

# The YAC

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



July 2016

## Upcoming Events:

- September is Library Card Sign-Up Month  
<http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/card>
- Hispanic Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15  
<http://hispanicheritagemoth.gov/>
- Performers Showcase "Show and Tell" in Davenport - September 21\*
- Performers Showcase "Show and Tell" in Waverly - September 22\*
- Performers Showcase "Show and Tell" in Jefferson - September 23\*
- Banned Books Week - September 25-October 1  
<http://www.ala.org/bbooks/bannedbooksweek> & <http://www.bannedbooksweek.org/>
- Teen Read Week - October 9-15  
<http://teenreadweek.ning.com/>
- [Summer Library Program workshops are being scheduled in each District during the month of **November**. Please watch for more information!]

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

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

- September is National Honey Month & Hispanic Heritage Month
- 8 - Birthday of Jack Prelutsky
- 13 - 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Roald Dahl
- 19 - "Talk Like a Pirate Day"
- 25 - Birthday of Shel Silverstein & Banned Books Week begins

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

- 2 - First *Peanuts* cartoon published in 1950
- 9-15 - Fire Prevention Week & Teen Read Week
- 12 - "Bring Your Teddy Bear to Work & School Day" (Why not the library, too?)
- 16 - National Dictionary Day (How many dictionaries can you find for a display?)
- 19 - Birthday of Ed Emberly
- 21 - Birthday of Ursula LeGuin
- 22 - "Make a Difference Day"
- 28 - Statue of Liberty dedicated in 1886

## Library Card Sign-Up Month



Snoopy returns as the Honorary Chair for Library Card Sign-Up Month 2016! Follow the link in the calendar above to download a printable mini-poster, images for your website and more.

The State Library District Offices are also repeating our "Cooler Than Being Cool" bulletin board offer - see

<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/diecuts/bulletin-board> to order yours!

## Banned Books Week

Banned Books Week 2016 (September 25-October 1) will focus on diversity.

Diverse books (1) include major characters who are non-white, disabled or LGBT or (2) deal with race, religion, disability, LGBT issues or (3) take place in non-Western settings. Follow the links in the calendar above to learn more about how you might celebrate/promote this event.



The list of last year's most frequently challenged books and other interesting information is posted on the ALA website at <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks>.

## “What Do You Do When Presenters Don't Show?”

This was a common topic of discussion between participants at recent Director Roundtables (even though the actual theme was “*Adult Programming*”). Having a presenter fail to appear, a serious technology failure, or a presentation that is much shorter than planned can create a real panic. Although you would naturally explain the situation and apologize to your audience, it helps to have an emergency plan in place. Some suggestions gathered from various articles and blogs are offered below. Several sources emphasized how important it is for the library staff hosting the event to keep the mood upbeat - it is the key to having a better overall experience in spite of the failed presentation.

- Always have something in your “back pocket!” Usually this would be a few action songs or a story to tell. To engage the children in songs, one veteran librarian uses a sign with “Stop” on one side and “Go” on the other. Singing and hand motions start and stop as the sign is turned. The sign keeps their attention focused and adds an extra bit of fun.
- Can you move up an activity that was planned for another occasion? If the activity you planned for next week can be substituted for today's program, it will allow you time to make a new plan.
- A simple activity such as an instant scavenger hunt can save the day if your audience isn't too large. Use ideas like these to make up a library scavenger hunt list that you can keep handy for a group of older children or young adults:
  - Find a book by an author with your initials.
  - Find a book written the year you were born.
  - Find an item with your favorite color in the title.
  - Find a book that is part of a series.
  - Find a book that is also a movie.
  - Find a book about the state/country where you were born.

Set simple rules. Some libraries may need to limit the area of the library for the hunt. Do you want participants to gather actual materials - or just write down the answers? Tell them that it is OK to answer the questions using any of the library's resources. For example, you might invite participants to use your automation system to help them search for items that they can then locate on library shelves.

- Depending on the size of your crowd, you might be able to set up a simple competitive game between small groups. Stacking plastic drink cups to see which individual or group can make the tallest pyramid; wadding up scratch paper to toss in buckets or trash cans for an instant competition; a sitting beach ball toss (how long can they keep it going without hitting the floor?); etc.

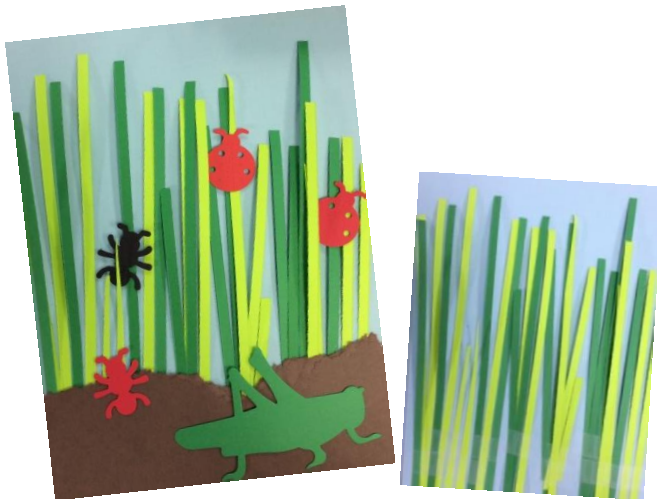
▪ Again, if the size of your crowd permits, you might pull out a simple craft project. Of course, you could plan an emergency craft ahead of time, but by having a few non-messy materials always on hand, you can respond quickly with simple activities. Pass out pipe cleaners and suggest a theme to inspire creativity (crazy animals, monster faces, robots - whatever fits best with the overall program theme); yarn-bomb a tree, bench, chairs or posts in your library (ask patrons to donate leftover yarn to save for such projects); make newspaper hats (example: <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Pirate-Hat>); demonstrate a few very simple origami folds using weeded book or magazine pages (examples: <http://origami-amazing.blogspot.com/2011/10/origami-dogface.html> and <http://origami-amazing.blogspot.com/2011/10/catface.html>); etc.

\*\*Please share any of *your* ideas by emailing [sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us) - I will share in the next issue of *The YAC*.

## Summer Craft Ideas

Even though most libraries are in the throes of summer reading programs, here are a few new craft projects for use any time. These crafts have been adapted to use die cut shapes available from your District Office to save on cutting. These and other craft and display ideas are posted on the State Library of Iowa website at <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/ld/c-d/diecuts/diecrafts>. Order by emailing [sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us).

Bugs in the Garden:



- Cut grass by feeding green paper through a shredder.
- Tape the bottoms of the "grass" to a sheet of paper (picture 2).
- Trim if necessary and cover the tape ends with brown paper.
- Add an assortment of our die cut insects. We have small ants, beetles, and lady bugs. Plus larger grasshopper, butterflies, ant, beetle, firefly, bee, caterpillar, cocoon, and dragonfly.

### Campground:



- To make the tent, just cut a slit in one side of a colored triangle and fold back the "tent flaps."
- Add trees, clouds and sun.
- Have children draw people, campfires, etc.
- Die cut shapes: trees, clouds, triangle, circle for sun.

### Cute Crab:

This smiley crab is made from 1 large circle and 4 smaller ones folded in half.

Die cut shapes: small circles, large circle, eyes.



### Expanding Turtle:



Cut a turtle shape in half. Fan-fold a strip of paper cut to the width of the turtle and tape or glue on each end. Have fun looking for interesting magazine pages for your expanding middle strips. This idea also works with our alligator, pig, lamb, and caterpillar - any shape with a solid middle section.



## Fun Fish:

This craft has been done in many ways. Here is a version that uses die cut circles (6 inch body and 1 inch scales). All you need is glue sticks!



## Election Year for Kids

The upcoming elections will be a big topic this fall at schools across the country. Libraries may want to add to that theme by purchasing and displaying additional materials about elections and the presidency. Below are just a few suggestions for your collection:

- *So You Want to Be President* by Judith St. George
- *Landslide! A Kid's Guide to the U.S. Elections* by Dan Gutman
- *Riding Freedom* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- *Duck for President* by Doreen Cronin
- *My Teacher for President* by Kay Winters
- *Max for President* by Jarrett J. Krosocaka
- *Vote* by Eileen Christelow
- *If I Ran for President* by Catherine Stier
- *I Grew Up To Be President* by Laurie Calkhoven



Make up some "Future Voter" buttons to distribute around Election Day. If you would like a printable pdf of 3" buttons (6 per page), just email [sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us) and I will send it to you.

## Summer Library Program Manuals for 2017

The notice below is taken from a message from Merri Monks at the State Library:

This year's Summer Library Program manuals, provided to Iowa's 544 public libraries through funding from our federal government's Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, will be provided with no charge to libraries on a USB flash drive. The flash drives will be mailed to Iowa's public libraries in late September or early October. Libraries may print a copy from the flash drive.

We are sorry that our funding for FY2017 is such that we cannot provide print copies of the manuals to our public libraries.

The entire manual and artwork are on the USB flash drive and will be easily accessible, and they will be delivered via mail in a timely fashion prior to the workshops (which will all be in November this year - dates to be announced soon).

## Odds & Ends

### Funding & CE Opportunity for Rural, Small & Tribal Library Staff

Now through August 1st, small rural and tribal library staff can apply to be a part of a cohort of learners and do-ers who will create college and career readiness (CCR) services for the middle schoolers in their community. Successful applicants will receive a wide variety of support, including access to mentors, a stipend to purchase CCR materials, and funds to travel to Atlanta, GA, Jan. 19 - 20, 2017 for orientation, as well as to another conference of their choice. Cohort members will work online throughout 2017 to develop, implement and evaluate a CCR service with a partner in their community. Learn more and apply at <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/application-and-faq>



### Random Fun Stuff:

- **Edible play dough** (made with frosting and powdered sugar): <http://temeculablogs.com/edible-playdough/>
- **Art on a postcard** - a good, simple craft idea for YA. This Alabama library is using the idea for a fundraiser: <http://www.northshelbylibrary.org/postcard-art-fundraiser.html>
- **25 Mini-Adventures in the Library:** <http://www.pps.org/blog/25-mini-adventures-in-the-library/>

