

Parent Resource Newsletter

3 –Ways Libraries Benefit Kids



In April, we celebrate **National Library Week**. It's a week to stop and consider how important libraries are to our schools and communities. In this digital age, it may be hard to understand why libraries are still important. Kids don't need to head to the library to find books for research – they can just look up the information online. Even though the use of libraries is changing, they still offer a lot of benefits to kids.

1. They Provide Equal Access to Resources:

For people who have regular access to computers, smartphones, and tablets, the library may not seem like that big of a deal. However, for those who don't have access to technology or don't want to spend money on digital books, libraries play a big role. Walk into nearly any library and look at the computers. Chances are there won't be many empty chairs. Every day, libraries play host to kids completing research projects or seeking homework help on the computers. They make it possible for kids who don't have access to the Internet at home to still benefit from the resources the Internet provides.

2. They Provide a Sense of Community:

In many communities, the local library is one of the most popular meeting places. Kids might meet at the library to work on a project or see friends from school when they stop by in the afternoon. Libraries also foster a sense of community by providing programs for kids and teens. They host story times for young kids and book clubs for teens. All of these activities give kids the chance to have fun in safe, positive environment and help them connect with other kids in their community. Many libraries bring their programs out into the community too

3. They Teach Responsibility and Accountability:

Getting a library card can be a special moment for kids. It is something that belongs just to them and it opens up a whole new world. But with that library card comes great responsibility. Kids can check out books and movies with their library card, but those books and movies come with due dates. If a book is returned late or damaged, it results in a fine. This makes a library card a great tool for teaching responsibility and accountability.

When kids check out books, they must make sure they keep them safe and that they turn them in on time. If they end up with a lost book or a fine, they learn how to be accountable for their actions. Parents can have kids pay the fine out of their allowance or work off the fine by doing chores around the house. Doing so will help kids learn a lesson they can transfer to many other areas in life.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO Helping Your Child Succeed in School

Libraries Encourage a Lifetime of Learning

Kids cannot step into a library without learning something. If they're playing a game on the library computer, they're likely building their math or reading skills. If they're reading a picture book, they're learning new words and discovering new worlds. As they grow older, the library continues to be a place where they can learn. If they want to improve their cooking skills, they can pick up a cookbook. If they want to learn to crochet, they can find a book on crocheting. When it comes time to find a job, the library will help them develop a resume and give them interview tips.

Libraries encourage people to visit new worlds, discover new points of view, and to keep building upon their knowledge. They create displays of books related to popular topic and regularly highlight librarians' favorite reads. They host local authors, historians, and musicians. By encouraging kids to visit the library when they are young, parents and teachers will share with them a resource that they will continue to return to as they grow.

Resource: HelpTeaching.com



Did You Know ?



April is National Garden Month

When You Garden, You Grow! Every April, communities, organizations, and individuals nationwide celebrate gardening during **National Garden Month**. Gardeners know, and research confirms, that nurturing plants is good for us: attitudes toward health and nutrition improve, kids perform better at school, and community spirit grows.

About National Garden Month -The National Garden Bureau worked with 23 co-sponsoring national horticultural organizations to legislate National Garden Week. Former President Reagan signed the Proclamation April 18, 1986. National Garden Week was first celebrated April 12 to 18, 1987. In 2002, the National Gardening Association resolved to extend the celebration to encompass the entire month of April.

National Garden Month was celebrated for the first time in 2003.

Join the celebration and help to make America a greener, healthier, more livable place!

Title I News

We saw happy campers at our "Let's Go Camping with Title I & Do S'more Learning" Family Night



TITLE I Family Night Held

On Wednesday, April 5th, our Title I staff from **Holden and Walls** elementary school buildings held our Title I Family Night. It was held at Walls School. The evening was centered on a camp theme with all of our activities relating to camping events.

To start, a light refreshment of cookies, juice and water were served while families waited for the evening to begin. After welcomes and introductions, our students, along with their parents, headed down our camp trail to Literacy and Math stations and activities.

The Literacy and Math stations included camp bingo, racing bear game, math dice games, a "make and take" bookmark, and a S'more trail mix recipe; to name a few. Students wore trail cards and were given stickers after completing each trail station.

It seemed much fun was had by all participants competing and creating make and take items.



Parents & students played Camp Bingo during the night. Shown are players from Thursday night's event.

Another highlight of the evening was our selfie "Camp Read-A-Lot" site for parents and students to take pics to remember their evening.

In the end, students were given a free reading book and a take home packet of all material from our stations.

We hope all who attended enjoyed our Title I event and found it fun as well as educational. The Title I staff enjoyed meeting with Title I students and their families and sharing strategies along the way.

Literacy Coach, Rachel Yohn and Emma Hanby sit in our Camp-Read-A-Lot site waiting for campers to arrive.

We know how hard it is to take time out of your busy schedules to spend an evening with us and we appreciate it and **THANK** all of you for your attendance. We also want to thank you for your daily support and encouragement at home. As always, you may contact us for material or with any questions. ☺

Site Review

Resources available for Parents and Families:

Check out this Website:

www.coolmath.com - CoolMath calls itself "an amusement park of math and more." Children can play online math games that help them with addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, money and more. CoolMath is geared toward ages 13 and up, but sister site CoolMath4Kids.com is appropriate for ages 3 through 12. CoolMath-Games.com includes math games for preschoolers.

Kids' Corner

Earth Day Activities for Kids



April 22nd is **Earth Day**, an annual celebration dedicated to environmental awareness. Discover ways you and your family can participate in Earth Day while also practicing reading and writing skills.

- 1. Read a book!** Dr. Seuss's book *The Lorax* may be one of the best known children's books about the environment and trees. Read *The Lorax* as a family. Talk about the difference between the lands before and after the Once-ler arrived. Talk about ways the Lorax spoke for the trees and why it's important to speak up for something you believe in.
- 2. Plant a tree!** Learning how to choose the right tree or plant for your area involves reading and understanding the tags provided with plants. Work together to understand the symbols related to amount of sunlight and water appropriate for a plant and how much fertilizer is recommended or how deep to dig a hole. You will be learning and digging in the dirt at the same time!
- 3. Write a poem!** An acrostic poem is a quick and easy form of poetry. Simply write each letter of a word vertically, and fill in each line with something related to that topic. Use words related to Earth Day; for example:
Trees provide shade in the summer
Really tall trees can grow to be 300 feet high
Erosion and air pollution are helped by trees
Every day should be an Earth Day!
- 4. Go for a walk!** One great family activity is to go on a nature walk in your neighborhood. As you walk, use a journal to record any wildlife, animal tracks, insects, or interesting plants that you see. Draw pictures and write captions too.
- 5. Give yourself a hand!** Trace your hand and cut it out. On each finger, write one way you can help the Earth. Ideas might include turning off a light when leaving a room, shutting off the water when brushing teeth, or opening a window instead of using the air conditioner. Display your Earth Day hand on the refrigerator for all to see!

Regardless of the activity you choose, be sure to make this Earth Day the best one yet!

Here are our 2016-2017 Title I Contacts for our Title I Program at your school:

Literacy Coach; Mrs. Rachel Yohn:

Davey School (330-676-7409)
Longcoy School (330-676-8379)

Literacy Coach, Mrs. Kristin Garner:

Holden School (330-676-8400)
Walls School (330-676-8300)

Parent Involvement Coordinator,

Ms. Pam Bose: All Schools (330-676-7425)

Federal Grants Coordinator, Mrs. Karen Rumley,

Director of Instructional Program:
All Schools (330-676-7600)



Parents
plus
Schools
equals
Success