

# The Scoop

Fun, inspiring and innovative ideas  
for library youth services

Vol. 18 No. 8  
Aug. 4, 2022

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## DATES & DEADLINES

- **Kindergarten Readiness Grant Applications** are due **August 31**.
- Registration for the **Idaho Library Association Annual Conference (Oct. 5 – 6, Lewiston)** is now open.
- Join us for the **ILA Early Learning Pre-conference Oct. 4!**
- **Save the Date: Idaho Early Years Conference, Nov. 1 – 2, 2022.**

## WELCOME

By Staci Shaw

Summer reading is winding down or even finished, and many of you are planning to take some well-deserved vacation time before the school year begins or before the launch of your fall programs. If you're looking for some low-cost, last-minute destinations, consider taking some time to explore our beautiful state with these local adventures, found on the Visit Idaho website: <https://visitidaho.org/>

### Scenic Byways

Take a cruise on one of Idaho's 31 byways, which include scenic, natural, historic, recreational, archeological, and cultural adventures. Explore the [Pioneer Historic Byway](#) in southeast Idaho, the [Lewis and Clark Backcountry Byway](#) in Lemhi County, the [Peaks to Craters Scenic Byway](#) in Central Idaho, the [Pend Oreille Scenic Byway](#) in North Idaho, and many more, throughout all parts of the state. You can even order some [free Scenic Byway stickers](#), designed by Idaho artist Ward Hooper!



Download this free [Idaho Roadsider](#) to help you plan your trips.

### Hot Springs

Idaho has the most usable natural hot springs in the nation, with about 130 soakable out of 340. Find information about Idaho's natural and developed hot springs on the [Visit Idaho](#) site or at [www.idahohotspots.com](http://www.idahohotspots.com).

### State Parks

Where can you find the tallest single-structured sand dune in North America or the "Caribbean of the Rockies?" Check out all the adventures and wild wonders in [Idaho's 27 state parks!](#)

### Hike, Fish, Bike, Climb, Raft, Boat, and more!



There is something for everyone and hundreds of no-cost and low-cost ways to enjoy our great state this summer and fall. Download/order the free [Official Idaho Travel Guide!](#)

# LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

## Caldwell Public Library in the News

Youth Services Supervisor **Ellie Epperson** says opening the world of reading to everyone is what being a librarian is all about. Through a partnership with the STEM Action Center and the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind, Ellie and staff created sets of braille letters with their 3-D printer so that visually impaired children can learn to read and spell.

*See the KIVI Idaho News 6 story...*

## Librarian Kathryn Lopez Luker in the News

**Marshall Public Library** Children's Librarian **Kathryn Lopez Luker** is "giving back the magic of her childhood bookmobile to young people in Pocatello." Growing up with only monthly access to a library, Kathryn is happy to pass out free books to children, especially during the summer and particularly during COVID. She was pleased to share that, in 2020, she gave away 13,230 books while aiming to give a free book to every child in every Pocatello school!

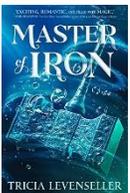
*See the Idaho Ed News story...*

## Local Authors Debut Books at Boise Public Library

At an event co-sponsored by the **Boise Public Library** and **Rediscovered Books** on July 30, Idaho author Cynthia Hand and Utah author Tricia Levenseller debuted new installments in their widely popular series:



*My Imaginary Mary*, released August 2. It's aliiiiiiiive! In this fifth installment of the "Lady Janies" series, co-authors Cynthia Hand, Brodi Ashton, and Jodi Meadows are back with the electric, poetic, and (almost) historical tale of the one and only Mary Shelley.



*Master of Iron*, released July 26. The conclusion to Tricia Levenseller's exciting "Bladesmith" YA fantasy duology features a magically gifted blacksmith with social anxiety, who must race against the clock to save her beloved sister and stop a devastating war.

*From left: Laura Delaney, Rediscovered Books; Tricia Levenseller; Cynthia Hand. Photo by Joshua Shapel, Boise Public Library.*



# TWEENS & TEENS

## ION Power Up Summit – Free Registration for Library Staff



The Idaho Out-of-School Network (ION) Annual Power Up Summit is the only statewide conference dedicated solely to out-of-school time. This year, it will be held **Sept. 29 – 30, at the Shoshone-Bannock Casino Hotel in Pocatello, Idaho**. This year's theme is "Plug In and Partner Up." This conference is for those who run programs or offer services that youth may access during out-of-school time: summer, after school, camps, or even online.

If you would like to attend the Summit, email Jennifer Redford ([Jennifer.redford@libraries.idaho.gov](mailto:Jennifer.redford@libraries.idaho.gov)) for a special code to receive FREE registration. Please register before the Aug. 12 deadline to receive Early Bird registration rates.

[Learn More / Register](#)

## Idaho Teen Reading Challenge

The second year of the Idaho Teen Reading Challenge will begin on October 1, and we hope to open registration for materials later this month. One change this year is that we will let tweens and teens choose eight titles from 10 different categories to read from October – April. Here are the final categories for this year's challenge:



- Free Choice
- [IBOB title](#)
- Book to Movie
- Published in the Last Five Years
- Red Cover
- [Saw it on BookTok](#)
- From a Library Display
- Not a Novel
- Award Nominee
- Mentor Recommendation

We are still finalizing some of the details, and there will be an [info session on September 13](#).

## LITT: Teen Services – Grab Your Planner!

Thanks to everyone who was able to attend our LITT: Teen Services chat in late July. We talked about ALL the upcoming events for library workers who work with tweens and teens. [This document has a month-by-month rundown of what to expect over the next few months](#) (spoiler alert – September is scary!).

We also had time to brainstorm ideas for our statewide **Teen Convening on March 1 and 2** – save the date for this important teen services conference. Do you have ideas for the convening? Reach out to [Jennifer](#) and share.

## Youth Free Expression Film Contest

The National Coalition Against Censorship's [Youth Free Expression Program](#) invites kids and teens to participate in its **Youth Free Expression Film Contest**. This year's theme is "What Does Free Speech Mean to Me?"

Contest entrants create and submit a video (up to 3 minutes) using film, animation, photographs, music, or anything else to explore what free speech means to them -- a student, a citizen, and a human. The deadline is September 19. The first-place winner receives a scholarship to the New York Film Academy. The top three filmmakers (individual or team) will receive cash prizes of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250.

The annual Youth Free Expression Film Contest invites young filmmakers to create a short film on a contemporary First Amendment issue. Over the past 15 years, the contest has showcased the talents and ideas of dozens of student filmmakers. NCAC's Youth Free Expression Program Film Contest is made possible by generous support from the New York Film Academy.

Students can learn more and submit their entry here: <https://ncac.org/project/film-contest>.

# KINDERGARTEN READY CORNER

## K Ready Grant Funding

Have you been considering adding preschool programming to your lineup of services? Or parent/caregiver classes or workshops? Perhaps early learning kits that can be checked out by parents, teachers, or other caregivers? The Idaho Commission for Libraries' Kindergarten Readiness Grant may be the funding solution to help create or enhance your programs or services.

The ICfL has an appropriation of \$60,000 in grant funding to award to public libraries throughout the state.



Funds can be used for:

- learning opportunities (i.e., time to socialize with peers, hands-on learning opportunities, and introductions to digital learning tools)
- Parent/caregiver workshops: Designed by library or use of trademarked workshops, such as Ready! for Kindergarten™
- Outreach events; taking early literacy programming to where young children and their families gather
- Virtual events; providing early literacy programming or parent/caregiver workshops in an online format
- Consumable educational materials for families to use at home to build early learning skills
- Educational materials that can be checked out for home or daycare use to build early learning skills
- Devices and mobile hot spots for families to check out in order to access early learning resources externally
- Dedicated children's computers for the library to facilitate early learning resources internally
- Waiving overdue fines for children (not to exceed 25% of grant award)
- Non-resident library card fees
- Library card materials
- Public relations materials; Facebook marketing
- Personnel, especially native Spanish-speakers, for programs and outreach
- Parent and family events (noting that food is not an allowable expense)
- Summer reading/out-of-school reading support
- Community audits/needs assessment or surveying parents of preschoolers
- Translation of materials/signage into other languages
- Other materials and/or services that will support your community plan to increase early literacy

Grants are awarded in \$1,000 increments **up to \$10,000**. Whether you are interested in developing a new project or seeking continued funding for a current or past project that received K Ready Grant funding, check out the grant guidelines and apply by **August 31, 2022**. Please reach out to [Staci Shaw](#) if you would like to chat about a possible project or if you have questions.

[More Info](#)

## Idaho Library Association (ILA) Pre-Conference on Early Learning

The ILA Early Learning Action Group and the ICfL are co-sponsoring an Early Learning (EL) pre-conference session on **October 5**, prior to the annual ILA conference, from **9 a.m. to 12 p.m. PT** at the **Lewiston Public Library**. We will have this event set up as a hybrid in-person/ live stream virtual event, if being in Lewiston is not an option for you this year.

The theme for the EL pre-conference event is **EL Best Practices in Idaho Libraries**, with a keynote presentation by **Darcy Kincade**, Associate Professor of Early Childhood Development at Lewis-Clark State College. Her keynote will be on child brain development and play.

Following Darcy's presentation, there will be up to six 15-minute presentation slots for youth library staff to share what they are doing at their libraries across the state to provide programs, resources, and services that constitute early learning best practices in Idaho public libraries.

We invite you, as early learning professionals in libraries across the state, to submit a proposal to present in one of these 15-minute presentation slots!

To submit your proposal to present in one of these slots, please fill out the [EL Best Practices Call for Proposals form](#).

*Continue reading...*

Please reach out to [Anna Langrill](#), [Mary Flaminio](#) and/or [Staci Shaw](#) if you have any questions.



## SCHOOL ZONE

### The School Zone is on summer hiatus

We will resume this section in our September 1 issue!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Idaho Early Years Conference

Save the date for the biennial **Early Years Conference, November 1 – 2, 2022**, in Boise. The ICfL will provide support for up to 30 Idaho staff members to attend. The two-day conference will feature keynotes and session presenters who focus on early learning, as well as several from the library field:

**Dr. Susan Neuman, New York University** (Dr. Neuman's research was what Every Child Ready to Read® was based upon)

Keynote: Giving Our Children a Fighting Chance

Session Breakout: Poverty, Literacy, and the Development of Information Capital

**Jim Gill, Musician and Author, Jim Gill, Inc.**

Capnote: Music Play for Everyone

**Amanda Bowden, Portneuf District Library**

Session Breakout: Storytime S.T.E.A.M.

**Staci Shaw and Kristina Taylor, ICfL (with library guest speakers)**

Session Breakout: Libraries, Laundromats, and Learning in Everyday Spaces

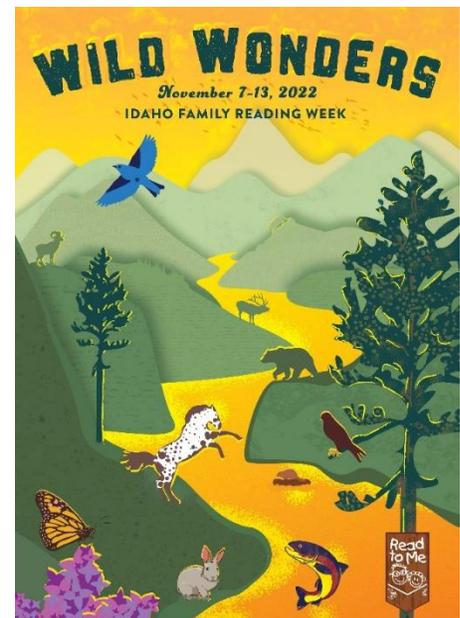
Other conference topics include social emotional learning, acute childhood experiences (ACES) and trauma, visual phonics, homelessness, inclusion of infants and toddlers with special needs, prevention strategies, working with children who are deaf/hard of hearing and visually impaired, and more. In addition, there will be a vendor fair with community partners and organizations that provide services and materials for children and families will be on site.

**Registration will open soon!** Information will be disseminated via LibIdaho, the Idaho Early Learning listserv, and the September 1 issue of The Scoop.

## Resources for 2022 Idaho Family Reading Week and its “Wild Wonders”

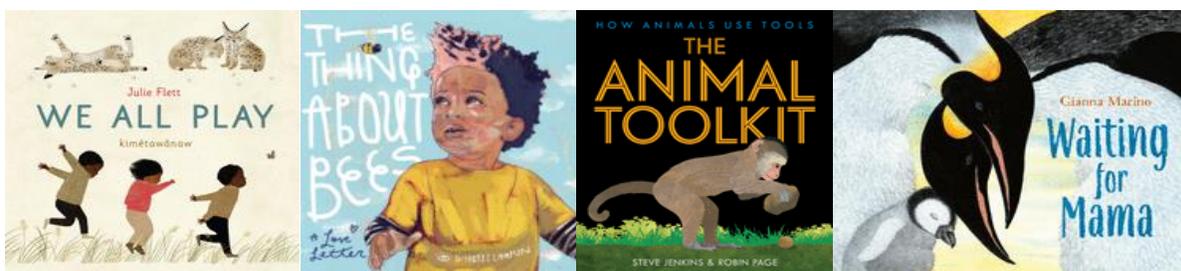
**November 7-13, 2022**

This year’s Idaho Family Reading Week theme will be about animals. Specifically, it will be “Wild Wonders.” Think wildlife. Think conservation. Think animal adaptations. Think Idaho state emblems! Maybe you’ll teach kids the importance of pollinators by helping them build a bee hotel and placing it in the community. Maybe you’ll feature jobs where people work with animals and then bring in speakers from different vocations, like a vet or an animal rescue worker. Maybe you’ll “Fashion a Fish” (see the WILD About Early Learners Guide info below) and teach children about Idaho’s state fish, the cutthroat trout (see the Wildlife Express State Emblem issue, described below). The possibilities are endless and totally up to you and your library staff. ICfL staff will provide you with tons of ideas and some resources to help you offer a great week of literacy-oriented Family Reading Week activities. All you have to do is say YES! (. . . and register after Sept. 1 for the workshop and Sept. 15 for the program – see below). We have some great community partners this year: Idaho Fish and Game and Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC). Read on for details...



*It's 'Golden Hour' in the Idaho mountains and, along the river, Idaho wildlife abounds. Get ready for this statewide literacy-focused program!*

ICfL will provide the following resources for the “Wild Wonders” Family Reading Week program to participating libraries (the first 100 libraries to register -- opens September 15):



- Four newer, hardcover titles to add to your library collection or use as family give-aways
- Book guides or activity suggestions for each hardcover book to help library staff plan a storytime program around each new title
- Paperback books, on an animal theme, for libraries to use as youth participant give-aways
- Themed bookmarks (animal trivia) for libraries to use as youth participant give-aways
- Copies of Wildlife Express “Idaho State Emblems” magazine for libraries to use as youth participant give-aways
- *WILD About Early Learners Workshop* and Educator Guide in partnership with Idaho Fish and Game – [see workshop details](#) in the Upcoming Events section of this issue of *The Scoop*. ICfL staff will mail an 85-page, professionally published, early learner guide to each participant who completes the workshop. (**Note:** Being registered for Family Reading Week with the ICfL does not mean you are registered to attend the WILD workshop by Idaho Fish & Game. They are related but will require separate registration.)
- Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC) is offering 12,500 copies of their new “Idaho Kids Love the Outdoors” Kit (ages 3-6). Requests for these kits will be made through IAEYC, but there will be a designated link to their request form on the ICfL’s FRW webpage. More info to come.

#### Don’t forget to mark your calendars for these important FRW dates:

- **WILD About Early Learners Workshop Registration:** Opens September 1 -- in partnership with Idaho Fish & Game (content pairs well with FRW theme but can be used in your library year round)
- **FRW Overview Information Session:** Thursday, September 8 from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. MT via Zoom (will be recorded for later viewing). Click here for [Zoom link](#).
- **FRW Program Registration:** Opens September 15 (closes when 100 spots are filled by public or school libraries)
- **FRW Program offered in your library:** Anytime in November, but especially during the official week of November 7-13, 2022 (the same week as the nationwide Children’s Book Week).

Visit the [Idaho Family Reading Week](#) page often for resource updates.

New to hosting a FRW program at your public or school library and have questions? Contact [Kristina Taylor](#), ICfL Youth Services Project Coordinator, at any time. Or attend the upcoming info session below.

[Learn More](#)

## WILD About Early Learners Workshops for Library Staff

It’s not too soon to get excited about Idaho Family Reading Weeks’ “Wild Wonders” theme and start looking for some new programming ideas. Does your library staff enjoy sharing nature with kids and want to have many wildlife activities at your fingertips throughout the year? Consider signing up for *WILD About Early Learners!* – a part of Project WILD’s national curriculum dedicated to teaching kids how to think, not what to think, about the environment in which we live. The Idaho Commission for Libraries has partnered with Idaho Fish and Game



to offer a special *WILD About Early Learners!* training **just for library staff** prior to the start of Idaho Family Reading Week! The training has been adapted from a fee-based, in-person training and will now be offered free to all library staff as a virtual-asynchronous combination training.

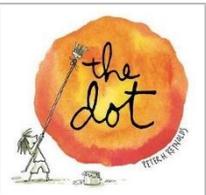
Learn ways to integrate meaningful lessons into your library programs related to Idaho animals and habitats. They've tied almost every activity to a book, which is a bonus for you. Join us for one 45-minute virtual session (required), during which Lori Adams, curriculum designer, will introduce you to the Google Sites website format and content. You will then decide how and when to work through the online content independently (participants will have access to the Google Sites indefinitely). ICfL staff will mail you one copy of the *WILD About Early Learner Guide* that can be used to boost your FRW programming and is yours to keep! In the specialized guide, you'll find activities, music and movement, resource lists, home connections, and much more! ICfL-IFG will offer the virtual session on three days, at three different times. Choices for the required virtual information session are:

- Wednesday, September 21 -- 12:15 – 1:00 p.m. MT
- Friday, September 23 -- 9:15 – 10:00 a.m. MT
- Tuesday, September 27 -- 5:15 – 6:00 p.m. MT

**Registration opens Thursday, September 1.** Look for a LibIdaho email in late August and a post in the August and September issues of *The Scoop* newsletter for registration details.

Questions? Contact [Kristina Taylor](#), ICfL Youth Services Project Coordinator.

## International Dot Day, September 15



*The Dot*, by Peter Reynolds, is a tale of an inspiring teacher who encourages a shy student to believe in herself and “make her mark.” International Dot Day is celebrated by adults and children for boosting courage so that their creative potential is released. It is a great day to connect and collaborate and also to celebrate self-expression. It is celebrated on September 15 each year.

[More Info](#)

## CHECK IT OUT

### New Nationwide Three-Digit Suicide/Crisis Lifeline

**988**, the new three-digit number for mental health and suicidal crises, is available nationwide. The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline connects individuals to trained crisis counselors who can provide de-escalation and mental health intervention services by phone.

Explore this [988 Partner Toolkit](#) for FAQs, factsheets, printable items you can display or distribute in the library, and more.

Please note that the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number, 1-800-273-8255, will remain in operation. Using either number will get people to the same services.

The **Crisis Text Line** is also available to anyone in need. Text the keyword "4hope" to 741 741 to be connected to a trained Crisis Counselor within 5 minutes.

Learn more: [www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988](http://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988)

## Jason Reynolds Visits Montana – Connects with Students & Inspires Conversations

"Jason Reynolds, the prolific and bestselling author of young people's literature, uses his own childhood experiences to encourage kids to use their imagination to tell their stories. "Sunday Morning" anchor Jane Pauley talks with Reynolds about writing stories and the complicated conversations they can evoke."

View the video here:

[More Info](#)

## I Love My Librarian Award 2023

The **I Love My Librarian Award** invites library users to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians. Each year, up to 10 librarians are honored at a ceremony held in their honor and receive a \$5,000 cash award. Nominations for the 2023 I Love My Librarian Award are **open through September 30**.

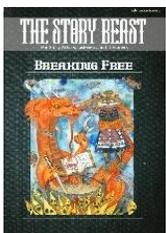
The website also includes [tips for writing a strong nomination](#) and allows nominators to resubmit a nomination from a previous year.

Visit the awards program website for complete program guidelines, eligibility requirements for nominees, and nomination procedures:

[Learn More](#)



## New Storytelling Magazine



Established to create a safe space for story artists, story lovers, and creatives of all artforms to exchange ideas, learn new resources, and be inspired, the first issue of *The Story Beast* was released in July.

Feel free to share this free e-publication with your colleagues, patrons, teachers, and anyone who has a love of stories!

[More Info](#)



# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

## ICfL Connecting Community Digital Inclusion Project

The ICfL Connecting Communities Digital Inclusion Project will provide Chromebooks and accessories to public libraries throughout Idaho for the purpose of expanding digital equity, inclusion, and literacy efforts. Libraries may apply for up to 20 Chromebooks and accessories to provide training to partner organizations and members of the public in cybersecurity, internet use, Chromebook use, and basic technology use. Participating libraries will create or expand existing partnerships with community organizations to reach groups or individuals benefiting from increased access to internet-enabled devices and digital literacy training.

Chromebooks will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Application period is open through August 15.

[Learn More/Apply](#)

## ESSER Grants for Unfinished Learning

The ICfL is excited to announce a series of grants aimed at mitigating unfinished learning for Idaho youth as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In partnership with the Idaho Out-of-School Network and the Idaho STEM Action Center, the ICfL has secured \$1.25 million for libraries to help youth in their communities. Over the next few months, we will open a series of five grants to help you use research-based best practices to address the needs of kids and teens in grades K – 12.

This funding is made possible by a federal appropriation to the Idaho State Department of Education and through the Idaho State Board of Education. We are still waiting for details on some of the spending parameters and we are not quite ready to release details yet, but we wanted to make sure that you know what to expect so that you are ready to apply when the grants open. The funding falls into two categories: Out-of-School Time (OST) and Summer Learning.

### Out-of-School

- **OST Planning Grants:** These will be larger grants (up to \$20,000) for your library system to engage in activities to strategically develop your services and programs for youth.
- **OST Programming Grants:** These will be smaller grants (\$1,000 - \$3,000) for your library location to use best-practices for working with youth to offer programs for youth (both after school and teen programs).
- **ICfL Support for OST:** Even if you don't get a grant, the ICfL will offer support for your out-of-school resources by offering kits for your library, professional development on asset mapping and assessment, and other support materials.

## Summer Learning

- **Summer School Libraries:** These grants (up to \$7,000) can be used by school libraries to stay open during the summer to offer programs and services to their community.
- **Summer Strategies Grants:** These will be larger grants (up to \$20,000) for library systems to use research-based best practices to build summer learning programs that tie in with the library's mission and strategic plan.
- **Summer Support Grants:** These will be smaller grants (\$1,000 - \$2,000) for your library location to use research-based best practices to offer high-quality summer programming (and enhance your current summer reading program).
- **ICfL support for Summer Learning:** The ICfL plans on offering several regional planning workshops to help you connect with other libraries in your area and plan summer programs (these will begin in February, and some will also be held virtually). We also hope to send a number of Idaho library staff to the [National Conference on Summer Learning](#) at no cost to the library or staff member. Additionally, the ICfL will offer kits for summer learning, additional professional development, and support materials.

As soon as we have final details on the grants, we will let you know more. In the meantime, prepare yourself and begin thinking about how you can use these resources to help youth in your community.

## Kindergarten Readiness Grants

Applications for ICfL's K Ready Grants are **due August 31**. See [Kindergarten Ready Corner](#) above for project ideas and fundable items/components.



## SUMMER READING NEWS

### Summer Library Programs Report due September 15

ICfL staff ask that all Idaho public libraries submit a very short report about their summer programs each year.

This data and feedback allow ICfL staff to tell stakeholders and decision-makers how summer library programs positively impact children, teens, families, adults, and communities. And because the program manuals and posters we provide to all Idaho public libraries are funded with Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, we include this data in our report to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) each fall.

*See a preview of the data we ask you to collect and submit.*

**\*\*If you are NOT hosting a summer library program this year, please fill out a report and indicate that you did not host a program.**

**New this Year:**

To accommodate library systems with branches/outlets that don't track each outlet's individual participation numbers, you can now choose to submit **one report** with one data set that includes all branches/bookmobiles. You can also still choose to submit separate reports for branches/bookmobiles.

If your library is in a system/district containing more than one location, you will choose your system/district from those listed in the drop-down menu; then another field will appear, displaying that system/district's locations or outlets. You can then choose which of those outlets will be included in your report.

Submit your report at this link: <https://form.jotform.com/icfl/2022-idaho-SRP-report>

All libraries that submit their report by the September 15 deadline will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a 2023 CSLP summer programs T-shirt.

*In order to receive a program manual and posters for the 2023 theme, your library MUST submit a 2022 report.*

Thanks to all who submit their library's report by the deadline. It takes a lot of additional staff time to follow up on missing reports.

**News from CSLP**

The Collaborative Summer Library Programs' (CSLP) current newsletter contains suggestions for including yoga and mindfulness into storytimes, a short survey from the Ocean Project, how one library moved away from plastic prizes and focused more on conservation efforts, and more. Read the current CSLP Newsletter [here](#).

**Your Voice Matters – Help CSLP Choose Future Themes and Slogans**

Check out this list of potential slogans for the 2025 Summer Reading Theme (Art):

- Art for all / Arte para todos
- Color our world / Colorea nuestro mundo
- Create and Make at your library / Crea y haz en tu biblioteca
- Express yourself / Exprésate
- Gallery of Stories / Galería de Cuentos
- Paint your world with stories / Pinta tu mundo con historias
- Rainbow of stories / Arco iris de cuentos
- Read, Create, and Inspire / Lee, Crea e Inspira
- Read, Create, Illustrate / Lee, Crear, Ilustra

Here are the top 10 theme suggestions for 2026:

- Agriculture & Gardening
- Dinosaurs
- USA 250 (2026 will be the US semi-quincentennial)

- Food Literacy
- History
- Inventions
- Mysteries
- Nature
- Time Travel
- Travel

Do you have a favorite? CLSP State Reps will cast votes at their annual meeting in late August. Reach out to [Staci Shaw](#) before August 30 with your thoughts or attend one of the August listening sessions:

### CSLP 2026 Theme and 2025 Slogan Listening Sessions

Monday, August 15 -- 1 - 2 p.m. MT (3 - 4 p.m. ET)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 823 6647 7698

Passcode: 243823

Wednesday, August 17 -- 9 - 10 a.m. MT (11 a.m. - 12 p.m. ET)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 882 5508 3482

Passcode: 634648

## FEATURED:

### ICfL's My First Books Program to Serve Record Number of Idaho Children



In the 2022-2023 My First Books (MFB) program year, 46 Idaho libraries (including branches and bookmobiles) will serve approximately 5,000 children from birth through kindergarten, distributing around 45,000 books from October through May. This is the highest number of children the program has served since its debut in 1997.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries' (ICfL) [My First Books](#) program establishes home libraries for children who have limited access to books of their own. Research shows that the availability of reading material in the home, whether owned or borrowed from the library, is directly associated with children's achievement in reading comprehension. (National Center for Education Statistics, 2001)

The My First Books program is an outreach program, in which the ICfL provides the books and program materials, and public libraries apply to participate. The participating



*Children's Librarian Gabby Stoller (Meridian Library District) reads to children outside, maintaining the program even during the pandemic.*

libraries partner with childcare centers, preschools, Head Start sites, and kindergarten classrooms that serve “underserved” children; that is, those who are unlikely to have books in the home, those who have challenges getting to the library, children with families whose first language is not English, children living on tribal reservations, children of teen parents, or those with developmental delays. Each month the library visits their partner(s) to present a storytime, then each child receives a book to take home and keep. They also receive a “[Bookworm Newsletter](#),” a two-page handout for their parents/caregivers with information about early literacy and activities to do at home. All information is provided in English and Spanish.

### Why ICfL Invests in the My First Books Program

Many cities, counties, and states are participating in the [Dolly Parton Imagination Library](#) (DPIL) these days. This is a high-quality program that gets books in the hands of children who need them by directly mailing the books to their home. So why not just invest in DPIL?

“What makes the My First Books program unique is that this program not only gets books to children, it establishes personal relationships between the library staff and the children, and ultimately the families,” says ICfL Youth Services Consultant Staci Shaw. “Personal relationships are key to increasing library usage from underserved or marginalized families.”

Comments and stories from libraries each year illustrate the benefits of participating in the program, including strengthened relationships with the schools and teachers, early learning educators, and community partners.

“Participation in MFB has strengthened our relationship with the tribal community,” says Children’s Librarian Amanda Bowden (Portneuf District Library). “In fact, staff of the after-school program there asked us to come and talk to the kids about bullying. They said we were a ‘trusted source’ of information for the kids, and we were honored to be asked to do that for them.”

“By visiting the center, hosting a fun story time, and giving out free books, children and parents associated the library with something positive,” says Youth Services Librarian Colleen Olive (Lewiston Public Library). “We’ve even been recognized at stores and restaurants as the ‘library ladies,’ making us feel somewhat like local celebrities.”

The ICfL’s mission is to “assist libraries to build the capacity to best serve their communities,” and the My First Books program is an effective way for libraries to help increase reading proficiency and library usage. If your library is interested in participating in the program, reach out to [Staci Shaw](#). The program is full for 2022-2023, but applications to participate in the 2023-2024 program year will be open in February 2023.



[Learn More](#)



## CE NEWS YOU CAN USE

~Annie Gaines, ICfL Continuing Education Consultant

Have you heard of the CE Digest newsletter? You can get weekly updates on upcoming free CE opportunities for Idaho library workers by subscribing to the CE Digest newsletter [here](#). For a preview of what the newsletter looks like or more information, visit [this page](#).

### CE Courses Paid for by ICfL from InfoPeople, Library Juice, and Amigos

Did you know that for Idaho library staff the ICfL will cover the cost of online continuing education courses or webinars through [InfoPeople](#), [Library Juice](#), and [Amigos](#)? It's true! If there's an online course or webinar from these providers you'd like to take, you can apply for access by completing the corresponding Course Access Request Form accessible from [this page](#). To qualify for future CE funds for online learning students must complete the follow-up survey and apply to access the course at least 15 days in advance.

Below are a few upcoming online courses that you might be able to squeeze into your very busy schedule!

#### Children's Services Fundamentals

(InfoPeople), September 13 – October 10, 2022

Instructor: Penny Peck

Does your work in the library include service to children and their families? Do you want to do a better job of providing homework assistance, readers' advisory, tours of your library, or family programs? Expert children's librarian and author Penny Peck will help you to acquire the knowledge and skills to be more comfortable and confident about providing fundamental children's services.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(InfoPeople\)](#)

#### Foundations of Early Literacy

(Library Juice Academy), September 5 – October 2, 2022

Instructor: Saroj Ghoting

This class is based on the research and resources of the Every Child Ready to Read® initiative (from ALA's Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children) and is informed by child development. Through it you will become familiar with early literacy skills (phonological awareness, print awareness, letter knowledge, vocabulary, and background knowledge) and practices (talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing) and how they can be applied to one-on-one interactions with children and their parents and caregivers. In addition, you will learn ways in which library environments can be supportive of staff sharing early literacy information and activities. This Foundation's course does not require a background in children's services. We can "lead with early literacy" from any position. This course does not address storytime programs. This course is REQUIRED for the Early Childhood Literacy Certificate.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Library Juice Academy\)](#)

### **LSSC Elective Competencies: Youth Services**

(Library Juice Academy), September 5 – October 16, 2022

Instructor: Erin Downy Howerton

A six-week online course focused on youth services, designed to meet the elective requirement for the Library Support Staff Certification program. This course is designed to give students a broad overview of library services to youth and their caregivers in the library environment.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Library Juice Academy\)](#)

### **Developmentally Appropriate Media for Storytimes**

(Library Juice Academy), September 5 – October 2, 2022

Instructor: Lynn Baker

In this class, you will learn about the different multi-literacies of early childhood and how to incorporate them through various types of media. We will discuss strategies for intentionally choosing developmentally appropriate songs, music and movement, technology-based applications, discovery-based projects, and interactive social experiences based on developmental age and stage of children. We will discuss the importance of choosing diverse media and cultural experiences to which families and children can relate. You will get hands-on experience connecting each of the components of storytime to foster early literacy and school readiness skill development. This course is part of our Certificate in Early Childhood Literacy but can be taken as a stand-alone course as well.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Library Juice Academy\)](#)

### **Introduction of Library Services to Teens**

(Amigos Library Services), August 24, 2022

Instructor: Erin Gray

What's new for today's teens? And what's new in teen services? With a focus on best practices and proven methods for engagement, this session will help improve services and include ideas for using reading programs to connect with teens.

- [Details & course overview](#)
- [Course access request form \(Amigos\)](#)

### **Virtual Conference Kits for Idaho Library Staff**

Are you one of those folks who “just listens” to ICfL-sponsored chats, webinars, or online trainings, because you don't have a working webcam or microphone? Now is the time to become an active participant!

The ICfL is making virtual conferencing equipment available for library staff in Idaho. Through a simple application, eligible Idaho libraries can receive a webcam and/or headset at no cost. Publicly funded

public, school, academic, and special libraries are eligible. The virtual conference kits are for library staff to participate remotely in ICfL-sponsored continuing education activities, trainings, or other virtual learning and collaboration opportunities.

The virtual conference kits are available on a first-come, first-served basis to applicants who can show a need for them. The brief application may be accessed [here](#). If approved, the virtual conference kit will be mailed to the applicant library.

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## DIVERSITY IN ACTION

### New! Indigenous Idaho Course for Library Staff

Come learn alongside your library peers about Idaho's federally recognized tribal nations – past, present, and future perspectives will be explored – and how public and school libraries can partner with, better serve, and celebrate indigenous people and culture. This course is three weeks in length and will utilize a blend of independent learning/reading via ICfL's Niche Academy, paired with three online, live meetings for discussions and presentations. Interested library staff should register when the event goes live in September. Participants should do their best to be available for all three real-time meetings: Oct. 12, Oct. 19, and Oct. 26. **Look for more details and registration information in the September 1 issue of *The Scoop*.** Questions? Please contact [Kristina Taylor](#).

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## STEAM

### Summer STEM Wrap Up

August 31 marks the last day to implement Summer STEM programming. [Final reports for this grant are due on September 15](#). Please remember to submit all of your receipts along with your report.



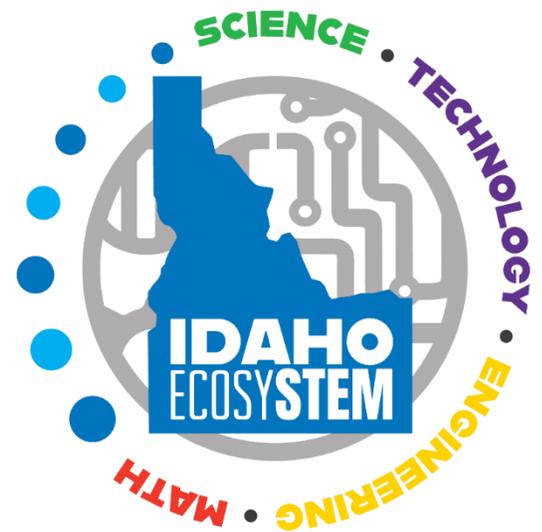
### Texas STEM Education Toolkit

The Texas Education Agency has compiled tools for the development of STEM programming aligned to the high-quality indicators identified by that state. Even though the STEM tools are designed to support the planning and implementation of a PK-12 STEM program aligned to the Texas STEM framework, Idaho library staff can access the toolkit for useful resources for their own STEM programming. [Texas STEM Framework](#).

[Learn More](#)

## Join the Idaho STEM EcosySTEM

Are you interested in participating in a statewide working group to improve STEM in Idaho? There are a few new groups in Idaho's STEM Ecosystem framework that may be of interest to Idaho library workers. The Idaho STEM Ecosystem (EcosySTEM) includes a group of engaged partners from PreK-12 and higher education, out-of-school education, industry, nonprofits, state and local government agencies, and the legislature. It is a network of collaborators committed to leveraging shared resources that effectively raise awareness of STEM opportunities and connect all Idahoans to STEM pathways in their community. Here are some new ways to get involved:



### Early STEM in Idaho Working Group

The Early STEM group has met a few times to talk about the scope of this group and what goals they can achieve within the next year, including hosting a few Early STEM expos, a professional development conference focused on Early STEM, and hosting a regular book study. If you would like to join us, we will be meeting once a month. Reach out to [Trisha Mick](#) for an invite. Bonus – there are already some Idaho library folks involved in this group!

### Young STEM Professionals Action Group

Overall, this action group aims to be a networking opportunity for those under 40 in the EcosySTEM. We will learn more about the challenges and opportunities we face and find new ways to collaborate and build our expertise. If you are interested in participating (especially if you are interested in a co-leadership position) in this group, please contact [Crispin Gravatt](#).

### STEM and the Outdoors

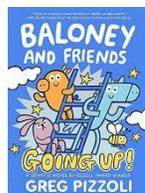
The Outdoor STEM Action Group is currently in an exploratory phase and is building out a needs assessment with the goal of using its results to build objectives and vision moving into the school year. Contact [Dan Schillo](#) for more information or to join the group.

## BOOK LOOK

### 2022 ALSC Graphic Novels Lists

Available in ages ranges Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade; 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade; and 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

[More Info](#)



## Upcoming Releases from Some Favorite Authors

Starred Reviews\* (B=Booklist; H=Horn; K=Kirkus; PW=Publisher's Weekly; SLJ=School Library Journal)

### Picture Books/Early Readers

*The Animal Toolkit*, by Steve Jenkins. August 30. In this fascinating book by award-winning pair Steve Jenkins and Robin Page, we learn all about what makes a tool a tool and the remarkable ways animals can use them to find food, protect their young, and more. (\*K)

*Creepy Crayon*, by Aaron Reynolds. August 23. When Jasper Rabbit finds a purple crayon willing to do his schoolwork for him, he is elated -- at first. (\*K)

*Farmhouse*, by Sophie Blackall. September 13. A farmhouse provides the setting for a dozen children to live and grow, and when they leave, another family arrives to fill the house with love again. (\*B, \*K, \*PW, \*SLJ)

*Gold*, by David Shannon. September 6. A riotous retelling of the Midas myth.

*Grumpy Monkey: Who Threw That?* by Suzanne Lang. September 27. A new graphic novel based on the Grumpy Monkey picture books.

*Hey, Bruce!* by Ryan T. Higgins. September 20. Bruce's life is what YOU, the reader, make it in this special interactive addition to the Mother Bruce series.

*I Am Ruby Bridges*, by Ruby Bridges. September 6. In a beautiful and poetic reflection, Ruby Bridges tells her story as never before and shares the events of the momentous day in 1960 when Ruby became the first child to integrate the school system as a 6-year-old girl.

*A Library*, by Nikki Giovanni. September 27. This ode to libraries is a celebration for everyone who loves stories, from seasoned readers to those just learning to love words, and it will have kids and parents alike imagining where their library can take them.

*Oh, Sal*, by Kevin Henkes. September 27. This short, humorous, and accessible novel for newly independent readers focuses on Billy Miller's younger sister, Sal, and what unfolds during an eventful holiday season at the Miller house. (\*K)

*Patchwork*, by Matt de la Peña. August 30. In profound, uplifting verse and sumptuous artwork, beloved creators Matt de la Peña and Corinna Luyken explore the endless possibilities each child contains. (\*K)



## Middle Grade

*The Door of No Return*, by Kwame Alexander. September 27. A novel in verse about an Asante boy who is captured and taken from his village during the 19th century. (\*K)

*Merci Suarez Plays it Cool*, by Meg Medina. September 13. In this finale to her trilogy, Meg Medina follows Merci Suárez into an eighth-grade year full of changes -- evolving friendships, new responsibilities, and heartbreaking loss.

*Odder*, by Katherine Applegate. September 20. Inspired by the true story of a Monterey Bay Aquarium program that pairs orphaned otter pups with surrogate mothers, this poignant and humorous tale told in free verse examines bravery and healing through the eyes of one of nature's most beloved and charming animals. (\*B)



## Young Adult



*Demon in the Wood* (Graphic Novel), by Leigh Bardugo. September 27. Discover the start of a grand and sinister destiny in this graphic novel prequel to the *Shadow and Bone* series.

*The Parasite* (Michael Vey #8), by Richard Paul Evans. September 27. Join Michael and the Electroclan as a new threat arises even more terrible and calculating than the Elgen in this eighth installment of the series.

*The Weight of Blood*, by Tiffany Jackson. September 6. Jackson's nod to Stephen King's *Carrie* incorporates racially charged social justice themes into a narrative featuring her signature twisty suspense. (\*K, \*B, \*PW, \*SLJ)

*Nothing More to Tell*, by Karen McManus. August 30. From the author of *One of Us Is Lying* comes a new page-turning mystery. Be sure to keep your friends close . . . and your secrets closer. (\*K, \*PW)

**Talk Back:** We welcome your feedback on anything in *The Scoop*. Just email [Staci](#), [Kristina](#), [Jeannie](#) or [Jennifer](#) and we'll print your comments in *The Scoop*.

### Subscribe and Unsubscribe Information:

Visit Idaho Commission for Libraries and enter your email address to subscribe. If you would like to unsubscribe, simply click on the unsubscribe link in the bottom of the email.

### Contact Information

*The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact [Staci](#), [Kristina](#), [Jeannie](#), or [Jennifer](#) at 208-334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.



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