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Welcome

Adios Summer! We haven't quite packed away our sandals and flip-flops, but fall has definitely arrived! During the school year we switch back to a publication schedule of every two weeks (except we decided to skip the October 6th issue due to school in-service days and the Idaho Library Association Annual Conference).

Now that we're done with our leisurely summer schedule (big sigh), we could use your help! We're looking for articles we can include in *The Scoop* from as many people in the Idaho library community as possible. Programming ideas, fund raisers, school library news, teen ideas, book reviews, and photos are all needed. And we'll send you some fabulous hardcover books for any contribution while supplies last! Just send [Peggy](#) or [Stephanie](#) an e-mail with your contribution (and put "Scoop" in the subject line). Be sure to include a mailing address so we can send you a free book. That's all there is to it! **We now have over 400 subscribers to *The Scoop*** and we're anxious to fill up each issue with news, inspiration, and information you can use. Happy Autumn!

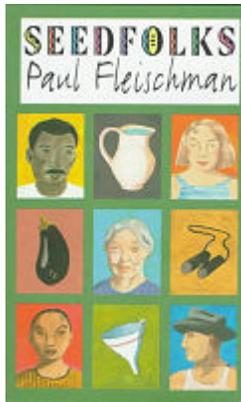


Meet Denise Burnett

How would you like one place where you could ask someone to build you a house, order both coffee and pizza, pay a call to a dentist, and, best of all, go to the library? There really is such a place and it's nearby. For just over a year, **Denise Burnett** has been a **Youth Services Librarian Assistant** at the **Ada Community Library's Star Branch** located in a small strip mall -- in between a great coffee house and Pizza Hut. At the moment this branch library may be small. It serves a population in northern Ada County of about 2,900. But, like many smaller communities in the Treasure Valley area, the town is rapidly growing. Already Star Branch serves over 1,000 students from area schools.

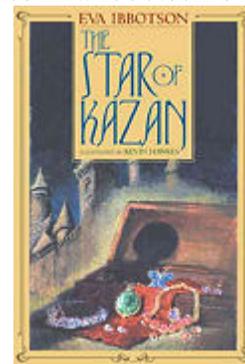
Denise is straightforward about why she is attracted to library services for children and youth. "I enjoy working with kids and love books," she tells us. "And," she adds, "my biggest success is when kids say they are getting a library card or signing up for a summer reading program because they heard me talk about these things." Challenges always balance successes, however, and Denise admits that her biggest challenge is getting library services out to the schools.

She works mainly with preschool and middle school children and is in charge of the Monday morning story time that's always accompanied by a craft. In addition, she's worked on outreach at Star Elementary School. Currently, she's wrapping up involvement in the Summer Reading Program and is hoping to organize some book talks at the elementary school this fall.



Denise was an enthusiastic reader from childhood (something she has in common with many other people who have become involved in the world of libraries). One of her fond favorites was the 1940s *Boxcar Children* series by Gertrude Chandler Warner. These days she gives Paul Fleischman high marks for creativity and character development as reflected in books such as *Seedfolks*, *Weslandia*, and *Joyful Noise*. Recent reading includes Eva Ibbotson's *Star of Kazan*, Karen Fisher's *A Sudden Country*, and *Charlie Bone and the Time Twister* by Jenny Nimmo. "I get to read for my job!" Denise exclaims.

Outside the work environment, Denise might be found quilting or tending to her fruit and vegetable garden on the ten acres where she lives with Chuck, her husband of 24 years. And, reinforcing her love of growing things, she also helps with youth gardening programs as a volunteer.



Library to Library



On October 6, **libraries in Ada County** will be participating in a community event to celebrate Lights On Afterschool, a project of the Afterschool Alliance. The Governor's Executive Office of Families and Children is coordinating this event which will be held in the park across from the State Capitol building. Governor Risch will be there to sign a proclamation. The library booth will distribute information about area libraries and their after school activities and resources.

Lights On Afterschool is celebrated nationwide to call attention to the importance of afterschool programs for America's children, families, and communities. In America today, 1 in 4 youth -- 14.3 million children - are alone and unsupervised after school. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, help working families and inspire learning. They provide opportunities to help young people develop into successful adults. The Afterschool Alliance salutes the many Lights On Afterschool partners and programs who make this event a success, in particular the After-School All-Stars, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, 4-H Afterschool, Junior Achievement, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers and the

YMCA of the USA. Libraries are definitely a part of this important community resource. For more information, see the national web site:
www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/glance.cfm.



Greg Likins from the **Meridian Library District** said he really enjoyed the Digital Natives Conference held in Eagle in July. "I gained a great deal of inspiration from the Digital Natives Conference, and then gained a few skills from the Gates Foundations' Blog and RSS workshops. I'm putting the finishing touches on [our library's new web site](#). I'm going to incorporate RSS feeds into the site shortly. You can link from the site to [our blog](#), where you'll find (among the random postings) regular articles that Jillian Subach and I are writing about our services for kids and teens." Greg says they are working on a link to "Teen Corner" which will link directly into a MySpace page for announcing teen programs. "We'll eventually have a few teens working with us to "pimp" the page to suit their tastes," he said.

"It would be great to hear what other libraries are doing with what we learned," Greg said. We'd love to hear more too! Send [Peggy](#) or [Stephanie](#) a quick e-mail about what you're doing differently as a result of attending the conference or other ideas you have for reaching digital natives.



Hayden Branch Children's Librarian Karen Yother said they do a "book walk" during their Idaho Family Reading Week event and the kids love it. It's just like a "cake walk" where you have numbered squares that kids march on until the music stops. You draw a number from a hat and instead of winning a cake, the kids win a free book. Great idea! Karen gets a lot of paperback books for the book walk and other events through the **Scholastic Literacy Partners program**. The Idaho Commission for Libraries also utilizes this fabulous program for all its Read to Me programs. The program offers savings of up to 43 percent or more off the cover price of every book, free shipping, free books with every \$150 you spend, and great catalogs of available books for all ages. See www.scholastic.com/literacypartners for the application and more information or call 1-800-724-2222.



Rachel Carlyon, at the DeMary Memorial Library in Rupert, sent us an e-mail. "At the Opening Doors workshop some of the people at the table I was sitting with expressed interest in some of the great Curious George items that I have found as I looked for things to use for our Curious George Family Reading Week event. Here they are in case you want to share."

<http://disney2go.disneyfansites.com/pdf/CuriousGeorgeActivityBook.pdf>

<http://www.dltk-teach.com/books/curiousgeorge.html>

www.curiousgeorge.com

<http://www.kidscolorpages.com/cgeorge.htm>

<http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/printables/>

<http://www.coloring.ws/curiousgeorge/bpostercuriousgeorge.gif>

We also wanted to let you know we added a new [Family Reading Week postcard](#) to the [Family Reading Week page](#) for those who requested them. Good luck with your Idaho Family Reading Week planning!



Young Adult Corner

We're having a blast watching **Jerome Public Library's** Flight Deck evolve. We shared photos of their uber-cool audio sound dome in an earlier issue. Now they've added fun seating and other features. Teen Coordinator Tina Cherry reports, "I'm pleased (thrilled, ecstatic, beside myself) to announce that a local manufacturing company is building, upholstering, and DONATING restaurant style booths for our Flight Deck (teen space)." Tina said the company sent them some vinyl swatches and teens had a chance to vote on their preferences. "The most popular by far was 'dark aqua,' which compliments the carpet."

We asked Tina how she manages to keep gaining support. "I just got really, really lucky on the booth thing," she said. "I wasn't even asking the company for a donation, just a lead to restaurants that were remodeling, and they volunteered to do it all." Tina is continuing to spread the word about what they are doing and has several other businesses and foundations in mind for their next phase.

"We have a huge thank you card that teens sign while they're in the library to show their appreciation for this very generous donation for their comfort and convenience at the library." Tina's husband, Stan Cherry, is making the tables which will match the bistro set under the dome. Tina says, "He won't get a card. It's enough for him to watch the growing numbers of teens using the Flight Deck." It's fun for us to watch too. Thanks for sharing! Be sure to check out [Jerome's blog](#) for more photos and updates on their Flight Deck.

Is your library doing anything with zines? We hope to feature an article about this interesting form of creative expression in an upcoming issue. Mountain

Home Public and Garden City Public are both "into" zines. If your library is too, please send an e-mail to [Stephanie](#) so we can include you in the article. We'd also love to hear what you're doing for Teen Read Week.



Book Look

Carolyn Hotchkiss, school librarian at **Pierce Park Elementary School in Boise**, recently sent us this review of *Hello, Red Fox* by Eric Carle, saying, "I fell in love with this book! I have yet to find someone who isn't interested in this wonderful book! From kindergarten to adult, all sit quietly and



look!"

"Hello, Red Fox is the story of a frog who invites his friends to his birthday party. His friend, Red Fox, is green. Mom questions this and Frog tells Mom to look...and she sees the red fox. This continues as he invites his other friends who all are not the colors they are named. Mom questions and looks...and they change color.



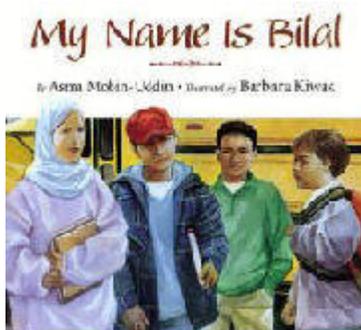
Carolyn goes on to explain, "Do you know that your eyes see red after staring at green for a minute? Try staring at orange and yellow. Oh, the magic of sight! After reading [Vicki Cobb's book, *Open Your Eyes*](#), I was able to explain what was happening to our eyes. The rods and cones contain pigments. Looking for a long while and not blinking causes the receptors to become too tired to continue sending a message to your brain and sense the opposite color until you blink. Send home cutouts or shapes in all colors and a large white index card and let your children do magic for family and friends."



Coeur d' Alene Tribal School Librarian Judith Heicksen



recommends *Less Than Half, More Than Whole*, by Kathleen Lacapa. Illustrated by Michael Lacapa. *School Library Journal* (SLJ) says it's appropriate for kindergarten - grade 3. "A well-designed effort, this title is for all children of multicultural marriages who struggle to find an identity. It serves not only to illuminate Indian culture, but also as a gentle celebration of mixed heritage," Judy Constantinides, the reviewer for SLJ writes.



Patty Burlingame, at the **Mount Hall Elementary School** in Bonners Ferry, recommends *My Name Is Bilal*, by Asma Mobin-Uddin. Illustrated by Barbara Kiwak. *School Library Journal* says it's good for grades 3-6. "A well-done treatment of a subject not often seen in children's picture books. Bilal transfers to a school where he and his sister are the only Muslim children. After an incident in which a boy pulls off Ayesha's headscarf, Bilal decides to hide the fact that he is Muslim until an understanding teacher, who is also Muslim, gives him a biography of Bilal ibn Rabah, a black slave who became the very first muezzin because of his steadfastness in the face of religious persecution. . . . This is an important book for most libraries as it will enhance discussions of cultural diversity and understanding." writes Kathleen E. Gruver from the Burlington County Library, Westampton, NJ in the *School Library Journal* review.

Send [Stephanie](#) or [Peggy](#) a review for *The Scoop*, and we'll send you a brand new hardback book for your library.



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Training Events

The Best Young Adult Books of the Decade and How to Use Them in Your Program (Grades 6 - 12) is the name of a workshop sponsored by the Bureau of Education and Research. The workshop is \$185 per person and will be held in Boise on October 30 and in Spokane on October 31. The flyer reads, "Designed for Secondary Teachers and Both School and Public Librarians. An exciting overview of the best young adult books published in the past ten years. A dynamic, energetic and fast-paced presentation by one of the foremost authorities in the field of teens and books. Hands-on, practical ideas and ways to use books, booktalks and reading aloud as means of reaching and motivating ALL students, regardless of ability or interest. An extensive resource handbook filled with booklists by title, author, subject, and interest level of titles for use in your programs is provided. The seminar is presented by Walter M. Mayes, nationally recognized young adult literature expert, library media specialist and co-author of best-selling "Valerie & Walter's Best Books for Children: A Lively, Opinionated Guide." For more information or to register, go to <http://www.ber.org/> .

October and November: **E-Branch in a Box workshops around the state.** E-branch in a Box is a new initiative from the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) to assist Idaho libraries in having a web presence, which is defined as having a vital website that is an extension of the library providing information about or access to library services. See <http://help.lili.org/node/91> for more information.

More Events:

By ICFL Staff Member Karen Sayko

This year holidays of two of the worlds' major religions fall within a few days of each other. Rosh Hashanah is celebrated by Jews around the globe. This holy day, beginning the evening of September 22, marks the creation of the world. For more than a billion Muslims, including some eight million in North America, Ramadan begins on September 24. This day begins a "month of blessing" marked by prayer, fasting, and charity.

For Jews, Rosh Hashanah is a time for self evaluation and reflection. Celebrated in synagogue, the observance is also prominent at the lunch and dinner tables. The traditional egg bread, hallah, is baked in round shapes to symbolize the cyclical nature of life. For some easy to make recipes, refer to an [article in Florida's St. Petersburg Times in 2002](#) and for more on this holiday link to

www.torahtots.com/holidays/yomkipur.htm. Rosh Hashanah marks the beginning of the Jewish new year and leads into the holy day of Yom Kippur, this year observed October 2 (sundown October 1).

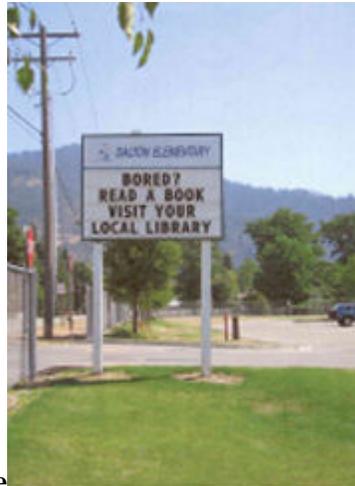
Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar and the Fast of Ramadan is observed for the entire month. It is a time to strengthen family and community ties and a time of worship and contemplation. For more go to www.holidays.net/ramadan/. As the sun sets each evening, the fast is broken with the eating of the iftar meal, usually beginning with sweet drinks and dates to get a quick boost in energy. Ramadan ends with the festival of Eid al-Fitr which in 2006 falls on October 24. At this "Festival of Breaking the Fast," Muslims around the world decorate their homes with lights and other ornaments, dress in their best clothes, give treats to children and enjoy visiting friends and family. For more check out www.factmonster.com/spot/ramadan1.html .

October 15-21, 2006: **Teen Read Week**. The theme for Teen Read Week 2006 is Get Active @ your library®, which encourages teens to use the resources at their library to lead an active life.

October 16, 2006: Deadline for ordering **Idaho Family Reading Week** materials from the Idaho Commission for Libraries. See <http://libraries.idaho.gov/curious-george>.



Summer Reading News



Daring Dreamers Meet in Boise

The Daring Dreamers summer reading advisory committee met in Boise on September 6th to review the 2006 summer reading media campaign and incentive programs. The group was very enthusiastic about their success in reaching more children and rated all four incentive programs very favorably. They were especially excited about the School Visit and Read for Your Library programs, which fostered and strengthened school partnerships. As an example of the type of support that some schools are providing, members **Karen Yother and Lee Starr, from the Hayden Branch of Kootenai Shoshone Area Libraries** shared a photo from **Dalton Elementary School** which advertised summer reading on their outdoor reader board.

Look forward to more incentive programs in 2007 to help Idaho libraries reach more children. The **2007 summer reading "Get a Clue @ Your Library" program manual and order form** will be mailed to public libraries in early October. Libraries will have until December 1st to order supplementary materials from Highsmith.



Have you sent in your summer reading statistics report?

Help the Idaho Commission for Libraries document the success of the 2006 summer reading program. Over 75 libraries have sent in their **summer reading**

report and statistics and we are close to breaking the record for participation set last year at 36,620 children. With about half of the 140 libraries and branches reporting, libraries have reported a total of 35,000 kids registered for summer reading in 2006. The **2006 Summer Reading online reporting form** is still available. If you have not sent in your 2006 report, please go to: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/2006summer-librarians> and complete it today! A PDF version of the report can also be downloaded if you prefer to fax or mail your report. The information you send is critical to helping the Idaho Commission for Libraries plan for continued support of summer reading programs.



Thousands and Thousands of Books!

by Kathryn L. Poulter, Marshall Public Library Youth Librarian

"The other morning at Pocatello's Marshall Public Library we carefully emptied a big jug full of dried beans onto a round table in front of the storytime room. Mounding high into the air, with little lima avalanches skittering down the sides, was our huge pile of beans, each representing a book that some child in Pocatello read during the summer. We started to count, scooping piles of a hundred beans each back into the jug. By the time we finished, we arrived at the astounding number of 13,357 books, I mean beans! What a lot of reading! It's a good thing we didn't ask the kids to add a bean for each page in their books!

To fit this year's theme: Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales, we built a rainforest in the library and added an animal to the rainforest for each child who signed up for the program. By the end of August more than 1300 colorful animals, each with a participant's name on it, were swinging and dancing from the lights, the rainforest canopy, and other areas in the library. There were many more animals than simply paper ones in the library this summer, though. We would like to thank Wade Burkman from McKee's Feed, Garden, and Pet Center for coming week after week with a variety of soft, scaley, or creepy creatures for our Know Your Animals programs. Who can ever forget the very loud pig, the very soft chinchilla, or the ostrich and emu eggs?

But why limit the animals to only earthly creatures? Nine lucky participants who finished the Summer Reading Program won our grand prizes and will be able to use a spyglass, binoculars, or a telescope to investigate life even beyond our own solar system! One of the best parts about the summer reading program this year was our weekly trip to area parks with the Book Wagon. In partnership with the

Portneuf District Library, area Rotary Clubs, volunteers from Idaho Reads! Vista, as well as other community participants, we were able to make a total of 48 park visits, check out hundreds of library books to area children, and give away 1652 free books to children in Pocatello, Chubbuck and Fort Hall! It was a wonderful summer. But the success of any program, in fact the continuing success of the library itself, depends on the participation of the community. So thank you, Pocatello, for helping make this summer at the Marshall Public Library such a good one!"



How they do Summer Reading in Columbus

Columbus Metropolitan Library (CLM), OH, had amazing summer reading participation. They claim it may be the highest in the nation with 97,208 people registering this year, a 9.6 percent increase from last year's numbers. Included in that number is 82,368 children and teens. Completion rates are also impressive. Some 55 percent handed in their logs, completing 12 hours of reading. Within that number, teens impressively jumped from last year's 33 percent completion rate to 44 percent. So how do they do it? CLM staff member Kathy Shahbodaghi says, "We definitely work at it." Here's what they do:

- **All staff are involved.** All library staff are involved in promoting the reading program, especially the circulation clerks who encourage patrons to enroll or "keep at it."
- **The schools are involved.** Nine different public school districts participate in the program. The Columbus superintendent of schools is particularly supportive. Some 2,000 Columbus elementary school students are enrolled in summer school and all are simultaneously enrolled in CLM's summer reading program. CLM staff visit these classrooms at the beginning and end of summer sessions, bringing reading materials.
- **Keep it simple.** Patrons are encouraged to enroll throughout the eight-week period and are given a two-week grace period at the end to turn in their logs (in case they're away from home).
- **Include adult readers.** Over the past three years CLM have encouraged adult readers to join their children to remind them to model reading. "Children will copy parents' reading behavior more readily than listen to library messages to read," Shahbodaghi said.
- **Don't go nuts over incentives.** Incentives are surprisingly modest yet appropriate. Those who read six hours, the halfway point, received a free book. Children who complete the 12 hours received an art kit and were eligible to

win a bicycle. Teens received a messenger bag and were eligible to win an iPod.

(Adapted from an article in the Aug. 22 issue of *Library Hotline*)



School Zone

Last March, to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday, **Bear Lake High School** and **Bear Lake Middle School** students donated money to buy books for their school libraries. Middle school students donated \$438 and the high school students donated \$775. The Bear Lake Education Foundation added \$300 to each fund.

"I am thrilled that our students, both at the high school and the middle school, are willing to donate their own money toward purchasing new materials for the libraries," said Lorraine Kimball, media specialist at both schools. "With shrinking budgets, it is vital to come up with new ways to buy books, and the students did that."

Middle school students donated to their third period class with ice cream treats for the winning class. At the high school, donuts and breakfast for the winning class, as well as class challenges, were incentives to donate.

According to Kimball, the project will be repeated next spring.

Know the Numbers

Check out the article by Keith Curry Lance in the September issue of *School Library Journal*. "The Outsiders" (pp. 53-55) discusses the controversial "65 percent solution" that "would damage school libraries and lower students' test scores." (p.53)

SLJ has set up a website - www.truthabout65percent.com - for additional information on this issue, plus updates for each state. (At this time, no information on Idaho is listed.)



A Closer Look at Emerging Trends in Youth Services

by Peggy McClendon

Trend #6: Idaho's communities are becoming more diverse and the Latino population is growing statewide.

Did you know in Idaho public schools . . .

- 99 languages are spoken (State Board of Education LEP Program Report 2006)
- Students come from 85 countries
- 20,934 students are English language learners
- 90% of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students speak Spanish
- 11.9% of Idaho public school enrollment is Hispanic (2004 SDE)
- 64% of Hispanic kindergarteners are reading below grade level (IRI, winter 2006, SDE)

What does this mean for your library? Libraries can provide very positive support for learning about and becoming comfortable with diversity in your community or school. In this two-part article, we will examine how library collections, services and programs contribute to this goal.

Collection

Library materials, guided by a collection development policy, should reflect a wide variety of perspectives, experiences, and ethnic groups. And, they should be culturally accurate. Good multicultural literature is important for all children because all children need to see how people are different and similar and all children need to see their own lives reflected in the books they read. Here are some tips for having culturally appropriate materials in your collection:

- Check the copyright date of materials. Older books may represent out of date facts, attitudes and beliefs that do not reflect a culturally appropriate collection.
- Examine individual books to see if they present a balanced view. Are characters from minority populations portrayed as fully developed with strengths and weaknesses? Avoid stereotypes such as "the noble savage" or "the gang member."
- No one book or even a few books can represent an entire culture or ethnic group. Try to provide as wide a range of books as your budget will allow.

- Check illustrations. Are characters depicted as individuals or are they merely distinguished by dress or skin color?

While the need for inclusion in a library collection may seem obvious, it is nice to articulate these needs when advocating for your budget to your administration and board and in promoting it to your community. Boise State University Professor Stan Steiner, in his book *Promoting a Global Community Through Multicultural Children's Literature*, provides us with a handy "20 Reasons Why We Need Multicultural Literature": Multicultural literature:

- provides an opportunity for all children to see themselves in the literature
- fosters development and self-esteem
- strengthens the significance of personal heritage
- helps raise personal aspirations
- provides a means for everyone to learn about people all over the world
- recognizes and values the contributions of all people
- broadens understanding of history and geography
- cultivates respect, empathy, and acceptance of all people
- helps build a global community. It prevents people from feeling isolated
- allows differences and promotes harmony
- provides a multitude of opportunities to discuss similarities and differences
- promotes social consciousness of people afflicted with social problems
- helps overcome denial and fears of differences
- provides daily opportunities to talk about diversity and current events
- promotes positive actions to rectify unjust behaviors and events
- blends easily into themes of study found in schools
- provides the needed balance of literature representative of many cultures
- offers a good option for locating well-written literature. It prepares us for the future

Where to start? In addition to regular professional journal book reviews, it is helpful to read and use special journals such as *Críticas* and *Multicultural Review*. You can also be ensured of quality when you add materials that have won awards, such as

- Coretta Scott King Award
www.ala.org/ala/emiert/corettascottkingbookawards/corettascott.htm
- Pura Belpré Award
www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/belpremedal/belprmedal.htm
- Americas Awards www.uwm.edu/Dept/CLACS/outreach/americas.html
- American Indian Youth Literature Award www.nativeculturelinks.com/aila.html
- Notable Books for a Global Society (International Reading Association)
www.csulb.edu/org/childrens-lit/proj/nbgs/intro-nbgs.html#lists

Here are a few ideas for marketing your collection to your community:

- Take a deposit collection to schools, day care centers, Head Start or after school programs.
- Don't just segregate the multicultural materials from the rest of your collection. If your library provides kits, Incorporate these books into kits about all sort of topics from food, animals and use them for storytime on a regular basis.
- Recommend books with diverse characters to all children based on their interests.
- Integrate multicultural literature into all storytimes.

Another resource is the ICFL's "[Building Bridges](#)" [traveling display](#) and review collection. To receive this display for a two-week period, contact [Nancy Reese](#) at 1 (800) 458-3271.

(some of the above information was adapted from the Commission's SABLE e-course written by Mary DeWalt, Ada Community Library)

Tips & Tools



New Books at the Idaho Commission for Libraries:

The Neal-Schuman Library Technology Companion: A Basic Guide for Library Staff, by John J. Burke. 2nd ed. Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2006. [025.0028 BURKE 2006]

A basic overview on the tools of technology, how they work, maintenance, and how to integrate technology into your library. If you attended the Digital Natives Conference and/or any of the recent workshops on technology, this book would be a good supplement to information learned at these events.

Outstanding Library Service for Children: Putting the Core Competencies to Work, by Rosanne Cerny, Penny Markey, & Amanda Williams. Association for Library Service to Children, ALA, 2006. [027.62 CERNY 2006]

A practical guide that focus on each of seven core competencies (outlined by ALSC). Each competency has a chapter devoted to it which includes insight from the authors (all children's services experts). This guide can help to improve administration, management, networking and communication skills.

These books are part of the Professional Development Service offered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL). Materials can be checked out either by direct loan or through interlibrary loan at your library. Go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/professional-development-collection> or call ICFL at (208) 334-2150 or (800) 458-3271 for more information.

News Beyond Idaho

Program helps build better readers. Southwest Florida Families Building Better Readers, a statewide program through the Florida Department of Education, brings strategies to parents of kindergarten through third-grade students to read with them at home. [The rest of the article from the The News-Press can be found here.](#)



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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