

Library Board Report - Children's Department

November 2, 2023

Program Review (average attendance)

- Book Babies, Monday: 42
- Storytime, Tuesday: 49
- Storytime, Thursday: 33
- Little Makers: 39
- Book Babies, Wednesday: 34
- Storytime, Wednesday: 34
- Dance Party, October 18: 35
- STEAM Club: 22

Recent Programs

- Pop in and Play, October 10: 80
- Kinderprep, September 25: 16
- Pop in and Play, October 25: 76
- Kinderprep, October 2: 16
- October 14th: STEM day with the INL STEM Bus, Makerspace, and STEM activities: 90
 - Well attended, patrons were excited to do different STEM activities and visit the INL bus and do science experiments
- Halloween Storytime, Parade and trick or treat at the library
 - Morning: 263
 - Afternoon: 110
- Fall into Reading Family Reading Challenge
 - Signed up: 98
 - Completed: 28

Month Long Activities

October: Jack-o-lantern Quest: find the 9 pumpkins hidden each week in the children's library.
Total participants: 462
Average each week: 116

Upcoming Programs

- November 4 – Idaho Family Read Week, Art is all Around Us: storytime and art projects on Saturday afternoon
- November month long program: Match famous artists and paintings
- December month long program: Write Santa a letter
- December 9, Taiko Drum Group Christmas program and activity
- December 19, Santa Storytime at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- STEM Fridays and Saturdays beginning in November and December
- January 20th, Princess Storytime
- February 3rd, Japanese holiday activity
- March 23, Weeklong Spring Break Activities
- April 20th, Storytime with Brock from ICCU
- May 4th, Japanese American Society Community Read
- May 4th, Star Wars Day

Trainings - Professional Development

Avi Interview: Winning the Newberry Award. Reading Rockets
Avoiding Common Online Scams and Threats. ICFL
Beanstack Training videos
Best Practices for Developing Employees' Soft Skills. ICFL
Critical Thinking Skills: Ad Hominem Attacks. ICFL
Critical Thinking Skills: Causation and Correlation. ICFL
Critical Thinking Skills: Burden of Proof. ICFL
Critical Thinking Skills: Loaded Questions. ICFL
Critical Thinking Skills: Confirmation Bias. ICFL
How to Deal with Members of the Public who are being Jerks about Homeless Folks by Niche Academy
Internet Safety. ICFL
Mary Amato Interview: The Writers Notebook. Reading Rockets
Raina Telgemeier Interview: Illustrated Diaries. Reading Rockets
Raina Telgemeier Interview: In the Characters Shoes. Reading Rockets
Ryan Dowd Video: Drunk of High-How to de-escalate someone who is under the influence

Positive Feedback about the Children's Library

•**Fall into Reading Family Reading Challenge:** A number of families let us know how much their children enjoyed this non-fiction book program. Families were challenged to complete activities from the books. One child checked out drawing books for the challenge and kept drawing the entire month. In another family, one of the children chose an arts and crafts book. The entire family started making crafts using toilet paper rolls and decorated a tree with all the crafts they made together.

Storytime

- One caregiver asked a storytime staff member how long she had worked with children. When the staff member answered "Over 25 years," the caregiver said, "You are really good at this."
- A grandparent thanked another storytime staff member for doing storytime. The staff member said she really enjoyed doing storytime, to which the grandparent replied, "I can tell, and so can the kids, you do a good job."
- One staff member filled in for Little Makers. The next week a dad who had attended the Little Makers with his three kids said he had a story to tell. He said the Friday they attended, that his kids when they said their prayers that night said "Thank you for Miss Sharon and her teaching Little Makers for us." The dad told the staff member that the kids even remembered the staff member's name on their own without his help.
- Another mom told us how her little girl loves the Jim Gill Jump and count song from storytime. She says her daughter goes around imitating it all the time. She jumps a bunch and then she stops and tries to count. She is so little she doesn't know how to count yet but she tries and holds up her fingers like we did in storytime.