

Library Board Report - Children's Department

December 18, 2025

Key Takeaways

- Idaho Family Read Week, special family storytime with Miss Idaho, 11/10/25: 83
- For Idaho Family Read Week, children received a free book for participating in the Galaxy Quest Scavenger Hunt, 232 books during the week of November 3rd.
- In December, children can enter a drawing for two books and a small treat bag when they complete the present scavenger hunt.

Weekly Programs (average attendance)

- Art Club – art experiences: family STEM adventures: 8
- Book Babies – Emergent literacy skills for babies and toddlers: 53
- Family Storytime – Building reading skills together: 17
- Kinder Ready – teaches parents skills for kindergarten readiness: 13
- Problem Solvers – STEM activities for preschoolers: 19
- Storytime – Early learning and literacy skills for preschool ages: 34
- Family STEAM – Family STEM activities: 14
- Dance Party – Whole body movement for positive emotions: 40

Year Long Programs

- Special Edition Library Buttons: 9 new sign-ups
- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, since 10/1/25: 28 sign-ups

Recent Programs

- Family Winter Reading Challenge, began 12/1/25: 145 sign-ups.
- Pop in and Play: 11/17/25: 72
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Storytime, 11/5/25: 76
- Idaho Family Read Week Storytime, 11/10/25: 83
- Stuffed Animal sleepover, in conjunction with Idaho Family Read Week, 11/10/25: 35
- Letters to Santa, through December: 112, to date.

Upcoming Programs

- Cookies with Mrs. Claus, 12/16/25
- Grinch Crafts, 12/22/25 – 12/23/25
- Winter Crafts, 12/26/25 – 1/3/26
- Extreme Book Nerd for Kids, Kickoff Party, 1/5/26
- Hockey Storytime, 1/8/26
- Stuffed Animal sleepover, in conjunction with Idaho Family Read Week, November 10, 2025

Staff Professional Development and Training

- Professional Development is a Wellness Program, by Donald W. Crankshaw (article).
- Creating Thriving Workspaces, Niche Academy Webinar.
- Ready to Go. Defending Libraries, by Don Montgomery (article)
- How Public Libraries Help Build Healthy Communities by Marcella Cabello and Stuart M. Butler (article).
- How to Back-up Your Co-workers, Niche Academy Webinar.

Positive Feedback

- Positive Experience helping a Patron from 12/12/25:

A patron was trying to find a graphic novel version of Anne of Green Gables for her 3rd grader granddaughter who struggles with reading. When I took her to it, we started chatting about graphic novels in general and on a whole this lady didn't like the negativity and the tone of most graphic novels. She was looking for classics. I also showed her the Secret Garden in graphic novel form. The more we chatted about the trouble her granddaughter, the more I understood the struggles she was having and the struggles the grandmother was having trying to read with her. The grandmother was trying to have her granddaughter who already struggles with reading and reading comprehension trying to read only books the grandmother was familiar with and they were all above the child's reading level. I introduced her to the intermediate section and her eyes were opened to a whole new world. We walked around chatting about several different series of books that would be much better suited for her granddaughter's level of reading. The grandmother was ecstatic. She didn't have any idea that these books existed and was very excited about several of the series I showed her. She checked out several for her granddaughter to try and see if she liked. It was so rewarding to be able to show her all of the materials we have here in the library that would be more on her granddaughter's level. She was so happy that she had asked me for help and that I had taken the time to walk her through the library and show her things. I probably spent 10-15 minutes with her teaching her about all of her options. It was a very positive experience for both of us.

- Storytime Feedback:

Mishelle ran a storytime today, Friday December 12th, 2025, from 10:30 am - 11:00am. While the class was finishing, a patron left the classroom, approached Sharon at the kiosk, and told her Mishelle's storytime was the best she had ever attended. Sharon asked her what had made it so good, and the patron told her she appreciated the smaller class size (in comparison with Movement and Music), she thought the transitions between activities was very good.

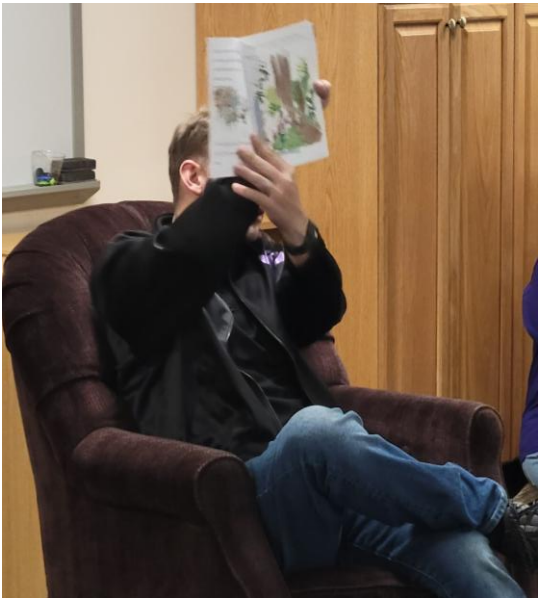
Another patron, from the same class, mentioned to Sharon that she liked how gently Mishelle guided children's behavior during the storytime.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



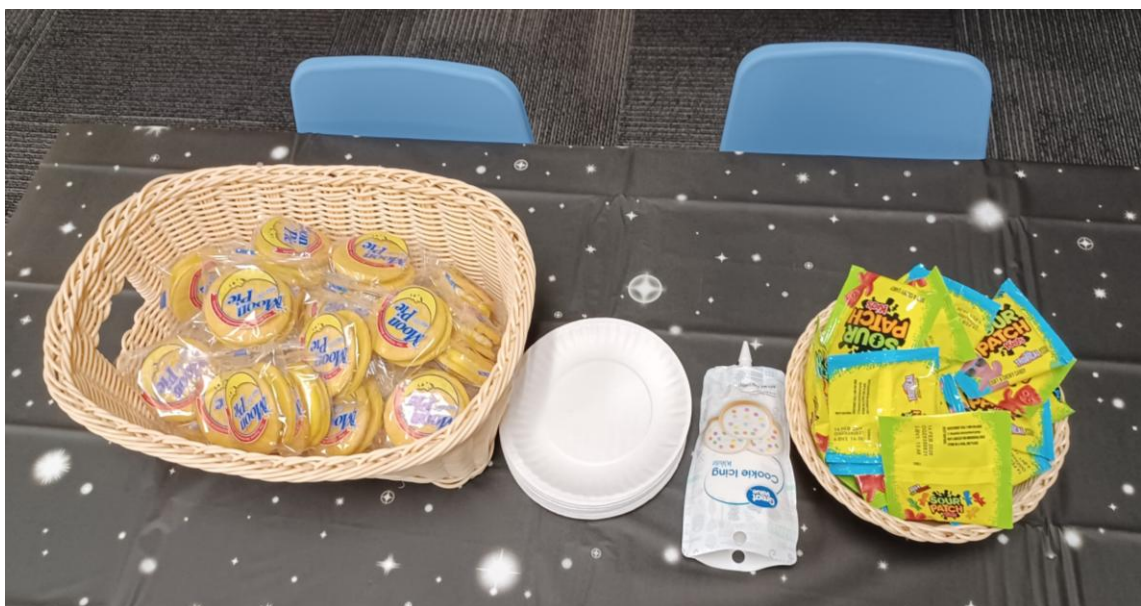
Charlie and the Chocolate

11/05/25



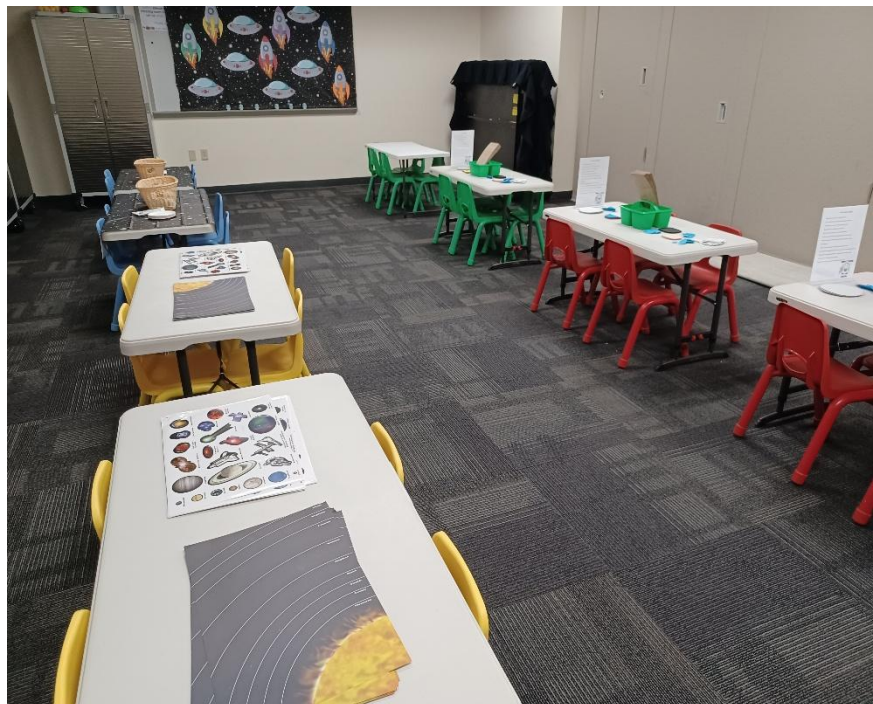
Idaho Falls Family Read Week

11/10/25

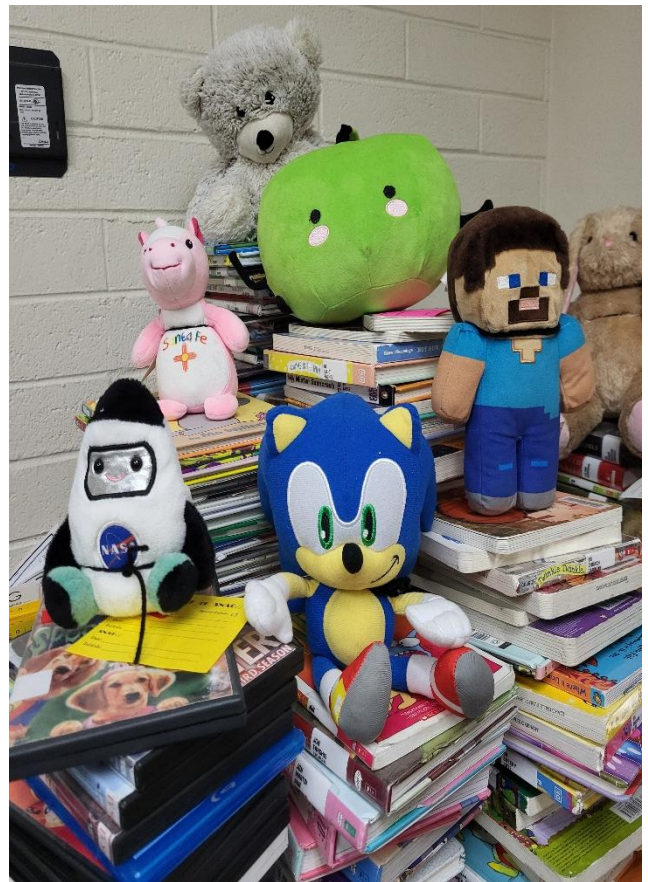


Idaho Falls Family Read Week

11/10/25



Idaho Falls Family Read Week



Look at what I did!

Galaxy Gala Sleepover
November 10, 2025

