

# The YAC

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



March 2016



## Upcoming Events:

March 1 - Youth Services Roundtable in Council Bluffs\*

March 2 - Read Across America Day

<http://www.nea.org/grants/886.htm> &

<http://www.seussville.com/Educators/educatorReadAcrossAmerica.php>

March 3 - Youth Services Roundtable in Lake City\*

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

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

March 8 - Youth Services Roundtable in Iowa City\*

March 10 - Youth Services Roundtable in Charles City\*

March 29 - Youth Services Roundtable in Ames\*

March 31 - Youth Services Roundtable in Elkader\*

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>)

May 2-8 - **Screen Free Week**

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

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

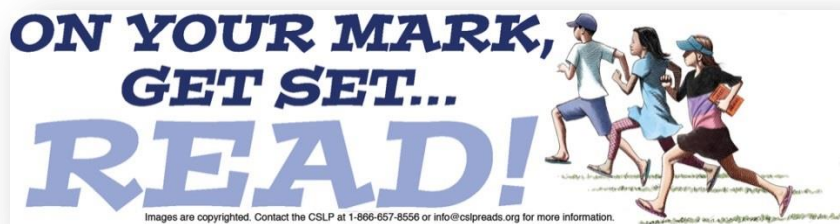
### Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes in May:

- 1-7 - Choose Privacy Week  
<https://chooseprivacyweek.org/>
- 5 - Birthday of Leo Leoni
- 8-14 - Be Kind to Animals Week  
<https://www.nhes.org/event/national-be-kind-to-animals-week/>
- 12 - Limerick Day
- 20 - Birthday of Mary Pope Osborne
- 23—Birthday of Margaret Wise Brown

### Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes in June:

- 5 - Birthday of Rick Riordan
- 6 - Birthday of Peter Spier & Cynthia Rylant
- 14 - Flag Day
- 18 - Birthday of Chris Van Allsburg
- 25 - Birthday of Eric Carle





## Summer Library Program Reminders

In case you've forgotten, the URL for the website created by Fall SLP program presenters Erin Silva and Molly Garrett is <http://onyourmarkgetsetread2016.weebly.com/>

There is also a Pinterest page:

<https://www.pinterest.com/esehorn/2016-srp-on-your-mark-get-set-read/>

If you were not able to attend the recent Upstart webinars on the CSLP manuals, they are archived here: <http://shopcslp.com/cslp/pages/webinars>

These are all great resources to go along with the CSLP manuals!

## Library Nature Spaces - An Idea You Can Adapt

The Middle Country Public Library on Long Island features an outdoor educational center called the Nature Explorium. This extension of the library space includes a water feature, annual and perennial plants, seating, and space for educational programs. The Middle Country library partnered with other organizations (Rotary Club, USDA, Extension Service, local parks department, etc.) and applied for grant funding to establish the Explorium. The operation there is rather elaborate (with an estimated maintenance cost of \$100,000 per year), but the Explorium offers many ideas for outdoor programming in Iowa libraries.



Consider the space outside of your library. Could you add seating, plant a sensory garden (with soft lamb's ear, sweet-smelling lavender and herbs, tall swishy grasses, etc.)? An outdoor space is a great setting for doing nature rubbings, creating ephemeral art works (assemblages of leaves, sticks, etc. that are designed not to last), building rock sculptures, digging in sand, and so on.

A recent Webjunction webinar explains the Explorium in greater detail (you will need to create a free WebJunction account if you do not have one):

<http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/explore-and-discover-nature-based-spaces-and-activities.html>

Growing Nature Literacy in Libraries Resource Book (online pdf):

<http://www.natureexplorium.org/pdfs/Growing%20Nature%20Literacy%20in%20Libraries%20Resource%20Book.pdf>

## On toddlers and screens

With recent changes in the ways that electronic devices are being used, the American Academy of Pediatrics has relaxed its opinion that screens should not be used before age two. So, instead of just saying "no screens," librarians are challenged to set examples for good use of electronic devices with toddlers.

First, screen use should be interactive. Research shows that very young children learn best through two-way communication. When guiding parents/caregivers in the use of electronic devices and apps, encourage them to view along with the child and discuss the content.

In addition, emphasize that content is important - "educational" and "age-appropriate" are key qualities. And, above all, screen activities should not a substitute for reading together and old-fashioned play time.

Read More About It:

Screen Sense from ZERO TO THREE -- [http://www.zerotothree.org/parenting-resources/screen-sense/screen-sense\\_wp\\_final3.pdf](http://www.zerotothree.org/parenting-resources/screen-sense/screen-sense_wp_final3.pdf) (article) and <http://www.zerotothree.org/parenting-resources/screen-sense/5-myths-infographic.pdf> (infographic that could be printed out and posted).

Article From School Library Journal -- <http://www.slj.com/2015/11/standards/early-learning/moderate-screen-time-ok-for-tots-aap-now-says/>



## iCelebremos! Día Turns 20!

Celebrate El día de los niños/el día de los libros on April 30! The website at <http://dia.ala.org/> offers free downloadable materials and a press kit.

Simple ideas that can be added to regular story hour or after-school programs:

- **Parade of Books** - Pick dual language books or those with Hispanic themes and authors (examples would be *Book Fiesta!* By Pat Mora, *Growing Up with Tamales* by Gwendolyn Zepeda, *Mediopollito/Half-Chicken* by Alma Flor Ada, *Mice and Beans* by Pam Muñoz Ryan, *Me encantan los Saturdays y los domingos* by Alma Flor Ada, and *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez* by Kathleen Krull) for children to carry on a parade through the library. Before the parade, you might make paper streamers or small flags to carry as well.
- **Display** - Create a display featuring titles like those above.
- **Decorate** - Liven-up your storytime area with various brightly-colored sun shapes. Die cut shapes are available from your District Office, or find clip art to enlarge.
- **Crafts** - Find some simple suggestions from "Maya & Miguel" at [https://www.scholastic.com/mayaandmiguel/DDLN\\_EventInfo\\_Engl\\_09.pdf](https://www.scholastic.com/mayaandmiguel/DDLN_EventInfo_Engl_09.pdf).



Or try making some paper mola designs -- see

<http://www.deepspacesparkle.com/2011/07/19/paper-cut-molas/> [Note: To simplify this project, you might start with one of the die cut shapes available from Iowa Library Services such as the lizard, turtle or fish. The list of die cut shapes and ordering information is posted at <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/ld/c-d/diecuts/>.] Easy plastic egg maracas would be a great way to combine a craft with musical activities - see <http://www.danamadeit.com/2012/04/tutorial-easter-egg-maracas-for-cinco-de-mayo.html#comment-92400>.

## What's Goin' On?



The University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Library and Information Studies is sponsoring its first Alumni Webinar Series!

Two sessions are of particular interest to youth services librarians:

- Tuesday, March 8 at 12:00 p.m.: ***Supporting Makerspace Literacies in the Library***  
Tara Radniecki ('08), Engineering Librarian, DeLaMare Science & Engineering Library at the University of Nevada, Reno

- Tuesday, March 22 at 12:00 p.m.: *'Tween Programming*  
Amanda Struckmeyer ('05), Youth Services Librarian, Middleton (WI) Public Library

Anyone can register and all webinars are FREE. Speakers are SLIS alums. You can register for individual webinars or the entire series (more sessions are listed on the registration page).

Sign up at <http://goo.gl/forms/MsA1pjDj3Q>  
Full descriptions are found at <http://go.wisc.edu/acod4m>



School Library Journal recently launched **two new free newsletters**. Be Tween is for those who serve middle-grade children and TechKnowledge offers practical advice about technology, robotics, coding and so on. Sign up using the links below!

Be Tween:

<http://mediasource.actonservice.com/acton/form/10574/003d:d-0001/0/-/-/-/-/index.htm>

TechKnowledge:

<http://mediasource.actonservice.com/acton/form/10574/003e:d-0001/0/-/-/-/-/index.htm>



The Three Little Pigs Need a New Home:

Check out the fun article "Fairy Tales Programming is Alive and Well" at

<http://www.slj.com/2016/02/programs/fairy-tale-programming-is-alive-and-well/> for some ideas for **simple STEM programming based on fairy tales**. Your group might make a dress for Cinderella from recycled materials or help Rapunzel with a pulley system.



"Babies Need Words Every Day:"

These **free mini-posters** from ALSC are not brand new, but in case you missed them they are great as hand-outs or for decorating your children's area:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/babiesneedwords>

(Note: These will print on regular size paper as well as the larger sizes indicated.)



And, speaking of posters, NASA offers some cool free downloadable ones for decorating your non-fiction area: <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/visions-of-the-future/>



ALA's Public Programs Office recently announced a new grant opportunity:

The **Great Stories Club** is a book club program for at-risk teens, created with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. ALA has added a new theme to the Great Stories Club: "The Art of Change: Creation, Growth and Transformation." This theme features three books whose protagonists use the arts to overcome personal challenges.

Chosen participants will receive copies of the books, travel expenses to attend training in Orlando during the ALA Annual Conference in June, continued training through webinars, supporting materials and continued programming support from ALA. Applications are due April 15<sup>th</sup>.

You can find more information about the grant on the Programming Librarian website: <http://programminglibrarian.org/articles/apply-now-great-stories-club-art-change> or at <https://apply.ala.org/greatstories>.



March 15 is **National Agriculture Day**. This seems like a quick and easy display theme for your children's area. The Ag Day website is <http://www.agday.org/>. (Enjoy the Fun Facts under "For Educators/Students!" Perhaps you might print some of them to post.)

## April Fools Foods - Just for Fun!

Tiny bacon & eggs (made with white chocolate, pretzel sticks and yellow M&Ms):  
<http://nancyvnjourney.blogspot.com/2011/07/family-faves-bacon-eggs.html>

Candy Sushi:  
<http://www.notmartha.org/tomake/hostesssushi/>

Several Silly Cupcakes:  
<http://ourbestbites.com/2013/03/silly-cupcakes-for-april-fools/>

Hamburger Cupcakes:  
<http://www.glorioustreats.com/2010/06/hamburger-cupcakes-with-cookie-fries.html>

Undrinkable Juice:  
<http://www.ivillage.ca/food/recipes/undrinkable-juice>

Donut Seeds:  
<http://www.printables4mom.com/2015/03/24/april-fools-doughnut-seeds-printable/>

