

The YAC

A Newsletter for Iowa Library Staff Who Work with Youth and Children



September 2016



Upcoming Events:

- September is Library Card Sign-Up Month
<http://www.ala.org/conferenceevents/celebrationweeks/card>
- Hispanic Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15
<http://hispanicheritagemonth.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 Workshop at Council Bluffs - November 2*
- Summer Library Program Workshop at Cherokee - November 3*
- Summer Library Program Workshop at Mason City - November 9*
- Summer Library Program Workshop at Fayette - November 10*
- Summer Library Program Workshop at Coralville - November 16*
- Summer Library Program Workshop at Johnston - November 17*
- International Games Day - November 19
(<http://igd.ala.org/>)

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

Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes in November:

- November is "Picture Book Month" (<http://picturebookmonth.com/>)
- November is National Family Literacy Month (beginning with National Family Literacy Day on November 1 - see <http://familieslearning.org/our-solutions/national-family-literacy-month-2015.html>)
- 8 - Election Day
- 12 - Birthday of Kevin Henkes
- 15 - America Recycles Day (<http://americarecyclesday.org/>)
- 18 - "Calvin and Hobbes" first published in 1985
- 18 - "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" arrives in theaters
- 25 - Birthday of P. D. Eastman
- 29 - Birthday of Madeleine L'Engle

Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes in December:

- 1 - Birthday of Jan Brett
- 24 - Hanukkah begins
- 26 - Kwanzaa begins
- 30 - Birthday of Rudyard Kipling

Banned Books Week

Banned Books Week 2016 (September 25-October 1) celebrates 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 these links to learn more about how you

might celebrate/promote this event: <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/bannedbooksweek> & <http://www.bannedbooksweek.org/>

In addition, the Office of Intellectual Freedom at the American Library Association is offering a free recorded webinar full of ideas for programs, displays, and activities to celebrate the freedom to read and to inform library patrons about banned books: <http://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?p=7054>

The list of last year's most frequently challenged books is posted on the ALA website at <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks>. ALA also provides free downloadable graphics for websites and social media at <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/bannedbooksweek/ideasandresources/freedownloads>.

LibraryTalk

The State Library is pleased to announce an exciting new way for the Iowa library community to communicate. LibraryTalk is a forum for libraries to exchange information, have lively discussions, sell or swap materials, and share the successes and challenges that come with working in the library field. There is a distinct section for children's and teens' librarians in LibraryTalk.

The goal is to move discussions from the ys_talk and teentalk email lists to the LibraryTalk forum. Ys_talk and teentalk currently use the obsolete Mailman 2 software, while LibraryTalk is built on the actively developed Discourse software, and is one of the only forum products available that allows full participation to happen via email. That's right: once you sign up, you can post and reply to topics without ever leaving your email inbox if you choose, just like ys_talk and teentalk.

We hope you'll venture to the LibraryTalk web forum though, to take advantage of the handy features that can be customized to each user's preferences. It is easy to search for topics, find posts related to a certain subject using tags, set email notification preferences, and more.

If you've visited other online forums, LibraryTalk will look familiar, but we know that it can be intimidating to transition to something new, so we've put together materials to help familiarize you with LibraryTalk. These include a welcome and introduction video, in-depth instructions on using LibraryTalk both online and through your email account, and one-on-one help from State Library LRTs, if needed.

LibraryTalk is live NOW! To get started, you must first sign up for an account at <https://lt.silo.lib.ia.us/>. Then, watch our welcome video, take a look around the web forum, check out the FAQ and Web and Email Help pages to get acquainted with LibraryTalk. Once signed up, you will automatically start receiving new LibraryTalk posts via email so you won't be left out of any discussions. As you begin new topics or reply in LibraryTalk, keep in mind that all information on the site is a public record subject to the open records laws in Iowa Code Chapter 22.

We want to give you plenty of time to get the hang of LibraryTalk, but know that ys_talk and teentalk won't last forever- the email lists will be deactivated on November 30th.

Please don't delay in jumping in to LibraryTalk, the more users who participate, the better! Look for more emails on LibraryTalk in the coming weeks, including tips and feature highlights. We are excited to finally share this project that has been in the works for months, and hope that you enjoy using LibraryTalk.

Here are some handy links to get you started:

- LibraryTalk Homepage (Be sure to bookmark!): <https://lt.silo.lib.ia.us/>
- Video-Welcome and Introduction to LibraryTalk: <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/videos/library-talk/library-talk-welcome>
- LibraryTalk FAQ: <https://lt.silo.lib.ia.us/faq>
- Tips for using the LibraryTalk website (must be logged in to access): <https://lt.silo.lib.ia.us/t/website-help>
- Tips for using LibraryTalk through email (must be logged in to access): <https://lt.silo.lib.ia.us/t/email-help>
- How to contact your district LRT for additional help: <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/contact-us/dist-offices>

Celebrating the Day of the Dead

The Day of the Dead is celebrated on November 1 and 2. Although there are similarities, the Day of the Dead is not the same as Halloween. The day honors loved ones who have died. Here are a few suggestions for celebrating at your library.

Books to look for:

- *Ghosts* by Raina Telgemeier; graphic novel; ages 8+ **NEW!**
- *The Day of the Dead = El Día de los Muertos* by Bob Barner
- *Barrilete : A Kite for the Day of the Dead* by Elisa Amado
- *Calavera abecedario : A Day of the Dead Alphabet Book* by Jeanette Winter

- *Festival of Bones* by Louis San Vincente
- *Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book* by Yuyi Morales
- *Clatter Bash! A Day of the Dead Celebration* by Richard Keep

Crafts/Activities:

- The most popular symbols for the Day of the Dead are **Calaveras** (skulls) made of sugar, paper, paper mache, etc. and decorated with colorful flowers, hearts and geometric designs.
Find some not-too-scary skulls to color at <https://www.jubly-umph.com/blogs/news/55019009-halloween-bunting-freebie-print-out-and-colour-in> -- good for hanging or as stick puppets. Or see <http://www.createcraftlove.com/day-dead-mask-printable/> for four free skulls to color and use as masks.
You might also paint some oval stones white and use permanent markers to decorate them as Calaveras.
- As the book *Barrilete* (above) explains, **kites** are a Day of the Dead tradition in Guatemala. You can see pictures of these giant circular kites on this tourism website: <http://www.brightfutureglobaltours.com/giant-kites.html>. Here is a fun and easy way to make a kite: <http://www.howcast.com/videos/146-How-to-Make-a-Simple-Paper-Kite/> -- children might decorate kites with Day of the Dead symbols.
- Older children can make "**Nichos**" - small shadow boxes using templates posted at <https://happythought.co.uk/craft/day-of-the-dead-nicho-craft-activity>.
- Make "**papel picado**" banners or flags using the templates at <https://happythought.co.uk/craft/tutorials/3-diy-papel-picado-templates>.

Better Storytimes - Why Finger Plays?

Finger plays are a fun addition to any story hour. They also serve a purpose in developing basic literacy skills. Here are some reasons to include finger plays:

- Research shows that activities using the small muscles of the hand actually stimulate brain development.
- Finger plays build spatial awareness: Making small shapes and patterns with the hands helps build the awareness of the position and



arrangement of shapes that will help children recognize letters and numbers later on. Plus, finger plays and action rhymes usually use directional language (over, under, up, down) - also building spatial awareness.

- Finger plays typically involve rhyming which helps children learn to distinguish sounds ("phonological awareness").
- Just like reading, finger plays build vocabulary by incorporating words that aren't used in everyday conversation.
- Remembering the sequence of lines in a finger play is good practice for learning that stories have a beginning, middle and end. Plus, many finger plays involve counting - another way to build the understanding of sequence.

A few suggestions . . .

- A cute way to do "Five Little Pumpkins" using pipe cleaners:
<http://www.schooltimesnippets.com/2015/10/simple-five-little-pumpkins-fingerplay.html>
- "Free Fall Songs and Rhymes for Circle Time" from Living Montessori Now:
<http://livingmontessorinow.com/free-fall-songs-and-rhymes-for-circle-time/>
- Perform the rhyme "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed," but substitute "five ugly monsters" around Halloween time or "five fat turkeys" for Thanksgiving.
- Five Spanish Finger Plays for Preschoolers: <http://www.spanishplayground.net/5-spanish-finger-plays-preschoolers/>
- Planning ahead . . . 12 Christmas Action Songs & Finger Plays:
<http://childhood101.com/2015/12/12-christmas-action-songs-finger-plays-for-preschool-kindergarten/>
- Finger plays for Fire Prevention Week (October 9-15):
<http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/page.php?id=684>

Notes for Parents & Caregivers - Reading Aloud

Part of library youth services involves communicating with parents and caregivers - sharing ideas that improve literacy and turn children into lifelong learners.

One important message is about the value of reading aloud to children - even when the children begin to read for themselves. A recent national



campaign suggests that a minimum of 15 minutes of read-aloud time per day will make a difference.

Reading aloud to children:

- Increases their reading accuracy
- Improves their comprehension
- Teaches pronunciation
- Improves test scores
- Reading + listening together increases recall by 40% over reading alone

In addition, reading aloud helps struggling readers by giving parents an opportunity to:

- Check that the child is differentiating between similar-sounding words (big vs. beg)
- Check for listening accuracy by discussing what was read
- Provide frequent, brief positive experiences related to reading
- Build vocabulary - books contain many more different words than most parents/caregivers would normally use in conversation

Resources:

- Printable flyers/handouts from Reading is Fundamental:
<https://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/200303/ReadingAloud.pdf>
- Tri-fold brochure by Jim Trelease (author of *The Read-Aloud Handbook*):
<http://www.trelease-on-reading.com/read-aloud-brochure.pdf>
- Lots of downloadable flyers, mini-posters, web badges and bookmarks from the "Read Aloud 15 Minutes" campaign: <http://www.readaloud.org/downloads.html>
- Articles and tips related to reading aloud from Reading Rockets:
<http://www.readingrockets.org/reading-topics/reading-aloud>

Teen Read Week Bulletin Board



There is still time to order this bulletin board set with the TRW theme on the State Library website at

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

Odds & Ends



For those in the Western part of the State, Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha will be featuring a display of the original art of children's book illustrator David Shannon from October 1 through December 31. It is truly amazing to see these works in their original form - before they became a part of well-known picture books. Admission is free. See the website at <https://www.joslyn.org/> for more information.



Paper Plate Birds: <http://www.handmadecharlotte.com/paper-plate-birds/>. This site shows a few of the endless possibilities! Find more paper plate crafts on Pinterest, too.



In preparation for Teen Read Week in October, voting for the [2016 Teens' Top Ten](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten) (<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten>) began on August 15! Don't forget to encourage your teen patrons to vote for their favorite titles! Check out a video featuring the nominees (that you are welcome to embed on your library website) at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqakh34MNc8> . Feel free to also embed it on your library website!



"Distracted Generation" Infographic from Chronicle Books to embed on your website: <http://www.chroniclebooks.com/distracted-generation>

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