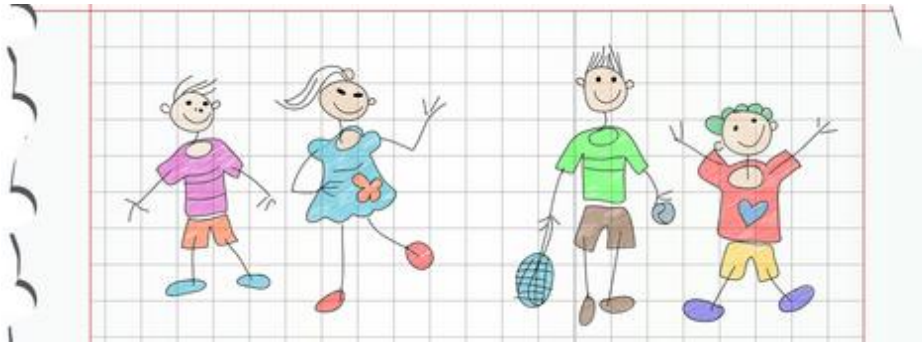


The YAC

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



September 2013

Upcoming Events:

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month

(<http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/card>)

September 19 -- "Seek the Unknown @ Your Library: Books, Programs and Resources for Teen Read Week" (webinar)*

September 20-22 - Story! Festival in Story City (Iowa Library Services' own Merri Monks will take part in the "Story Stops" portion of the event. See:

<http://www.storycityedc.com/storyfestival/>)

September 22-28 - Banned Books Week

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek>)

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

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 November:

- 1 - Day of the Dead
- 10 - Birthday of Neil Gaiman*
- 12 - Birthday of Kevin Henkes*

- 13 - Birthday of Robert Louis Stevenson (do something with a pirate theme!)*
- 16 - International Games Day
- 17-23 - Geography Awareness Week (See: http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/collections/geographyawarenessweek/?ar_a=1)
- 18 - First Mickey Mouse movie ("Steamboat Willie") was shown in 1928
- 25 - Birthday of Marc Brown and P. D. Eastman*
- 26 - Birthday of Charles M. Schulz*
- 27 - Hanukkah begins
- 29 - Birthday of Madeleine L'Engle, C. S. Lewis and Louisa May Alcott*
- 30 - Birthday of Mark Twain*

*For **birthdays**, you might set up a small display featuring the author's works and a simple "Happy Birthday" sign with confetti, etc.

2014 Summer Library Program Planning Begins!

Now that the worm races are over and the shovels are stored away, get ready for science @ your library with the 2014 Summer Library Program themes: "Fizz! Boom! Read!," "Spark a Reaction," and "Literary Elements."

Registration is now open in the Iowa Library Services Continuing Education catalog (<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/>) for the fall 2014 Summer Library Program Workshops. The event number in the catalog is SLP-OctNov2013, and the event title is "2014 Summer Library Program Workshops."



Workshop presenters this year are Sarah Day, Youth Services Librarian at the Alden Public Library (North Central District) and Anna Hartman, Teen Librarian at the Council Bluffs Public Library (Southwest District).

To add to the fun, attendees during the first week who are dressed in Halloween costumes will be entered in a drawing for a special prize! Attendees at the workshops in the second week who are wearing something with a Thanksgiving theme (jewelry or a special hat, for example) will be entered in a drawing for a special prize!

Iowa Library Services expects to receive the manuals by late September and will be mailing them out as soon as they arrive.

2013 Summer Library Program Notes:

"My new venture this summer was to offer a family reading program along with the 'normal' recording of reading minutes for the kids. Families loved it! Anyone in the family could participate; I just had to know how many to figure the average per family. The winning family of 4 read almost 200 hours in 2 months and earned a season pass to Center Grove Orchard. My goal was to encourage the adults to model the reading they were telling kids to do, and several commented on how much they enjoyed the 'excuse' to have to read alongside the kids!"

~Cathy Van Maanen, Huxley Public Library

Better Storytimes

Tips for getting along with small children in any situation from the Ooey-Gooney Lady (a.k.a. Lisa Murphy):

- Make sure that your program or activity is really child-centered. (Crafts are for the kids, not the parents!)
- Control the environment instead of the children. (Remove distractions, etc.).
- Children need time for exploration - allow for that time. (Sometimes it is more important to let the children dictate the activity than it is to complete your planned program.)
- Stop watering the weeds. That is, tell them what you want them to do instead of what you *don't* want them to do.
- Keep it real. If you are talking about apples, use real apples.

These tips come from a webinar entitled "What it REALLY Means to Offer Child-Centered Early Childhood Programs." Many of the ideas presented were for daycare settings, but the principles apply to storytimes as well. Find out more about Lisa and her ideas at: <http://www.ooeygoeey.com/>. Check out the Resources section for her list of favorite books for children and adults, articles, and crafts/activities you might use for summer programs.

Banned Books Week - "Last Minute" Ideas:

The most-challenged titles of 2012 include several titles for young people. The Captain Underpants series, *Looking for Alaska* (Printz award winner), *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, *Thirteen Reasons Why* and the Scary Stories series were among the 10. Many were considered inappropriate for the target age group. Some include language that some find offensive.

Banned Books Week (September 22-28) is a great time to do a quick **book display or bulletin board** showing books from your collection that have been challenged - many will be popular titles that circulate well! (Several are on the current *New York Times* best sellers list for young adults.) For a list of books to choose from, see: <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks>.

You might stage a simple **Read-Out** program. Just ask patrons or staff to take turns reading aloud from one or more challenged books.

Ask teens to help you place brightly colored **bookmarks** with the word "BANNED" at the top in books that are on the challenged list.

Ask teens to design mini-posters (as shown) with the theme "Can you guess which of these are Banned Books?" (Hopefully, they will be able to find 5 or 6 that they have read!)

Can you guess which of these are Banned Books?

- The Great Gatsby
- The Kite Runner
- The Chocolate War
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
- Julie of the Wolves
- Animal Farm
- The Color Purple

Answer: All of them.



Make a SPLASH @ your library!

The Who, What, Why, When and How of Our Sibley Public Library After School Hour (SPLASH)
By Rachel Loutsch, Youth Services Librarian, Sibley Public Library

WHY? In order to advocate for additional programming or funds, it is useful to make a list of reasons why you find an after school program important. We have always had many kids participate in our summer reading program, and hoped to continue seeing those kids throughout the school year as well.

- To increase the number of kids in the library
- To provide programs to an underserved group
- To grow a loyal teen population

WHO? Decide which age levels you would like to target. We started with two different programs, one for Kindergarten through 3rd grade and another for 4th through 6th grade. I soon regretted having Kindergarten attend at the same time as the 3rd grade due to the large range of skills and maturity. Because of the large numbers in attendance the next year I added a third group, breaking Kindergarten and 1st grade into their own program.

WHEN? We all know we can't please everyone's schedule, but when I started trying to find a time for an after school program I found it most helpful to ask parents when they were least busy. Fewer sporting events were scheduled on Thursdays, so that became my after school program day. In order to keep a regular schedule, I choose a week each month for each age group.

Every first Thursday of the month: Kindergarten-1st Grade

Every second Thursday of the month: 2nd-3rd Grade

Every third Thursday of the month: 4th-6th Grade

HOW? Promotion and smooth execution are key to making your program successful. Think about extra help you might need. I collaborated with the school which I contribute most of the program's success to. We set up a system to have kids bused to the library after school on their program day. Line up volunteers to help with programs if you need an extra hand. Let everyone know about your program. Name it something memorable and fun for the kids to repeat because they will be the biggest promoters after a while.

WHAT? Now the fun part, planning what to do with the kids! I like to do the same thing with the kids each week, only tweaking bits here and there for the different skill levels. That way, I only have one extra program to really plan each month. We start with a little socializing/ice breaker by

reading joke books, tongue twisters and random fun facts. Then we read a picture book which I base our day's activity off of. I try to include appropriate YouTube videos or fun websites when I can too.

Here's a look at my first few programs last year to give you some ideas of what SPLASH is all about.

°SEPTEMBER: A PUZZLER!

I don't know anyone who doesn't love the challenge of a good puzzle every now and then, and there are so many different kinds to choose from! I featured the book, *Black and White* by David Macaulay, a book with four simultaneous stories somewhat related. I let the kids choose which order we read them in, and told them to look for similarities between them. Then we took a look at a few different rebus puzzles, close up images that they had to guess what the object was, and doodles.

°OCTOBER: Bewitching!

Making ZOMBIE SNOT for Halloween was a mess, but a blast at the same time. I set up a witch's lair with different potion bottles and wrote out a potion to recreate zombie snot (slime to the less imaginative). I bought a \$13 gallon jug of Elmer's glue (DO NOT USE SCHOOL GLUE), a box of borax, cups and popsicle sticks for mixing, and for \$20, sixty kids had a glob of snot to take home and I still had half a bottle of glue left!

RECIPE:

1 pinch of ground, 100% Pure Bat Wing (1/4 tsp. borax)

2 heaps of Hot Growl Elixir (1/4 cup of HOT water)

In another cauldron prepare:

1 Glob of Mummy ooze (1/8 c. of glue)

Equal amount of Cat Drool (2 T. of water)

3 drops of zombie personality (food coloring)

Combine the two mixtures, stir, stir, stir, pull out glob forming on the popsicle stick, knead in hands to dry out excess water. **This is the part that caused problems, kids who didn't want to touch the slime did not have their snot form right.*

Luckily, I had a slew of plastic baby food containers for each kid to carry their snot home and stored in an air tight container, the slime stays nice for at least a month!

For this program I read David Catrow's *Monster Mash*, and then we practiced some magic spell chanting with different rhythms and hand claps.



°NOVEMBER: Puppetry

Balloons Over Broadway by Melissa Sweet was my inspiration for November's program. It's about the MACY's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and Tony Sarg, the inventor of the balloon puppets. We took a look at some You Tube clips that showed how some puppeteers manipulate larger puppets. We also talked about some of the more popular balloon puppets over the years. Then kids decorated helium balloons and we had a mini parade around the library showing off their creations. (The 4th-6th grade group did not decorate balloons, instead we tried creating a larger puppet together to manipulate.)

Odds & Ends

•TP Roll Minions: <http://mollymoo.ie/toilet-roll-craft-make-a-minion/>

•"Eyes in the Bushes" for Halloween: <http://www.thriftycraftygirl.com/2011/10/31-days-of-halloween-eyes-in-bushes.html> [Cut eye shapes in tubeys and add a glow stick!]

•Tubey Mummies: <http://everydayisanoccasion.com/mummy-halloween-crafts-tutorial-free/>



•The printable "Candle Wrappers" at <http://www.mrprintables.com/printable-halloween-decorations-candle.html> make great borders for bulletin boards, etc.

•**Reclaim Your Holidays!** Would you like to try something different this holiday season? Gather some new ideas from this webinar series from UNI's Center for Energy and Environmental Education:

RECLAIM YOUR HOLIDAYS / GREEN CELEBRATIONS

Part I -- Tuesday, Sep. 10; 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Part II -- Tuesday, Sep. 17; 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Part III -- Tuesday, Sep. 24; 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Inspire your patrons to make their celebrations more joyful and environmentally friendly! Through this free webinar series, you will:

- learn about ready-to-use education tools, designed for you and free of charge,
- gain a deeper understanding of the ecological impacts of consumption,
- find out about current research on life satisfaction as it relates to "stuff," and
- discover ways to use the materials to reach new audiences.

Go to the website at <http://www.uni.edu/ceee/resources/newsevents> to register.

•"How to Manage Millennials and Keep Them Engaged" - a webinar from the American Management Association:

September 11 (11-12 pm)

In this webcast you'll hear about the differences between Millennial, Gen X and Boomer employees; ways to effectively reach and work with them; and practical methods from case studies of companies that are managing them successfully.

For more information and to register for this program, visit:

<http://www.amanet.org/training/webcasts/How-to-Manage-Millennials-and-Keep-Them-Engaged.aspx>

