

The YAC

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



October 2013

Upcoming Events:

October 12 - International Observe the Moon Night (<http://observethemoonnight.org/>)

October 13-19 - Teen Read Week (<http://teenreadweek.ning.com/>)

October 16-18 - ILA Annual Conference in Coralville

October 24 - "Reaching Out! The Importance of Library Outreach Programs to Children" webinar at 11:00 a.m.*

October 29 through November 7 - Summer Library Program workshops*

November is Picture Book Month (<http://picturebookmonth.com/>)

November 16 - International Games Day (<http://ngd.ala.org/>)

*See the Continuing Education Catalog at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/> for registration information.

Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes to Plan for in December:

- 1 - Scrabble copyrighted in 1948 & Birthday of Jan Brett
- 5 - Birthday of Walt Disney
- 6 - Thomas Edison recorded "Mary Had a Little Lamb" on his first phonograph in 1877
- 10 - Birthday of Melvil Dewey
- 15 - National Cupcake Day & Bill of Rights Day
- 25 - Christmas; Sherlock Holmes first appeared as a character in 1887
- 26 - Kwanzaa
- 31 - Monopoly patented in 1935

Crafternoon Tea

Need a program theme for early-out days or in-service days? Try a "Crafternoon Tea Party."

- Provide a few simple craft projects.
- For snacks, make some edible tea cups from ice cream cones as shown at: <http://once-upon-a-pedestal.blogspot.com/2011/09/teacups-from-ice-cream-cones.html>.
- To appeal to both genders, add an Alice in Wonderland theme with some Mad Hatter hats, "Eat Me" and "Drink Me" signs, and oversized pocket watches set for "tea time." [You will find printable mini-size Queen of Hearts crowns and Mad Hatter hats at <http://www.donteatthepaste.com/2010/05/more-alice-in-wonderland-printables.html>.] Use an old deck of cards to make the Queen of Hearts' guards: <https://family.go.com/crafts/craft-621733-sweet-suitors-t/>. (The crown, hats and guards could be used as the crafts as well! Heart shapes are available from your District Office to save on cutting.)



Cheap, all-purpose, low-prep craft ideas:

- Easy origami: For example, simple hearts made from old magazines or weeded books. (See <http://www.origamiway.com/origami-heart.shtml> for one example.)
- Collages: I think that the key to a good collage is a variety of materials. So, include felt scraps, old envelopes to create pockets, and so on. Include any paper punches or rubber stamps that you have on hand, too. Pick a theme ("My Favorite Things," "Just Imagine," "Someday I want to . . .," or "Down the Rabbit Hole") and suggest that the kids write that phrase over the top of their collage with a bold marker when finished.
- Stamp designs using pencil erasers: If you have an assortment of ink pads and some pencils with new erasers, you can use the erasers to stamp out designs. (Fingerprints work, too!) Add detail with pens or fine markers.

Better Storytimes

You may have noticed that libraries are incorporating more toys and play activities in storytime programs today. Current research indicates that play helps reinforce early literacy skills, in part because using multiple senses in play activities creates more brain synapses. Sadly, in many cases, the amount of time children spend in free play is decreasing. So, after you read through a story without interruptions (for the flow and enjoyment), go back and re-tell or act out the story with the children using flannel board pieces (that the children can touch), finger puppets, movement, toy cars, blocks, and so on. And don't forget to include some sensory-rich elements (textures, smells, sounds) in your next storyhour. Obvious choices are bubbles, play dough and



sensory bins (filled with rice or beans, etc.). If you can't have a mess, try shredded paper to crumple, cotton balls, ribbons tied to rings (old bangle bracelets) for waving, silky scarves, rattles or large sponge foam letters.



Happy Holidays!

It is time to start gathering ideas for the holidays. You might consider featuring family-centered "Greener Holidays" displays or programs! Your displays might suggest such things as furoshiki gift wrap (<http://www.ohcrafts.net/gifts-furoshiki-gift-wrapping.php>), natural decorations (such as live plants), activities that can replace gifts ("no-waste" or "experiential" gifts like concert or movie tickets) and recycling reminders. Look for more ideas (including handouts, activities and a book list) on the "Reclaim Your Holidays" website at: <http://www.uni.edu/ceee/hometown/reclaim-your-holidays/reclaimyourholidays>.

Some display themes you might use: "Spread Joy, Not Trash," "Tis the Season to be Green," or "Happy Green Holidays." You might surround your display with green-covered books, or have teens help make a tree from books like the ones at: <http://www.brit.co/creative-christmas-trees/>. (Notice the Velcro-and-felt tree for the younger set, too!)

Remember to keep the ideas positive and simple!

Coming Soon -- New Crafts Page



We are developing a new page on the Iowa Library Services website devoted to crafts or displays based on the die cut shapes available from the District Offices. I am asking libraries to submit photos or descriptions of craft projects, bulletin boards or displays that incorporate die cut shapes. The more unusual or creative, the better! Please send your contributions to

sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us and watch for a new link from the Die Cut page at <http://www.statelibraryofia.org/ld/c-d/diecuts>.

Meanwhile, here are a few examples:

- Minion visors (shown above) are made from our die cut magnifying glasses & circles.
- If you have a sewing machine, you can quickly stitch together die cut





shapes to hang from the ceiling or drape as bunnings. The example shown uses our fall leaves, but simple circles, flowers and other shapes could be used, too.

- Our holiday elf is made from a large smiley face shape and a triangle hat.

Quick-Last-Minute **Teen Read Week** Resources

°Print and distribute YALSA's **Teen Read Week brochure for parents**. See:

<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/professionaltools/Handouts/ParentFlyer.pdf>

°This might be a good time to begin promoting the next **Letters About Literature** competition (entries due January 10, 2014). For more information about this contest, visit the web site at <http://www.iowacenterforthebook.org/letters>.

°**Pinterest** - ideas just for TRW:

<http://www.pinterest.com/search/boards/?q=teen%20read%20week%202013>

°Promote the **Iowa Teen Award and Iowa High School Award** selections:

<https://sites.google.com/site/iowabookawards/>. Mini-posters are available there.

°Feature the **YALSA Book Award** winners in a display:

<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklistsawards/bookawards>

°Do you believe in extraterrestrial life? Paint some **other-worldly rocks** as you discuss favorite science fiction titles with teens. See some examples at <http://www.repinny.com/pin-1772.html>. You might want to use a bit of glow-in-the-dark paint. Teens might contribute old metallic nail polish for the project.

°Doodle On the Moon: MR PRINTABLES.COM at <http://www.mrprintables.com/doodle-on-the-moon.html> suggests this activity for children, but teens might have fun with it as well. Doodle space ships, alien life forms, etc. Relate the activity to a discussion of literature about futuristic lunar colonies, space travel, etc. Just print the moon from the website as a background.



Upcoming Webinars



"Creating a Makerspace Culture"

Presented by Booklist on October 8th at 1:00 p.m. See <http://ala-publishing.informz.net/InformzDataService/OnlineVersion/Individual?mailingInstanceId=3501096&subscriberId=1035979931>.



"Reaching Out! The Importance of Library Outreach Programs to Children"

Ever wonder how your library can reach even more families? Join Zach Stier, Youth Services Librarian at the Ericson Public Library in Boone to learn about the many opportunities libraries have to extend services in the community through outreach programs. This one-hour webinar will be held on Thursday, October 24 at 11:00 a.m.

This class will teach you how to define outreach, how to plant the outreach seed, and how to continue to grow outreach services.

You can register through the Iowa Library Services Continuing Education catalog: <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/>. The course number is YS-LOROct2013.

Odds & Ends

°In case you hadn't noticed . . .

- Harper Collins offers many book-based printable activities at <http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/Kids/GamesAndContests/Printables.aspx> (for those days when you just don't have time to create your own).
- "Fly Away With Books" printable mini-poster from Harper Collins: <http://harpercollinschildrens.com/feature/social%20downloads/flyawaywithbooks.pdf>

°World Book Night will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2014. Applications to participate in this fun book give-away will be available on October 23rd. For more information about World Book Night, check the website: <http://www.us.worldbooknight.org/>. You may wish to sign up for the newsletter so that you don't miss future announcements.

Next month we will focus our attention on the winter holidays!

