



Vol. 4 No. 9 – May 9, 2008

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Welcome

May is such a busy month with holidays, graduations, end of school events, preparation for summer reading, and grant deadlines. Here are a few things that have been keeping us busy at the Commission.



ICFL gets 40 applications for Read to Me Mini-grants: ICFL Read to Me Coordinators received 40 Read to Me mini-grant applications by the May 1 deadline. "The response exceeded our expectations," Co-Coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said. "It makes the review team's job harder, but it helps show there is a need for increased funding for this program." The Idaho legislature provided funding for 30 \$5,000 mini-grants, but stipulated that it would be one-time funding. "We'll be tracking the approved grant projects and reporting how they are working in those communities. We're excited about the possibilities," Bailey-White said. We'll be able to publish a list of recipients in the July issue of The Scoop and highlight the programs throughout the year.



Register for the upcoming ALSC Institute: The 2008 ALSC National Institute will be held September 18-20, 2008 in Salt Lake City, Utah. This is a great opportunity for Idaho library staff to attend a national conference without traveling across the country to get there! The Institute is an intensive learning opportunity with a youth services focus. The Commission for Libraries is providing First Time Conference Attendance grants of up to \$900 for anyone employed in a publicly-funded school or public library. [Grant application forms can be found here.](#) Click on "Application for First-Time Attendance at a Library Conference 2007." **They are due by July 15, 2008.** There is no limit on the number of staff per library or school district who can apply. Because this funding comes from LSTA, each library or school district that applies must also submit (only one, even if the library is applying for more than one staff person):

- LSTA Eligibility Requirements
- Debarment Certification
- Civil Rights Certification

School library staff, in particular, should list their home phone and e-mail in case we need to get in touch with you over the summer.

When registering for the conference, [please use this form!](#) Idaho library staff will get a special discount if you do. Unless you are an ALSC or ALA member (or student), register under the "nonmember" category under 25+ for \$405. We're estimating we'll get at least 25 to attend!

See <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscevents/institute/index.cfm> for more information about the Institute. Contact Peggy or Stephanie or Shirley Hansen at the Commission

(1-800-458-3271) if you have any questions about the grant form or anything else related to attending. We hope to see you there!



Summer Reading: Mailings are still going out for the summer reading outreach opportunities. Libraries who signed up for Underserved Children, Websites and Steering Committees should be receiving their materials later this month.



Meet Eva Griffin

Eva Griffin is the Youth Services Librarian at the Weippe Public Library, a position she's held for the past two years. Weippe Public Library is housed in the Weippe Discovery Center, a showcase of historic displays, murals and information regarding the Lewis and Clark Corps of Expedition meeting the Nez Perce and other local history (check out their new web site, <http://weippelibrary.org/>, for photos of the library, plus some at their last teen juggling program!).

Eva provided a snapshot of Weippe for those who haven't been there: "Weippe is a rural town of 400 in North Central Idaho along the Gold Rush Historic Byway. It relies heavily on the timber industry and tourism, and sits at 3500' elevation in scenic mountains full of wildlife. Students K -12 are located in one school of 273 students. Headstart has no meeting facility this year. There are few babysitters and no daycare facility to help working parents with preschoolers.

"WPL strives to meet community needs in light of socio-economic depression in Clearwater County which historically has one of the two highest unemployment rates in the state, usually nine percent or more. Additionally, I have heard it explained that government ownership and land use equals a low local property tax base for public programs in our area."

"All this translates into opportunities for our library, and we enjoy great success. The building was built debt-free. We are open 42 hours a week. We have a library staff of three part-time employees and one full-time summer teen. Our circulation has grown 23 percent in the last year. Our Friends of the Library and Discovery Center are treasures."

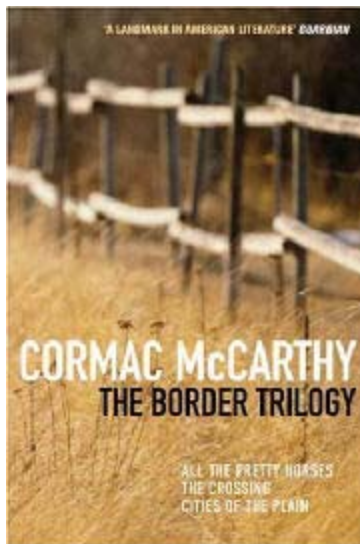
Eva works with patrons of all ages. "My programs are for ages 0 – 18, and usually something for the adults, too." She conducts a weekly Baby Talk, weekly Preschool Story Time, and Headstart outreach. Other activities she plans include school visits, Dr Seuss Birthday Party, Jumpstart Kindergarten outreach, National Library Week Celebration, Summer Reading, Back-to-School Party, Popcorn & a Movie, Teen Reading Promotion, Family Reading Night, and book give-aways on nearly every occasion.

When asked what attracted her to library service for youth, Eva responded that at first the attraction was the opportunity to work locally rather than commute. "Knowing what I do now, I may have studied library science and started this adventure much sooner. I love the one-on-one contact with kids. The recognition of needs is a no-brainer: for childhood literacy and exposure to opportunity; for youth mentors in our community; for kids to have a place to go in Weippe."

Eva attended the Teens & Tech course and Read to Me meeting during the winter/early spring months which led to her working on two grant applications. The funding results are still pending, but she has some great ideas for reaching more teens as well as families in the area. She's also in the middle of "catching resource bugs for summer reading," reclassifying youth books, and weeding nonfiction.

Eva says the library's biggest success is reaching a large percentage of the youth in their area with the summer reading program, which is a big hit in the community. The biggest challenge is reaching kids early and reaching teens.

When asked about her favorite part of her job, she said there is nothing she doesn't like, except for having to be the bad guy from time to time. "Adults and kids alike come to the library because they want to, so they appreciate all that we try to do for them. We are a small community and WPL is a good place to meet old-timers and new neighbors. I love the BOOKS! I love my director, Terri Summerfield, who is a great teacher and encourager."

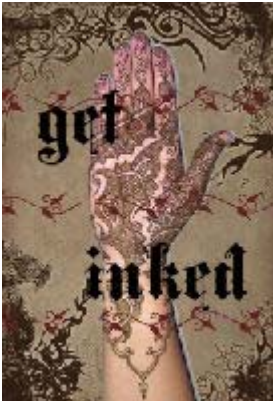


Eva's favorite book is Robert Munsch's, *Love You Forever*. "I have three sons 38, 14, 13. I haven't read many books about mothers and sons. This one causes my heart to rejoice and recount. I also like Robert Sabuda and ALL his pop-ups for their artistry and surprises," she said. As a child she enjoyed Louisa May Alcott classics, and every book by Walter Farley, *The Black Stallion*; and *The Small Family* series. More recently she read E.B. White's *Charlotte's Web*, and Cormac McCarthy's *The Border Trilogy* and *No Country for Old Men*.

When she's not at the library, Eva said here's what she wishes she could do: "garden without restriction; bake every day and partake without remorse; write a journal for my kids; READ; raise and train a horse; have time to write letters; have tiny little goats and a poodle puppy for pets; spend more time with my kids and grandbabies; build and furnish a miniature doll house; take piano and voice lessons; do jigsaw puzzles; have chickens in the yard; build a gym and youth center on our property. What I like to do and get to do – a little of most of the above; I help my husband of 34 years homeschool our two youngest sons; I have a home-based accounting business; I am a member of Clearwater Substance Abuse Workgroup; I am a Baptist pastor's wife."

Eva added this compliment: "I love The Scoop. It has educated me as much as anyone or anything else. I knew nothing about the 'inside story of libraries' when I began this journey. I had only known the patron side. The newsletter is well-presented, just the right length and comprehensive. It's an excellent forum for learning. It allows me to see a BIGger picture within the State of Idaho, rather than only my big, little library. It allows me to get acquainted with others who are on the same journey. What a resource!"

[Well, thank you, Eva. We're glad you're getting a lot out of The Scoop! – the editors]



Library to Library

Teens Get Inked at the Hidden Springs Branch Library!

The **Hidden Springs Branch of the Ada Community Library** recently hosted an after-hours teen party. Teens between the ages of 12 and 18 were incited to come to the Hidden Springs Branch Library on Thursday, April 24th from 6pm to 8pm for food, fun and temporary henna tattoos. Their web site included two printable permission slips, "one for you and an extra for a friend!" and noted teens couldn't get inked without a slip. We haven't heard what the turnout was, but hope someone will report on this event and others that might be planned for this summer!



Jump Start Program reaches more families than ever!



Darlene Noe Hotchkiss, Teacher-Librarian at **Panther Library in Parma**, sent some great photos of their May 2 Kindergarten Round-Up at Maxine Johnson Elementary School in Parma. Senior members of the National Honor Society helped with the distribution of materials. "We think this new group of kindergartners, Parma High School's future class of 2021, looks like they'll be great students and great readers!," Darlene said.

A quick update on this year's Jump Start program -- it's been a giant success so far! This year 83 libraries and schools are participating reaching about 9,500 children and families with early literacy information, free books for children who are registering for kindergarten, and information about summer reading and other library programs. Here's a few comments that have come in so far from the evaluations:

- "Having a staff member at the school to have personal contact was wonderful. this was also parent teacher conference day so we were able to have contact with many more elementary parents than we have previously been able to."
- "It was exciting to bring our library into schools and introduce our services available to the community. We had an opportunity to introduce our new library branches in Collister and Hillcrest in their neighborhood schools and to parents who were very excited to hear about these new libraries closer to home."
- "Some parents were unaware that their child could participate in Summer Reading even if he/she can't read alone."
- "This was my second year and I was more prepared. I felt it was very successful."
- "We loved the opportunity to get outside the walls of the library to connect with our community."

If you participated in the program this year and are done with your event, don't forget to fill out the evaluation. Thanks!

Young Adult Corner

Tips on Developing a Young Adult Advisory Council

[Editor's Note: We received permission to reprint this article by Nola Huey, Youth Services Librarian at the Great Falls Public Library in Montana, from the Montana State Library. I like seeing the nuts and bolts of programs, and thought their mission and requirements was a nice model. - sbw]

My vision to include teen programming at Great Falls Public Library became reality in January 2006. Yes, I aspired to develop teen programming. I think young adults are awesome and working with them takes lots of energy and a youthful spirit. The challenge before me was connecting with teens and getting them involved in the library. Thus began my investigation to develop a teen advisory board.

My first step towards development of a Young Adult Advisory Council, what we now call YAAC, was subscribing to Pubyac (a listserv designed specifically for youth services librarians) and reading articles in *Voice of Youth Advocates* (VOYA). I quickly discovered that I did not have to recreate the proverbial wheel. VOYA introduced me to Diane P. Tuccillo's book *Library Teen Advisory Groups* (Review in *School Library Journal*, 2005), which provides valuable information, guidelines, and contacts.

Next, I located examples of other advisory council's mission statements, applications, and member qualifications, requirements, and duty descriptions. After adapting wording and content to reflect GFPL, I felt I was prepared to convince teens to join but I still needed an 'attention-getter'. Fortunately, for me, an in-house stack rearrangement project provided the perfect 'teen-attention-getter': the creation of a young adult area and our need for teenagers input.



Therefore, on January 31, 2006, we held our first YAAC meeting. Not only did the 13 teens help design our wonderful Teen Scene but they also became my core members. During this meeting, I presented the adjusted wording and content examples and the young adults discussed and then selected phrasing and formats for the mission statement, application, and member qualifications, requirements, and duty descriptions.

During the first two years of YAAC, I have learned many things about interacting with teenagers-- one being that recordkeeping is vital. Therefore, I created four additional tools that have made organizing this energetic group easier. First, I downloaded a template for a simple postcard, which I send bi-monthly to remind members of upcoming dates. Secondly, is the attendance roster I created in Excel. Third, is a generic note taking form a YAAC member uses to record minutes. Lastly, our quarterly newsletter, provided as a communication link to our Young Adult publication, not only includes YAAC member's book-reviews and event announcements, but also a new book list.

In conclusion, the initial time and energy I expended to plan young adult programming has been beneficial because more teens are utilizing the library's services. Young adult material circulation is up and attendance at special events is wonderful. I have even overheard several pre-teens comment that they are anxious for the day when they can become official YAAC members.

YOUNG ADULT ADVISORY COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

The Great Falls Public Library's Young Adult Advisory Council (YAAC) is made up of 7th through 12th grade volunteers in Great Falls and Cascade County. YAAC's mission is to encourage teen library involvement to ensure the ongoing development of young adult programming and the teen library collection. Meetings are held from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, September through May.

YAAC Membership Qualifications:

- Must have completed sixth grade
- Must be a Cascade County resident
- Must be willing to volunteer a minimum of 6 hours
- Must be able to fulfill the responsibilities of a YAAC member
- Must enjoy working with others as a team
- Should be interested in the library and improving library services to teens

YAAC Membership Requirements:

- To apply for membership
- To commit to nine months (September through May) volunteer service
- To attend a minimum of six meetings
- To attend special Young Adult programs and activities
- To vote and decide as a group what projects and programs to undertake
- To participate in fund-raisers throughout the year as needed
- To write a minimum of one book review each fiscal year
- To assist in program preparations and clean-up
- To encourage library involvement and promote summer reading
- To have fun and build friendships

YAAC Membership Duties include helping the Youth Services Librarian:

- Design teen-oriented displays to promote reading
- Determine current teen trends and interests
- Lead book discussions
- Plan, prepare, and present original quarterly activities
- Raise funds for programming and special events
- Select Young Adult materials

Book Look



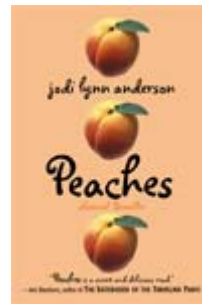
2008 Young Readers Choice Award Winners

Amanda Pittman Youth Services Librarian Ada Community Library and Idaho's rep to the Pacific Northwest Library Association's Young Reader's Choice Award committee sent out this announcement:

The winners of the 2008 Young Reader's Choice Awards are....

- Junior Division: A Dog's Life: the Autobiography of a Stray by Ann M. Martin
- Intermediate Division: The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
- Senior Division: Peaches by Jodi Lynn Anderson

Thanks to everyone who sent in votes! For a list of the 2009 nominees and more information about the Young Reader's Choice Award, please visit <http://www.pnla.org/>



International Children's Digital Library <http://www.icdlbooks.org/index.shtml>

The International Children's Digital Library (ICDL) Foundation's goal is to build a collection of books that represents outstanding historical and contemporary books from throughout the world. Ultimately, the Foundation aspires to have every culture and language represented so that every child can know and appreciate the riches of children's literature from the world community. On this free website, you can read a picture book, search for books by country, and access more than 2451 books from 45 languages.



Upcoming Events

May deadlines. Today is the last day for public libraries to apply online for Fred Meyer books. First Book applications are due on May 30. Public or school libraries in Idaho are eligible to participate. Find more information and the application form at

<http://libraries.idaho.gov/node/386>.

June events include:

National Audiobook Month –The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) is currently offering a one-year demonstration project for downloadable audiobooks. LiLI ABC has been available since October 1, 2007, to all Idahoans. ICFL coordinates the access to the digital audiobook service to Idaho residents through their public, school, or academic libraries. For more go to... <http://www.libraries.idaho.gov/eaudiobooks> . The Audio Publishers' Association celebrates June as a month to raise awareness of the audiobook industry. If you are like many readers who also enjoy the occasional audiobook, you might want to learn more about this celebration at: <http://www.audiopub.org/>

June 1-8 – **National Fishing & Boating Week** - A national celebration of fishing and boating coordinated by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF). Coinciding with most state's free fishing days, NFBW occurs the first full week of June. For more information see <http://www.rbff.org/page.cfm?pageID=46>

June 5 – **World Environment Day** - The World Environment Day slogan for 2008 is "Kick the Habit! Toward a Low Carbon Economy." Recognizing that climate change is becoming the defining issue of our era, UNEP (United Nations Environment Program) is asking countries, companies and communities to focus on greenhouse gas emissions and how to reduce them. The World Environment Day will highlight resources and initiatives that promote low carbon economies and life-styles, such as improved energy efficiency, alternative energy sources, forest conservation and eco-friendly consumption. For more go to: http://www.unep.org/wed/2008/english/About_WED_2008/index.asp

June 14 – **Flag Day** - Flag Day is not an official federal holiday, though on June 14, 1937 Pennsylvania became the first (and only) U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened that day by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777. For some flag etiquette see <http://www.holidayinsights.com/other/flagday.htm>.

June 15 - **Father's Day** – It is a secular celebration inaugurated in the early twentieth century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fatherhood and parenting by males, and to honor and commemorate fathers and forefathers. For more history and dates in other countries take a look at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Father's_Day. For some crafting ideas for Dad go to... <http://crafts.kaboose.com/holidays/fathers-day/index.html>.

June 19 – **Juneteenth** – It is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. It is a day, a week, and in some areas a month marked with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics and family gatherings. For additional information see <http://www.juneteenth.com/>.

June 21 – **Summer Solstice** - The summer solstice marks the first day of the season of summer. It is the longest day of the year, respectively, in the sense that the length of time elapsed between sunrise and sunset on this day is a maximum for the year. Of course, daylight saving time means that the first Sunday in April has 23 hours and the last Sunday in October has 25 hours. For more about summer solstice please see <http://scienceworld.wolfram.com/astronomy/SummerSolstice.html>.

Some other fun things to observe in the month of June include: **Donut Day** (June 1), **YoYo Day** (June 10), **Fly a Kite Day** (June 15), **International Picnic Day** (June 18) and **Leon Day** (spelled backwards is NOEL which equals six months till Christmas - June 25).

Author's Birthdays in June:

June 7 - **Yolande Cornelia "Nikki" Giovanni** – (born in 1943). She is a Grammy-nominated American poet, activist and author. Giovanni is currently a Distinguished Professor of English at Virginia Tech. Some of her works include: *Acolytes*, *The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni: 1968-1998*, *Blues For All the Changes: New Poems*, *Love Poems*, and *Selected Poems of Nikki Giovanni*. Read more at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nikki_Giovanni.

June 9 – **Donald Duck** - Donald's birthday is officially recognized as June 9, 1934, the day his debut film, *The Wise Little Hen*, was released. However, in *The Three Caballeros* (1944), his birthday is given as simply "Friday the 13th," which is in reference to the bad luck he experiences in almost all his cartoon appearances. Check out more on Donald at <http://disney.go.com/vault/archives/characterstandard/donald/donald.html>

June 12 - **Annelies Marie "Anne" Frank** - (1929 – 1945). She was a German-born Jewish girl from the city of Frankfurt. She gained international fame posthumously following the publication of her diary which documents her experiences hiding during the German occupation of the Netherlands in World War II. The diary, which was given to Anne on her 13th birthday, chronicles her life from June 12, 1942 until August 1, 1944. It has been translated into many languages, has become one of the world's most widely read books, and has been the basis for several plays and films. For more about Anne Frank go to <http://www.annefrank.com/> or <http://www.annefrank.org/>.

June 15 - **Brian Jacques** (born in 1939). Brian Jacques (pronounced "jakes") was born in Liverpool. Along with forty percent of the population of Liverpool, his ancestral roots are in Ireland, County Cork to be exact. He grew up in the area around the Liverpool docks. Mr. Jacques has written both poetry and music, but he began his writing career in earnest as a playwright. His three stage plays *Brown Bitter*, *Wet Nellies*, and *Scouse* have been performed at the Everyman Theatre. He is the author of *Redwall*, *Mossflower*, *Rakkety Tam* and more. See <http://www.redwall.org/> for more on Brian Jacques.

June 23 – **Theodore Taylor** (1924 – 2006). Taylor was born in North Carolina and still thought of himself as strongly rooted in that quiet "red clay" country by the Catawba River, though he worked and lived in many places around the world. He began writing at the age of thirteen, covering high school sports events for the Portsmouth, Virginia, *Evening Star*. He is the author of more than 50 books for young adults, including: *The Cay*, *The Odyssey of Ben O'Neal*, *Sweet Friday Island* and more. For more on Taylor see: www.theodoretaylor.com/.



Summer Reading News

Fred Meyer "Books for Summer Readers" Deadline is Today!



The deadline to sign up online to receive the **free Fred Meyers' "Books for Summer Readers"** has been extended and ends today, May 9th. Books will be mailed by mid-June to participating libraries. These books may be used for any summer reading book distribution, either at the library or through outreach.



Here is a sneak preview of the 2009 Summer Reading poster art for:

"Be Creative @ Your Library"
Artist David Catrow is a nationally syndicated editorial cartoonist and the award-winning illustrator of numerous books for children.



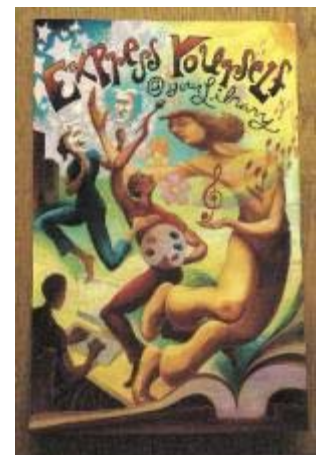
and (for teens) "Express Yourself @ Your Library" is by author/illustrator Brad Sneed, whose books include *The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians*.



Catch the Reading Bug

Are you still looking for more craft ideas for "Catch the Reading Bug?" See <http://www.thebestkidsbooksite.com/craftsearch.cfm?topic=bugs>.

Also, check out the California Library Association's summer reading website: http://www.cla-net.org/summer-reading/ws_hand.php The Association, a member of CSLP, has a great website with loads of resources, including handouts from their summer reading workshops. Among the resources on this page: a sample school script, and program ideas for children and teens, and adults.





My Favorite Book Contest

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries is conducting two contests this summer as a tie-in with the Summer Reading Program. The children's contest is "My Favorite Book". Librarians will take pictures of kids holding their favorite book. The pictures will be judged based on the relationship between the child and the book. The kids are limited only by their imagination as to how they wish to express how much they love a particular book. Kids can only submit one picture for the contest and no family photos. There will be three winners, first, second and third places.

The teen contest is "Trick My Book Truck." Teens will "trick out" a library book truck. The librarians will take the pictures. The pictures will be judged on the best book truck. The number of participants will be limited to 10 kids per library. There is one entry per library, with no more than 10 teens per group. There will be three winners, first, second and third places.

Libraries will email pictures to the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and then the pictures will be forwarded to the judges. The pictures will be online as well for all to see. The children's winner will be announced on August 14th and the teen's on August 15th. These dates coincide with the annual statewide Share Fair meeting. The judges will have to make their final decisions by August 8th. Many of the YA librarians are very excited and planned their own internal contests before submitting to the state's contest.



Google Gadget Spider <http://abowman.com/google-modules/spider/>

Melissa Widner, Webmaster for the Jasper County (Indiana) Public Library sent this tip to CSLP members:

"I found this Google Gadget while following a link. I have installed the spider on our children's summer reading page so kids can watch him walk around. This was not developed as part of a program, so I'm not sure it qualifies as a resource, but I thought it was definitely a fun thing to add to our page. See the Jasper County Public Library webpage: http://www.jasperco.lib.in.us/events/sumread/kids_sr/index.htm.



School Zone

School Library Survey in Progress

The Idaho Commission for Libraries is now collecting annual statistics for the current 2007/2008 school year, the pilot year for an ongoing initiative. Data should be submitted by June 15, although submissions will be accepted over the summer. Among other things, the data will help assess the correlation between Idaho's school libraries and student achievement. Preliminary data will be available in October 2008. To date, 45 schools have logged in.

Go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/school-library-stats> for more information on the online collection tool and how to get your school's username and password. The form is currently available, allowing you to go in and see what data are being collected. If you have any questions, contact: Frank Nelson, frank.nelson@libraries.idaho.gov or Debby Wylie, debby.wylie@libraries.idaho.gov or call them at 800-548-6212.



Good web site for school libraries

Val Fenske, Curricular Materials Coordinator/ Librarian at the Idaho State Department of Education, provided these great websites for schools:

The Screen Actors Guild Foundation has made this Storyline Online website available for children: www.storylineonline.net/

An Edutopia article of interest... Know what you can -- and can't -- download for the classroom.

Copy Wrongs: Teachers Looking Online for Material, Be Warned at www.edutopia.org/copyright-rules-teachers

More resources for school libraries can be found on the Edutopia web site. <http://www.edutopia.org/>.

Know the Numbers



Teens and Social Media

A recent study from Pew Internet and American Life Project, "Teens and Social Media," found that teens who keep blogs or use social-networking sites such as Facebook or New Corp's MySpace have a greater tendency to slip nonstandard elements into assignments. According to a press release:

Content creation by teenagers continues to grow, with 64% of online teenagers ages 12 to 17 engaging in at least one type of content creation, up from 57% of online teens in 2004. Fueled by new technologies, websites, and social network domains such as Facebook and MySpace, large numbers of teens share and create materials online:

- 39% of online teens share their own artistic creations online such as artwork, photos stories, or videos
- 33% of online teens create or work on webpages or blogs for others, including friends, groups they belong to or school assignments
- 28% of online teens have created their own blog, up from 19% in 2004, and almost completely driven by the popularity of blogging among girls
- 27% of online teens maintain their own webpage
- 26% of online teens remix content they find online into their own creations

Girls continue to dominate most elements of content creation. Some 35% of all teen girls blog, compared with 20% of online boys, and 54% of wired girls post photos online compared with 40% of online boys. Boys, however, do dominate one area - posting of video content online - online teen boys are nearly twice as likely as online girls (19% vs. 10%) to have posted a video online somewhere where someone else could see it. You can read the entire report at: http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/230/report_display.asp.



A Closer Look at Reinventing Summer Reading

Registration now open for August 1 Read to Me training

Where have all the children gone? With more children in day care, competing summer activities, lack of transportation, hectic family schedules, and children with limited English proficiency, librarians are rethinking how they organize their summer reading programs. While many libraries still have some combination of traditional reading logs, incentives and special programs in the library, more libraries are reaching out to the community to better serve more of the children who are most in need of experiencing the power and pleasure of reading and all the wonders a library can offer.

In 2008, **49 Idaho libraries will be reaching over 13,700 children** at community outreach sites like daycares, schools, parks, Boys and Girls clubs, Head Start, and other locations.

Some of the things Idaho libraries are trying in recent years include:

"Drop in" programs allow children to sign up for summer reading any time during the summer months and can come in any day of the week to report on their reading and perhaps get a small incentive.

Read-to-me programs for children birth to 5. Parents sign a reading contract and/ or report on number of books read aloud.

Special programs targeting t'weens and teens. This is a growing area for Idaho summer reading programs. A separate program manual is now provided for teen programs.

Partnering with schools. Working with schools is a great way to promote summer reading--some librarians make personal visits to classrooms in the spring or speak at school assemblies, some send home information in school newsletters and flyers. Some schools bus children to the library or bring summer school classes to the library once a week. Librarians are also partnering with Idaho Reads VISTA Volunteers who work out of elementary schools to help get more children reading below grade level to participate.

Partnering with community organizations. Libraries also partner with a group such Head Start, a community action agency, day care providers, or summer nutrition programs to reach children who do not normally access the library.

Outreach to day care. Most libraries who target children in day care invite the day care to bring children to the library for storytime or to participate in summer reading. Some

libraries do more extensive outreach and take books and reading logs to the day care centers.



Off-Site Summer Reading Club - Thinking Outside the Branch Box by Pat Downs, Youth Services Coordinator, Sand Diego County Library

Here's how one library in California reinvented their summer reading outreach. In 2007, the San Diego County Library piloted an off-site Summer Reading Club. They had 157 sites who reached 5,414 children. This was a 72% increase in their total registrations. The cost was approximately \$5,000. Lessons learned include:

- Spend funds on fewer supplies but nicer prizes
- Include more and better literacy activities per age group
- Use email to communicate with Group Leaders
- Register groups at gatherings of off-site staff, such as orientations, teacher meetings, etc.

To begin the project, the library asked where are the kids?

- Summer school or regular school (year-round programs)
- Before or after school care
- Summer camps
- Childcare or relative care

They created a model for hosting an off-site program which consisted of these elements:

- Identify potential partners and ask a representative to be a Group Leader
- Don't require participants to visit the library
- Provide a flexible program to fit various settings
- Get participant statistics at registration (assume 100% completion but adjust if Group Leaders report fewer completions)
- Provide incentives for Group Leaders
- Deliver materials to the off-site location
- If resources available, provide a deposit collection
- Evaluate at the end of program to identify improvements needed

Potential partners include:

- YWCA or YMCA
- Boys and Girls Club
- School district - summer school programs
- School district - migrant summer school programs
- Head Start

- Faith community
- Summer recreation programs
- Extension programs and 4-H
- Summer nutrition programs
- Day cares

The library provided each Group Leader a summer reading kit, which included:

- Leader instructions
- Read logs / calendars
- Age-appropriate literacy activity ideas
- Booklists
- Local library contact and service information, including resources available through library website
- Age-appropriate prizes
- Leader incentive prizes
- Theme poster
- Various give aways like stickers, bookmarks, or plastic bags

Has your library reinvented summer reading? Send Peggy or Stephanie an update and we'll publish it in *The Scoop*.

Tips & Tools



New Books!

The Idaho Commission for Libraries Professional Development Service (PDS) provides access to numerous titles in the field of library and information sciences. Free shipping to and from your library is provided! See <http://libraries.idaho.gov/pds> for more information. The following are a few of the recent additions.

Hooking Teens with the Net, by Linda W. Braun, Neal-Schuman, 2003. Internet and education expert Linda Braun has developed an innovative way to help teens learn critical information literacy skills. She shows educators how to “hook” teens by integrating popular young adult sites into teaching and programming. [ICFL 025.04 BRAUN]

National Educational Technology Standards for Students 2nd ed., ISTE, 2007. These national standards identify the skills and knowledge every student needs to succeed in the technology and information environment. Considerations of advances in technology, changes in student demographics, shifts in economies to a global scale, and transformations in views about the role of technology in daily life have been added to update this edition. [ICFL 025.56 NATIONAL]

Media Center Discovery: 180 Ready-to-Use Activities for Language Arts, Grades 5-8, by Barbara R. Hamm, Jossey-Bass, 2004. Here's a handy guide for you to use with your elementary and middle school students to help them learn to use the media center and develop the skills necessary to access and use print, non-print, and electronic library materials. [ICFL 027.8 HAMM]

A Passion for Print: Promoting Reading and Books to Teens, by Kristine Mahood, Libraries Unlimited, 2006. This guide will help you build your book knowledge and combine it with marketing savvy to bring teens together with books and reading. [ICFL 027.62 MAHOOD]

Helping Homeschoolers in the Library, by Adrienne Furness, ALA, 2008. The rise in homeschooling has had a tremendous impact on public libraries. This practical guidebook seeks to bridge the gap between librarians and homeschoolers by answering two basic questions: how are homeschoolers and how can librarians help them in a practical sense. [ICFL 027.6 FURNESS]



Making Learning Fun <http://www.makinglearningfun.com/>

Making Learning Fun offers an abundance of printable resources and other ideas for the early childhood educator, home school families, speech teachers and parents. All of the materials are completely free. Visitors to the site will find activities for most of the major holidays, many children's books, such as *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom!* and *If You Give a Moose a Muffin*, popular children themes like community helpers, the five senses and colors, and other topics such as nursery rhymes, rainbows, apples, dinosaurs, bats, butterflies, and more. This will be a great time saver for the busy pre-K through grade 2 teacher. (Education World Site Reviews, 4/2/08)



Paperback Book Source

Tami Finley, the Youth Services Manager at the Bettendorf (Iowa) Public Library shared this tip:

"I recently discovered a great source for ordering paperbacks- the ones we give away for summer reading programs. It is called <http://www.sortfloorbooks.com/> and the best thing about them is there is no shipping (for media mail rates). I generally order from book closeouts or book depot but have always had to tack on shipping of at least \$50. I recently ordered \$519 worth of books - that got me 306 titles! Most paperbacks run \$1.80-\$2.00. It does require a credit card.

I will say they are not easy to search for books - you have to be willing to spend some time. But, I put in Scholastic as a search term and found over 5700 titles! Very current titles as well as some older ones - hardcover and paperback. I plan to purchase some for the collection at these prices!"

News Beyond Idaho



2008 Innovative Reading Grant Awarded for Boys Reading Program

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), recently announced that Barbara Powell-Schager is the recipient of the 2008 Innovative Reading Grant. In a letter of support, Lynne Hutnik, principal of Big Shanty Intermediate School in Kennesaw, Ga., said, "...based upon researched causes of reading problems [Barbara Powell-Schager] has determined that a one-size-fits-all solution will not work. Specifically, Barbara has identified boys as being at particularly high risk for reading problems."

The goal of Powell-Schager's project, entitled "**The Boys' Lunch Bunch: Improving At-Risk Boys' Reading**," is to increase reading interest and comprehension in at-risk boys by at least 125 points on the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) and at least 10 points on the Georgia Criterion Referenced Competency Test (CRCT). Powell-Schager also hopes the project will increase reading comprehension one grade level. Recruiting male staff, which includes administrators as well as teachers, to serve as mentors and role models, Powell-Schager's project will create boys-only reading clubs that use books that appeal to boys to encourage and interest in reading. Charles Cook, a fifth-grade teacher at the school and a mentor of the Boys' Lunch Bunch program, said, "I believe her plan is well thought out, and it will really help the boys' self-esteem and improve their reading. I am really looking forward to working on this project next year."

The AASL Innovative Reading Grant is sponsored by Capstone Publishers (Capstone Press, Compass Point Books, Picture Window Books, Stone Arch Books and Red Brick Learning). Established in 2006, the \$2,500 AASL Innovative Reading Grant supports the planning and implementation of a unique and innovative program for children that motivates and encourages reading, especially with struggling readers.



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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