

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Summer Adventure Begins at Your Library**

**BOISE, Idaho** – Public libraries throughout Idaho kick off their summer reading/learning programs this month. Many will incorporate the 2024 theme of "adventure begins at your library" into their activities.

Summer reading programs are designed to help children maintain or improve the reading skills they developed during the school year, so that when school resumes in the fall, they are ready to continue moving forward.

Last year, 82,422 Idaho youth participated in summer reading/learning programs at libraries throughout the Gem State.

"Reading is fundamental for developing literacy skills. If children read for just 20 minutes a day, they are building a strong lifelong reading habit," said ICfL Youth Services Consultant Jennifer Redford.

In addition to adventures found between the pages of a book, library staff make the most of out-of-school time by providing special programs and classes for children and teens so they can continue learning and exploring during the summer.

Also available from many libraries are kits, board games, puzzles, DVDs, and libraries of "things," such as cake pans, musical instruments, and sports equipment.

Summer is a great time to partake in a reading challenge, learn a new skill, or make friends, and the library is the place to do all that – and much more.

To find your library, visit <a href="https://libraries.idaho.gov">https://libraries.idaho.gov</a> and click on "find a library in Idaho."

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The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) builds the capacity of the more than 850 public, school, academic, and special libraries in Idaho to best serve their communities through: statewide programming and resources; consulting; continuing education; partnerships; and aid to underserved populations. For more information, visit: <a href="https://libraries.idaho.gov">https://libraries.idaho.gov</a>.