



April 9, 2025

Blank Park Zoo Passes For Summer Reading



Passes Now Available for Request

Looking for free Blank Park Zoo passes to give out as prizes to your summer readers?

Check in with Dori Buls at the State Library to request quantities for your library. The passes are for children ages 12 and under and are available while supplies last.

Email Dori at dori.buls@iowa.gov or call (515) 281-5790.

Thank you to the Blank Park Zoo for their generous donation of zoo passes!

Iowa PBS' Farmers Market Program

Does your community host a local Farmers Market? Consider partnering with organizers to bring the Iowa PBS Farmers Market program to your town this summer!

This initiative contains 12 weeks worth of activities that build on everyday literacy learning for children. There's a program guide, games, STEM activities, recipes that kids can make with their families, and more.

For more information, contact Iowa PBS Education Outreach Specialist Nikki Mullins at nicki.mullins@iowapbs.org.



[View the Farmers Market Program](#)

Summer Library Canva Templates Available



We've created Bingo Sheets, Reading Log Bookmarks, Prize Drawing Slips, and a Calendar template!

New This Year: A Classroom Reading Challenge Sheet is for librarians to use with your daycares and summer school teachers. Our Gameboard Template has two different reading challenges for Elementary ages. All can be customized for your library on Canva!

[Access the Summer Library Templates](#)

State Library CE Events

Pop YS Live

Pop YS Live is a regular webinar series from the State Library which highlights trends and best practices in services and programming for those working in Youth Services librarianship in Iowa.



May Pop YS Live | Organizing Recruited Presenters

NEW DATE - Tuesday, May 13 | 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The May Pop YS Live will feature an all-inclusive look at working with outside presenters in your library. We'll start with some recruitment and contracting best practices, including program agreements for expectation setting and a checklist to give your presented events their best chance of success.

But sometimes even the best laid plans go awry. Janeé's got you covered there too. She'll share a round robin of easy programs for groups of all ages and sizes that you can easily whip out if a presenter is a no-show at the last minute – every librarian's worst nightmare.

[Register for May Pop YS Live](#)

Check It Out!

Tuesday, April 22 & Tuesday, May 27 | 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

In this hour, Janeé will book talk the best books for youth ages 0-18 and share collection development tips and trends! There's also a prize giveaway, too! This webinar will be recorded.



[Register for April Check It Out](#)

[Register for May Check It Out](#)



Level Up Your Summer Reading Book Lists for All Ages

Thursday, April 24 | 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Join Janeé and Sam for a romp through one of the best-kept secrets of the iREAD Resource Guide... the Bibliographies! We'll do a little book talking for all ages, a little brainstorming of display ideas, and a lot of nerding out.

You're sure to leave this session with lots of ideas for kids, teens, adults, and families to "Level Up" their reading lists this summer. Janeé will also give away a Summer Reading Book Prize Pack to one lucky winner! This webinar will be recorded.

[Register for Level Up Your Summer Reading](#)

State Library of Iowa Youth Services

Youth Services Consultant: Janeé Jackson-Doering



1112 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

The Youth Services program is made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of Iowa.