

Library Board Report - Children's Department
February 5, 2025

Key Takeaways

- January Snowman Scavenger Hunt: 842 participants, an average of 210 per week
- The Idaho Environmental Coalition STEM storytime is February 10 at 4 p.m.
- 320 families are registered for the Family Winter Reading Challenge, which began on December 1, 2025.

December, 2025

Weekly Programs (average attendance)

- Art Club – art experiences: family STEM adventures: 8
- Book Babies – Emergent literacy skills for babies and toddlers: 51
- Family STEM – STEM activities for families: 59
- Family Storytime – Building reading skills together: 16
- Kinder Ready – teaches parents skills for kindergarten readiness: 18
- Music and Movement – Early music principles and playful movement: 114
- Problem Solvers – STEM activities for preschoolers: 16
- Storytime – Early learning and literacy skills for preschool ages: 27

Recent Programs (total participants)

- Holiday Scavenger Hunts (Presents and Candy Canes): 633
- Letters to Santa Claus: 201
- Cookies with Mrs. Claus, 12/16/25: 193
- Christmas Crafts, 12/22/25 to 12/23/25: 146
- Winter Crafts, 12/26/25 to 1/3/26: 376
- New Year's Scavenger Hunt, 12/29/25 to 1/3/26: 228
- Hot Cocoa Pop up Program, 12/31/25: 54

January, 2026

Weekly Programs (average attendance)

- Art Club – art experiences: family STEM adventures: 13
- Book Babies – Emergent literacy skills for babies and toddlers: 51
- Dance Party – Whole body movement for positive emotions: 57
- Family STEM – STEM activities for families: 59
- Family Storytime – Building reading skills together: 20
- Kinder Ready – teaches parents skills for kindergarten readiness: 15
- Music and Movement – Early music principles and playful movement: 78
- Problem Solvers – STEM activities for preschoolers: 20
- Storytime – Early learning and literacy skills for preschool ages: 41

Year Long Programs

- Kickoff Party, Extreme Book Nerd for Kids, 1/5/26: 47 children signed up.
- Extreme Book Nerd for Kids: 33 signed up, to date.
- Extreme Book Nerd for Kids, Your Way: 81 signed up, to date.
- Special Edition Library Buttons: 42 signed up, to date.
- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten: 17 signed up, to date.

Recent Programs (total participants)

- Family Winter Reading Challenge, opened on 12/1/25: 320 registered families.
- Family Winter Reading Challenge, completed to date: 82 families.
- Pop in and Play: 1/12/26: 50
- Idaho Falls Spud Kings Hockey Storytime, 1/14/26: 139
- Snowman Scavenger Hunt for January: 842

Upcoming Programs

- Lunar New Year, craft, 1/17/26
- February Scavenger Hunt, Emotion Hearts
- Idaho Environmental Coalition STEM Storytime
- Spring Reading Challenge
- March Book Madness

Staff Professional Development and Training

- Hillsdale College Great Books 101: Ancient to Medieval, the first two of the ten sessions.
- Sold A Story: How Teaching Kids to Read Went So Wrong, the first two of fifteen episodes.
- Eyes on Reading: A Neuroscientist, a Teacher, and the Science of Reading: a rebroadcast conversation from the Planet Word Museum in Washington, D.C.
- Your Library Story. American Libraries magazine.
- AI's Role in the Future of Library Services. Clarivate EX Libris
- How Public Libraries are Teaching AI and Digital Literacy Skills. WebJunction
- AI and the Public. Matt Enis
- Introduction to AI. WebJunction
- Program Research: DIY Snowflake Ballerina craft - How to make snowflake ballerinas
- Program Research: Spring Storytime with Ms. Kristin

Family STEM Adventures



Geometric Ornaments

Cookies with Mrs. Claus



Cookies with Mrs. Claus 12/16/25



Cocoa in the Library 12/31/26



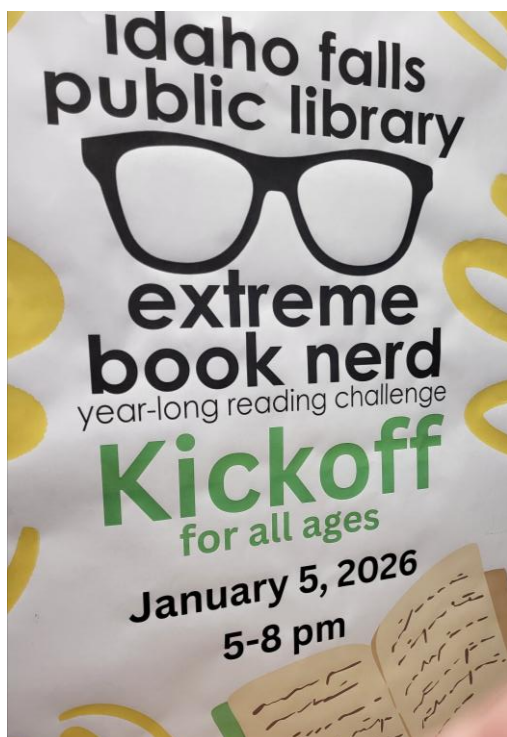
Holiday Crafts Dec. 22– Jan. 3



Holiday Crafts Dec. 22– Jan. 3



Extreme Book Nerd Kick Off Party 1/5/26



PBS STEM Activity– hovercrafts 1/14/26



PBS STEM Activity– hovercrafts

1/14/26



Spud Kings Storytime 1/14/26



Spud Kings Storytime 1/14/26



Spud Kings Craft 1/14/26



Periodic Chef's Table: Recreating the Periodic Table with Food 1/17/26



**Family
STEM
Adventure**