exact themes will be voted on. If you have favorites or input, please email Staci before then! staci.shaw@libraries.idaho.gov

School Zone



Shmoop – Research Portal for Educators

Check out a powerful new research portal at www.shmoop.com/teachers/. Shmoop's creed is Make learning FUN and RELEVANT in the digital age. According to their website, "Shmoop provides lively Learning Guides and Teaching Resources lovingly written by educators and doctorate students at top universities. Our guides have a deep, fun approach that hits students in the intellectual and cultural gut. We provide multiple points of view and we hope to provoke, spark, and inspire students as they come up with original ideas. We dig deep into pop-culture, current events, and the Internet to bring these budding researchers face to face with the relevance of what they study. As a result, you'll find at Shmoop some truly dynamic, lively, and entertaining guides that will help you make the classroom live and breathe." Educators note it can help reluctant readers and ELL students by assisting them in obtaining their educational goals. Shmoop also offers "teacher's editions" within some of their learning guides for a small one-time fee and include quizzes and answer keys as well. Take a tour of the website and view their videos to learn more.



A "How To" for Fighting Content Filters

Check out this resource if you are faced with struggles surrounding content filters:
www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6715442.html?nid=3253

Buffy Hamilton, school librarian for Creekview High School in Canton, GA believes school librarians should never take online content filters at face value. When presented with a digital roadblock, media specialists should instead devise reasoned, well-resourced arguments with which to open these doors. Hamilton created a "Fighting the Filter" webinar. Originally developed for the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative, Hamilton conducted the online seminar live, but it's [archived](#). It provides a strategy in which school librarians can persuade decision-makers that blocked sites actually support state educational standards as well as benchmarks created by the [American Association of School Librarians](#) (AASL), and [International Society for Education in Technology](#) (ISTE).



YouTube's New Safety Filter

YouTube introduced a new filter that helps users screen offensive content, such as news videos with graphic violence, or sexually suggestive clips. The optional filter, named Safety Mode, also hides all text comments. YouTube has long banned some questionable content, but Safety Mode adds another layer of protection to keep kids and sensitive adults from viewing other material.

To turn on Safety Mode, scroll to the bottom of any YouTube page and click "Safety Mode is off" on the bottom left. Click "On" and "Save" to activate the filter. For an unfiltered experience, you'll have to turn off Safety Mode. You must log into your account to lock your preference. Once you log out, your setting can't be changed without your password.

Know the Numbers



A Snapshot of Idaho's Hispanic Community

The following information was presented by Margie Gonzalez, Executive Director of the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs (ICHA), as part of the Title III LEP Conference in Boise (March 3-4, 2010):

- Despite eight years of “No Child Left Behind,” the statistics show that Hispanic students in Idaho do lag far behind their White counterparts.
- The *overall* student population in Idaho for the year 2008-2009 was 275,075-- 38,855 of these students are of Hispanic heritage (roughly 14 percent). This number is up 1.41 percent from 2007, and indicators are that this trend will continue.
- Recent Idaho statistics show that more than four out of 10 (42.7 percent) individuals within the Hispanic population are at an age range of 19 years or younger, and 38 percent of Idaho Hispanics are foreign born.
- 68 percent of Hispanic Spanish speakers who are five years and older say they speak English well or very well, while 32 percent say they speak little to no English. These changing demographics place a strong demand on Idaho’s public schools and the way they educate each and every child.
- Although there has been continued improvement in the past 10 years, more than one in 20 Hispanic teenagers dropped out of Idaho public high schools in the 2006-2007 school year.

ICHA Education Priorities:

Goal #1: Decrease dropout rates among Hispanic students/increase Hispanic student retention.

Goal #2: close the academic achievement gap between Hispanic and non-Hispanic students.

Goal #3: Increase Hispanic parental involvement in Idaho schools.

Idaho libraries can help support these goals and provide meaningful programs and resources through outreach and programming for all English Language Learners, beginning with early literacy. Additionally, IHCA supports events that have a high percentage of Hispanic families attend, such as:

- [El día de los niños](#) (April 30)
- [Hispanic Heritage Month](#) (September 15 – October 15)
- Farm Worker Appreciation Day



A Closer Look at the Read to Me Meeting

Participants of the 12th annual Read to Me meeting dove into a full agenda and left the event with an action plan and ideas for reaching more underserved families in their communities. “I began to understand my purpose as a children’s librarian and the contributions I can make to children’s growth,” one participant wrote on her evaluation form.

Sixty-one library staff members and four community partners representing 38 libraries from around the state learned from the presenters, by sharing with each other, and from activities planned to encourage them to think about how to meet the early literacy needs in families

throughout Idaho. Head Start Association Executive Director Stan Burton urged librarians to remember the “Three F’s” when planning services for Head Start families: Fun, Food, and Familiarity. National Literacy Consultant Saroj Ghoting shared ideas on taking the six early literacy skills a step further. “I don’t care how many staff and volunteers you have in your libraries, you can not read to every child every day,” Saroj said as she explained the importance of sharing information about the six skills with parents and caregivers.

“I liked Saroj’s ideas for incorporating the six literacy skills into every aspect of library life from storytimes to displays, activity stations, and even the front desk. It really takes it beyond the Every Child Ready to Read workshops,” another participant said in her evaluation.

The photo at the right shows Betsy Bybell, from Latah County District Library, and Francine Rudeen, from the American Falls District Library, practicing dialogic reading techniques at the meeting.



Librarians had a chance to ask Jenny Fisk from the State Department of Education information about the Idaho Reading Indicator. Dr. Roger Stewart shared some of his latest research from the Read to Me First Book and Every Child Ready to Read Programs. Phone calls done with parents who participated in the programs six to nine months later showed they are continuing early literacy activities with their children. “These follow-up surveys really confirmed that these two programs work. Not only did the parents say they are still doing these things, but they talked about how much they are still enjoying the books provided in the programs and shared examples of things their children can now do as a result of the programs,” Dr. Stewart said. His report with more details will be released in early April. He was also to wrap up some of the action planning activities by helping review outcomes and talking about ways to use data collected to make programs better.

Breakout sessions on outreach to daycares and programming for English Language Learners were a good way to share ideas. Becky Metras from the Kuna District Library and Karen Yother from the Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries provided information on how they visit area daycares, how they got started, and the results of those outreach efforts. McCall librarians Meg Lojek and Lida Clouser facilitated discussions about why programs for non-English speakers are important, as well as how some libraries are meeting the needs of this audience. Be sure to check out their tips in the Library to Library section above.

Read to Me Coordinators said the two days went by quickly. “We had quite a few people who had never attended a Read to Me meeting. It was a good opportunity to hear what is going on in libraries and to share information about our programs and services,” Stephanie Bailey-White said. The coordinators are reviewing evaluations and have started working on the fall 2010 workshops focusing on summer reading programs. Coordinators are also willing to present Read to Me information at staff or board meetings, over the phone, or meet with individuals to talk about programs.

Tips & Tools



The **Idaho Community Foundation's** application process is open to organizations in eastern Idaho. The grant cycle opened February 1 and runs through April 1. Grants are awarded in September, 2010. Grants are limited to \$5,000. See www.idcomfdn.org for more information.



Target provides Early Childhood Reading Grants. Reading is essential to a child's learning process. That's why Target awards grants to schools, libraries, and nonprofit organizations to support programs such as after-school reading events and weekend book clubs. Together we're fostering a love of reading and encouraging children, preschool through third grade, to read together with their families.

Early childhood reading grants are \$2,000. Grant applications are due April 30, 2010, with grant notifications delivered in September. Go to <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821> to apply for these Early Childhood Reading Grants.



Summer Food Sponsors Sought. The Idaho State Department of Education is seeking sponsors for the 2010 Simplified Summer Food Program, which provides free meals to children from economically disadvantaged families during school summer vacations. Now more than ever, this program is needed to fill the gap for families who may not be able to afford to give their children nutritious meals during the summer months when school is not in session.

The Simplified Summer Food Program allows sponsors to receive full reimbursement based on the number of meals served and apply the funds to both operating and administrative costs, thus streamlining the claims process. The Department contracts with public and private schools, non-profit organizations, and other organizations to feed low-income children during the summer months. Public libraries in several communities have taken part in the program.

Nationally, more than 26 million children eat school lunch daily when school is in session, and about half of them receive their meals free or at a reduced price because they are from families with low household incomes. The summer program offers them nutritious food when school is not in session. Last year, Idaho's 87 summer food sponsors served approximately 1.4 million meals at 309 sites.

For the 2010 program year, sponsors may be: public or private nonprofit schools; public or private nonprofit residential camps; local, municipal, county, tribal, or state governments; public or private nonprofit colleges or universities that participate in the National Youth Sports Program; Upward Bound programs; libraries; or private nonprofit organizations. The 2010 training registration information is available online at www.databasesdoneright.com/nutrition/. New sponsors are required to attend training and complete a hard copy application as soon as possible. Continuing sponsors for the 2010 summer program are invited to choose a training session in March or April at a location near to them.

The 2010 training schedule is:

- March 24, 2010: Lewiston from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- April 6, 2010: Twin Falls from 1 p.m. to 4 pm.

- April 7, 2010: Fruitland from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- April 8, 2010: Boise from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- April 13, 2010: Pocatello from 9 a.m. to noon
- April 14, 2010: Idaho Falls from 9 a.m. to noon

Applications are due to the State Department of Education by **May 14, 2010**. If you have further questions or need additional information about the Simplified Summer Food Program, please contact Lynda Westphal at (208) 332-6821 or LJWestphal@sde.idaho.gov.



Literacy Empowerment Foundation

The Reading Resource Project is an ongoing program that runs throughout the year. The program distributes **paperback books FREE** of charge for Read Across America day, National Drop Everything and Read Day, Children's Book Week, International Children's Book Day, and other literacy programs.

Recipients merely pay shipping, handling, and administrative costs, which is only \$0.68 per paperback book (\$68 per set of 100 books). Reading Resource Project books come in sets of 100 books. Reading levels are available for Pre-K through Second Grade.



K-12 Podcasting Grants (for school librarians)

Sponsored by the Tool Factory and Olympus, K-12 Podcasting Grants are available to teachers who develop lesson plans that demonstrate how they would use podcasting in their curriculum. Awardees will receive a school site license of Tool Factory Podcasting to install on every computer in their school, two Olympus digital voice recorders, two microphones with noise cancellation capabilities, a Clip Art Station, Worksheet Station, Web Page Station, and the Tool Factory's Simple Guide to Podcasting. **The deadline is May 15, 2010.** See [K-12 Podcasting Grants](#) for more information.



Grants for Nonprofits and Educational Organizations

IBM considers requests submitted by 501(c)(3) organizations that propose projects involving IBM technology or the volunteer efforts of their employees. In making a grant decision, IBM also considers other types of IBM support (matching grants, fund for community service, etc.) an organization may already be receiving. Nonprofits or educational institutions wishing to submit unsolicited proposals should make an initial inquiry in the form of a two-page letter. There is a rolling deadline for this grant. See [Grants for Nonprofits and Educational Organizations](#) for more information.



Science Fair Central

Scotch Brand Products and Discovery Education recently launched a new website supporting educators, parents, and young scientists as they embrace one of the school year's greatest opportunities for project-based learning - The Science Fair. Featuring comprehensive free resources, Scotch Science Fair Central provides clear guidance to teachers and science fair

leaders on how to help students capture the spirit of innovation as they plan, complete, and present a successful science fair project. There is a rolling deadline for this grant. See [Science Fair Central](#) for more information.



Free Multimedia Resources

Annenberg Media uses media and telecommunications to help advance teaching in American schools. Their multimedia resources include online videos that help K-12 teachers increase their expertise in their fields and assist them in improving their teaching methods in the arts, foreign languages, literature, mathematics, science, social studies, and history. Teachers can also integrate many of the programs in their classrooms. There is a rolling deadline for this grant. See [Free Multimedia Resources](#) for more information.



Idaho Unido: Idaho's only bilingual newspaper

An annual subscription to this newspaper is only \$25 and advertising space is reasonable. This is a great way to reach out to the Latino community or promote library programs, and it's a great resource to have in your library, both for Spanish-speakers and those wanting to learn Spanish or English. Call (208) 234-7383 for subscription or advertising information.

CE News You Can Use



WebJunction Idaho Workshops

The Idaho Commission for Libraries will be providing a full day of hands on activities working with WebJunction Idaho. If you have been procrastinating, this is your chance to learn about navigating the site, social networking tools, and continuing education opportunities -- all of which are available to you at no cost via WebJunction Idaho.

You can also earn a FlipCam for your library! It's easy -- here's how:

1. Eligible if your public or school library has not yet earned a FlipCam from the Idaho Commission for Libraries.
2. Attend both morning and afternoon sessions.
3. Make a 1-3 minute video about your online learning experience and how you will use WebJunction Idaho.
4. Submit video to Idaho Commission for Libraries.

WebJunction Idaho offers the opportunity to connect with other librarians throughout the world as well as discover valuable tools to assist in your daily workflow.

Morning Session 9 a.m. to noon

Mining for Information in WebJunction Idaho

Explore the navigation tools to find content and continuing education opportunities. This is an interactive course where each participant will have hands on experience with the web-site. You'll come away knowing how to navigate the content and course tabs of WebJunction Idaho and how to use it to track bookmarks, groups, and other social networking activities on

WebJunction Idaho. We'll build in time for you to reflect on how you can make the most of it too.

Afternoon Session 1 - 4 p.m.

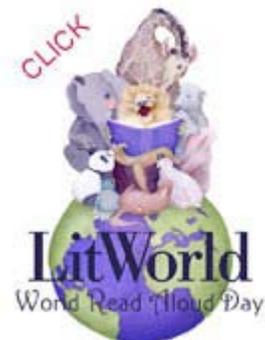
The Potential for Self-Directed Learning

Experience a self-directed online course using a group learning environment. You'll come away knowing how to evaluate the value of an online course as a tool for personal continuing education, how to access all the content in a WebJunction online course, and how to maximize your online learning experience through group learning.

Dates & Locations

- Monday, May 10 - Idaho Commission for Libraries River Room, Boise
- Friday, May 14 - Gooding High School Library, Gooding
- Monday, May 17 - Caldwell Public Library, Caldwell
- Thursday, May 20 - Blackfoot Public Schools Training Center, Blackfoot
- Friday, May 21 - Blackfoot Public Schools Training Center, Blackfoot
- Thursday, May 27 - Burley Public Library, Burley
- Wednesday, June 2 - LSCS Workforce Training Center, Lewiston
- Thursday, June 3 - NIC Workforce Training Center, Post Falls

To learn more and to register for a workshop near you, go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/webjunction>



Click for our Countdown Clock!

News Beyond Idaho

First Annual World Read Aloud Day a Success!

Thousands of individuals in over 35 countries participated in World Read Aloud Day on March 3, 2010, fostering community, raising awareness for the importance of literacy for humanity across all countries, and promoting the transformative power of story.

From School Library Journal, by Rocco Staino:

Authors in a Harlem book store read to kids in Ghana via Skype, Illinois third graders read to their classmates, and hundreds of people tweeted their favorite read-alouds as part of the first World Read Aloud Day.

The daylong event was the brainchild of literacy advocate Pam Allyn, who first posted the idea to her **Facebook** friends last year. The response was so overwhelming that she decided to have her nonprofit **LitWorld**, dedicated to bringing literacy to the world's most vulnerable communities, launch the first Annual **World Read Aloud Day** (WRAD). The goal? To raise awareness of the importance of literacy across all countries, foster community, and promote the transformative power of stories.

"World Read Aloud Day is a global celebration of the invaluable practice of reading aloud," says Allyn. "By raising our voices to express the written word, we come together to create meaning, enhanced understanding and shared experiences for our words and stories. What

better way to enlist the world's citizens to become involved in the movement for global literacy?"

WRAD took place a day after the thirteenth celebration of Read Across America. It is celebrated annually on March 2, the birthday of Dr. Seuss, and encourages a child to read with a caring adult. Allyn explains that holding the events on consecutive days was a nice way for people to share their Read Across America activities on the LitWorld Website so others around the world could gain from them. "We are not about just our own, but we are about nurturing children around the world."

Here's an excerpt from participant's letter:

"While I know there were challenges every step of the way...I also saw the excitement glowing on some of the children's faces, as did you -- I saw impoverished American children straining to read their stories to their Ghanaian peers, I learned that the Bamako students had been practicing their English so they might communicate more smoothly with their counterparts in Kenya and Washington, DC, and I saw a teacher cry, about how beautifully her students were writing and reading during this exercise, because of how thrilled they had been to meet, to read aloud with, and to make personal connections to YOUR students.

This has to be the future, right? To link people across oceans, across the seemingly impossible divides, to create a new solidarity, a new reality, a new, more humane world of brothers and sisters.

Words of hope.



Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in *The Scoop*. Just e-mail 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 Stephanie Bailey-White or Staci Shaw at 208-334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.