

The YAC

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



January 2014

Upcoming Events:

January 9 -- ISLOC (Iowa Small Libraries Online Conference)*

January 21 - "Teen Tech Week: DIY @ your library" webinar*

March 9-15 - Teen Tech Week (<http://teentechweek.ning.com/>)

February 7-23 - Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia (<http://www.sochi2014.com/en/>)

March 16 - Freedom of Information Day

April 2 - International Children's Book Day (<http://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=269>)

April 5-12 - Money Smart Week (<http://www.moneysmartweek.org/>)

April 12 - D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Day
(<http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/NationalDEARday.html>)

April 13-19 - National Library Week
(<http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek>)

April 30 - El día de los niños/día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day)
(<http://www.patmora.com/whats-dia/>)

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

Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes for March:

- March is "Let's Go Fly a Kite" Month & Women's History Month
- March 2 - Birthday of Dr. Seuss
- March 3 - "The Star Spangled Banner" became the national anthem in 1931
- March 4 - Mardi Gras
- March 10 - Harriet Tubman Day
- March 11 - Birthday of Ezra Jack Keats
- March 14 - Pi Day (3/14)
- March 16 - Full "Worm Moon"
- March 20 - Birthday of Lois Lowry
- March 22 - Birthday of Randolph Caldecott

Better Storytimes

It is a good idea to pair fiction and non-fiction titles in your storytime programs. Non-fiction books will introduce new and unique vocabulary words to children. Less common words are important to a child preparing to read because it is much easier for a beginning reader to sound-out a word that they have heard several times before. Ordinary conversation is made up of about 5,000 basic words. Even fiction books for children contain many words beyond those 5,000 -- three times as many as conversation or TV. Non-fiction books are even better vocabulary-builders!



Some examples:

✳️For Groundhog Day on February 2nd, read *The Substitute Groundhog* by Pat Miller or *Go to Sleep Groundhog* by Judy Cox along with *Groundhog Day* by Gail Gibbons. Gail Gibbons is known for her informative, kid-friendly non-fiction books.

✳️For preschool storytime, pair *The Snowy Day*, written and illustrated by Ezra Jack Keats, and *Snow Is Falling*, written by Franklyn Branley. *The Snowy Day*, winner of the 1963 Caldecott Medal, is about a young boy who wakes up to discover that snow has fallen during the night. It is also available in Spanish. *Snow Is Falling* explores how snow actually

helps plants, animals, and people to survive harsh winter weather. Other fiction choices include *Snow* by Cynthia Rylant, *Snow* by Uri Shulevitz, and *White Snow, Bright Snow* by Alvin Tresselt.

*Gail Gibbons' book *Farming* describes real farm activities. Read it along with your favorite farm-themed story for a group of 4- and 5-year-olds.

*The non-fiction book *Animals Don't Wear Pajamas*, by Eve B. Feldman shows how 16 different animals get ready for sleep. Read it along with a story like *Time to Sleep* by Denise Fleming, *When I'm Sleepy* by Jane Howard, or *Dr. Seuss' Sleep Book*.

Tips to Share with Parents:

Remind parents of the importance of simply talking to their child. When a child begins to speak, parents can build vocabulary by adding descriptive words and using complete sentences. For example, when a child points and says "car," the parent might respond with, "Yes, that is Grandma's very big, shiny, red car." For older children, adults might add more specific terms: "Grandma drives a large, mini-van."

Parents who are fluent in a language other than English should speak to their child in that language because they will use a broader vocabulary.

Teen Video Challenge:

Iowa will be participating again this year in the CSLP Teen Video Challenge. The 2014 Entry Form, Model Release Form and Resources for Video Creation are on the Iowa Library Services website at: <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/t-z/youthservices/teen-video-challenge-2014>



Information is also on the CSLP website, at:

<http://cslpreads.org/programs/young-adult-program/teen-video-challenge.html>

The creator(s) of the winning video will receive \$275.00, and the winner's public library will receive \$125 in cash and prizes.

The winning video will be selected by members of our two Youth Services Advisory Councils and several Iowa Library Services staff members.

The deadline for submission of the videos is March 7, 2014. Late entries will not be considered. Teens are asked to put their videos on either YouTube or Vimeo, and the winner will be asked to submit his or her video on a DVD.

Celebrating Teen Tech Week - March 9-15



This year's theme - DIY @ your library - encourages teens to use their skills and resources - both "high tech" and "low tech" -- to explore and create. Programs might include knitting lessons or a technology petting zoo.

A Few Ideas:

- * Invite teens to use tweets, audio mashups or "selfies" to tell original **short stories**.
- * Ask teens to do some "**reverse mentoring**" - showing adults how to use Twitter, Facebook, or their favorite apps.
- * Make a **mini 3-D Projector** with a Smart Phone:
<http://makeitatyourlibrary.org/technology/make-mini-3d-projector-smart-phone#.UrC9d7TZiMC>
- * Make a **Claymation Movie** using Windows Movie Maker:
http://www.ehow.com/how_2051098_create-claymation-movie.html
- * Get creative with **duct tape!** For example: Flower Rings shown at <http://www.duckbrand.com/index.php/duck-tape-club/ducktivities/flowers-and-roses/flower-rings> or Duct Tape Beads shown at <http://craftysoccermom.blogspot.com/2011/11/duct-tape-beads.html>
- * Request the **lettering shown above** from your District Office to create a display or bulletin board. Add your own do-it-yourself symbols!

Resources:

- * "Teens and Technology 2013" from the PEW Internet and American Life Project:
<http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2013/Teens-and-Tech.aspx>
- * "A Librarian's Guide to Makerspaces: 16 Resources": <http://oedb.org/ilibrarian/a-librarians-guide-to-makerspaces/>
- * "Make It @ your library" website: <http://makeitatyourlibrary.org/>

Odds & Ends

✳️ Mark your calendars for a free webinar with Dr. Allison Kaplan from the University of Madison-Wisconsin: **Get up and move! Why movement is part of early literacy skills development** on Wednesday, April 9.



The ALSC early literacy initiative, "Every Child Ready to Read," presents five practices: Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing, and Playing, as strategies for helping parents understand how to develop early literacy skills in their children.

We tend to feel pretty comfortable with incorporating Talking, Singing, Reading, and Writing into storytime programming; but, what about Playing? In this webinar, participants will learn about the important role moving, playing instruments, and pretending have in helping children ages 0-4 develop early literacy skills and how to incorporate those into storytime programming.

Sign up here: <http://www.slis.wisc.edu/2014webinars.htm>.

✳️ The Warm Hot Chocolate website has some fun crafts and decorating ideas. Check it out at: <http://warmhotchocolate.com/>.

✳️ Celebrate **Library Lover's Month** in February:

- Make your own Candy Conversation Hearts for a display (request the die cut hearts from your District Office).
- Have a valentine-making party using weeded book pages and other recycled materials.
- Recognize teen volunteers and volunteers who work with youth.



✳️ "When a Story is More than Paper: Transmedia and Young Adult Literature" - a webinar from Infopeople on January 7 (2-3 pm):

Transmedia is a more than just a hot buzzword in the publishing world. It's also a way of reaching technologically-savvy users and reluctant readers. In this webinar you'll learn more about the phenomenon, how publishers create transmedia, how users access it, what the barriers to access are, what's happening in libraries currently, and how you can use transmedia to connect with users, particularly teens.



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

<http://infopeople.org/training/view/webinar>

✳️ "Passive Programming for Tweens and Teens" -- a webinar from the Nebraska Library Commission on January 22 (10-11 am):

Engage young patrons who hang out at your library with programs that run themselves. Rachelle McPhillips, from Columbus Public Library, shares several ideas libraries can adapt to year-round

programming. These passive programs are great for libraries that have a thriving young adult program as well as those that are looking to reach out to tweens and teens but have limited time and money.

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

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventlist.asp?Mode=ALL>