

The YAC

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



January 2016

Upcoming Events:

January 18 - **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** (Iowa Library Services offices closed)

January 21 - **ILOC** (Innovative Libraries Online Conference) - January 21*

January 28 - **Teen Tech Week Webinar** from Iowa Library Services (10:00 to 11:00 am)*

February 9 - "**Chocolate and the Art of Programming**" webinar (9:30 to 11:00 am)*

February 17 - **Digital Learning Day**

<http://www.digitallearningday.org/>

March 6-12 - **Teen Tech Week**

<http://teentechweek.ning.com/>

April is **D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Month**

<http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/>

April 10-16 - **National Library Week**

<http://www.ala.org/nlw>

April 23-30 - **Money Smart Week**

<http://www.ala.org/offices/money-smart-week>)

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

Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes in March:

- Women's History Month & Irish American Heritage Month
- 2 - Birthday of Dr. Seuss (1896)
- 5 - Birthday of Mem Fox
- 6 - Birthday of Chris Raschka
- 11 - Birthday of Peter Sis
- 20 - Birthday of Lois Lowry

Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes in April:

- National Poetry Month
- 2 - International Children's Book Day
<http://www.ibby.org/1494.0.html>
- 6 - Birthday of Graeme Base
- 12 - Birthday of Beverly Cleary and Gary Soto

Planning Ahead for National Library Week

Since 1958 libraries across the US have celebrated National Library Week during the second full week of April. This year NLW is April 10th- 16th and the theme is "Libraries Transform."

Here are a few ideas for observing NLW with younger patrons:

*Library Olympics: Hold a triathlon of events including locating books by call numbers drawn from a jar (you might make a large paper cone and print the call numbers on orange and yellow strips to resemble a torch); putting a stack of books in proper shelf order; and emptying the book drop -- activities that library staff do every day.

*Post your own Teen Choice Award winners: Have teens submit their current favorite book titles and create a display. You might supply a form for submissions or have the

teens draw their own versions of favorite book covers as entries. You might also have children and teens pose for photos with recommended books and post these on a display.

*Have a Teen Open House: Invite teens to come for refreshments and to apply for a library card (if needed). Display newest YA materials and flyers for any upcoming youth events. Play a few simple games like BINGO.

*The graphics for this year's theme feature caterpillars and butterflies. You can order die cut caterpillars and butterflies for decorating or crafts. Use the online form at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/diecuts>. Each Iowa library is provided with up to 500 die cut shapes per year at no cost.



*Have children help you decorate your book drop or shelf ends with the butterfly theme.

Money Smart Week for Kids

Money Smart Week was created by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in 2002, as a public awareness campaign to help consumers better manage their personal finances. Hundreds of organizations across the country work together on this event which takes place April 23 - 30, 2016. Check the website at <http://www.moneysmartweek.org/> for more information and get your younger patrons involved in Money Smart Week with some of the activities below.

\$ Renegade Buggies -- Dollar General provides a free game app called Renegade Buggies with a financial literacy base: <http://renegadebuggies.familieslearning.org/>

\$ Money as You Grow -- The President's Advisory Council on Financial Capability provides a great website (chosen by ALA as one of the best websites for kids): <http://moneyasyougrow.org/>

\$ The Mint - This website from Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company features sections for kids, parents and teachers: <http://www.themint.org/>

\$ Read Aloud Suggestions for Storytime: *One Cent, Two Cents, Old Cent, New Cent* by Bonnie Worth; *The Pickle Patch Bathtub* by Frances Kennedy; *A Chair for My Mother* by Vera B. Williams; *Follow the Money* by Steve Boggan; *Sam and the Lucky Money* by Karen Chinn; *Bunny Money* by Rosemary Wells.

\$ Play Monopoly!

\$ Make some simple dollar bill origami. (For printable play money, see <http://www.had2know.com/education/free-printable-us-play-money.html>).

\$ Money Smart Week Iowa is sponsoring a Kite Fest (think Ben Franklin!) - a library program for kids and parents that can be broken into two parts. First, you make kites using the kit provided (along with a little discussion on saving money/Ben Franklin/resourcefulness.) Second, you gather outdoors to fly the kites. Everything you need is in the kite kit - you only provide tape, scissors and a hole punch. TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KITE FEST, COMPLETE THIS SURVEY BY FEBRUARY 2:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XZ8N5XQ>

\$ Hold a "Piggy Bank Pageant." Decorate small boxes or other recycled containers as piggy banks. Search Pinterest for "piggy bank pageant" or "piggy bank craft" to see examples.

Earth Day Resources



The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970. This is a perfect time to promote libraries as a "green" resource for the way that libraries allow communities to share books and other materials, provide "paperless" electronic resources, repurpose or recycle weeded materials, and so on. Every year I try to pick a few practical ideas for crafts and programs, so here are just a few of the many ideas you can find online for celebrating Earth Day @ your library.

🌍 Teachers Going Green is the educational outreach program of Keep Iowa Beautiful. TGG offers educational resources for teachers, librarians, and others who work with youth. The website includes hands-on lesson plans with ties to children's literature as well as a focus on environmental education, service learning, and community building. Explore the website for ideas to adapt for your library: <http://www.teachers-going-green.com/>

🌍 Earth Day Games for Kids: <http://mylifeandkids.com/22-awesome-earth-day-games-for-kids/>

🌍 The Art of Being Green: Gather used materials to create "found art" projects. Of course, the simplest projects would involve paper and cardboard from weeded books, junk mail, cereal boxes, etc. These should be free-style and creative, but you might want to pick a theme like "Save Our Planet" to have a starting point. See <http://amodernfable.blogspot.com/2012/06/cardboard-love.html> and <http://tinkerlab.com/recycled-art-sculpture-mystery-box-challenge/> for inspiration.

🌍 Make book bags from old t-shirts following directions posted at <http://findinghomefarms.com/10-minute-ideas-t-shirt-flea-market-bag/> or <http://simplyshellie.com/no-sew-grocery-bag-tutorial>.

🌍 Make fairy houses out of milk jugs:
<http://recycledawblog.blogspot.com/2013/04/recycled-soda-bottle-fairy-houses.html>
(Make them as simple or complex as you wish, but adult help would be required for cutting the plastic.)

🌍 Make easy paper "globes:" Cut 6" x $\frac{3}{4}$ " strips from weeded books or junk mail (most magazine pages are too thin). Choose primarily earth colors (blue, green, brown). Punch holes at each end and use a brad to secure ends. I added a 1" circle to each end.



Early Learning Language and Literacy Series Launched

The Preschool Development Grant Technical Assistance Program has created a free series about language and literacy development designed for those who work with young children, birth to five. Each module includes PowerPoint slides, handouts, activities, and readings. Several of these modules are especially useful for library storytime planning. See: <https://pdg.grads360.org/#program/early-learning-language-and-literacy-series>

What's Goin' On?

• During winter months, Sioux Center Public Library offers "Pop Up Play Days" for 0-5 year olds accompanied by a caregiver. Patrons are invited to drop in and play with toys and games. See http://siouxcenterlibrary.org/library_program/pop-up-play-day/ for more info.

•West Des Moines Public Library offers “**All Day Drop-in Craft**” days when a special craft project is available in the Children’s Department all day long.

•Council Bluffs Public Library is having a **beach party** in the library on January 9th. Activities will include making sand castles!

•Application window for **STEM Scale Up Awards** will be January 25 to March 1. Watch for more information on the website: <http://www.iowastem.gov/Scale-Up>

•ALSC offers free webinar series on **Managing Children’s Services**:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/edcareers/profdevelopment/alscweb/webinars>

•Order the lettering on the right to create a bulletin board or display for **Teen Tech Week**. Letters are available in 3” or 5” sizes. Contact sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us or 866-642-7922.



•“**Speed Dating**” with Books: This idea for a fun February program for teens comes from the blog “Beth Reads” at <http://www.bethreads.com/book-speed-dating/>. As a way to interest teens in various genres, select one book per participant - some science fiction, some mystery, some romance, some nonfiction, etc. Allow about 5 minutes for participants to read the jacket and first pages of one book before moving on to the next. Provide paper and pencils for jotting down preferred titles. [The blog “Book Light” offers a rating sheet for book speed dating at <http://thebooklight.edublogs.org/2015/10/27/book-speed-dating/>.] You might want to have a few read-alikes set aside in case several teens want to check out the same book at the end of the program.

•Photos of the 2016 **Summer Library Program crafts** made by Margaret Barr have now been posted on Pinterest. The citations include page numbers from the CSLP manuals. See: www.pinterest.com/merrimonks/2016-collaborative-summer-library-program-crafts/

Please share your great programming ideas, news items, display photos and suggestions for topics for this newsletter! The YAC will be better if many contribute! Just send your comments and suggestions to sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us.