

The YAC

A Youth Advisory Newsletter for Southwest Iowa Library Staff

October 2011

Upcoming Events:

October 6 - Read for the Record Day (sponsored by Jumpstart - see <http://www.jstart.org>)

October 9 - 15 - Fire Prevention Week

October 12-14 - Iowa Library Association Annual Conference in Council Bluffs (see <http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/>).

October 15 - National Grouch Day

October 16-22 - Teen Read Week [See <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teenreading/trw/trw2011/home.cfm>.]

October 22 - Make a Difference Day

October 25-31 - International Magic Week

October 31 - Halloween

November 1 - Family Literacy Day

November 1 - Summer Library Program ICN Session from 10:00 - 3:00 (Sites include the libraries at Bayard, Osceola, Creston, Guthrie Center and Council Bluffs - see the website below for additional locations.)

November 2 - Summer Library Program Workshop in Red Oak*

November 3 - Summer Library Program Workshop in Cherokee*

*see the Iowa Library Services CE Catalog for details, registration and even more CE opportunities: (<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/>).

Websites to Check Out!

•Article from PBS - "The Literacy of Gaming: What Kids Learn from Playing" at <http://www.pbs.org/mediashift/2011/08/the-literacy-of-gaming-what-kids-learn-from-playing215.html>.

•Kids Books Exempt from Lead Law -- http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/slj/home/891483-312/feds_finally_get_one_right.html.csp.

•If you enjoy book lists, you might want to check out Brain Pickings at <http://www.brainpickings.org/>. A few lists are suggested on the left frame - look for more! [Also, the current feature story is about the new Dr. Seuss Collection, *The Bippolo Seed and Other Lost Stories*.]

•DoSomething.org helps young people find ways to actively support causes that they care about. The site includes tips on grant-writing, marketing, starting a Do Something club, and so on. An extensive list of projects that other young people have done will help your teen group come up with a service project of their own. There are many reading- and literacy-related causes listed, too. See <http://www.dosomething.org>.

•U.S. Fire Administration coloring pages for Fire Prevention Week -- <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/kids/downloads/coloringbook.pdf>.

Borrowed Ideas . . .

•"Mystery Book Passage Hunt" - enlarge a catchy passage from a popular YA mystery to fill a poster board/bulletin board. Challenge your teen patrons to find the source of the quote. Provide a few clues such as the name of the main character, the location, etc. Add clues each week until someone succeeds in locating the book. As an alternative, you might post several more obvious book quotes (not *too* obvious, but familiar enough to have been read by many young adults) and see if patrons can identify them.

•Have a "bat hunt" near Halloween. Place bat cut-outs in a path around the library for storyhour children to find. (Don't hide them too well!) After reading stories like *Bats at the Library* by Brian Lies, tell the children that you have heard some strange sounds in the library recently and need some help finding the source of the sounds. Take a walk to collect the bats. You might even use the bats in a craft project - glue them on large yellow circles or paper plates to represent a full moon.

Teen Read Week - Last minute ideas!

Pick up some ideas from the YALSA Blog's "30 Days of How-to #22" at <http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/>.

Cut out some pictures that remind you of literary themes in the shape of "call-outs" and add the words "Picture It" (just print the words on white labels or plain paper and stick on the picture) -- or you can print out the sample ones posted on the SWILSA Youth Services page at <http://www.swilsa.lib.ia.us/youth.htm>. Post these around the teen area (ends of shelves, etc.).



Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day on November 1st offers an opportunity to promote reading, family storyhours and literacy programs at your library. You might set up a display or host a family read-aloud event. Some family literacy resources are posted on the SWILSA website at http://www.swilsa.lib.ia.us/youth/family_literacy_resources.htm. Look for printable materials to display. Washington Learning Systems at <http://www.wlearning.com/> has free printable materials in Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Somali, Russian and Mandarin. Check out their "On the Go" activities for parents at <http://www.wlearning.com/Otg.html> (registration is free and easy). You might want to ask your nearest community college about adult literacy classes and have some brochures or information-sheets about those on hand.

Odds & Ends:

©The 2012 Summer Library Program manuals will be arriving soon! Don't forget to register for the SLP workshops: via the ICN on November 1st and "live" in Red Oak on November 2nd or in Cherokee on November 3rd!

©We are still working out the logistics of providing die cut services to all Iowa libraries. Meanwhile, you may still place orders by emailing sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us or phoning 866-642-7922. We still have the ghost bookmark, fall leaves, jack-o-lantern, witch, cauldron, black cat and black cat bookmark, letters, bats and the pieces to make owls (see http://www.swilsa.lib.ia.us/holidays_events/Halloween.htm). We will fill orders as long as our supplies last. Please watch for updates on this topic!

©Bestsellers: *Llama Llama Home with Mama* by Anna Dewdney is the current best-selling picture book according to *The New York Times*. Second is *Bumble-ardy* by Maurice

Sendak, followed by two *Pete the Cat* books by James Dean. *The Book Thief* and *The Red Pyramid* continue to top the list of paperbacks for youth. *The Hunger Games*, *The 39 Clues*, *Big Nate*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, and *Harry Potter* top the list of books in a series.

©It is not too late to participate in Read for the Record Day on October 6! If you don't have a copy of *Llama Llama Red Pajama* on hand, you can read the book online - and you can read it in Spanish, too. Just follow links on the Jumpstart website at <http://www.jstart.org>.