

Oklahoma Summer Reading Program

Build a Better World

Planning Summer Reading

- Children slogan: ***Build a Better World***
- Teen slogan: ***Build a Better World***
- Adult slogan: ***Build a Better World***

The Purpose of Summer Reading

Planning a Summer Reading Program

Including Children with Disabilities

Teens & Summer Reading

The Purpose Summer Reading

SRP Purpose: Why Do This?

Summer slide - children & teens “can lose 2.5 months of learning over the summer”

“Loss of reading skills are cumulative” Youth will have to catch up to those who have already moved ahead putting them further behind

By sixth grade “children who lose reading skills over the summer are two years behind their classmates”

SRP Purpose: Benefits

Reading five books can “result in better reading comprehension skills and increased vocabulary”

“It’s more than just books, it’s a chance to socialize, talk about books, share ideas, spend time making crafts, creating art, enjoying games, listening to storytellers, authors, field experts, and entertainers.”

Builds self-confidence, exposure to new technologies and ideas, problem-solving, self-expression (remaking or enhancing of oneself)

Introduction of library services to children and their families

Create positive publicity for the library

Increase circulation of library materials

SRP Purpose: Establish Goals

Encourage self-motivated reading for pleasure by children/teens

Provide more vocabulary words for infants and toddlers

Increase outreach to underserved populations

Promote life-long love of reading

Promote an increase in reading skills

Promote an increase in self-esteem due to new knowledge of skills

Promote an increase in positive attitudes toward the library

Promote an increase in library skills and ability to use library to meet needs

SRP Purpose: Goals Into Reality

Purchase books based on the theme

Promote books in library displays, on library website, on social media

Target specific school classes for specific library program

Provide library in building and website space for reviews written by children

Provide FAQ sheets for parents about library services

SRP Purpose: Goals Into Reality

Target local parent groups

Outreach to underserved populations: juvenile detention centers, LGBTQ, English Language Learners

Provide media lists based on a theme: books, movie, & music

Provide more come-and-go programs

Provide time for children to discuss their books with library staff

Planning a Summer Reading Program

Planning a Summer Reading Program

You will need:

Library Resources

Calendar

Budget & Support

Contacts

Time

Publicity

Planning: Library Resources

Staff members to help - remember vacation schedules

Outreach to organizations and daycares

Volunteer recruitment

Available space for programs

Library collection to support theme

Planning: Library Resources

Budget

Website and social media

Know how many programs you want to offer and for what age groups

Have emergency program available in case of presenter no-show

Planning: Calendar

This is your best friend. Note the following:

School visits - coordinate with local schools

Start and end of summer reading program

Days of programs and the activity/performer

Due dates for planning - finalizing activities, purchasing of materials and supplies, pre-cutting arts & crafts

Volunteer work schedules

Advertising of program - posting of flyers and posters, updating website and social media
(you can schedule posts)

Planning: Budget

Performers

Materials

Incentives/Prizes

Printing costs

Decorations

Invitations and thank you notes

Food

Books to add to collection

Create a contact list of donors for needed materials. Consider asking local food businesses ¹⁴ for contribution of snacks and lunch.

Planning: Contacts

Build/update your contact lists. Include local businesses, schools, Friends Group, donors, volunteer resources, media contact for articles in print and online. Create a FAQ about program, dates, goals, participation, etc.

Touch base early notifying them of your program schedule. Send thank you notes and give them credit on all advertising and promotional items your produce in-house.

All in-house promotional materials **MUST INCLUDE** the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Institute for Museums and Library Services, The Oklahoman Newspapers in Education, and Sonic -- America's Drive-In, Corp. Logos are on the CYA Wiki:

<http://cyawiki.oklibraries.org> → “Sponsors”

Planning: Volunteers

Take a look at the YALSA Teen Intern Toolkit, <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/professionaltools>

In it you will find:

Planning Outcomes - what will the library and the teen gain

Recruiting Ideas that will help interest teens to volunteer

Sample recruiting flyers, applications, and interview questions

Training - suggestions on what to include

Rewards - acknowledgment and communication

Evaluation - exit interview samples

Planning: Time

You will need time in your work schedule to get everything done. This may include:

preparing materials for young children,

gathering supplies,

purchasing materials,

visiting schools and local businesses,

interviewing and training new volunteers,

finding and scheduling performers (Don't forget contracts! Download a performer contract from the CYA Wiki, <http://cyawiki.oklibraries.org>)

Planning: Publicity

Print: flyers, posters, bookmarks, banners

Online Services

Parents - Library website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Periscope, Meetup,
Pinterest

Teens - Tumblr, Instagram, Vine, YouTube, Snapchat

Planning: Publicity

News release

Post calendar - print, online and with reminders

Update online services bi-weekly, minimum

Utilize library staff & volunteers

Library decoration

Invitations and thank you notes

Food Allergies

1 out of every 13 kids has a food allergy.

Ninety percent of all reactions are caused by the following 8 foods:

- milk
- eggs
- peanuts
- tree nuts
- soy
- wheat
- fish
- shellfish

Food Allergy Research and Education: <http://www.foodallergy.org/facts-and-stats>

Recommendations from a gluten-free librarian:

- Snacks for kids under 5 should be gluten-free for everyone since they like to share
- Substitutions can be made for kids over 5 who can understand why they shouldn't eat gluten
- Serve fruit and vegetables
- Popcorn or potato chips instead of crackers or cookies
- Candy apples or fudge
- M&Ms, Skittles, or Starburst instead of licorice, gum drops, or gummy candies

Store-Bought Snack Ideas

- Hummus
- Yogurt
- Trail mix
- Cheese & nuts
- Chips & salsa
- Fruit & vegetables
- Popcorn
- Raisins
- Fruit snacks
- Jell-o or pudding

10 Allergy Free Store Bought Snacks:

<http://theallergymommy.blogspot.com/2012/07/top-10-great-allergy-free-store-bought.html>

10 More Allergy Free Store Bought Snacks:

<http://theallergymommy.blogspot.com/2013/10/updated-top-10-best-gluten-free-soy.html>

The Grocery Store Snack Aisle: <https://www.glutenfree.com/#filters/>

Gluten-Free Craft Supplies

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<https://www.verywell.com/gluten-free-craft-supplies-563062>

Allergens in School Activities

<http://www.kidswithfoodallergies.org/page/potential-food-allergens-in-preschool-school-camp-crafts-activities.aspx>

Allergy Free Art Supplies: <http://www.adventuresofaglutenfreemom.com/2011/08/gluten-and-allergen-free-art-supply-list/>

Gluten Free School Supplies:

<http://www.discountschoolsupply.com/Product/ProductList.aspx?category=2783>

Children with Disabilities

Children With Disabilities

Take a look at Tricia Bohanon Twarogowski's ALSC blog posts, "Programming for Children with Special Needs," in five parts, <http://www.alsc.org/blog/2009/06/programming-for-children-with-special-needs-part-one/>

Recognize the need - if more than one parent expresses a need then there are many who have not

Parents of children with disabilities prefer a separate program as they don't feel judged by others and it's a networking opportunity for them

Provide disability awareness training for all library staff

Consider People First Language, <http://www.disabilityisnatural.com/people-first-language.html>

Children With Disabilities: Storytime Setting

Relax rules on movement, talking, and parents who need to leave and return

No restriction on age - inform parents of target audience age (preschool or school age)

Treat storytime as a family experience

Use dimmer lighting, encourage carpet square seating but allow for those parents more comfortable near the door

Include pillows and stuffed animals for sensory-seeking children

Use a visual schedule board

Include soft or acoustic music for those with sensitivity to it

Avoid food and wearing perfume due to allergies

Consider timing of storytimes - weekdays can be taken with doctor appointments

Children With Disabilities: Storytime

Use broad themes and repetition

Use double visuals - the book and a corresponding flannel board

Suggested to have two people present storytime instead of one

Blog posts include sample storytime outlines to get you started

Consider potential partnerships with local organizational chapters

Teens & Summer Reading

Teens: Philosophy

Have a teen-centered program philosophy

Identify the target audience, address their needs, use the strength of the library and its staff

Provide what teens and parents cannot provide at home

Create a safe space of belonging

Support local school curriculum

Support self-expression, creativity, and productivity

Activate your library's mission for teens

Teens: Incentives & Prizes

CDs, frisbees, drink containers, stickers, and higher end items

Debate about offering incentives - can be an discouragement to reading

Can include charity donations or helping with a charitable cause

Use books as a reward

Target to the age group

Do “NOT create a situation...[where] only one reader wins because then all the others lose”

Should have “many winners at various ages, ability, and developmental levels”

Teens: Volunteers

Take a look at the YALSA Summer Reading Teen Intern Toolkit,
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Teens: Ideas

Reading lists - vampires, dystopian, book-to-film, books set in Oklahoma (any other state), alien invasions, all the feels, if you like...- Epic Reads

Media lists - not just books, include movies, music, magazines, and online blogs, Tumblr posts, Vine videos

Reach teens - go where they are: movies, coffee houses, malls, schools, athletic camps, church, local restaurants, Tumblr, Vine, YouTube

Encourage staff to talk up teen services

Make your kickoff a social event: dance, concert, food trucks, carnival, movie marathon (series films or based on a theme, actor, or director)

Teens: Ideas

Book talks, displays, and lists should be relevant to the lives of the teens in your community

Weed your collection often and with tough love

Create space for teens to read in the library

Create social interaction opportunities to discuss books: in person, online, a group

Resources

“Evaluating Summer Reading Programs: Suggested Improvements” by Joe Matthews, Public Libraries Online

“Planning and Organizing Your Summer Reading Program” from Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives

“Welcoming Children with Disabilities at Your Library” from Webjunction

“Programming for Children with Special Needs” by Tricia Bohanon Twarogowski, ALSC Blog (five parts)

Resources

“Summer Reading Teen Intern Toolkit” from YALSA

“Outcome Based Evaluation Explained” from Oregon State Library Youth Services

“Summer Reading Programs for Teens: A Best Practice Guide for Librarians Working in a Public Library” created by Susan Rodgers, Heather Snapp, Yesica Hurd, Noel Clevenger

“Seven Rules of Engagement: What’s Most Important to Know About Motivation to Read” by Linda B. Gambrell, The Reading Teacher

Planning Summer Reading

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Benefits to children's education and
the community

Take time to plan your program

Include Children with Disabilities

Create Opportunities for Teens

Evaluating Summer Reading

— Outputs and Outcomes —

Evaluating: “Outputs”

These are what you count and report to ODL.

Number of children enrolled or registered

Number of programs for children

Number of teens enrolled or registered

Number of programs for teens

Library budget spent on summer reading

In-kind donations

Evaluating: “Outcomes”

“[The] knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviors that support individual success in our complex world”

--Institute of Museums and Library Services

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/outcome-based-evaluations>

Evaluating: Goal(s)

Outcome based summer reading programs are goal based.

Ask “how did the summer reading program change the skills, behaviors, attitudes, or knowledge of the children and teens who participated?”

Evaluating: Goal(s)

Define a specific goal you want to target.

Encourage self-motivated reading for pleasure by children/teens

Provide more vocabulary words for infants and toddlers

Increase outreach to underserved populations

Promote life-long love of reading

Promote an increase in reading skills

Promote an increase in self-esteem due to new knowledge of skills

Promote an increase in positive attitudes toward the library

Promote an increase in library skills and ability to use library to meet needs

Evaluating: Goal(s)

Establish reachable goals to achieve

Add titles of interest to collection

Take requests/suggestions from teens

Create a Read Harder book group - read on specific themes not titles

Journal reviews and award lists

Pair book-to-movie read-a-long

Evaluating: Goal(s)

Partner with local school - borrow books over summer for window display

Create eye-catching displays - use pictures, popular lyrics, and quotes

Add books of differing reading levels in displays & reading lists

Use Tumblr, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter to market books

Create book trailers, review site, infographics, introduce podcasts, Twitter chat, create comic web/books, and encourage fan fiction writing

Evaluating: Books

ALA Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

ALA Association of Library Services to Children (ALSC)

Oklahoma Library Association Sequoyah Book Awards

Texas Library Association Book Awards

Global list of Book Awards, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_literary_awards

Evaluate the Program

Observation - take photos to document engagement in activities

Informal interviews - talk with parents/caregivers

Survey - parents/caregivers, if you can, teachers on improved reading skills

Report on the ODL Summer Reading Evaluation in August

- Number of children enrolled or registered

- Number of programs for children

- Number of teens enrolled or registered

- Number of programs for teens

- Library budget spent on summer reading

- n-kind donations

- How was your summer reading program?

CYA Wiki - Your Home for Summer Reading Information

Go to CYA Wiki for links and downloads
this presentation and find to find
summer reading performers

<http://cyawiki.org.oklibraries.org>

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