

The YAC

*A Newsletter for Iowa Library Staff Who Work with Youth and Children
Brought to You by Iowa Library Services*

May 2012

Upcoming Events:

May 7-13 -- Children's Book Week (see <http://www.bookweekonline.com/>)

Occasions for Special Displays/Short Programs in May

- 1 - May Day (in Hawaii it is Lei Day)
- 6 - Leo Lionni Birthday
- 9 - Sir James M. Barrie Birthday
- 12 - "Limericking Day" to celebrate the birthday of Edward Lear
- 15 - Tornado Awareness Day to celebrate the birthday of Frank Baum
- 17 - Gary Paulsen Birthday
- 18 - Lillian Hoban Birthday
- 20 - Anniversary of Lindbergh's transatlantic flight
- 22 - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle & Arnold Lobel Birthdays
- 23 - Margaret Wise Brown & Scott O'Dell Birthdays
- 24 - Mo Willem's Birthday
- 25 - Babe Ruth hit his last home run (#714) on this day in 1935



Occasions for Special Displays/Short Programs in June

- 4 - Full Strawberry Moon (you may want to mark the summer's full moons in conjunction with the Summer Library Program theme - other full moons occur on July 3 and August 2)
- 6 - Cynthia Rylant & Peter Spier Birthdays
- 10 - Maurice Sendak Birthday
- 12 - Baseball invented by Abner Doubleday in Cooperstown, NY, 1839
- 15 - Brian Jacques Birthday



- 15 - Celluloid (originally created as a substitute for ivory and used to make billiard balls) patented in 1869 - can you find old celluloid or Bakelite items to display next to more modern plastics?
- 25 - Eric Carle Birthday
- 26 -- Charlotte Zolotow Birthday
- 27 - Hellen Keller Birthday

Sarah Day - Youth Services Director

Sarah Day, Youth Services Director at the Dr. Grace O. Doan Alden Public Library, has just been hired to share her talents at the Robert W. Barlow Public Library in Iowa Falls as well. She has also been invited to be a presenter for the 2014 Summer Library Program workshops. We thought that Iowa youth services staff would want to "get to know" Sarah, so we asked her to share her story:



My name is Sarah Day and I come to library service in a very roundabout way.

I learned to read when I was four. I remember being sent to the library in kindergarten during reading time and sitting on the top platform of a jungle gym with piles of books. The librarian must have liked me; she always brought me more! Over the years, my love of reading grew and grew. My mother had to force me to go and play outside, and usually I would just take my book with me and read in the fresh air.

However, I never thought of making my love of books a career. Instead, I studied art and theater in high school and college, spending my days "coloring" and "playing pretend." My intention was to become a photographer, but I took just as many painting and drawing classes as I did in photography. Graduation's importance dwindled when I met a boy, and instead of finishing school, I moved to Minneapolis to live with him. (Don't worry, it turned out OK. We were married in 2005!) Life went on and I worked a myriad of jobs, doing everything from retail in a baby store, to fitness technician at a Curves. We moved back to Iowa so my husband could work for his dad, and we settled in a small town named Alden.

In 2007, I saw an ad in the paper looking for a Children's Librarian at the Alden Public Library. I inquired about the job description, and while I had never worked in a library a day in my life, the culmination of my life experiences made me more than well suited for the position. As a lifelong library user, I was familiar with the Dewey Decimal System and alphabetizing material. My background in art and theater lent themselves well to crafts and programming. Working at a baby store meant that I was up-to-date on the latest research about early childhood development. And my personal preferred genre of reading -- juvenile and young adult fiction -- made helping younger patrons a snap! I was also quite technically minded, so learning the circulation system and aiding patrons on the computers came naturally to me. Needless to say, I got the job!

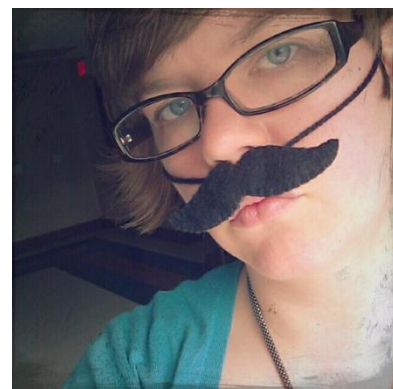
The past 4.5 years have been some of the best of my life. I love working at the library. I love having 40+ "babies" to look after. I love watching the kids grow and learn. I love that my job is so often full of play. I love walking through the school, or the grocery store, and feeling like a rock star! I love buying books. I love going to conferences and meetings. And I love reading. In fact, I love working at the library so much, that in January of this year, I began working at the Iowa Falls Public Library as well!

So now, I have twice the programming, and 5 times the kiddos to love! And I'm not even worried about two summer reading programs. I have so many neat presenters lined up for Iowa Falls, and tons of fantastic crafts, stories, snacks, and movies planned for Alden. One of the crafts to I'm most looking forward is the Monster Face Pouch idea that I came up with for the Night Shivers chapter. I always try to include at least one sewing project a summer -- as I feel sewing is a dying art and important to pass on -- and this is this year's. We'll be using recycled denim and felt, and the kids will hand-stitch themselves a really fun pouch. The opening will be the mouth! We're also making dream catchers, playing various "sleep over" games in our jammies, decorating big paper owl templates, and more!

I don't know how many of you use Pinterest, but it's a fabulous resource for programming ideas! You can find me here: http://pinterest.com/small_fox/library-ideas/

I also have a blog, and I have lots of posts about library activities. If you are interested, please check it out here: <http://smallfox.typepad.com>

I'm always available to answer questions, so just email me if you need anything! paperfoxling@yahoo.com



~Thanks to Trisha Hicks at the North Central District Office for getting this "interview" for the YAC.



Ready for Independence Day

A few of the best crafts we found:

- DLTK has several wreath ideas that you can adapt to suit your needs & materials at <http://www.dltk-kids.com/usa/crafts-wreath.htm>.
- "Glitterworks" - fireworks craft using only white glue and glitter on dark paper. See <http://familyfun.go.com/4th-of-july/4th-of-july-crafts/glitterworks-1015164/>.
- "Cascade of Stars" mobile:
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/stars/cascadeofstars/>.
- Dangle-leg patriot star pin --
<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/memorial-day/kids-crafts/dangle-leg-patriotic-pin.html> -- you can purchase the foam stars already cut at some hobby stores along with self-stick eyes to make this craft easy to do.
- Coffee filter flowers shown at
http://www.thecraftycrow.net/2010/07/4th_of_july_kids_crafts.html. (click on the link for instructions).

STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics:

STEM is an interdisciplinary approach to learning about science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The goal is to help students to be more "literate" in these fields.

Please take a look at the Iowa STEM website at <http://www.iowastem.gov/> and promote the events and activities taking place in your area. Look for ideas that you can use in your library programs as well. Building with LEGOs and blocks; using tangrams to make pictures; growing plants; reading nonfiction books about insects and animals; photography displays; and taking nature walks are all easy ways to do this. This summer, your SLP participants might plant marigolds for a "Day of the Dead" party; use tangrams to design quilt blocks for the bedtime theme (District Offices have die cut tangrams in 2 sizes); construct a "dream machine" of legos or cardboard boxes; learn to identify constellations; or put together a bulletin board display about the effects of light pollution.

Iowa Library Services has created printable bookmarks to promote the STEM website at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/t-z/tell-library-story/Props/Bookmarks/bookmarks-STEM>.

Mother Goose Programs at <http://www.mothergooseprograms.org/> offers some free articles about including math and science and related activity sheets for younger audiences. Remember that counting rhymes, puzzles and non-fiction picture books are good starting points for building math skills and interest in science.

Odds & Ends

▪Future Summer Library Program Themes

2013 Summer Reading Slogans (General theme of Underground):

Children's: Dig Into Reading

Teen: Beneath the Surface

Adult: Groundbreaking Reads

2014 Summer Reading Slogans (General theme of Science):

Early Literacy and Children: Fizz, Boom, Read!

Teens: Spark a Reaction

Adults: Literary Elements

2015 General Theme: Heroes

If you have not yet registered for your free account on the CSLP website, please do so- you can access members' only material with a log-in and password. The website is at <http://www.csllpreads.org/>.

~Thanks to Merri M. Monks for sharing this information!

▪For Further Reading:

•"Day Trips for Book Lovers" by Mary Seehafer Sears --

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/14974/>. (Good summer ideas for parents!)

•"Summer Reading: English Language Learners at the Library" by Kristina Robinson --

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/15895/>.

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