

**FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM 2004
PROGRAM MANUAL**

**Read
Around
Florida**



**Lectura
Alrededor
de la Florida**

*Prepared by the
Florida Library Youth Program Planning Committee
Under the direction of
Carole D. Fiore*



Jeb Bush, Governor
Glenda E. Hood, Secretary of State
Florida Department of State
State Library and Archives of Florida

Read Around Florida / Lectura Alrededor de la Florida : Florida Library Youth Program 2004 Program Manual / Prepared by the Florida Library Youth Program Planning Committee, under the direction of Carole D. Fiore. [Tallahassee, FL] : Florida Department of State, State Library and Archives of Florida, [2004].

The contents of this manual were developed under a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library services, administered by the Florida Department of State, State Library and Archives of Florida.

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READ AROUND FLORIDA

FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM 2004 WORKSHOPS



Date	Location
Wednesday, January 21	Chipola College Arts Center Marianna
Wednesday, January 28	Seminole Community Library Seminole
Friday, January 30	Florida Gulf Coast University Fort Myers
Monday, February 2	Martin County Library System – Blake Library – Headquarters Stuart
Wednesday, February 4	Orlando Marriott Lake Mary Lake Mary
Friday, February 6	Columbia County Schools Administration Building Auditorium Lake City

**PLEASE BRING YOUR MANUAL WITH YOU.
IT WILL SERVE AS THE AGENDA FOR THE DAY!**

9:00 a.m.	Registration and get acquainted. Now is your time to meet your colleagues and start browsing the exhibits.
9:30 a.m.	Workshop begins.
11:00 a.m.	Break. Time to browse exhibits.
12:30 p.m.	Lunch. Share ideas with colleagues old and new.
2:00 p.m.	Workshop resumes. Please return promptly.
3:30 p.m.	Workshop adjourns. Return home safely with lots of ideas!



HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM 2004

This manual is designed to be a starting point to help when planning programs for the Florida Library Youth Program 2004 and beyond. It may also be used to help plan programs primarily for school age children at other times during the year. It also includes materials for both younger and older students. Included for the first time is a section on working with teens and extreme reads, books that hold special attraction for this sometimes difficult to reach audience.

The manual has been formatted so that it may be customize it to the collection and the community. Wide outside margins are provided so that notes may be taken during the workshop. Use this space to make sketches of props that are used or just make comments. The three-hole punch format allows additional pages to be added when necessary. Feel free to add additional titles as discovered.

As was done in 2003, suggested interest levels for most of the materials are provided. Consider this an approximate guide. Depending on the children served, this may be adjusted up or down as needed.

The majority of the titles selected for inclusion in this program guide were in print at the time this manual was developed. Every attempt has been made to verify the ISBNs for all titles that have been included. Prices have not been included as they may fluctuate – depending on the vendor selected to purchase materials. Occasionally, an out of print book or other item has been included upon the recommendation of the person selecting materials for that chapter; many of those items are standards and may already be in the library collection. Also, books may have been in print when this manual was developed, but, due to the nature of the publishing industry, may be out of print when materials are ordered. These materials may be access through interlibrary loan.

Most of the chapters have many of the following subsections. As each chapter was developed by different individuals, there may or may not be the same emphasis on each area in each of the chapters:

- *Stories – to share together or read alone.* These are the books that will be of primary importance as you plan your presentations. Share these as read-alouds, flannel board stories, creative dramatics, box stories, puppet shows, etc.
- *Booktalks – to excite everyone to read.* The majority of the books in this section are for older elementary and middle school readers; occasionally, there are books for younger readers. Introduce these titles to readers as booktalks, or just have them out on display.
- *Crafts and Games – to involve everyone.* Some of these are original ideas; many are from books that can be pulled from the collection or obtain them on interlibrary loan. Crafts and games are a good way to end a story time program; some are more involved and can be done as a whole program. Many are

designed to be done at home with parental involvement. In addition, the chapter title pages may be used as coloring sheets to complement your program. Many libraries have button maker machines. These chapter title pages can be reduced in size and used as the basis for these buttons.

- *Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme.* Poetry and music can set the mood for your program or can serve as a change of pace. Don't forget to add something from this section to each of your programs.
- *Community Assets – to broaden the world.* Suggestions from whom you might want to ask for assistance for most of the chapters have been provided; however, your knowledge of your individual community is the best resource here. Check with clubs and organizations in the community to customize library programs.
- *Internet – connect with the world.* Each of the sites listed were visited several times during the development of this manual. Each was found to be operating and appropriate for children. However, due to the ever-changing nature of the Internet, check these sites to make sure they are still operating and appropriate for the users in the community. Add these sites to the library's home page – or add the FLYP Web Site that will include these and other features.
- *Parenting and Family Activities.* Parents are a child's first teacher and we strongly urge libraries to promote family activities. Select one or two that are useful and put them on a handout that can be distributed to parents, teachers, and caregivers weekly to coordinate with the theme.
- *Game Sheets and Parent's Pages.* These pages are designed so that they may be duplicated and distributed to go along with weekly themes. Many of the game sheets have been created by members of the FLYP Planning Committee. The hidden pictures in the "Full Speed Ahead" and "Take a Hike" chapters are from *The Supper Colossal Book of Hidden Pictures, Volume 2*, compiled by the Editors of *Highlights for Children*, copyright 2001, published by Boyds Mills Press, Inc., is reproduced by permission of Boyds Mills Press. A new feature, Parent's Pages, are designed to encourage parental involvement.

The *Combined Author/Title Index and Master Bibliography* at the end of the manual will provide complete bibliographic information for every book or CD included. Web sites are not included in this index. ISBNs for various formats are included when they were available. If only one ISBN is shown, it is for a hardcover edition.

The Division hopes this 2004 edition of the Florida Library Youth Program manual proves useful and librarians, children, families, and other community members have fun with Read Around Florida!

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM 2003

For additional information, please contact:

Name/Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ Fax Number: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Audience: Children and Families

Start Date: _____ Kill Date: _____

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT – 10

READ ALL ABOUT IT! FROM JACKSONVILLE TO KEY WEST, PENSACOLA TO MIAMI AND EVERY PLACE IN BETWEEN, THE (LIBRARY NAME) LIBRARY WILL HELP YOU **READ AROUND FLORIDA** THIS SUMMER. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE LIBRARY AT (PHONE NUMBER) .

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT - 20

WHAT FAMOUS SCIENTIST MADE HIS HOME IN FORT MYERS? HOW MANY LIGHT HOUSES ARE THERE IN FLORIDA? WHAT SPORTS TEAMS MAKE THEIR HOME IN THE SUNSHINE STATE? FIND OUT AS YOU **READ AROUND FLORIDA** DURING THE FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM AT THE (LIBRARY NAME) LIBRARY. THE FUN AND EXCITEMENT BEGINS ON (DATE) AT THE (LIBRARY NAME) LIBRARY. CALL (PHONE NUMBER) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT - 30

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL TO FILL YOUR VACATION TIME? COME TO
_____(LIBRARY NAME)____LIBRARY FOR SOME FUN AND EXCITEMENT.
JOIN OUR MASCOT, A FLORIDA PANTHER NAMED FLYP, AND HIS FRIENDS AS
WE ALL **READ AROUND FLORIDA**. FIND OUT ABOUT THE ANIMALS THAT MAKE
THEIR HOME HERE. FIND OUT ABOUT THE PLANTS WE GROW AND THE
PEOPLE THAT MAKE UP THE WONDERFUL SUNSHINE STATE. FIND OUT ABOUT
OUR BEACHES AND NATURAL AREAS. **READ AROUND FLORIDA** THIS SUMMER
AND LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR STATE. THE FUN BEGINS ON
_____(DATE)_____ AT THE ____(LIBRARY NAME)____LIBRARY. CALL
____(PHONE NUMBER)_____ FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

BASIC PHILOSOPHY: The basic philosophy and goals for the Florida Library Youth Program (FLYP) remain similar to that of previous years. Adjustments have been made in the target audience to parallel the intent of the Library Services and Technology Act, the federal program that currently provides funding for this statewide youth program. This year, the target audience again is “people who have difficulty using libraries” whether that difficulty results from lack of experience using libraries, lack of transportation, language or cultural differences; and “children in poverty.” Our focus continues to be reaching out to children in communities throughout Florida. To reach these underserved audiences, local libraries are encouraged to move beyond the library walls and take library programs out into the community.

During the summer of 2003, the State Library and Archives of Florida initiated the Summer Library Reading Partnership Pilot (SLRPP) Program. This LSTA funded program targets children completing the third grade but who did not perform well on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). For 2004, this program is being extended to more libraries; it is hoped that by the summer of 2005, all public libraries in Florida will be providing specialized outreach programs that target these underachieving third graders. Through the SLRPP program, the Division is working in partnership with the Just Read, Florida! office and encouraging local libraries to work with local school districts. Additional information about the SLRPP program can be obtained by contacting the Youth Services Consultant or the LSTA grant program manager at the State Library and Archives of Florida.

The goal of the Florida Library Youth Program is “to encourage children in Florida to become lifelong readers and library users.” Children need to learn about the library and the services it offers, to understand that there is a wealth of information and fun waiting for them in a friendly, encouraging atmosphere. The Division wants the experience to be relaxing, pleasurable, and free of stress, especially during school breaks and vacation periods. Provide activities and opportunities for children and families to experience the joy of reading. For that reason, downplay numbers of books read. “How many” is not nearly as important as “how good.” No prizes should be given for number of books read **unless** it is an agreed upon contract between child and librarian. Encourage children to share books and stories in the company of others and discover the satisfaction of reading alone or being read to. That's why local libraries are encouraged to have both group programs and individual guidance.

The ability to read is one of the most important factors leading to success in life. Reading is the foundation for all other learning. Reading skills enable children to negotiate and travel the information superhighway and provide them with the ability to access information in various formats. While the Florida Library Youth Program does not provide formal reading instruction, it does provide numerous opportunities for children and families to discover the joy of reading. Library programs provide language

and literature experiences that expand children’s knowledge about the world as well as providing those experiences that enhance literacy.

Even though competition between individual children in the number of books read is not encouraged, libraries are encouraged to track how consistently children read or are read to. Research has shown that children who read at least twenty minutes a day, five times each week, not only maintain their reading skills over the summer, but can actually improve their reading. Since the goal of this program is to create lifetime readers and library users, the daily reading habit should be encouraged so that it becomes a lifelong habit. To that end, activities and materials for the Florida Library Youth Program are designed to encourage reading on a daily basis, whether that time is as short as five to fifteen minutes each day or as long as five hours or more a day. While “binge reading” can be fun, encourage the daily habit of reading. Libraries are encouraged to count the number of days children read on their own or are read to by others.

Invite community celebrities to a “read-in” at your library. Train interested adults to become volunteer reading partners and pair them with children at the library or with children at outside child serving agencies. Have a designated reader program with significant adults reading to children. Include adults in your summer library program; it is vital for children to see adults participating in reading and literacy activities. Make reading an integral part of the overall program. Work with the Newspapers in Education, Community in Schools, and AmeriCorps programs that may be in the community. Work with the Ready to Learn coordinator at the local PBS station. Integrate the “Designated Reader Campaign” from *Between the Lions* into the program. These programs all want to create a new generation of readers; this is similar to the long-term outcome of the Florida Library Youth Program.

DEVELOPING ASSETS IN YOUTH. The Search Institute has identified a framework of 40 developmental assets for children and young adults that provide a theoretical basis for the summer library reading program. Included in this framework are assets that the Florida Library Youth Program contributes towards.

Asset no. 3	Other adult relationships – Child or young person receives support from non-parent adults.
Asset no. 15	Positive peer interactions – Child or young person plays with children who model responsible behavior.
Asset no. 17	Creative activities – Child or young person participates in music, arts, or drama three or more hours each week through home and out-of-home activities.
Asset no. 25	Reading for pleasure – Child and a caring adult read together for at least 30 minutes a day. Child also enjoys reading without an adult’s involvement.
Asset no. 34	Cultural Competence – Child or young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.

From the research done by the Search Institute on these 40 developmental assets, it appears that the more of these assets a child or young person has, the less likely that individual will be deemed “at-risk” by society. For additional information on this research and to see the entire framework, read *Starting Out Right: Developmental Assets for Children*, by Nancy Leffert, Peter L. Benson, Jolene L. Roehlkepartain (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Search Institute, 1997).

PARENTAL AND CAREGIVER INVOLVEMENT. Building on the research of the Search Institute, a new component has been added to the Florida Library Youth Program manual. This year, suggestions for family literacy activities are included. This section of each chapter, Parenting and Family Activities, promotes family involvement. Local libraries are encouraged to provide information on activities that allow the parent and child to spend time together in literacy related activities. The purpose of these activities is multifaceted:

- To remind parents that they are their child’s first teacher.
- To involve parents in their child’s library and literacy activities.
- To provide parents with ideas for literacy activities that can be shared with their children.
- To promote parent and child together (PACT) time, a component of family literacy programs.

We hope that you will take the ideas presented in the Parenting and Family Activities section of each chapter as well as on the “Tips for Parents” pages and share them with the families that are served by the program.

OUTREACH TO CHILDREN IN POVERTY – The Florida Library Youth Program is funded through a federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant. This legislation provides that LSTA funded projects target “people having difficulty using libraries” and “children in poverty.” To more closely align the Florida Library Youth Program with this goal, libraries are encouraged to provide the majority of their summer programming in outreach locations where this target population actually is. Traditionally, children in poverty have had a difficult time getting to libraries due to distance, lack of transportation, or lack of knowledge of what the library could do for them. To counter that, libraries should provide programs outside the traditional library setting. Libraries are encouraged to provide programs and deposit collections in locations including but not limited to:

camps; child care centers; churches and other religious organizations; community colleges; family child care providers; government sponsored child care centers; Head Start centers; hospitals and other health care agencies (other than public health centers); housing projects; literacy/family literacy centers; migrant worker camps; parks and recreation centers; private child care centers; public health centers; summer schools; YMCAs; and/or Boys & Girls Clubs.

Develop partnerships with these and other agencies. Provide promotional materials for them to distribute to their clientele. Provide programs at these locations. Distribute reading logs during your initial visit. On a return visit, collect completed reading logs and provide hand stamps or some other small reward to each child who has returned one. Leave deposit collections at outreach locations and encourage the adult leaders/caregivers/service providers to read to children and/or provide time for children to read independently on a daily basis.

To assist libraries to develop outreach programs, a special section, "Stories to Go: Portable Outreach Library Programming for School Age Children," was included in the FLYP 1999 Manual, *Readers on the Prowl*. Please refer to this section for suggestions and guidance in developing this important and necessary service.

Libraries are again being asked to keep track of how many outreach programs they present as well as how many people attend these programs. Since we must be able to report that a significant part of our efforts are reaching those children who previously have been underserved, please make certain that much of your local programming efforts are targeted, through outreach programming, to children in poverty.

We are also concerned about reaching children whose primary language is not English. This year, we are again providing some of the promotional materials in Spanish. Please use these items in appropriate places throughout your community. Materials in other languages will be added in future years as warranted.

AGE AND ABILITY LEVELS. The Florida Library Youth Program is designed primarily for elementary school age children. Its purpose is to encourage library use for leisure and continued learning during the time that school is not in session. The Program tends to be recreational rather than educational in nature. This is more a matter of emphasis rather than a true difference in content. The Florida Library Youth Program allows children the freedom and time to follow personal interests and inclinations that may or may not be found in the school curriculum. The importance of keeping school age children reading during the summer and how it affects school learning has been documented in various studies. These studies have been collected and synthesized in Chapter One, "The Literacy/Learning Value of Summer Library Reading," of *Running Summer Library Reading Programs: A How-to-do-it Manual* by Carole D. Fiore (Neal Schuman, 1998).

Although toddlers and preschoolers also have library needs, the primary thrust of the Florida Library Youth Program is not for that age group. The majority of libraries completing the evaluation form in previous program years agreed that elementary school age children are the age group that they want this program to serve. When the FLYP Planning Committee met to plan the Programs for 1999 through 2004, each committee readopted the philosophy of targeting school age children. However, even though that primary target audience remains the same, the FLYP Planning Committee is trying with this 2004 program to extend programming ideas for both younger and older children. Suggested interest levels are included with the annotations so that age

and developmentally appropriate materials may be selected for various age groups. This year, a chapter on working with young adolescents and teens has been added. Libraries are encouraged to adapt the ideas and materials provided through the Florida Library Youth Program for both their younger and older children as appropriate for each community.

All children, regardless of ability or disability, are encouraged to participate in the Florida Library Youth Program at their local public library. Libraries need to offer adaptations, such as sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or visual adaptations, to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Local libraries are encouraged to request deposit collections through the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Services for children with limited vision or physical disabilities that prevent them from using traditional print materials. Contact the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Services at (386) 239-6000 or 1-800-226-6075. For detailed information on working with children with disabilities, see the 1992 Florida Summer Library Program Manual, *Into Books . . . And out of This World!* Additional information about working with children with disabilities can be found in *Programming for Serving Children with Special Needs* (American Library Association, 1994), an Association for Library Service to Children Program Support Publication.

Additional and more detailed information on serving diverse populations can be found in *Running Summer Library Reading Programs: A How-to-do-it Manual* by Carole D. Fiore (Neal Schuman, 1998).

MATERIALS AND INCENTIVES. The mascot character again this year is “Flyp,” a Florida panther. Libraries that requested these materials will receive reproducible master packs that include logo sheets, a coloring sheet, and reproducible reading logs. This year a reproducible “Read-to-Me” log is being provided. Due to requests from the field, most of the print promotional materials are being done in a bilingual (English/Spanish) format.

Posters – Space is provided to include additional information. If more space is needed to customize the poster, mount it on a larger sheet of poster board or foam core. Attach a pocket to the larger poster for display and distribution of bookmarks and/or program fliers. Display posters in schools, community centers, childcare centers, literacy centers, and hospitals and other health care agencies, etc. – not just in the library! Since the goal of this program is to reach people who have not traditionally been library users, program information needs to be out into the community where these potential users are.

Bookmarks - These are your first form of publicity. Use them freely during school and community visits. Leave large quantities of bookmarks with community partners and at all the outreach locations visited. If the library cannot afford to have bookmarks overprinted with library information, get a rubber stamp that includes the name, address, phone number, and hours of operation of the library.

Repro Pack - While not every library will use every item in the reproducible pack, every attempt had been made to provide a variety of materials so that there is something for everyone. Use what you can as is; adapt the rest for your individual library's needs.

This year the repro pack will include more than 10 pages. Many of these items will be provided in a bilingual (English/Spanish) format:

- Logo sheets
- Doorknob hanger (front and back)
- Reading log (2 sheets – cover and inside)
- Read-to-me log (2 sheets – cover and inside)
- Certificate
- Membership card
- Read Around Florida* coloring and activity sheets
- Subtheme heads for each section of the manual that can be used on button machines

The logo sheet contains line drawings of Flyp adapted from the poster and the bookmark as well as the program slogan in several type sizes. Use the logo sheets to create program fliers for programs. Add the mascot to press releases to garner attention.

The repro pack this year will again include the door knob hanger. If possible, reproduce this on card stock. Have children use crayons, markers, or colored pencils to brighten these privacy signs before they are cut out. To make these doorknob hangers last longer, have clear contact available so young readers may laminate them back-to-back after they have been decorated. Encourage children (and their caregivers) to set aside a special place and time every day to read. Please remind children and caregivers to report the number of days they read each week. The annual FLYP evaluation requests that information be reported.

Two sheets in the repro pack are designed to be duplicated back-to-back to create a two-sided reading log. There is a cover sheet with the program logo and space for the reader to place his or her name on the front. The inside provides places that will allow the reader to list books read.

In addition to the reading log, there again will be a “Read-to-Me” Log. This log will be very similar to the reading log. The outside cover has a place for child’s name and age. Encourage children to add the names of reading partners.

The inside of both the reading and read-to-me log will look similar with wide lines that will allow the reader/listener to list the books they read independently or that someone has read to him or her. Add additional inside sheets as the children complete these pages. Feel free to customize the inside of the logs as necessary. Add

categories or genres for books read. Add library-related activities. Use a rubber stamp to validate the child's reading.

The back cover of both the reading and read-to-me log have a modified calendar so children can keep track of the days they read over the course of the summer. *Please encourage children to complete this and report that information to library staff. **Please compile these figures and report the number of days children, teens, and other family members have read over the course of the summer on the annual program report.*** While local libraries may want and need to collect other data elements to report to local stakeholders, the State Library **does** need information on the total number of days that children read during the summer.

Incentives – This year, libraries will again be receiving reading incentives. The incentives distributed statewide to participating libraries will be something related to the theme and will have the program slogan incorporated into the design.

Prizes and completion – The Florida Library Youth Program does **not** give prizes to children in competition with each other to see who can read the most books. It is not a competitive program in which one child is the winner and all others are losers. Rather, in as many ways as possible, local libraries need to devise methods to make certain that every child feels a sense of achievement and pride in accomplishment. This is where we walk the thin line between incentives and competition. Rewards for completing individual contracts, rewards and recognition for number of pages read or number of minutes read, for coming to specific programs, or for teamwork should be handled in such a way that there are no losers. Exactly how this is done varies with the children served and requires judgment on the part of the librarian.

Remember, as stated at the beginning, the goal of the Florida Library Youth Program is “to encourage children in Florida to become lifelong readers and library users.” We want children to learn about the library and the services it offers, to understand that there is a wealth of information and fun waiting for them in a friendly, encouraging atmosphere. Especially during school breaks and vacation periods, the experience should be relaxing, pleasurable, and free of stress. Provide activities and opportunities for children, teens, and their families to experience the joy of reading. We hope that library staff, children, families, and other community members will participate and enjoy the Florida Library Youth Program 2004.

**Read
Around
Florida**



Lectura
Alrededor
de la Florida



FLORIDA

Hi! This is Flyp, a Florida panther, and he is the mascot for the Florida Library Youth Program (FLYP). People seem to get confused as to when to use all capitals and when not to use them. When referring to the panther, use upper case only for the first letter of his name, and then lower case for the rest of the letters. When talking about the overall program – Florida Library Youth Program – and using the acronym, use all upper case letters – FLYP.

Flyp has a new friend, Floyd the Flamingo, who will be joining Flyp on many of the adventures as we **Read Around Florida**. He is going to be Flyp's reading partner. They both hope that everyone will have a reading partner with whom to share the fun of reading.

Florida has many symbols – including the Florida panther. The Florida panther (*Felis concolor coryi*) is the state animal of Florida. This symbol was chosen in 1982 by a vote of students throughout the state. Panthers are the most endangered of all of Florida's symbols.

Other symbols of Florida include:

- Orange juice is the official state beverage. Many people start their day with a glass of this tasty drink.
- The common mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), Florida's state bird, is a superb songbird and mimic. Its own song has a pleasant lilt, varied and repetitive. Often the mockingbird will sing all night long, especially in bright springtime moonlight. You can hear the song of the mocking bird by visiting <http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/symbols/bird.html>.
- The orange blossom was designated State Flower by Concurrent Resolution of the Legislature in 1909. It is

one of the most fragrant flowers in Florida. In 1991 the genus coreopsis was designated as Florida's official wildflower. The coreopsis is found in a variety of colors, ranging from golden to pink. It is found along many roadsides and in gardens throughout Florida.

- The manatee is the state marine mammal and the porpoise is the state saltwater mammal.
- The state reptile is the alligator.
- The sabal palm is the state tree of Florida.

For more information about these and other symbols of Florida, go to the web site sponsored by the Florida Division of Historical Resources,

<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/symbols/index.html>.

This summer, library friends have put together a program about the state we live in, Florida. There is much to learn about the Sunshine State, what the people do here, and who they are.

Before going off on some adventures, spend some time learning some basics about Florida. Here are some facts about Florida to know.

- Florida ranks 22nd among the 50 states in total area. Florida is 58,560 square miles in total area: of those, 54,252 square miles are land and the remaining 4,308 square miles are water.
- Florida is 447 miles long from north to south (from the St. Marys River to Key West), and 361 miles wide from east to west (from the Atlantic Ocean to the Perdido River).
- If you are driving from Key West to Chicago (which is 1575 miles), by the time you get to Pensacola, you are more than half way there. The distance by road from Key West to Pensacola is 792 miles.
- Florida is fairly flat. The highest natural point (345 feet) is near Lakewood in northeast Walton County.
- The geographic center of Florida is 12 miles northwest of Brooksville, in Hernando County.

- Florida has 663 miles of beaches and 1,197 miles of coastline.
- The longest river in Florida is the St. Johns River. It starts near Sanford and flows northward for 273 miles then flows into the Atlantic Ocean at Jacksonville.
- The largest lake in Florida is Lake Okeechobee, covering 700 square miles. This is the largest lake contained in one state in all of the 50 United States.
- Saint Augustine was established in 1565 by Spain. This was the first permanent European settlement in North America.
- Florida became a territory of the United States in 1812.
- Florida was admitted to the United States as the 27th state on March 3, 1845.
- Tallahassee is the capital of Florida.
- There are 67 counties in Florida. The largest county in area is Palm Beach County covering 2,578 square miles. The smallest county in area is Union County with only 245 square miles.
- In the 2000 census, Florida had a population of 15,982,378 and was the fourth most populous state.

Here are some suggested books and web sites where you can find out about Florida. Check out some of these books and other materials at a library. Don't forget to ask a librarian for other suggestions. They have many more books to suggest so you can **Read Around Florida!**

Stories – to share together or read alone

Crane, Carol. ***S is For Sunshine: A Florida Alphabet.***

Learn all about Florida from A to Z. Includes factual information for each letter. Make an alphabet book or display. Let program participants draw things related to Florida, or collect objects and souvenirs from many of the attractions and place them on display around the library.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Maynard, Charles. ***Castillo de San Marcos (Famous Forts Throughout American History)***.

Learn about the famous Spanish fort that guards the marine entrance to the oldest city in North America, Saint Augustine.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Marsh, Carole. ***Chill Out! Scary Florida Tales based on Frightening Florida Truths.***

This is a collection of scary stories about famous and infamous Florida locales.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Heinrichs, Ann. ***Florida (America the Beautiful, Second Series)***.

All of the basics about Florida -- history, economy, people, sports, science, and more -- are covered in this volume

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Sirvaitis, Karen. ***Florida (Hello U.S.A.)***.

This title introduces the geography, history, people, industries, and other highlights of Florida.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Marth, Del and Martha. ***Florida Almanac 2004-2005.***

Fascinating facts and information about Florida presented in almanac format. Use the information presented as background for various programs.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Quasha, Jennifer. ***How to Draw Florida's Sights and Symbols (A Kid's Guide to Drawing America)***.

Directions for drawing the state seal, state flag, and other symbols of Florida are provided. Have lots of drawing paper and crayons, markers, and paints available for everyone to try

their hand at drawing these symbols. Talk about the symbolism in the state seal.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Moo, Anna. ***Anna Moo Crackers.***

Gainesville-based children's performer Anna Moo has created a child friendly CD containing 45 minutes of songs for the entire family. Use track 8, "Florida," as a theme for your summer program. There are songs that go with many of the sections: "Fireflies," track 6 for Animals Alive; "Going Bass Fishing," track 7 for "Take a Hike;" or "Alligator Stomp," track 4, for "Water Mania."

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Internet – connect with the world

Kidz Page -- Historical Museum of Southern Florida.

http://www.historical-museum.org/educate/kids_pages/kidspage.html

These are the "Kidz Pages" for the Historical Museum of Southern Florida. They were designed by DASH (Design and Architecture Senior High School), a Miami-Dade County Public Schools magnet program. The site includes lots of puzzles and games as well as a link to the parent web site -- the Historical Museum of Southern Florida.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

State of Florida.

<http://www.stateofflorida.com/landstock/kidstuff.html>

Click on "Kids Stuff" in the left sidebar and get all kinds of cool Florida information including how many miles of beaches Florida has. (Hint: click on Geography.)

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Florida Memory Project: Online Classroom.

<http://www.floridamemory.com/OnlineClassroom/>

This site provides transcripts and scanned original images of diaries, letters, documents and photographs from the Florida

State Archives. Lesson plans and online activities support the Sunshine State Standards.

Parenting and Family Activities

Birnbaum's Travel Guides. ***Birnbaum's Walt Disney World for Kids, by Kids: 2004.***

This is the most up-to-date edition of this travel guide to one of the leading vacation destinations. This volume is appropriate for home use. Use it to plan a vacation, and as a place to collect photos and souvenirs of your trip. It even includes a section for autographs.

Interest Level: All Ages

Brandon, Pam. ***Unofficial Guide to Florida with Kids, 3rd edition.***

From Tallahassee to Tampa to Disney World and Orlando, this book is full of activities and creative ways to make learning or vacation fun. Whether you're planning a day trip, a long weekend, or an entire vacation, here is insider advice on how to make the most of a Florida vacation.

Interest Level: Parents

Fox, Debbie. ***Sharing the Sun: A Kid's Guide to South Florida.***

This well-written and well-organized book has lots of suggestions of where to go and what to do in South Florida.

Interest Level: Parents

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida

Tips for Parents

Share the joy of books by reading aloud to your children every day, and having them read aloud to you.

Let your children see you reading for pleasure.

Subscribe to magazines and newspapers and discuss current events with your children.

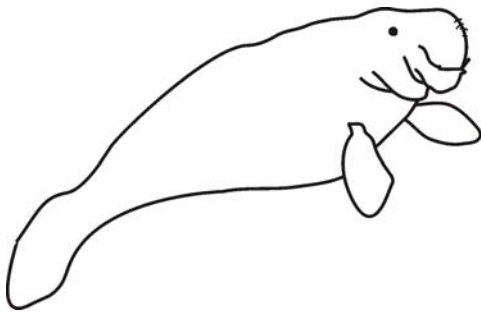
Praise your children for reading.

Make weekly visits to the local public library and participate in special reading summer programs that most libraries offer.





ANIMALS ALIVE



Head out on an expedition into the wild world of animals! Join Flyp and friends on their expedition as they travel into the swamps, rivers, forests, and other habitats found around the sunshine state. Be on the lookout for slithering snakes, mild-mannered manatees,

ferocious panthers, gentle rabbits, buzzing mosquitoes, and soaring birds. Get ready to discover the wide variety of wildlife that lives in Florida and beyond by exploring the library.

Stories – to share together or read alone

Arnosky, Jim. ***A Manatee Morning.***

Readers are introduced to a manatee mother and her baby as they swim in Florida's Crystal River. The sunlit watercolors create one idyllic scene after another, but there's danger on the river as well when a motorboat roars by. The text offers information and a light narrative, told through short lines that rhyme, or nearly rhyme. Pair this with *Manatees* by Becker. Give children information on how to help save the manatees. See Homosassa Springs web site at <http://www.hsswp.com/>.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Arnosky, Jim. ***Turtle in the Sea.***

Arnosky captures the grace and beauty of the sea turtle in this book. The sea turtle's story begins when it is a young turtle. Follow the travels of the turtle's life and the perils it faces until finally she crawls upon the shore to deliver her own eggs for the next generation of sea turtles. Read with soft ocean sounds playing in the background. Using a Florida map, show areas where sea turtles lay their eggs. Talk about the need to keep lights off at these beaches during certain times of the year.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Bedard, Michael. ***Sitting Ducks.***

The ducks are incubated and hatched in the alligator-run factory and fattened up so that they can become food for the 'gators. One day a kind-hearted alligator keeps one of the ducks for his own pet and soon lets him in on a secret: physically fit ducks can fly to their freedom. Read this aloud and allow your listeners to enjoy the illustrations of the nearly irresistible ducks and only mildly menacing alligators.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Christelow, Eileen. ***Great Pig Search.***

As Bert and Ethel shrug and scratch their heads over their lost pigs, other townspeople go about their business, some of them wearing floppy hats and carrying newspapers to shield their faces. How strange. After a postcard reading "Oink!" arrives from Florida, Bert books a beach vacation and spends it asking, "Seen any runaway pigs?" Neither the squealing hotel clerk, the restaurant's pink maitre-d' nor the policewoman with the funny snout can help him. Have children create art for postcards and write notes on them to tell about their vacation.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Costello, Emily. ***Realm of the Panther: A Story of South Florida's Forests.***

Are there really animals like Flyp out in the wild? Two hungry panther kittens go in search of food in Florida's Big Cypress National Preserve. Find out how they fair on their first hunt without their mother. Introduce this book when you are talking about panthers.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Davis, Robin Works. ***Multimedia Storytimes.***

The forty thematic programs presented here are enhanced with technological components selected to "foster good listening, encourage creativity, and promote interactive skills." In addition to these technological resources, books, fingerplays, songs, and videos are recommended as well as related craft and cooking activities. Use the suggestions for "Alligators & Crocodiles," page 15 -16, "Dolphins," page 37 - 38 for your animal programs, "Farm

Life," page 41-43 for "Grow It," and "Trains," page 83- 84 for "Full Speed Ahead."

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Greenberg, David. ***Skunks!***

This silly, stinky story about skunks is a great read-aloud. Children are sure to enjoy the smelly humor of skunks! Use a skunk puppet as a prop.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Hanson, Mary. ***Old Man and the Flea.***

The Old Man that lived alone decided to get a pet flea to keep him company. Unfortunately, the townsfolk thought he was crazy because he appeared to be talking to himself constantly. Read aloud or use with props of an old man and a flea.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Hopkins, Jackie. ***Three Armadillies Tuff.***

The three armadillo sisters are going out on the town for the evening but first they must get past the scrawny coyote. This funny take-off on the *Three Billy Goats Gruff* has a great twist and some funny dialogue. Have the children act out the story as someone reads it aloud. Talk about the similarities and differences of this and the more familiar story.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Jacobs, Francine. ***Sam the Sea Cow.***

Sam is back. Sam the Sea Cow has been re-illustrated and has been a feature selection on Reading Rainbow. This true story follows Sam from his entrapment in a sewer pipe to his ultimate release in the Crystal Rivers of Florida. Consider showing the *Reading Rainbow* segment (Episode 83) that features this book and also a visit to Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge, Homosassa Springs, and Sea World.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Johnson, Tony. ***The Chizzywink and the Alamagoozlum.***

Zeke and Zelda are almost asleep when they hear the voice of the dreaded chizzywink (mosquito) outside their door. "Let me in!

Let me in! I want to sip your sweet blood! Yum!" They look for protection from their hound dogs, a wild boar, and even an alligator but nothing works until they come up with a clever plan. Tell the story with a mosquito puppet and simple props and have the children join in on the refrain.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Lionni, Leo. ***An Extraordinary Egg.***

This is an amusing tale of friendship and mistaken identity. Jessica, a frog, befriends the alligator that hatches from an egg she brings home, thinking that it is a chicken. Introduce the book with a chicken puppet.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Lithgow, John. ***I'm a Manatee.***

This aquatic flight of fancy tells about a boy who dreams that he is a manatee floating in the underwater world. Includes a musical score (including cords for guitar or auto harp). A CD that is included at the back of the book. Play band one of the CD (with Lithgow singing) while reading. After the children have learned the words, play band two, the instrumental version, and have them sing.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Marsh, Valerie. ***Paper Cutting Stories from A to Z.***

Among the alphabet stories to cut and tell, this book has a great turtle cut-out that goes with the story "T." After telling the story, teach listeners to follow the directions for the cut and tell story. The turtle cut-out can be used as a craft for the children.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Marsh, Valerie. ***Storyteller's Sampler.***

This resource book shows many different ways to tell a story. The story, "A Pet for Charlie," page 48, is done in sign language. Have the audience learn the sign language version, too.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Martchenko, Michael. ***Alligator Baby.***

When Kristen's mom has a baby at the zoo instead of the hospital, her parents keep bringing home the wrong baby. First, an

alligator is brought home, then a seal, then a monkey. Eventually, Kristen solves the problem. Make large storyboard characters with human and animal characters. Allow readers and listeners to help point out the animal parts -- claws, flippers, tails, etc.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Mayer, Mercer. ***Liza Lou and the Yeller Belly Swamp.***

Liza Lou's mother sends her through the swamp to visit her Gramma, then her Auntie Jane, and finally the Parson's wife. Along the way Liza Lou meets up with some scary creatures that she must outwit in order to cross through the swamp. This classic is a great read-aloud. It also can be used as a reader's theater presentation. Or make large poster board size characters so children can act this out as it is read aloud.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

McDonald, Megan. ***Night Iguana Left Home.***

Iguana, who lives with Alison Frogley in New York, wants to travel someplace warm, so she heads down to Key West, Florida. Soon Iguana runs out of cash and has to get a job in order to survive. Eventually, Iguana gets enough sun and fun in Key West and also realizes that she misses her friend, Alison. Read this along with a non-fiction book about iguanas. Have someone bring in an iguana to show the audience. Find Key West on a Florida map.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

McNulty, Faith. ***Playing with Dolphins (Hello Reader! Science -- Level 4).***

Many dream of swimming with dolphins. A young girl visiting her older sister who is studying dolphins has just that opportunity. Pair this with an informational book and see what is true and what the author has expanded on.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Mike, Jan. ***Opossum and the Great Firemaker: A Mexican Legend.***

Long ago in a small village there lived an opossum who helped the villagers search for Iguana, the Firemaker. Opossum had to trick Iguana in order to regain the fire for the village. The possum

is the only marsupial that lives in Florida and in North America. Shadow puppets are the ideal way to tell this story.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Mitton, Tony. ***Down by the Cool of the Pool.***

Down by the cool of the pool, Frog cries, "Wheeeeeee! Can you dance like me?" One by one, the animals join in the fun as they make a pyramid and then, splash, all fall joyously into the water where they dance and prance in the cool of the pool. Use with other frog stories such as *Wide Mouth Frog*. Using animal masks, let the children become the frog, duck, sheep, pig, and so on. Wiggle, flap, stamp, and dance!

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Noreika, Robert. ***Marsh Music.***

The marsh comes alive at night with the singing of all kinds of frogs, from spring peepers and wood frogs to leopard and pig frogs. Children will enjoy chiming in with all the sounds. Separate the group into the various marsh animals and have one child conduct this orchestra. A glossary of musical terms and descriptions of the frog musicians are appended.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Pfeffer, Wendy. ***Dolphin Talk: Whistles, Clicks, and Clapping Jaws.***

Part of the *Let's Read and Find Out Science* series. Find out how dolphins communicate with each other in their lively underwater world. Have the group find out how other animals communicate. Make a chart that compares the different animals found in this book.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Prelutsky, Jack. ***Scranimals.***

What do you get when you mix an animal with food? Scranimals. Prelutsky has teamed up with Peter Sis and they have created the wonderful world of Scranimal Island. Have children come up with their own scranimals. Make up a scranimal game using animal parts to create silly creatures.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Salley, Colleen. ***Epossumondas***.

This noodle head story is told by storyteller Colleen Salley and joyously illustrated by Janet Stevens. Epossumondas, depicted here as a diapered young possum, follows his mama's instructions a little too literally. "Oh, Epossumondas, you don't have the sense you were born with! That's no way to carry cake! The way to carry cake is to put the cake on your head, put a hat on your head, and come along home." Next day when Auntie gives him something else, he follows yesterday's instructions. Though the book is set in the Louisiana swamp, most of the animals mentioned are found in Florida. This could be made into an amusing puppet play using puppets of the various animals. Change the nutria to an otter to make it truly Florida.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Schneider, Rex Schneider. ***Wide-Mouthed Frog***.

"I'm a wide-mouthed frog and I eat flies" is what the frog tells the other inhabitants of the swamp when he asks what they eat. He asks many animals till he comes upon one that eats -- wide-mouthed frogs! This is a story from the oral tradition. Use a large frog puppet. Have children add the other animals to the flannel board or the clothesline the story is told. Share the pop-up version by Keith Faulkner with younger children in small groups.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Singer, Marilyn. ***Quiet Night***.

This cumulative story will have audiences joining in on "The moon is big. The moon is bright. A frog bar-rums on a quiet night." The audience-participation options are almost limitless. This book could work performed as a round, in sequence with a gradually climbing crescendo, with stick puppets, or children could simply chime in whenever onomatopoeia is required. Have children add the cut-outs of the various animals to a clothesline during storytime.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Stangl, Jean. ***Paper Stories.***

This book is full of scissor stories to tell including "Who Lives in This House," a story about forest animals. When the storyteller is done with this simple to tell and cut story, there will have be cut outs of five different animals.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Wilson, Karma. ***A Frog in the Bog.***

Reminiscent of *I Know an Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly*, this jaunty version takes place in the bog. One frog sitting on a half submerged log swallows two fleas, three flies, four slugs, five snails – till the frog sees eyes on the log! Those eyes turn out to be a 'gator! Try this as a shadow puppet play or as a clothesline story.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Ziefert, Harriet. ***Egad Alligator!***

Even though Little Gator is friendly, those he meets yell, "Egad Alligator!" and run away. Soon the tables are turned when Little Gator meets something scary and he yells, "Egad Python!" Using puppets for the animals in the story, read the book aloud. Have the children chime in when "Egad Alligator!" repeats. Afterwards, talk about fears and feelings.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Becker, John. ***Manatees.***

This book describes characteristics of manatees and efforts to prevent their extinction. During a booktalk about this and other books about manatees, mention the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has established several manatee sanctuaries in Florida. Display books with a stuffed toy manatee.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Brooks, Walter. ***Freddy Goes to Florida.***

Since birds from upstate New York fly south and migrate for the winter, Mr. Bean's farm animals get the idea that they should do so too. The parade of animals get into some wild adventures on

their trek to Florida. Good for independent reading for children ages 9 through 12; younger for reading aloud.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Clark, Margaret Goff. ***Save the Florida Key Deer.***

These small relatives of the more familiar white-tailed deer have lived on the Florida Keys for thousands of years. Unfortunately, there are now only a few hundred of these endangered animals left. Clark tells of efforts to establish refuges for these appealing indigenous animals.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Crocker, Carter. ***Tale of the Swamp Rat.***

"The old Alligator does not forget, not now and he never will, He remembers the tribe Calusa, he remembers the Ivory Bill, He remembers the Ancient Elephant, He remembers the taste of the Sea, He remembers all that has ever been and all that is yet to be." So says "The Song of the Swamp." This allegorical tale has all the makings of an ancient saga. Set in the Everglades, this tells about Ossie, the small swamp rat. Ossie was the only one of his family not taken – or rather eaten – by Mr. Took, the rattlesnake. The oldest and wisest alligator in the swamp, Uncle Will, befriends Ossie. Follow their year together through drought, fire, and hard times till the rains come and replenish the river of grass and the spirits of the swamp folk. "As the gator goes, so the swamp goes."

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

DiCamillo, Kate. ***Tiger Rising.***

Twelve-year-old Rob Horton who lives in a rural Florida community spends his time carving wood. He and his friend Sistine plan to free a caged tiger.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

George, Jean Craighead. ***Missing 'Gator of Gumbo Limbo.***

A homeless and abused mother and her daughter, Liza, live in the Gumbo Limbo Hammock deep within the lush kingdom of the Florida Everglades. When a harmless – but very large – alligator starts getting noticed, Liza and some friends must figure out a way

to save the creature. This book was originally published in 1992. Reprint editions are currently available.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Hiaasen, Carl. ***Hoot.***

Roy has just moved to Florida from Montana. After being picked on by the school bully, Roy makes some unlikely friends. Roy and his friends set out to save some burrowing owls from a restaurant chain that is set to build on top of where the owls live. A Newbery Honor book in 2003. Using nonfiction books and the web, have readers find where burrowing animals live in Florida.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Knotts, Bob. ***Florida Plants and Animals.***

Find out about the animals and plants that live in Florida. Includes information about endangered species.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan. ***The Yearling.***

This is a classic tale of Florida in the late 1930s and of a young boy growing up during that time. Jody Baxter and his family farm for a living just south of Gainesville. They barely get by with the meager rations they obtain from their crops and hunting. Jody wishes he could have something to call his own, an animal of some kind, but Ma will not allow it. When Pa shoots a doe and its fawn is left all alone, Jody begs Pa to let him keep it. This coming-of-age story has been enjoyed by many generations. Wonderful illustrations by N.C. Wyeth enhance the telling.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Gilbert, LaBritta. ***50 Great Make-It, Take-It Projects.***

This is an exciting and adventurous compendium of creative activities designed for kids ranging from kindergarten through fifth grade. Activities range from making paper butterflies and snowflakes to three-dimensional gumdrop and toothpick sculptures

and simple posters. These activities can be done by elementary age children.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Henry, Sandi. ***Cut-paper Play!***

This book is full of fun and easy crafts to create. For animal fun try making the “Big Mouth Frog” on page 45, the “Dazzling Bird” on page 88, or the “Slithering Snake” on page 94. Have some teen volunteers make some of these animals to use for decorations for the library.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

McCarthy, Tara. ***Literature-Based Geography Activities: An Integrated Approach.***

Lots of activities to make learning about geography fun. When talking about alligators in Florida, use this book. It gives several activities that will enhance these presentations.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Beall, Pamela. ***Wee Sing 25th Anniversary Celebration.***

Animal songs on this CD include "Six Little Ducks" on track 8, "The Bear Went over the Mountain" on track 16, "Kookaburra" on track 32, and many more.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Prelutsky, Jack. ***Frogs Wore Red Suspenders.***

Prelutsky has woven together rhymes that include a variety of animals, people and places in such a fun style that any audience is sure to love this book! Read this aloud. Have fun exploring different animals and their habitats.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Prelutsky, Jack. ***Pizza the Size of the Sun.***

Some of the animal poems in this book include "The Manatee" and "Opossums" found on pages 61 and 86. Using poster board cut outs of the animals with the poem on the back, read these aloud

during a poetry break. Have children "play possum." Play several of the poems from the cassette read by the author.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Singer, Marilyn. ***Fireflies at Midnight.***

This is an upbeat poetry picture book. Each two-page spread features a full-color illustration by Ken Robbins on one side, and a catchy free-verse poem perfect for reading aloud on the other. Each poem has a theme around a certain time of day, from dawn to dusk, as well as a certain animal, from otters to bats to red foxes. Use the individual poems between stories or to introduce a book about these animals, most of which can be found in Florida.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Songs About Insects, Bugs and Squiggly Things.

Children will love these fascinating songs about instincts, metamorphosis, and nature. Clever lyrics and upbeat music about ants, snakes, and butterflies about other animals that are found in Florida are fun and informative. Includes a guide with lyrics to help teach these songs to children. Use "Ants on Parade," track 12, "Make a Snake," track 8, or "Monarch Butterfly," track 4.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Ward, Jennifer and T. J. Marsh. ***Somewhere in the Ocean.***

Patterned after *Over in the Meadow*, this counting book presents various marine animals from one manatee calf to eight baby sea turtles to a mother octopus and "her little babies ten." Ask children to find the numerals hidden in each picture? This counting song can be adapted to a flannel board story or, if there are 55 participants, make masks or hats for each of the babies in the song. If the group is smaller, make hats for each group of animals so ten children can participate.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Yolen, Jane. ***Least Things: Poems about Small Natures.***

Many of the animals featured in this poetry collection can be found in and around Florida. Photographs by Jason Stemple enhance the poems. Sidebars provide information on each of the animals. Have children write their own haikus about the animals

they encounter. If there is access to a camera, allow children to take pictures of the animals and create an anthology.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Community Assets – to broaden the world

Visit from the Zoo.

Bring in a visitor from the zoo or the zoology department of a local college. Many zoos or animal parks have education departments that will provide this service.

Interest Level: All Ages

Internet – connect with the world

Animal Links.

<http://www.netrox.net/~labush/animals.htm>

Norman Labush Ed.D., creator of this site, is a second grade teacher in Broward County, has worked for the National Park Service, and enjoys volunteering at the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) in Ft. Lauderdale. He has collected and organized several web sites that provide information about animals from Florida and other places around the world.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Animated Animals Coloring Book.

<http://floridaconservation.org/educator/colorbook.html>

This website is designed to introduce children to Florida's wide variety of native wildlife and the interesting natural history and behavior of its wild creatures. Print out each letter and have children color them in. Laminate them and put them up for display in the library.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

EcoFlorida: Your Guide to Exploring Natural Florida.

<http://www.ecofloridamag.com/>

This is an online version of the *EcoFlorida Magazine*. Especially enticing is the photo gallery showing native Florida animals.

Interest Level: All ages

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: Manatee Program.

<http://floridaconservation.org/psm/manatee/><http://floridaconservation.org/psm/manatee/>

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission site has information about many of the animals that live in and around Florida, including the manatee. This part of the site also includes boating safety information that protects these endangered animals.

Interest Level: All ages

Florida Museum of Natural History.

www.flmnh.ufl.edu

The Florida Museum of Natural History has exhibits about the history of Florida. Visit the Museum located in Gainesville on the campus of the University of Florida, or make a virtual visit through this web site.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Kids' Planet.

<http://www.kidsplanet.org/>

The Kids' Planet web site has games, coloring sheets, and lots of information about animals from all over the world. In the "Cool Stuff" section, there are coloring pages for hummingbirds and manatees, two of the animals found in and around Florida.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Zobooland Family Fun.

<http://pbskids.org/zoboo/familyfun/activity.html>

This PBS Kids site has lots of animal games and activities for children and their parents to share together. Created by the Kratt brothers of *Kratt's Creatures* fame.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Parenting and Family Activities

Charmichael, Peter. ***Florida's Fabulous Reptiles and Amphibians.***

Snakes, lizards, frogs, alligators, and turtles. Living in Florida means living with and respecting these wild animals that are part of the beauty of our state. Colorful photos allow readers of any age to

identify the animals who slither around our yards. Lots of valuable information about which ones can be admired up close and personal and which ones should be admired from afar. Use this and other field guides when walking thorough wilderness areas or the back yard. Other books in this series include: *Florida's Fabulous Birds*, *Florida's Fabulous Insects*, and *Florida's Fabulous Butterflies and Moths*.

Interest Level: All Ages

Greenburg, Dan. ***How to Speak Dolphin in Three Easy Lessons (Zack Files, 11)***.

While on vacation in Florida, Zack is given the opportunity to swim with the dolphins. He dives right in but is surprised to find that the dolphins are trying to tell him something. He is even more surprised when he realizes that he can understand and talk to them. Greenburg gets extra points for incorporating the board game Scrabble into the story. Share this one together. After reading this one, take out the Scrabble board and play the word game.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida

Tips for Parents

Visit a local park and observe the different types of animals, insects, rocks, and leaves.

Take field trips to natural history museums, botanical gardens, zoos, and local history sites.

Take a walk in the woods, near a lake, at the beach, or near a swamp. Make lists of the different animals you see in each of the different environments.

Read a book about an animal native to Florida. Ask your librarian for some suggestions.





ANIMALS ALIVE



Find the hidden words.
Words can be found in all directions!

Y	M	S	S	N	V	E	F	M	W	U	K	P	S	U
M	Q	C	U	D	R	S	L	O	A	D	T	W	H	D
R	R	A	E	B	I	B	O	T	X	N	Q	C	A	L
C	E	L	D	F	C	D	R	I	R	O	A	V	R	H
E	Y	L	Z	E	P	H	I	Y	I	U	L	T	K	V
L	O	O	Y	E	J	Z	D	O	Q	M	T	V	E	S
G	Q	P	C	R	O	T	A	G	I	L	L	A	P	E
A	Q	K	M	B	S	R	P	N	E	M	J	I	E	M
E	E	H	C	N	O	C	A	I	M	N	D	F	N	S
R	X	P	A	Z	J	T	N	M	O	E	A	I	K	T
W	E	K	F	T	A	H	T	A	R	T	H	R	E	H
G	E	G	S	G	F	D	H	L	U	P	T	R	C	W
Y	K	V	N	F	H	M	E	F	L	C	G	E	C	D
F	R	O	G	S	V	L	R	O	W	E	O	M	R	W
L	M	Z	Z	K	E	Y	D	E	E	R	T	R	G	W

WORD LIST

ALLIGATOR
BEAR
CONCH
CRANE
DOLPHIN
EAGLE
EGRET

FLAMINGO
FLORIDA PANTHER
FROGS
HAWK
KEY DEER
MANATEE
OTTER

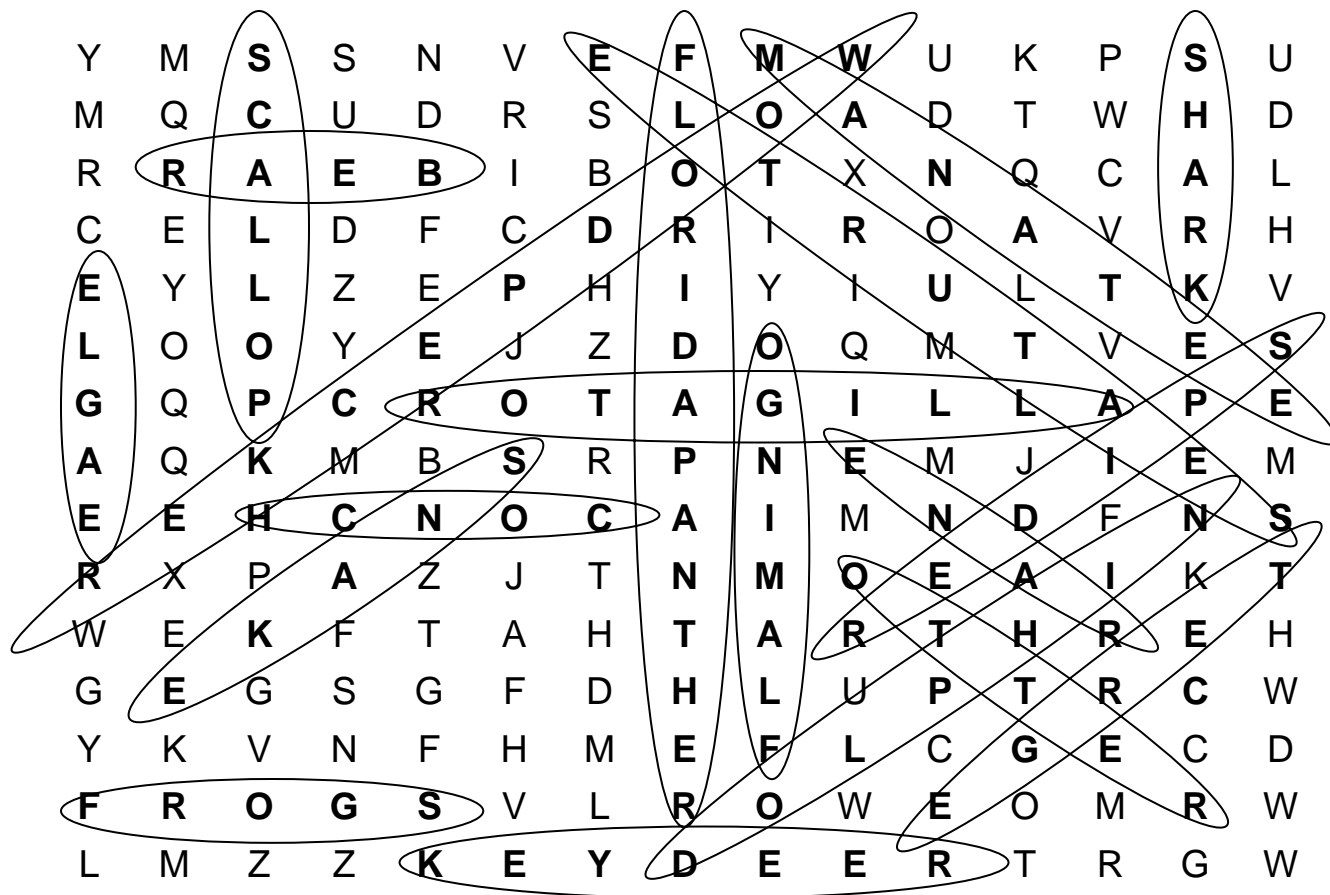
SCALLOP
SEA TURTLE
SHARK
SNAKE
SPIDER
WOODPECKER





ANIMALS ALIVE

Answer Sheet



WORD LIST

ALLIGATOR
BEAR
CONCH
CRANE
DOLPHIN
EAGLE
EGRET

FLAMINGO
FLORIDA PANTHER
FROGS
HAWK
KEY DEER
MANATEE
OTTER

SCALLOP
SEA TURTLE
SHARK
SNAKE
SPIDER
WOODPECKER





FULL SPEED AHEAD!



Whether by train, plane, car, or boat, Flyp and his friends have plenty of suggestions about transportation and getting around our state. Learn about the ships that brought the original settlers to Florida and the New World. See how the railroads helped bring people and supplies to Florida. Try your hand at drawing planes, ships, and trains. Join Flyp at a country crossing as trains go by in the dead of night. Even the

school bus is a form of transportation. Enjoy the trip as many people head for the sunshine state. Read and find out about the many ways people get around. The best place to begin this journey is the library.

Stories – to share together or read alone

Aylesworth, Jim. ***Country Crossing.***

The text by Aylesworth and illustrations by Ted Rand recreate the sights and sounds at a train crossing in the country one summer night. As a grandfather and his grandson patiently wait in an old car, the sights and sounds of a long and noisy freight train are shared. Clang, clang! Whooawoo! Have all the children sit in a line as if they were part of the train. Let them all make the sound effects as the book is read aloud. Pair this offering with Watty Piper's *Little Engine that Could*.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Barclay, Jane. ***Going on a Journey to the Sea.***

A small boy is fairly bursting with happiness when his older sister takes him on a trip to the seaside. They begin their journey under a wide blue sky first on foot then by train, bus, and bicycle. Finally they reach the shore, where they share a golden day of frolicking and freedom. Have props symbolizing the various forms of transportation and use them as the story is

read. Ask children to talk about how they get from place to place. Make a chart of types of transportation and see how many children have used each form. Include some forms that the children would not have experienced to show the importance of zero.

Interest Level: Preschool

Bauer, Caroline Feller. ***Presenting Reader's Theater: Plays and Poems to Read Aloud.***

This impressive volume contains over 50 reader's theater scripts. All the tools needed to have an enjoyable experience with reader's theater are in this book. Bauer has created a script that adapts a section from Lois Lowry's book *Switcharound*. Use "At the Airport" found on page 189 for this segment of the program.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Christelow, Eileen. ***Great Pig Search.***

Bert and Ethel travel to Florida in search of their runaway pigs and find them in unexpected places. Share this book in a storytime program. Create story props of pigs dressed in clothes.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Crews, Donald. ***Freight Train.***

This Caldecott Honor book features bold illustrations that show a colorful train that runs across the track. Add each car to the train on a track to help with color recognition.

Interest Level: Preschool

Gibbons, Faye. ***Mama and Me and the Model T.***

When Mama gets behind the wheel of the new Model T that her husband just drove into the yard of their home, she proves that she can drive a car as well as the men of the family. The blending of Gibbons' words and Ted Rand's pictures show how wonderful a blended family can be -- just as wonderful as the blended family in this book. Use with Peter Spier's *Tin Lizzie* (Doubleday).

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Grimes, Nikki. ***Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman.***

A biography of the woman who became the first licensed African American female pilot. The wonderful illustrations by E. B. Lewis capture some things that words cannot. Do not plan to read every page to the older children. Rather, read 3 - 4 page selections and let listeners read the rest of the book and pour over the illustrations.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Irving, Jan. ***Full Speed Ahead: Stories and Activities for Children on Transportation.***

This book has tons of ideas that can be used as is or adapted to other books about transportation including feet, flippers, skates, tractors, magic carpets, cars, trucks, and trains. Lots of story time ideas are included in this book by librarian Jan Irving.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Johnson, Angela. ***I Dream of Trains.***

Told through the eyes of a black child who toils in a cotton field near the railroad tracks, this powerfully illustrated picture book looks at legendary engineer Casey Jones. Read this aloud and share the illustrations. Pair with other versions of the Casey Jones stories.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Kirk, Daniel. ***Bus Stop, Bus Go!***

An escaped hamster enlivens the ride on an already chaotic school bus. Kirk's illustrations capture the mood. Line up the chairs two by two as if the program room were a bus. Let the children in the group act out the story as the book is read aloud.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Kuklin, Susan. ***All Aboard! A True Train Story.***

Full-color photographs by Kuklin merge magically with her text to tell the story of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway and steam rail travel in general. Have the children make all the

sounds as the book is read aloud; share the photos. As a follow-up and to learn more about his historic train line, visit the website at www.durangotrain.com.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Stevenson, James. ***Worst Goes South.***

Grumpy Mr. Worst, the worst person in the world, jumps into his '59 Edsel and leaves for Florida to avoid the bother of his town's harvest festival. Upon his return home, he feels more sociable and even sends a painted coconut to the festival craft show. Have readers decorate real coconuts or some paper mache ones.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Tarpley, Natasha Anastasia. ***Joe-Joe's First Flight.***

In the 1920s, in a town called Blind Eye, a boy named Joe-Joe dreams about flying. His father works at the town's airport, but like the other African American workers, he hasn't been allowed to fly planes. The town's hopelessness hangs so heavily that "even the moonlight and stars can't get through." One evening Joe-Joe goes to the airport with his father, and as he curls up in a plane's cockpit, he dreams of soaring off the runway and coaxing the moon to follow him home. Since E. B. Lewis' exquisite watercolors capture the joy and sense of empowerment in the boy's fantasy as well as the tenderness between father and son, read this aloud and share the illustrations. Children who share Joe-Joe's dream will also love Lewis' detailed images of the antique planes.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Piper, Watty. ***Little Engine that Could.***

When the other engines refuse, the Little Blue Engine tries to pull a stranded train full of dolls, toys, and good food over the mountain in time for Christmas. Don't wait till Christmas to share this with young listeners. Using cardboard boxes with the tops and bottoms cut out, let the children make various cars for the train. Use rope or twine to hang the cars

over the children's shoulders. Let them act out the story as it is read aloud.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Wormell, Christopher. ***Puff-Puff, Chugga-Chugga.***

Puff-Puff, Chugga-Chugga here comes a little train! The little train holds lots of passengers and lots of packages. What happens when Mrs. Elephant sneezes? Hop aboard and find out. Have the children make sound effects the this book iss read aloud – especially Mrs. Elephant's sneeze.

Interest Level: Preschool

Wright, Catherine. ***Steamboat Annie and the Thousand-Pound Catfish.***

An ornery giant catfish that does not like singing causes trouble for the residents of a little town called Pleasant, until Steamboat Annie teaches him a lesson. Tell the story to older children in grades 3 through 5. The illustrations by Howard Fine are wonderful and perfect for sharing with younger children K-2.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Gantos, Jack. ***Jack on the Tracks: Four Seasons of Fifth Grade.***

After moving with his unbearable sister to Miami, Florida, Jack tries to break some of his bad habits but finds himself irresistibly drawn to things disgusting, gross and weird.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Kleitsch, Christel. ***It Happened at Pickle Lake.***

Rachel would rather be in Florida with her best friend than on vacation with her parents at Pickle Lake until she climbs to the top of Silver Peak. Ask readers to write about what they would like to do on their vacations. Or have them draw about the vacation of their dreams and place their dialogue in voice balloons, like in the book.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Linz, Kathi. ***Chickens May Not Cross the Road: And Other Crazy (But True) Laws.***

A collection of humorous laws from across the country, along with information on why laws exist, and how they are established. Some of the goofy laws include: it is illegal to tie a crocodile to a fire hydrant (Michigan State Law); monkeys shall not ride on buses (San Antonio, Texas); and no one may drive while asleep (Memphis, Tennessee). The illustrations add a lot of humor to the examples. There are several laws that are related to transportation and quite humorous to the elementary-age child. Create some pictures to help share the various laws. Ask children to write some laws that they wish were on the books.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Osborne, Mary Pope. ***Pirates Past Noon (Magic Tree House #4).***

The Magic Tree House whisks Jack and Annie back to the days of deserted islands, secret maps, hidden gold and nasty pirates.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Roy, Ron. ***Goose's Gold: An A to Z Mystery.***

When Ruth Rose and her friends visit her grandmother in Key West, Florida, they discover that she and some other senior citizens are about to invest in a project to recover some sunken treasure. Ruth Rose and friends stumble upon evidence that the entire plan may be a fraud. This novel gives realistic details about salvaging shipwrecks. Use a map of Florida during a booktalk about this light mystery. Have other books about sunken treasure available, too.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Sullivan, George. ***Slave Ship: The Story of the Henrietta Marie.***

In telling the story of the "Henrietta Marie," a slave ship that sank 35 miles off the Florida coast in the early 1700s, Sullivan delves into the Atlantic slave trade, conditions aboard

slave ships, research into historical records of the "Henrietta Marie," and the search for the ship itself.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Ames, Lee. ***Draw 50 Boats, Ships, Trucks and Trains.***

Step by step, the reader is drawn into the world of vehicle drawing. Anyone will find it easy to follow the sequential pictures and draw all sorts of fascinating models.

Interest Level: All ages

Lee, Carol K. and Janet Langford. ***Learning About Books and Libraries: A Gold Mine of Games.***

This is a practical resource for teachers, librarians, and home school parents. There are 47 educational, action-packed games with easy-to-follow instructions, grade level, and sample questions for each. Use "Railroad Crossing," pages 68-70, to go along with your programs on trains. "Biblio-Baseball," pages 31 - 32, can help teach parts of a nonfiction book during sports programs.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Stringner, John. ***Machines, Transportation and Art Activities (Arty Facts).***

This book provides lots of information about various machines, especially those related to transportation. These form the foundation for a variety of craft projects. Use the section on Steam Engines or Windjammers with 8- to 12-year olds.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Williamson, Susan. ***Vroom! Vroom!: Making 'Dozers, 'Copters, Trucks & More (Williamson Kids Can! Series).***

This book provides instructions for using milk cartons, egg cartons and other materials to make the various vehicles. Save some of these easily-obtained materials for craft projects that

can be done by young children with some parental involvement and independently by older children.

Interest Level: Parents

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Cars, Trucks and Trains.

Lively, singable songs help young children learn about transportation, including the fire engine, dump truck, school bus, safety signs and what makes an engine go. The Learning Station starts in this musical adventure. Includes an educational guide with lyrics.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Denver, John. ***All Aboard!***

Children and adults will enjoy all 14 train songs on this album. From the toe tapping “Freight Train Boogie/Choo Choo Ch’boogie,” track 2, to the a capella version of the spiritual “Lining Track,” track 13, or Denver’s version of the Curtis Mayfield song, “People Get Ready,” track 12, there is something for everyone. Use “I’ve Been Working on the Railroad,” track 5, as a participation song with children. Use “Little Engine That Could,” track 9, with the book of the same title.

Interest Level: All ages

Fox, Dan. ***A Treasury of Children's Songs: Forty Favorites to Sing and Play.***

This songbook contains forty classic childhood songs that are imaginatively illustrated with treasures from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Here are songs that young children can act out, such as “London Bridge,” “Pop Goes the Weasel,” and “The Mulberry Bush.” There are also work songs, such as “I’ve Been Working on the Railroad;” ballads, like “Shenandoah;” and nursery songs, including “Oats, Peas, and Beans.” The selections are drawn from popular traditions around the world; some have been enjoyed and sung for hundreds of years. Throughout the book are insightful

comments on the art and the songs. All of the selections include simple arrangements for musical accompaniment. Use "I've Been Working on the Railroad," page 46-47, in the transportation program.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Krull, Kathleen. ***I Hear America Singing: Folk Songs for American Families.***

Originally published as *Gonna Sing My Head Off!*, this big, colorful songbook is now reissued for the first time with a 23-song CD created especially for it. The book includes 62 of the best-loved American folk songs, with all the lyrics and easy-to-play musical arrangements of the tunes everyone remembers although they may need a little help with the words. Here are "Michael, Row the Boat Ashore," "On Top of Old Smoky," "Home on the Range," "I've Been Working on the Railroad," and "This Land Is Your Land," to name a few of the songs that represent the American spirit and history. With each beautifully illustrated song is a note about its origin. Use "Casey Jones," page 111-13, or "Freight Train," page 36-37, for train programs.

Interest Level: All ages

Marsalis, Wynton. ***Big Train.***

The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra along with Wynton Marsalis and his crew guide the listener through the syncopated scenery of America's harmonic, rhythmic, and melodic places and spaces. The rhythm of clickitty-clack permeates throughout as well as many sounds that one would associate with a big locomotive. Start a train program with track 1, "All Aboard," and end it with track 12, "Caboose." Use some of the other tracks as background music.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Songs about America: Celebrating America's History.

This compilation includes 21 songs that help relate significant events in the history of the US. Paddle wheelers were a major form of transportation in early Florida. Use track

6, "Paddle Wheelers," as you discuss the various methods of transportation used in Florida over the years.

Interest Level: All ages

Community Assets – to broaden the world

Airport Authority Community Relations Staff or Civil Air Patrol.

The fastest way to get from one end of the country to the other is to fly. Contact your local airport to see if they have speakers that will come out and talk about flying safety and airport regulations. Members of the Civil Air Patrol can talk about their participation in search and rescue missions.

Interest Level: All ages

Antique Automobile Clubs.

Who can resist looking at antique cars or classic cars from the 40s, 50s, or 60s? For a car show in the library parking lot, contact a classic car club. Or have just one person with a classic car come and talk about the classic and antique cars.

Interest Level: All ages

Local Water Safety Program.

With Florida's abundant lakes, rivers, and miles of beaches, many people enjoy boating, water-skiing, and jet skiing. Contact your local parks and recreation department, harbor master, Coast Guard Auxiliary, or Power Squadron and arrange to have them do a boating and water safety program.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Model Railroad Club.

Find the local model railroad club. Invite them in to show model trains and to talk about safety issues with railroad crossings.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Railroads – CSX, Atlantic Coast Rail lines, Amtrak, and others.

Many of the rail companies will provide speakers about safety and railroad crossings as well as about the trains themselves. Do an Goggle search for Florida railroads to locate them.

Interest Level: All ages

Internet – connect with the world

Beginning of Florida's Turnpike.

<http://fpc.dos.state.fl.us/memory>

View original photos of the Sunshine State Parkway, now known as the Florida Turnpike, when it was first being built, 1957 through 1967. More information can be viewed at the Florida Memory Project: Florida Photographic Collection web site at <http://fpc.dos.state.fl.us/memory/>.

Interest Level: Middle School

Crayola.

www.crayola.com/educators/lessons

Locate lots of crafts that relate to various forms of transportation at this site. Paddle-Wheel Steamboats plied the St. Johns River and there are directions to create a model paddle wheel steamboat at this site.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Florida Gulf Coast Railroad Museum.

<http://www.fgcrmm.org/>

The Florida Gulf Coast Railroad Museum, Inc. was founded in 1981 to acquire, protect, preserve and operate interesting and historic examples of railroad rolling stock, artifacts, and other aspects of railroad history, with emphasis on railroads that served the state of Florida. The museum operates excursion trains consisting of its own rolling stock every weekend, year round.

Interest Level: All ages

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida

Tips for Parents

Take a trip to an airport. Watch planes landing and taking off.
Read the schedules and talk about where the family wants to go.

Using a map of Florida, find out how many miles it is from where you live to Disney World, Key West, and Kennedy Space Center and other places in Florida.

Many communities have a local railroad museum. Visit it!

Take a train ride.

Borrow a book about transportation from a local library.



Insert Hidden Picture – Grandpa’s Trains



GROW IT!



Tourism may be the number one industry in Florida, but agriculture is number two. Agriculture includes the cultivation of crops, raising livestock, and farming, and every county in Florida is involved in some way producing food that feeds our country and the world. Florida leads the nation in the production of 20 major agriculture crops including some of Flyp's favorites: oranges, grapefruit, sugarcane, tomatoes, sweet corn,

tangerines and tangelos, squash, and watermelons. Florida also ranks high in production of avocados, blueberries, cabbage, carrots, cattle, celery, honey, peanuts, potatoes, squash, strawberries, tobacco, tomatoes, and watermelons. Join Flyp and his friends as they find out what is happening down on the farm and in the agricultural community.

Stories – to share together or read alone

Ada, Alma Flora. ***Mediopollito/Half-Chicken: A New Version of a Traditional Story.***

A weather vane is a typical ornament on top of a farm house. How did the chicken get there? This amusing picture book in Spanish and English tells the story of the birth and life of the 13th egg of a brooding hen that hatches and becomes a weather vane. Best when told or read aloud. Craft a weathervane or use a real one when ending the story.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Aliki. ***Corn Is Maize: The Gift of the Indians.***

An easy-to-understand description of how corn was discovered and used by the Indians and how it came to be an important food throughout the world. Corn and rice are both grown in Florida. Both grains are grasses and are two of the top grains that feed the world. The illustrations make this easy non-fiction book easy to use in a story time. Use an actual ear of corn and talk about how it is pollinated to produce each little kernel. Follow that with a corn husk craft.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Auch, Mary Jane. ***Souperchicken.***

Henrietta the hen learns how to read. Soon, instead of laying eggs, all Henrietta wants to do is read. The rest of the hens (Henrietta's aunts) on the farm think they are going on vacation, but Henrietta knows the truth - she reads the sign that shows that the chickens are heading to the soup company. Find out how Henrietta rescues her aunts as well as other farm animals. Read the story aloud one time. Talk about what happened in the story with your listeners. Then have children act out the story using props.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Berger, Melvin. ***From Peanut to Peanut Butter: Start to Finish.***

Take a photographic trip that follows the growing of peanuts to the production of peanut butter. Read this aloud and share the photographs. Then try making peanut butter in a blender. Invite a peanut farmer in the area to tell about how their farm works.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Bruce, Annette J. and J. Stephen Brooks, compilers.
Sandspun.

Here's a collection of tales rich with homespun humor, charm, and wisdom, all told with flair by some of Florida's best and most sought-after storytellers. "The Silent Customer," "Kissimmee Bound," and "The Ghost Dog of the Biltmore" chill spines. Heed the Cracker wisdom handed down in "Seek the

Higher Ground," cow-hunter poetry with a message. Chuckle over the misadventures of Flossie, Bubba, and Flo in "Three Little Cracker Pigs," a tongue-in-cheek version of the classic children's tale. Indian legends are also included. This collection of Florida short stories has includes "The Jerusalem Apple," a humorous telling of how the to-may-to or the to-mah-to came to Florida. Best when told aloud.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

DeFelice, Cynthia. ***Old Granny and the Bean Thief.***

Old Granny loves beans and cooks a pot every day. She keeps a pot in the oven so she can eat them whenever she wants. A thief strikes and her unusual friends come to her aid to catch him. The down-home narrative is folksy and fun to read aloud. Have listeners join in on Granny's refrain, "In a pig's eye! My, oh, my!"

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Doyle, Malachy. ***Cow.***

Large illustrations and simple text follow a slow, bucolic full day in the life of a dairy cow. Read aloud and pair with non-fiction books about dairy farming, milk and ice cream. As a follow up, churn butter in a can or make ice cream in a baggy or in a coffee can as in Jules Older's book (see page 57).

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Fleischman, Sid. ***McBroom's Ear.***

The war is on when the grasshoppers attack Josh McBroom's fabulous one-acre farm and prize ear of corn. Tall tales bring laughter and giggles and this one will delight those intermediate readers. Follow this with a popcorn treat or craft using popped corn to create pictures of an ear of corn.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Friedrich, Elizabeth. ***Leah's Pony.***

Using spare text and lovely pictures, this book tells the moving story about farmers who try to retain their land during the 1930s -- the time of the Great Depression and the Dust

Bowl. This great read-aloud illustrates the life and times of the small farmer and one girl's love for her pony and her family.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Hughes, Meredith Sayles. ***Spill the Beans and Pass the Peanuts: Legumes (Plants We Eat).***

Photographs and engaging sidebars along with the text provide historical, agricultural, and botanical information about beans, peanuts, lentils, and peas. Pair this with other peanut books or books about other Florida crops.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Kimmell, Eric. ***Onions and Garlic: An Old Tale.***

The youngest of a merchant's three sons proves that he is not as foolish as he was thought to be when he trades a sack full of onions for a fortune in diamonds. This is a universal tale that can be found in various cultures; this retelling is derived from Jewish lore. Tell this story or have the children act it out while you read aloud. Have several different types of onions and garlic bulbs to show the children. Allow the adventurous ones taste some varieties -- such as Vidalia, Bermuda, and yellow onions, and even elephant garlic.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Krebs, Laurie. ***The Beeman.***

A warm, rhyming text that introduces readers to basic information about bees, the bee hive, equipment, and gathering honey. This rhyming text modeled after "The House That Jack Built" makes for a great read aloud followed by tasting honey. This could be the basis of a presentation on beekeeping. Invite a beekeeper with all the equipment to be a guest speaker.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Kunhardt, Edith. ***I'm Going to be a Farmer.***

This picture book for preschoolers features a young brother and sister who live on a farm. Photographs take the reader through a day's activities on the farm. Collect photos showing farm scenes and use them to expand on the book.

Interest Level: Preschool

MacDonald, Alan. ***Pig in a Wig.***

This is a delightful story about a pig named Peggoty who is teased about being bald. When Peggoty asks all the animals on the farm about her problem she gets a variety of answers. In the end readers will come to know that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Use puppets and props to recreate this story and involve listeners.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Nolen, Jerdine. ***Plantzilla.***

In a series of letters, Mortimer Henryson, a third grade boy, Mr. Lester, his science teacher, and the parents discuss the progress of a very unusual, sometimes frightening plant that becomes more human as the summer progresses. The plant starts to grow tentacles and to eat meat (the dog disappears) and perform all sorts of amazing feats. The illustrations in this book are delightful. Use with a small group in a storytime or as a booktalk with a large group. The story truly shows how caring for plants brings joy to people.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Older, Jules. ***Ice Cream: Including Great Moments in Ice Cream History.***

This light-hearted and informative text chronicles the history and trivia of ice cream. A timeline along the bottom of each page takes readers along the ice cream continuum. Lyn Severance, who designed the look of Ben and Jerry's carton art, brightens up the pages with bold graphics. Read the book aloud and then have the children make ice cream in a coffee can. Children of all ages will delight in creating their own flavors from the basic vanilla mixture. Have the children create a timeline of their own life.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Owen, Oliver. ***Seed to Peanut.***

The peanut is not a nut but a member of the bean family. It ranks sixth in crops grown in Florida. This book for intermediate readers presents the story of the peanut from

growth, farming, uses, and the how-to's for growing, harvesting, and roasting your own. Combine this with a biography of Dr. George Washington Carver, the "Found a Peanut" song, and making peanut butter for a lively storytime.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Ray, Deborah Kogan. ***Lily's Garden.***

Each picture depicts a child's journey through the seasons on a farm. Lily is corresponding with her grandparents who have moved out of state and they share the growing and harvesting of oranges, maple syrup, peas, flowers, etc. An easy-to-read guide to gardening also shows a loving, constructive way to cope with the grandparent's move to another state. Create a calendar showing what can be grown during what month.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Schuh, Mari. ***On the Farm Series.***

Schuh has several books in this series: *Cows on the Farm* (2002); *Pigs on the Farm* (2002); *Sheep on the Farm* (2002); and *Chickens on the Farm* (2002). This beginning reader series focuses on animals that live and interact with one another on a farm. Internet sites are listed for more reading opportunities at www.facthound.com. The photographs and simple texts could be used when working with groups of children as introductions to animals.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Tolstoy, Aleksei. ***The Gigantic Turnip.***

An old man and old woman plant their spring garden. Then, as the sun and rain ripen all the vegetables, a lonely turnip at the end of the row grows to be gigantic. With the help of all the farm animals they are able to harvest the turnip. This is a Russian folktale from the twelfth century. This "chain formula" story has many variations including "The Giant Carrot" by Jan Peck, "The Turnip" by Pierr Morgan, and "The Enormous Potato" by Aubrey Davis. This story lends itself beautifully to audience participation. Children can be asked to come forward and with a hat, mask, or sign and play each of

the roles as the story is told or read aloud. Also available in a paperback Spanish edition, ISBN 1841483966.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Wallace, Karen. ***Scarlette Beane.***

Scarlette's fifth birthday present is a vegetable garden. She loves her garden and with the help of twinkling green light fingertips she creates a unique garden for family and friends. Use garden tools and artificial vegetables to tell this delightful story.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Wallace, Nancy Elizabeth. ***A Taste of Honey.***

A little bear and her father trace the origins of honey from the jar all the way back to the bees that first produced it. This is a delightful picture book that begins with the question, "Where does honey come from?" and, with each response from father bear comes the response, "Before that?" There is game board for a game showing how honey is made and lots of interesting "honey facts." With a jar of honey and a slice of bread, this book would create a lively storytime. The Honey Game game board could be adapted and played to round out the story.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Wheeler, Lisa. ***Old Cricket.***

Old Cricket didn't get to be a ripe old age "by being a dumb bug." No, sir. When his wife asks him to ready their roof for the winter, he fakes a knee injury to weasel out of it. Delightful illustrations by Ponder Goembel show the animals that live on and near the farm close-up and in detail. Have older children turn this into a reader's theater presentation or even a puppet show. Have them present it to family groups.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Widman, Christine. ***Cornfield Hide-and-Seek.***

A humorous adventure game of hide-and-seek with Mamaw, Grampy, and three children who all become sun-dazzled from the heat of the sun and take refuge in the cool shade of the corn field. This loosely-structured cumulative tale

will delight young readers. A fun read-aloud that could easily be paired with Fleischman's *McBroom, Old Granny and the Bean Thief* by DeFelice, and *Souperchicken* by Mary Jane and Herm Auch for a humorous down-on-the-farm storytime. Add a corn craft for a complete program.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Aliki. ***Milk: From Cow to Carton (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Book).***

Briefly describes how a cow produces milk, how the milk is processed in a dairy, and how various other dairy products are made from milk. Booktalk this, use it with craft activities when making ice cream or cheese, or as an introduction to a guest speaker - the dairy farmer. Pair this with *Hooray for Dairy Farming* by Bobbie Kalman and *The Milk Makers* by Gail Gibbons.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Anton, William. ***Corn: From Farm to Table.***

Photographs and brief text describe the growing, harvesting, and processing of corn.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Berenstain, Stan and Jan. ***Berenstain Bears and the Missing Watermelon Money.***

The bear detectives help Farmer Ben find the culprits who stole the money he earned selling his delicious watermelons. Add this to a list of books for beginning readers or it could be read aloud and used with a watermelon craft activity for primary age children.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

DeGroat, Diane. ***Annie Pitts, Artichoke.***

When Annie and her third grade class put on a play about nutrition, it has more surprises than the teacher expected.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Doherty, Gillian. ***1001 Things to Spot on the Farm.***

A seek-and-find book with pages featuring equipment, farm life, people, animals, and other aspects of farm life. A fun book for display and use in the library, or as a circulating book. Leave this book out and have young readers find specific aspects of life on the farm.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Fleischman, Paul. ***Seedfolks.***

This award winning novel presents thirteen voices who share their stories about a inner-city garden that transforms them and their neighborhood. After several people have read the book, let them choose a character and have them act out part of the book.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Gentle, Victor and Janet Perry. ***Florida Cracker Horses.***

The people who live the cracker way of life are the "cowboys of Florida." Single-page spreads that include full color photographs and text take the reader through the four years it took for Dewaine Hazellief and his dad to capture and train Blue to be a cow horse. This title from the *Great American Horses* series provides the history and current use of the Florida cracker horse.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Greenburg, Dan. ***Elvis the Turnip and Me.***

It's late at night and Zack is starved because his dad is on a health kick. All he has for dinner is a wheat-germ burger, a sprout salad, and carrot juice. So down to the kitchen he tiptoes to get chocolate chip cookies and a Dr. Pepper. When he opens the refrigerator door to get the pop, he hears the singing coming from the vegetable bin. It is "You Ain't Nothin' but a Hound Dog." Read the discovery of the turnip on pages 4-7 aloud and after the reading ask, "If you had a turnip that looked and sang like Elvis, what would you do?"

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Hansen, Ann Larkin. ***Farm Kids.***

Colorful photographs and one-page spreads describe many aspects of life for children who live on a farm. Topics include school, work, play, 4H clubs, and fair. Use this book for discussions about farm life and how it differs from living in the city. Make a chart that shows the differences and similarities.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Holub, Joan. ***Why Do Horses Neigh?***

This beginning reader presents questions and answers to give information about the behavior and characteristics of horses and their interactions with humans. Use some of these facts in-between stories or use them as the basis for a quiz show.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Hughes, Meredith Sayles. ***Stinky and Stringy: Stem and Bulb Vegetables.***

This series, *Plants We Eat*, provides historical origins, use and growing requirements of the root, stem, leaf, fruit, bulb, and tuber vegetables we eat. A close-up look at planting, harvesting, and processing is depicted in the colorful photographs. Display other books in the series together. Create a "name that vegetable" contest to go along with a themed story time featuring fiction books with vegetables.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Jimenez, Francisco. ***The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child.***

This collection of strong, honest, short stories follows a family of Mexican migrant workers as they come to the U.S. to find a better life. Panchito, the youngest son narrates these poignant tales describing poverty and the family's struggle to survive as they move from crop to crop. Through faith, hope, and backbreaking work, the family endures and grows. Florida has thousands of migrant workers who plant and harvest crops and tend animals. Even though this family lived in California, these stories illustrate the life of these families and the impact of this lifestyle on growing up and surviving.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Kalman, Bobbie. ***Hooray for Dairy Farming.***

A photographic look at life on a dairy farm. Describes how the cows are housed, fed, cared for, and milked. Booktalk, display, use in storytime with fiction books, or read aloud before a visit from a dairy farmer.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Kite, Patricia. ***Gardening Wizardry for Kids.***

About 300 plant-growing projects for windowsill and kitchen gardens. Snippets of history, craft projects, and science experiments provide for a wealth of ideas. Highlight this as a great resource for plant projects that can be done inside the house.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Knotts, Bob. ***All Around Florida: Regions and Resources.***

Information about the agricultural resources and crops of the various regions is provided. Pertinent, easy-to-read information, maps, and glossary provide snippets to infuse in a storytime or serve as a basis for developing a "newscast" on a region.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Kral, Jon. ***Cracker: Florida's Enduring Cowboys.***

This book takes the reader on a photographic trip into the life of the modern-day Florida cowboy. Images of the round up and cattle drive on the Kissimmee plain to those of a lone horseman at the end of the day leave a sense of what the Florida was and still remains. The preface gives historical information about the term "Florida cracker," cattle, and the cowboy. Florida writer Carl Hiassen provides the introduction. The coffee-table size of this book makes it possible to use with large groups when talking about Florida and the cattle industry. Pair this with a rope demonstration.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Miller, Debbie S. ***Are Trees Alive?***

Lumber to build houses and pulp that is turned into paper comes from trees. The lumber industry is one of the mainstays of the north Florida economy. Miller explains how trees take in nutrients, grow, and survive changes in their environment.

Colorful, double-page illustrations show trees from regions around the world, that are identified in a picture glossary at the back of the book. While none of the locations mentioned in the book are in Florida, you can find banyan trees and kapok trees in Florida. Use materials from Project Learning Tree

(<http://www.plt.org/>). Have each child make a vest out of a brown paper grocery bag and add or draw the parts of the tree and the animals that live in it. Pair this with *The Giving Tree*.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Rendon, Marcie R. ***Farmer's Market: Families Working Together.***

Two Midwestern families who have been farmers for many generations representing Asian and European heritages take the reader on a field trip to their farms and to the farmer's market to sell their vegetables as truck farmers. The well-written text is accompanied by colorful photographs showing various moments in the growing season, from the planting of greenhouse seedlings to fall harvests, noting farming techniques and equipment. Attention is also given to the international variety of foods and specialties available at market.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Schaefer, Lola M. ***Pick, Pull, Snap!: Where Once a Flower Bloomed.***

This beautifully illustrated book clearly demystifies how peas, raspberries, peanuts, corn, peaches, and pumpkins mature from seed to fruit, always ending the text with "where once a flower bloomed." Each two-page spread gives planting information for each seed. The foldout color pages would make it possible to use with large groups and talk about the vegetable or fruit while holding a sample of one. Of particular interest are corn and peanuts. These two vegetables have unique

characteristics and, as they are major crops in Florida, would be appropriate to highlight. Peanuts grow easily in flower pots so planting some in time to harvest during the program could be exciting for those children who have never seen peanuts grow.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Snyder, Inez. ***Oranges to Orange Juice.***

From the *How Things Are Made* series, this early reader presents basic information about growing oranges and producing orange juice. Use this book as a booktalk or in a storytime and squeeze fresh orange juice.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Solheim, James. ***It's Disgusting and We Ate It! True Food Facts From Around the World and Throughout History.***

A collection of poems, facts, statistics, and stories about unusual foods and eating habits, both contemporary and historical. The illustrations add a blast of color to this picture book of food trivia. Use these interesting food facts during the storytime presentation. Ask members of your group to write about the most unusual thing they have eaten.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Ste. Claire, Dana. ***Cracker: The Cracker Culture in Florida History.***

This book presents history and folklore about Cracker heritage. Three chapters, "Florida Cracker Cow Hunters," "Bone Mizell: Cow Hunter Legend," and "Rogue Paradise: Frederic Remington in Florida," detail information and stories about Florida cattle ranching and the cowboys. Short, descriptive stories can be developed from this introduction to cattle industry in Florida. Pair with other non-fiction titles about farming and invite a 4-H member to talk about raising a cow or steer.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Wolfman, Judy. ***Life on a Cattle Farm.***

Photographs and an easy-to-understand, first person narrative provide detailed experiences about daily life on small cattle farm. An appendix includes other books and a list of related internet sites. Part of the *Life on a Farm* series. Use with other titles on dairy farming and the book *Florida Cracker Horses* by Victor Gentle for developing a program about a Florida ranch.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Bull, Jane. ***The Gardening Book.***

This book provides an introduction to the basics of gardening through projects that can be done with or without a garden. Each project is illustrated with photographs and detailed directions. Includes houseplants, garden plants, herbs, plants that stimulate the senses, and decorating pots. This book provides an abundance of craft projects that a program would need when doing gardening projects with elementary and middle school children.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Edible Treats.

Edible Dirt made with chocolate instant pudding, Cool Whip, Oreo cookie crumbs, green-dyed coconut, and gummy worms; homemade butter and crackers; homemade peanut butter; and Freezer Bag Ice Cream make wonderful craft recipes for small groups of children to make. While all recipes are available in many resources, this volume gathers them together.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Feed Bag for a Horse Necklace.

This activity provides children an opportunity to think about what a horse eats as compared to what humans eat and the nutritional value of each food. This activity works very well with preschool to primary age children. It could be used with a storytime with horses or farming as the themes. Materials

needed: plastic sandwich bag per person, yarn for necklace, candy corn, multicolored M&Ms, Cheerios, Shredded Wheat, and Granola cereal. Background Information: Horses eat corn, oats, hay, sugar beet pulp, and bran along with drinking water to have a balanced diet. Corn provides protein and carbohydrates; oats provide protein and Vitamin B; hay provides protein, minerals, and vitamins; sugar beet pulp provides carbohydrates; and bran provides protein and carbohydrates. Directions: 1. Prepare a plastic sandwich bag by punching a hole on each side of the bag at the top and above the snap closure. 2. Cut a 14" piece of yarn for each bag. 3. Put each of the food items in bowls on a table. If desired, have a sign labeling each item and nutritional benefit. 4. Place a spoon in each bowl. 5. Have the children put one spoonful of each food source in their bag. 6. Close the bag. 7. Tie the yarn through the holes in the bag to create a necklace.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Florida Grow It! Bracelet or Necklace.

Use pony beads and cording to create a necklace that represents Florida agriculture. Cut a piece of cording 12 to 14 inches long. Tie a knot on one end of the cording and string the beads listed below to represent the agriculture industry in Florida. Adjust the length. Tie a knot in the other end of the cord and then tie the two ends together to create the necklace or bracelet. Make a sign for the beads and what they represent so the children can learn as they make. Beads: clear for people; brown for soil; red for flowers; orange for citrus; white for air; yellow for the sun; blue for water; green for plants; purple for fish; beige for animals; and black for night.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Garden in a Glove.

Create a garden using a clear, plastic glove. Watch seed germination happen in each finger and then you can transplant the seedling. (This activity can be adapted to create a seed necklace by using radish seeds and a clear film container or 2x3" plastic zip lock bag.) Materials needed: one clear plastic glove per child, 5 varieties of seeds (lima beans, raw peanuts,

radish, corn, etc.), cotton balls, water. Directions: 1. Write name on top of glove. Write name of seed used on each finger. 2. Ask child to place a hand into the plastic glove to open all the fingers. Remove glove. 3. Dampen five cotton balls until moist, not dripping. Spray bottles work well. 4. Place a cotton ball in the tip of each finger. A pencil could be used to push it all the way to the tip of the glove finger. 5. Place two seeds on top of each cotton ball. (As the radish seeds are very small, dip the moist cotton ball into the seeds.) 6. Tape the glove to a sunny window. 7. Keep the cotton ball moist. Do not allow the seeds to sit in water as they will rot. 8. Overnight, children will observe changes and the seeds should begin to germinate in a couple of days. 9. After a couple of weeks, the seedlings can be transplanted to a garden by cutting off the bottom of each finger of the glove.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Plant Person.

Create a "Chia Pet" and watch a full head of bushy, green, grass hair grow right before your eyes. With a few scissor snips, a child can create a unique hair style. Materials needed: one nylon knee-high hose (do not use re-enforced toe), one cup potting soil, two tablespoons rye grass seed, wiggly eyes, assorted felt pieces to create clothing, twist tie, and a baby food jar per person. Directions: 1. Pour the grass seed into the toe of the stocking. 2. Pour the potting soil on top of the seed. 3. Use the twist tie to tie the stocking tightly at the point where the soil reaches to form a head. 4. Shape the head into a round ball. 5. Add wiggly eyes, nose, and mouth. 6. Cover the baby food jar to represent clothing - shirt, dress, T-shirt, etc. 7. Dip the TOP of the head into a shallow pan of water to lightly moisten the soil and the seeds. 8. Fill the jar half-full of water. 9. Set the head on top of the decorated jar and wait. Within a few days - HAIR!

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Read Around Florida - Summer Library Reading Game.

To play this game, use a wall size map of Florida with the major Interstate and state roads drawn on it. Along the

Interstate Routes, place or attach pictures of the commodities grown in Florida. As children add to their Reading Logs, have them move a car along the Interstate or along the back roads "x" number of miles for each day read. The goal would be to see how many times the readers could "Read Around Florida."

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Ross, Kathy. ***Crafts from Your Favorite Children's Songs.***

Traditional children's songs are the basis for this craft book. Easy-to-follow directions for making lapel pins, various types of puppets, toys, and more are provided. Make the props for "Old MacDonald's Barn," pages 12-13, or the "Farmer and Friends in the Dell," pages 32-33, and use them as the children sing these familiar songs.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Harrison, David L. ***Farmer's Garden: Rhymes for Two Voices.***

In a series of rhythmic, rhyming conversations, a farmer's dog asks various animals and plants about what they like about or what they do in the farmer's garden. Strawberries and corn are two of the Florida crops that are included in this book. These poems for two voices are best shared aloud.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Hopkins, Lee Bennett. ***My America: What My Country Means to Me, by 150 Americans from All Walks of Life.***

A collection of poetry from seven geographical regions. Use these patriotic poems to add a new dimension to programs. Pair "Some Rivers," page 27, by Frank Asch with books about the Everglades, or "Laughing Corn," page 43, with McBroom's tall tales.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Moore, Thomas. ***I Am Special Just Because I'm Me.***

This audio cassette or CD contains twelve songs. "Corn on the Cob" is high energy and rhythmic. The chorus goes, "There's nothin' I like better than corn on the cob." Each verse includes other vegetables people like to eat with corn on the cob, such as green beans, potatoes, and carrots. Use this song between stories.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Sing and Learn about Science.

Sing about food, plants and animals! Science songs about the everyday world will expand children's horizons. Sing along as children learn to sort out phenomena and understand reasons for things happening or behaving the way they do. Use track 3, "I'm Going to Plant a Garden" or track 6, "Evergreen Tree" in this section. Or try track 9, "Does Anybody Here Know a Song about a Snake?" for "Animals Alive."

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Speed, Toby. ***Brave Potatoes.***

A fresh and zany poetic adventure full of delightful rhymes. Read this and enjoy the fun of the potatoes at a state fair where they roam the fair grounds at night and eventually escape a chef's pot of soup. Carve potatoes and use them to decoratively stamp paper bags using liquid paints. Use the bags for a science experiment -- does storing potatoes in a dark environment (inside the bag) slow down the growth of "eyes"? Using the scientific method, have a control group of potatoes that are not put into the paper bags and left on the counter. Ask the children to check on both the potatoes in the bags and the ones on the counter daily and chart what is happening.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Walters, Connie. ***Sing a Song All Year Long.***

This volume includes many songs with which to sing-along. Familiar songs include "Bear is Sleeping," "Monkey See, Monkey Do," "On the Farm," and many more.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Community Assets – to broaden the world

Florida Department of Agriculture, County Agriculture Extension Agents, Master Gardener Program, Soil and Water Conservation District Offices, Local Nurseryman, Major Hardware and Home Stores with Garden Departments, Local Farm Bureau and 4-H Clubs.

Each of these organizations will provide speakers and demonstrators free of charge. Use them to demonstrate how-to-do or how-to-care-for farm related topics. The local 4-H leaders will also provide programming.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Internet – connect with the world

Ag in the Classroom.

<http://www.flagintheclassroom.org>

The official web site of the *Ag in the Classroom* curriculum materials. These are outstanding resources about agriculture in Florida. The site offers crafts and other activities in addition to current background information about all aspects of farming and other agricultural adventures.

Interest Level: All ages

Dairy Council of Florida.

www.floridadairycouncil.org

This is the official website of dairy farmers and The Dairy Council of Florida. Contains teaching resources, nutrition information, fact sheets, and activities for kids at the Moo Milk link (<http://moomilk.com/>), which is a real adventure into the dairy industry.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Florida Ag Kids Page.

<http://www.flagintheclassroom.org>

This is the site for the Florida *Ag in the Classroom* program. The program is a curriculum about agriculture in Florida for teachers and others who work with children. It is an extensive program with excellent materials and activities. To receive the materials attendance at a workshop is required. The local Ag Centers can provide workshop information. This site has a link "Information for Students" that connects to the "Kid's Page of Marketing Florida Agriculture." It has projects, nutrition, state fair information, activities about crops grown in Florida, and other neat stuff.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Florida Department of Citrus.

www.floridajuice.com

This is the official website of the Florida Department of Citrus sponsored by the Florida Citrus Growers. It includes descriptions with pictures illustrating how Florida oranges are grown, harvested, and processed into Florida orange juice. A link to "Land for Kids" has additional information and activities. There are other sections for teachers and parents.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Kiddyhouse.

www.kiddyhouse.com

www.kiddyhouse.com is a resource center for kids and teachers. Extensive site with information, games, activities, music, crafts, etc. about the farm and farm animals.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Tales From the Hive.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/bees/>

The Nova television series site for the honey bee program contains factual information, the anatomy of a bee, other facts, and activities to enhance the study of bees.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

The Story of Florida Orange Juice.

<http://www.ultimatecitrus.com/fcoj.html>

The story of Florida orange juice from the grove to the glass.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Read Around Florida

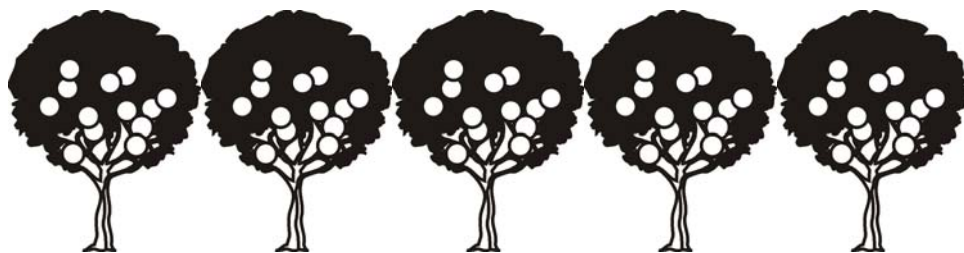
Lectura Alrededor de la Florida **Tips for Parents**

Plant a garden to show how seeds develop into plants and how fertilizer and weather can affect growth.

When walking around the produce section of the market, talk about where the vegetables and fruits were grown. Find out which ones are grown in Florida and which are grown in other parts of the US or elsewhere in the world.

Visit a local farmer's market and taste something new.

Make fresh squeezed Florida orange juice.





The Fruit and Vegetable Florida Vacation



Fill in the blanks with the words listed below to write a story that makes sense and makes you laugh. (Some of the words are homonyms for the actual word!)

Apple
Beets
Berry

Carrot
Endive
Lettuce

Mango
Melon
Orange

Plum
Squash
Turnip

First, I want you to know that my heart _____ only for Florida. I love forests, beaches, prairies, horses, farms, lakes, and the ocean. If you _____ all for Florida, ask your parents if they will _____ take a vacation to the Sunshine State.

Okay, _____ the volume on your imagination and let's go! Let's start off in the Everglades. Watch that alligator _____ into the water! Ouch! A mosquito bit me; quick, _____ him! Next, on to the beach. Let's play in the sand and build a castle. Hey, don't _____ me! Did you see that _____ by on his jet ski?

For our last stop, let's visit the forest. Look! There's a skunk! I wonder what would happen if _____ its tail. I think that might just be a _____ silly idea, don't you?

Wow, I'm ready for a vacation from our vacation! It has been one in a _____, hasn't it? _____ glad you went? I sure am!





Answers for The Fruit and Vegetable Florida Vacation



Fill in the blanks with the words listed below to write a story that makes sense and makes you laugh. (Some of the words are homonyms for the actual word!)

Apple
Beets
Berry

Carrot
Endive
Lettuce

Mango
Melon
Orange

Plum
Squash
Turnip

First, I want you to know that my heart **beets (beats)** only for Florida. I love forests, beaches, prairies, horses, farms, lakes, and the ocean. If you **carrot (care at)** all for Florida, ask your parents if they **will** **lettuce (let us)** take a vacation to the Sunshine State.

Okay, **turnip (turn up)** the volume on your imagination and let's go! Let's start off in the Everglades. Watch that alligator **endive (dive)** into the water! Ouch! A mosquito bit me; quick, **squash** him! Next, on to the beach. Let's play in the sand and build a castle. Hey, don't **berry (bury)** me! Did you see that **mango (man go)** by on his jet ski?

For our last stop, let's visit the forest. Look! There's a skunk! I wonder what would happen if **apple (I pulled)** its tail. I think that might just be a **plum** silly idea, don't you?

Wow, I'm ready for a vacation from our vacation! It has been one in a **melon (million)**, hasn't it? **Orange (Aren't you)** glad you went? I sure am!



Do Not Include This Page – It is only a forced page due to the section break on page 78!



ON THE EDGE



No matter if it is the Kennedy Space Center or the weather around us, science affects our daily lives. Flyp and friends have included materials for many ages that will awaken the curious and scientific mind in everyone. Read about Thomas Edison, one-time winter resident of Fort Myers, and learn about his scientific investigations that resulted

in the invention of the electric light bulb and many other things we now take for granted. Find out if it really can rain cats and dogs. See what contributions Florida made in the space race and how people in our state are supporting the development of the International Space Station. Find out what it is like to be a meteorologist or help solve some scientific mysteries. Flyp is ready to put on his lab coat and carry out some experiments but he needs a lab partner. Who is ready to lend a paw?

Stories – to share together or read alone

Adler, David A. ***A Picture Book of Thomas Alva Edison.***

Edison spent much of his time in Ft. Myers, Florida. His inventions included the phonograph, light bulb, and movie camera. This book provides interesting glimpses of an inquisitive youth who grew into a hard-working visionary. Tell about Edison using props related to his inventions. Make connection to his "Seminole Lodge" winter home in Ft. Myers!

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Anholt, Laurence. ***Leonardo and the Flying Boy: A Story About Leonardo Da Vinci.***

A boy apprenticing under Leonardo Da Vinci realizes that his master is busily working on a mysterious flying machine. The book is enlivened by Anholt's paintings and drawings and enhanced by some of Leonardo's own sketchbook illustrations.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Barner, Bob. ***Stars! Stars! Stars!***

This is a poetic ode to the night sky. Simple rhyming text describes stars and the planets of the solar system. Lots of information is crammed into this small book. Use a telescope as a prop. After reading the story, give each child pieces of black construction paper and some white chalk. Have them create a star map of one of the constellations.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Buffett, Jimmy and Savanah Jane Buffett. ***Trouble Dolls.***

Nine year old Lizzy Rhinehart is worried about her environmental scientist father who is lost in the Everglades. She sets out with her dog and a set of Guatemalan worry dolls to find him. Older children will enjoy making worry dolls for themselves as a follow-up activity. Adapt the traditional use of the worry dolls to story time. Have several sets of worry dolls available and have the children tell the dolls their worries before they leave story time.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Coffelt, Nancy. ***Dogs in Space.***

Five colorful cartoon-styled dogs visit each of the planets in the solar system. They find none as hospitable as Earth, and happily return home. This fictional dog story makes for a good introduction to the planets in the solar system. Use dog puppets and other props during the story. Older readers could turn this into a readers theater presentation.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Cole, Joanna. ***The Magic School Bus Lost in the Solar System.***

When the planetarium they are scheduled to visit is closed, Ms. Frizzle, that amazing teacher, launches the school bus into outer space. Ms. Frizzle guides her class through the solar system. When they get separated, the class explores the outer planets on their own. When they finally catch up with Ms. Frizzle again, they all return to the classroom where they make a model of the solar system. Use a model of the solar system during storytime. Afterwards, have all the children make their own models.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Corwin, Oliver. ***Hare and Tortoise Race to the Moon: An Aesop's Fable.***

When Hare teases Tortoise that he is a slowpoke, they challenge each other to a race – this time in outer space. Hare buys a modern spacecraft while Tortoise builds his own. What will be the result of this race? Let children design and build their own model spacecraft.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Dragonwagon, Crescent. ***And Then It Rained . . . : . . . And Then the Sun Came Out . . .***

This cleverly designed book about how no one is ever satisfied provides instant satisfaction. As the mood strikes, readers can turn the book around to start a story about rain . . . or shine! Use props and sound effects during storytime. Talk about how weather is such an important part of life in Florida.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Harper, Charise. ***There Was a Bold Lady Who Wanted a Star.***

In this clever adaptation of *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*, the author/illustrator takes readers on a wondrous, wacky journey to a star, as a feisty, bold lady tries everything from shoes, skates, a car, and finally, a rocket ship to reach a star. Collect all the items (or models of them) and

use them as the story is told. This would also work well as a clothesline story.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Hopkinson, Deborah. ***Maria's Comet.***

The childhood of American astronomer Maria Mitchell gets a fictionalized treatment, written in first-person from the child's point of view. The author includes references to Galileo and Copernicus, and to the planets, comets, and constellations known at the time, in language that is occasionally poetic.

Booktalk or tell with props.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Hurd, Thacher. ***Moo Cow Kaboom!***

One night, while the pigs and chickens are sound asleep – KABOOM! – Farmer George's Moo Cow disappears! A low-down Space Cowboy has whisked her off to a galaxy far, far away. What's this sweet cow to do now, forced to become the Wild Beast Earthling Moo Cow at the Inter-Galactic Rodeo? Saddle up and get ready to ride Thacher Hurd's zany trip to Planet 246 and back! Share the illustrations that accompany this rollicking story.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Lasky, Kathryn. ***Porkenstein.***

Dr. Smart Pig has been on his own ever since Big Bad Wolf ate his two brothers. The lone survivor of the attack, Lonely Dr. Pig creates a big pig friend for himself, who turns out to be Porkenstein, the giant pig who eats the Big Bad Wolf. Compare this story with the traditional version of the Three Pigs. Have children write their own adaptation of this or another traditional tale.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Lewis, Paul Owen. ***The Jupiter Stone.***

When a boy finds a stone that fell to earth millions of years ago, he writes to NASA asking them to return it to space. Be sure to share the illustrations that accompany this story.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

London, Jonathan. ***Hurricane!***

The power, danger, and excitement of a hurricane is recounted in this narrative. A boy and his brother go snorkeling and notice the changes in the weather. They head home and run for shelter with the rest of their family. Have a group of readers and listeners talk about how they would prepare for a tropical storm or hurricane.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Monroe, Jean G. ***They Dance in the Sky: Native American Star Myths.***

This well-researched, thoughtful collection brings together star myths from such Native American tribes as the Navajo, Pawnee, Shasta and others. These tales, from the oral tradition, are just right for telling.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Rabe, Tish. ***There's No Place Like Space (Cat in the Hat's Learning Library).***

Through rhymed couplets and cartoon-like illustrations, Dr. Seuss' Cat in the Hat introduces Dick and Sally to the planets, stars, and moons of our universe. Have a map of the solar system and use that to point out celestial objects during storytime.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Reynolds, Peter H. ***Sidney's Star.***

Mouse inventor Sydney decides to build her own mechanical star for the student science fair. Use a remote control from a TV and other props to make this story come alive.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

St. George, Judith. ***So, You Want to Be an Inventor?***

Lively text and witty illustrations by David Small Witty provide amusing brief sketches of inventors and inventions both famous and little known. Those entries with a Florida flavor include Henry Ford and Thomas Edison. Select just a few of the inventors and inventions to share with a group. Make the book available after the program so readers and listeners can learn more about these inventors.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Yolen, Jane. ***Moon Ball.***

Danny finds himself playing baseball with "All-Stars" in a game against the moon and planets (the "Orbits"), where concentration and determination finally come together for him with a stellar home run. Observant fans will notice Danny's hands incorrectly placed on the bat before his first strike, but they're in fine form when his meteoric blast leaves a trail of stars. This book can be used with astronomy stories, or in the "Score with Sports" section.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Adams, Simon. ***The Best Book of Weather.***

Anyone can become a meteorologist with the ideas in this book. Colorful illustrations, diagrams, and spare text will make this book appeal to browsers. Booktalk this with any weather related books.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Berger, Melvin. ***Can It Rain Cats and Dogs? Questions and Answers About Weather.***

In a question-and-answer format, learn all about the weather. Spice up weather presentations with tidbits from this book. Use the information from here in a Jeopardy! type of game.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Delano, Marfe Ferguson. ***Inventing the Future: A Photobiography of Thomas Alva Edison.***

Using lively text, rare period photographs, and Edison's own words, the author provides a memorable portrait of this American genius. A foreword by the inventor's great-grandson adds a personal note to this exciting American success story that will spark an interest in science and inspire a new generation of inventors. Information about many of Edison's 1,093 inventions is provided. Display with *What a Great Idea* and other books about inventions and inventors.

Interest Level: Middle School

Editors of YES Magazine. ***The Amazing International Space Station.***

Orbiting 220 miles above Earth, the International Space Station is a technological marvel and a remarkable symbol of the advances that are being made through peaceful cooperation. This permanent orbiting laboratory will provide research into new technologies, and will allow a dazzling glimpse into the future. Share with other books about outer space and Kennedy Space Center. Use a model of the International Space Station to make this booktalk or display more exciting.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Ford, Carin T. ***Henry Ford: The Car Man (Famous Inventors).***

This tells the life story of the man who revolutionized American industry with his assembly-line production of automobiles.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Furniss, Tim. ***Atlas of Space Exploration.***

Great photographs by the National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA) bring a new perception of the cosmos. The photos provide startling, crisp images of objects never before seen up close. The information will be useful to older readers; however, the photographs will fascinate readers of all ages.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Gaffney, Timothy. ***Hurricane Hunters.***

Find out about the planes that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) use to investigate hurricanes and other tropical storms. Many of these planes are based in Florida. When you booktalk this book, also show the website for the NOAA's Aircraft Operations Center (<http://www.aoc.noaa.gov>).

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Gibbons, Gail. ***Stargazers.***

A clear and simple text accompanies Gibbons' bright and colorful illustrations to help the reader understand the nature of stars and constellations, how to find particular ones and why they seem to move, two kinds of optical telescopes, and how a planetarium works. Includes a simple time line and a page of random star facts. Set up a telescope and encourage children to stargaze on their own. Display with other books in collection containing maps of the night sky.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Gutman, Dan. ***The Edison Mystery: Qwerty Stevens, Back in Time.***

In this time travel, 13-year-old Qwerty Stevens meets Thomas Edison, a scientist struggling to invent the light bulb. The story is chock-full of interesting tidbits about Edison's life, opinions, and staff, and provides a glimpse of life in the 19th century.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Middleton, Haydn. ***Henry Ford: the People's Carmaker (What's Their Story).***

This easy-to-read biography of the famous inventor and carmaker includes some essential facts and details that will interest readers in the middle grades. Book mark the web site for the Edison and Ford Winter Estates (<http://www.edison-ford-estate.com/>) and make it available after the booktalk.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Price, Sean. ***Eye on the Universe (Science Links).***

This book describes the challenges of building the Hubble telescope and the amazing pictures it takes. Mention this book when you booktalk *Maria's Comet* or when you introduce *Stargazers* by *Gail Gibbons*. Contrast Maria's telescope with the Hubble telescope. Encourage children to stargaze if they live away from heavily populated areas.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Rinard, Judith. ***The Book of Flight: From the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.***

The Book of Flight traces the remarkable story of the aviation pioneers, inventors, and daring pilots who turned that dream into a reality. More than 400 illustrations and photographs put young readers on the flight deck and in the cockpit. Because of all the photos and illustrations, this would be great to display with other space books. Use it to give some historical context to Space Exploration. The information provided here would allow a group to construct a flight timeline.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Schyffert, Bea Uusma. ***The Man Who Went to the Dark Side of the Moon: The Story of Apollo 11 Astronaut Michael Collins: Or a Book About Michael Collins, Apollo 11, and 20 Pounds of Checklists.***

Reminiscent of a scrapbook, this extraordinary book chronicles what astronaut Michael Collins did, saw, and thought about in space. Through fascinating facts, quotes, checklists, original drawings, and photos taken both in space and on Earth,

it also tells how the astronauts prepared for their historic journey, what they brought with them, and what they left behind.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Simon, Seymour. ***Hurricanes.***

In Florida, it is so important to understand the causes of hurricanes, how they behave, and their impact on our lives. Beautiful photographs illustrate this informational book about hurricanes. Simon kindles an interest in a scientific subject and communicates an understanding of its scope and significance. Display with a hurricane tracking map. Encourage children to look on the Internet for hurricane information and learn about how they are named.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Simon, Seymour. ***The Moon.***

Illustrated with full color photos of the moon taken in space, this tells about the only natural satellite that revolves around the earth. Information about the moon and the Apollo missions to the moon are the features of this book. Read this along with Simon's *Earth: Our Planet in Space*.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Sis, Peter. ***Starry Messenger: A Book Depicting the Life of a Famous Scientist, Mathematician, Astronomer, Philosopher, Physicist Galileo Galilei.***

Sis, a brilliant and sophisticated illustrator and a sensitive storyteller, traces Galileo's life from childhood to his final days as a prisoner of the church. Large, beautiful drawings reflect the ideas, events, books, maps, worldview, and symbolism of the times and tell of the life of the scientist and astronomer Galileo. Display this book so everyone can see the detailed illustrations. No astronomy discussion would be complete without Galileo.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Tomecek, Stephen. ***What a Great Idea! Inventions That Changed the World.***

Covering the earliest inventions (hand ax and mathematics) to 21st century computer chips, the author puts all kinds of inventions and their impact on civilization into an historical context. The straightforward style is appealing and detailed. Attractive color illustrations add both information and visual appeal. A short bibliography, a selection of annotated Web site recommendations, and a few inventors' contests are appended.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Tucker, Tom. ***Brainstorm! The Stories of Twenty American Kid Inventors.***

Each of the short chapters focuses on one child inventor. Drawn from the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, this tells about twenty ingenious young Americans who filed patents with the United States Patent Office. It includes Chester Greenwood, inventor of ear muffs (1873); Ralph Samuelson, originator of water-skiing (1922); and Vanessa Hess, who created colored car wax (1991).

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

White, Nancy. ***The Magic School Bus Sees Stars: A Book About Stars (Magic School Bus Book Series).***

The *Magic School Bus* travels out of this world to check out the facts about stars. Dress up as Ms. Frizzle and take young listeners out of this world.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Ames, Lee. ***Draw 50 Airplanes, Aircraft and Spacecraft.***

This popular drawing book from the late 80s is still in print. Step-by-step instructions for drawing fifty different aircraft and spacecraft, including a Boeing 747, a U-2, and a hang

glider are provided. Have members of a group draw their version of a space vehicle and tell where it would travel.

Interest Level: All ages

Check, Laura. ***Little Hands Paper Plate Crafts.***

Using plain paper plates, make hats, masks, flowers, bugs, toys, and more following these easy instructions. This includes a list of supplies, a fun fact or two, suggestions for related activities, and books for further reading. Some of the activities can be used in “Encore” section as well.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Luxbacher, Irene. ***The Jumbo Book of Art.***

Over 200 pages of drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed-media crafting projects, along with itemized material lists and a glossary, will give children and teens the confidence they need to explore. There are numerous activities and techniques that can be used through the year that lend themselves to group participation.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Dahl, Michael. ***Galactic Giggles: Far Out and Funny Jokes About Outer Space.***

These jokes and riddles about space tickle funnybones. Tell in tandem, perhaps dressed as astronauts or aliens. Use these jokes and riddles between stories.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Harrison, David L. ***The Mouse Was Out at Recess.***

This humorous collection of school poems will tickle funnybones. Read “They Call It Science,” page 19, for a poetry break.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Hopkins, Lee Bennet. ***Blast Off! Poems about Space.***

Blast off on an adventure through space in this collection of poems about the sun, moon, stars, and planets. Use props and photos as these are read during a poetry break.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Jackson, Helen. ***Science Songs: Science Experiences for the Very Young.***

Eleven musical science songs introduce children to the mysteries of science. "Electricity," track 7, can be used when introducing books about Thomas Edison. Play "Distant Stars," track 11, when sharing books about astronomy.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Russell, Hannah. ***Space Songs: A Children's Intergalactical Musical.***

Take a tour of the solar system with this intergalactic collection of songs.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Community Assets – to broaden the world

Planetarium.

Is there a planetarium nearby? Many community colleges have one. Plan a trip to one or have one of their docents come to the library to do a program. A list of planetariums in your area can be found at www.flamuseums.org.

Interest Level: All ages

Internet – connect with the world

Exploring Florida: Social Studies Resources for Students and Teachers.

<http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/photos/historic/ed/ed.htm>

This web site, produced by the University of South Florida, was updated in 2003. This section of the website includes 5 galleries (87 photos) highlighting Thomas Edison's

home, lab, and surrounding estate. One section, Edison Lab, includes images of the lab where Edison spent most of his time researching the goldenrod plant, a source of natural rubber.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI).

<http://www.floridamarine.org>

The FMRI does important research on how to save manatees from extinction. The Student Resources section of the web site has marine science career information specifically geared toward students and contains interviews with FMRI researchers.

Interest Level: All ages

Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park Manatee Information.

<http://www.hsswp.com>

At this site, take a virtual tour of Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park in Central Florida. The star of the show is the Florida manatee. Other Florida wildlife includes Florida panthers, alligators, crocodiles, otters, waterfowl, birds of prey and more. The park rehabilitates manatees who are injured and houses manatees born at the park. This web site also contains information about manatee history, manatee conservation, manatee educational material, many manatee photographs and just plain tons of stuff about manatees.

Interest Level: All ages

Hurricane: Storm Science.

<http://www.miamisci.org/hurricane>

The Miami Museum of Science has created an informative site on hurricanes. Includes information on killer storms, weather instruments, and survivors. There is even a section that has 3D images of Hurricane Andrew and directions for making 3D glasses to view them.

Interest Level: All ages

Museum of Science and Industry, Tampa.

<http://www.mosi.org/home.html>

The Museum of Science and Industry in Tampa has a variety of permanent exhibits and hosts visiting exhibits throughout the year. This site includes information about the bungee jumping, the climbing wall, and the “O is for Oranges” exhibit, and the schedule for the IMAX theater,

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Aircraft Operations Center (AOC).

<http://www.aoc.noaa.gov>

The NOAA Aircraft Operations Center is based at McDill Air Force Base in Tampa, FL. Whether studying global climate change or acid rain, assessing marine mammal populations, surveying coastal erosion, investigating oil spills, flight-checking aeronautical charts, or improving hurricane prediction models, the AOC flight crews operate in some of the world's most demanding flight regimes.

Interest Level: All Ages

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Hurricanes.

<http://hurricanes.noaa.gov>

This site Includes hurricane watches and warnings as well as a preparedness guide.

Interest Level: All Ages

Parenting and Family Activities

If It Weren't For Thom!

Thomas Edison spent much of his life at his winter home in Fort Myers. Edison invented the phonograph, movie camera and projector, Dictaphone, and the diode that allowed the invention of the radio, television, and transistors. Show some home movies, play some old vinyl recordings or 8-track tapes, or play some video games together and discuss how Thomas Edison would feel about how his inventions have evolved.

Interest Level: All ages

Simon, Seymour. ***Let's Try It Out in the Water: Hands-On Early-Learning Science Activities.***

This Hands-on Early-Learning book asks readers to imagine they are at the beach where they spot a ship. The children are then encouraged to make a boat out of foil and place objects on it that previously did not float and report their observations. Cheerful drawings of ethnically-diverse youngsters complement the texts by effectively illustrating the concepts and activities. This book offers fun-filled activities to use as introductions to basic scientific principles. The book contains a note to parents, teachers, and child-care providers about the types of activities incorporated, readily available materials needed, and working with children to help them make observations with their "bodies and senses."

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida **Tips for Parents**

Bake cookies to practice fractions and measuring ingredients.

Make homemade ice cream and other foods to show them about the properties of salt, liquids, and solids, and how to measure temperature.

Use an outdoor thermometer to track weather, make predictions, and observe patterns.

Participate in a local recycling program.

Check out books from the local library that contain ideas for science experiments.



These tips for parents are adapted from Center for Summer Learning, Inc., © 2002

Score with Sports



SCORE WITH SPORTS



Living in Florida means that sporting events and participating in sports is an integral part of life. High school and college football, basketball, and softball are just the start. Golf courses and tennis courts are found everywhere. Many professional baseball teams have spring training camps around the sunshine state. And don't forget our professional ice

hockey teams! Flyp wants everyone to read about lots of sports and find those that are just right.

Stories – to share together or read alone

Allard, Harry. ***Miss Nelson Has a Field Day.***

The Smedley Tornadoes have a big football game coming up, so Miss Nelson calls in dreaded substitute teacher Viola Swamp to whip the team into shape. Read aloud and let listeners enjoy the illustrations by James Marshall.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Axelrod, Amy. ***Pigs On The Ball: Fun With Math and Sports.***

Mr. and Mrs. Pig and their piglets visit a miniature golf course for Mr. Pig's birthday, and get a crash course in simple geometry in the fifth installment about the Pig family. Colorful, cartoon illustrations contribute a built-in vibrancy. After sharing the book, have children create pictures using geometric shapes. Illustrations were done by Sharon McGinley Nally.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Brett, Jan. ***Armadillo Rodeo.***

When Ma Armadillo calls her boys together to head out on an adventure, Bo, the smallest armadillo, goes on his own adventure. Bo follows a fine pair of red boots that he mistakenly thinks is a shiny red armadillo. Tell this story using props or puppets. Have older groups write a reader's theater script and present it to younger children. Could also be used in the "Animals Alive" section.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Brown, Marc. ***D. W. Flips.***

Arthur's younger sister takes her first gymnastics class and learns the importance of following safety rules. Have the children develop a list of rules for storytime. Put them on chart paper and use them. Pair this story with an appearance of a group from a local gymnastics class.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Crews, Donald. ***Bicycle Race.***

The power and endurance needed for a bicycle race are exemplified in the illustrations in this counting book. Twelve riders are astride their bikes at the start of the race through the city park. All but number nine start off on time, but nine has a problem that a friend helps resolve. Give children numbers for their backs -- just like the cyclists. Have them jockey for position as the book is read aloud.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Curtis, Gavin. ***The Bat Boy and His Violin.***

This is the endearing story of a young African American violinist who plays music for his papa's Negro Baseball League team during the games. Playing classical violin music in the background while reading the story aloud would add a nice touch. Invite someone in the community to talk about the Negro Baseball League with program participants.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Cuyler, Margery. ***Road Signs: A Hare-Y Race With a Tortoise.***

Cuyler has adapted the traditional Aesop's Fable so that it is told primarily with road signs. Make all the road signs and have the children act out the story.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Ehlert, Lois. ***Circus.***

This bright, colorful romp brings the circus alive. Play circus music to enliven the presentation. Using shoe boxes, let the children make a circus train. Share information about the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus that winters in Florida.

Interest Level: Preschool

Falconer, Ian. ***Olivia Saves the Circus.***

Step into the circus ring with Olivia on her vacation. Olivia saves the circus by performing all of the featured acts when the regular performers are sick. She rode on a unicycle, jumped on a trampoline, juggled five balls, tamed lions, and flew through the air. At least, that is what she tells her classmates when she is asked what she did on her summer vacation. Have the children imitate Olivia and perform the circus acts as the book is read aloud.

Interest Level: Preschool

Gibbons, Gail. ***My Football Book.***

Young readers will learn the basics of football through the text, diagrams, and illustrations. Have the children in the group diagram a sport that they play.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

London, Jonathan. ***Froggy Learns to Swim.***

All frogs are great swimmers. But Froggy does not believe his mother. Even after she teaches him how to swim, he is still reluctant until he puts on his flippers, mask, and snorkel. Then he won't get out of the water! Vivid watercolor cartoons by Floridian Frank Remkiewicz add to the humor. The

illustrations show the comical facial expressions and hilarious beachwear. Froggy's childlike dialogue and the sound words "zook! zik!"; and "flop flop, splash!" make this story a wonderful read-aloud. Let the children join in and make the sounds.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Mammano, Julie. ***Rhinos Who Play Soccer.***

The rhinos are on the loose again, this time playing a rousing games of soccer. Read the book as kids act out the actions. Start an impromptu soccer game as well. Share other Rhino books by Mammano, such as *Rhinos Who Skateboard*, . . . *Surf*, or . . . *Snowboard*.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Martin, Bill, Jr. ***Caddie the Golf Dog.***

Floyd Cooper's illustrations capture a broad range of emotions on the faces of both Caddie, the stray who frequently visits Jennifer's door step, and the folks who care for and love her. When the stray runs away, two brothers discover her on a golf course and quickly become attached to her, naming her Caddie after her penchant for catching golf balls. This is a sports story of a sort animal lovers will appreciate.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

McKissack, Patricia C. ***Million Fish More or Less.***

The tradition of bragging about the one that got away is alive and well in this original yarn from the Louisiana bayou. Hugh Thomas hears that strange things happen on the Bayou Clapateaux, but he's skeptical--until he invents a fish story of his own. Read this aloud and allow listeners to see the splashes of vivid colors that fill the pages.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Rose, Gerald. ***Tortoise and the Hare.***

Aesop's tale is retold in contemporary words and illustrated with simplified characters and bold colors that will appeal to young children. After reading the story aloud, have

the children talk about the moral of the story. Share some other fables.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Teague, Mark. ***Field Beyond the Outfield.***

Ludlow Greeve has a fertile imagination. To give him "something real to think about," his parents sign him up for a baseball team. Ludlow transforms the uneventful outfield into a towering stadium filled with fantastical fans watching a ballgame between two teams of human-sized insects. After reading the book aloud, sing a round of "Take Me Out to The Ball Game."

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Anderson, Joan. ***Batboy: An Inside Look at Spring Training.***

Follow Kenny Garibaldi's grueling yet gratifying 14-hour day as batboy for the San Francisco Giants' spring training in Arizona. Kenny performs such less-than-glamorous tasks as cleaning the mud from players' shoes, carrying their dirty uniforms to the laundry room and stocking the lockers. Florida is the spring training home for many professional baseball teams. Invite a player and a bat boy from a local grapefruit league team to share what it is like to be in the major or minor leagues.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Anderson, Peggy King. ***Safe At Home.***

Nothing is the same since his father left. His mother was sick once in a while before, but now she never feels well. Sixth grader Tony escapes this troubled reality on the baseball diamond where he shines. There are not simple solutions shown here, but the story is an effective portrait of a boy's difficulty in the face of a desperate situation.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Bloor, Edward. ***Tangerine.***

In Tangerine, Florida, even a blind, geeky, alien freak can become cool. A legally blind boy begins to uncover the ugly truth about his football-hero brother.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Brooks, Walter R. ***Freddy and the Baseball Team From Mars.***

Freddy the Detective is up to his old antics in trying to solve another mystery. ABI (Animal Bureau of Investigation) helps solve the mystery that involves the baseball team. The disguises that Freddy uses are memorable. Pair this with Freddy goes to Florida ("Animals Alive" section) or the original Freddy the Detective. Independent readers will enjoy these on their own or share these, as they are wonderful read-alouds.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Christopher, Matt. ***On the Course With . . . Tiger Woods.***

This book covers Tiger's amazing career through 2000.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Christopher, Matt. ***Tennis Ace.***

Christopher serves up another winner for sports fans. Twelve-year-old Steve Greeley and his 14-year-old sister Ginny are both excellent tennis players. Their father coaches them both. He has high hopes that Steve will play on the pro circuit someday while not taking Ginny's game seriously. Will Steve and Ginny ever tell their father that Ginny is the one who wants to go pro? Use this or any of the many books by Matt Christopher in sports programs and displays.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Crossingham, John. ***Skateboarding in Action (Sports in Action).***

One of a series of books that shows Sports in Action. This one has information about skateboarding, golf, horseback

riding, tennis, cycling, soccer, hockey, and more. Readers are sure to find a sport in which to participate in this series.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Easton, Patricia. ***Rebel's Choice.***

Sixteen-year-old Rob struggles with his ne'er do well father, set against the back drop of harness racing. Talk about the racing scene in and around Ocala while introducing this book.

Interest Level: High School

Gutman, Dan. ***Honus & Me: A Baseball Card Adventure.***

When 12-year-old Joe Stoshack is cleaning out Miss Young's attic for spending money, he finds the world's most valuable baseball card, picturing Honus Wagner. Joe wrestles with the thought of telling Miss Young about his discovery and of returning it to her. But she had instructed him to throw out all the junk in the attic, and he knows the money raised from selling the card would help his single mother. That night, Joe wakes up to see Wagner in his bedroom, and they eventually travel back in time to the 1909 World Series. Gutman integrates facts into the time travel elements of the book and adds an appendix that helps readers sort out the fact from the fantasy.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Gutman, Bill. ***Lance Armstrong: A Biography.***

Bicycle riding can be a lot more than just a leisurely ride to the corner or down to the beach. Here's the story of Lance Armstrong, from his first ride to his most recent race, and all the twists and turns in between! This book includes a chapter on his battle with cancer. The biography ends before his 2003 Tour de France win. Gutman has written other books that will interest sports fans. Of special interest to those in Florida are his biographies of golfer Tiger Woods and former Orlando Magic and now the Los Angeles Lakers basketball star Shaquille O'Neal.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Hopkinson, Deborah. ***Girl Wonder: A Baseball Story in Nine Innings.***

This fictional picture book is based on the life of Alta Weiss, who at the age of 17 was the first female to pitch baseball for a semipro all-male team, the Vermilion Independents. Hopkinson does an outstanding job of highlighting the young woman's drive and ambition, not letting gender interfere with her goals. Team this with *Mama Played Baseball* by David A. Adler.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Korman, Gorman. ***Zucchini Warriors.***

A hilarious adventure ensues for Bruno and Boots as they attempt to lead the Macdonald Hall Zucchini Warriors to a victorious football season and earn the reward of a new recreation center.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Lowry, Lois. ***Switcharound.***

Siblings Caroline and J.P. do not agree on anything. Their parents are divorced and live in different parts of the country. They live with their mother in New York City and go visit their father and his new family in Des Moines for the summer. Out goes their regular summer routines. In comes baseball and stepbrothers. See how their lives are switched around.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

MacDonald, Andy, with Theresa Foy DiGeronimo. ***Dropping in with Andy Mac: The Life of a Pro Skateboarder.***

Skateboard parks are springing up all over Florida. Skateboarder MacDonald offers a highly readable, personal biography that follows him from his first sports encounters, at age three, to his recent professional successes in this extreme sport. Throughout, MacDonald emphasizes his struggles and "lessons learned," such as using nonviolent tactics to deal with

bullies. He details impoverished years in his late teens and twenties before he finally made it as a pro.

Interest Level: Middle School

MacGregor, Roy. ***Terror in Florida (The Screech Owls Series)***.

This is the sixth book in the *Screech Owls Series*. This time, Travis, Nish, Sarah, and the rest of the gang pile onto a school bus headed for Florida. The Screech Owls expect a spring break filled with sun, sand, and lots of ice. With luck they may even make it to the peewee tournament final, to be held in the magnificent Ice Palace, home of the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning. But Nish ends up seeing too many things with his x-ray glasses. The Screech Owls have uncovered a plot to terrorize all of America.

Interest Level: Middle School

Nichols, John. ***History of the Florida Marlins***.

Find out about the Florida Marlins, the major league baseball team based in Florida. Other books in the series included one on the Tampa Bay Devil Rays (Creative Education, ISBN 1583412255), also by Nichols.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Owens, Tom and Diana Star Helmer. ***NASCAR -- Stock Car Racing***.

Read about the history of NASCAR, beginning with its origins at Daytona International Speedway in 1947.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Peck, Robert Newton. ***Horse Thief: A Novel***.

A 17-year-old boy steals doomed horses from a decrepit Florida rodeo.

Interest Level: Middle School

Soto, Gary. ***Taking Sides***.

This book tells about Lincoln, an Hispanic 8th grader who moves from a less affluent area to a richer, suburban part of town. He leaves behind his old school, and many of his friends.

A star basketball player, he joins the team at his new school. Unfortunately, his coach strongly dislikes him, and treats him unfairly. The team is scheduled to play against Lincoln's old high school, and he is not sure if he should play his best. There is also a bit of romance.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Stolz, Mary. ***Coco Grimes.***

On a trip to Miami, Thomas is excited to meet Coco Grimes, an old time baseball player from the Negro Baseball League.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Testa, Maria. ***Becoming Joe DiMaggio.***

From his immigrant grandfather young Joseph Paul dreams about the game of baseball and the importance of having a dream. At one point the young boy announces he wants to be Joe DiMaggio when he grows up. "That's wonderful," Papa-Angelo says, "but somebody else already is." *Becoming Joe DiMaggio* is told in a series of vignettes, each with a simple elegance that belies the fact this is poetry.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Gighna, Charles. ***A Fury of Motion: Poems for Boys.***

This poetry collection is not just for boys, but it will interest them a lot! The poems are about school, sports, feelings and emotions, and more. Share "Shortstop," page 3, "Basketball Tryout," page 8, or "Soccer," page 10, during your sports programs.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Hopkins, Lee. ***Extra Innings: Baseball Poems.***

A wonderful collection of 19 poems (or excerpts) about baseball. Handsomely illustrations capture the body language and facial expressions of the pros and the boys and girls of

Little League with equal skill. This is more than just a single. It might even score a home run with every reader. Let readers act out "Casey at the Bat" or read their favorite selection out loud.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Katz, Alan. ***I'm Still Here in the Bathtub: Brand New Silly Dilly Songs.***

This volume is a delightful picture book of "silly-dilly" poems, that can be sung to the tunes of classic childhood favorites. Extravagant caricature artwork by David Catrow adds a special touch to toe-tapping verses. For a rollicking good time, add "I'm a Menace," sung to the tune of "Frere Jacques," to sports programs. Use the ticket for any sports-challenged fan. Try "He's Got the Whole Beach in His Pants" when doing some beach stories in the "Water Mania" section.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Morrison, Lillian, editor. ***At the Crack of the Bat: Baseball Poems.***

Forty-four poems about America's pastime and the personalities of the game of baseball. Add some of these poems to a poetry break. You don't even have to memorize them. Put the selected poem on some 3" by 5" cards and hide them in a catcher's mitt.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Morrison, Lillian, editor. ***Way to Go! Sports Poems.***

This collection of 15 new and 27 previously published poems is a fine blend of poetry and art that celebrates the joy and excitement of sports. Through the use of rhythm, apt metaphors, and vocabulary choice, the movement and style of a sport come to life. Even the appearance of the lines on the page, as in "Slalom Skier," are exciting. Have program participants write a poem about their favorite sport.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Smith, Charles R., Jr. ***Hoop Queens: Poems.***

Twelve action-packed poems profile the best professional women's basketball stars on the court today. *Share with Short Takes: Fast Break Poetry, Hoop Kings*, or other sports poetry by Charles R. Smith, Jr.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Songs about America: Celebrating America's History.

This compilation includes 21 songs that help relate significant events in the history of the U. S. Track 18, "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," can add some spice to sports programs.

Interest Level: All ages

Sullivan, Charles. ***Circus (Adventures in Art).***

Sullivan's original poems are enhanced by reproductions of famous paintings by Matisse, Chagall, Picasso, and Renoir and photographs of the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey circus. The vivid combination of art and poetry transports young readers to the circus. After reading the poems, have young readers try their hand on writing some circus poems on their own. Provide some craft supplies and let groups make a circus collage.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Thayer, Ernest Lawrence. ***Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic Sung in the Year 1888.***

Christopher Bing's illustrations brought this book a Caldecott Honor in 2001. The scrapbook style illustrations accompany the 19th century text about the Mudville 9. Have children act out the poem as it is read aloud. Children may collect items for a scrapbook and assemble it after a discussion about the style and arrangement of the book.

Interest Level: All ages

Community Assets – to broaden the world

Gluckman, David. ***Rails-to-Trails Florida.***

Searching for someplace different to take a bike ride? From the official series of the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, this is a comprehensive guide to walking, jogging, and biking Florida's trails. The book provides mile-by-mile descriptions of many popular rural and urban rail-trails, plus a complete description of the top trails in Florida's state parks.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Internet – connect with the world

Steve "Lefty" Carlton.

www.carlton32.com/pates/bio.html

Carlton, who has been a professional baseball player for the Philadelphia Phillies and the St. Louis Cardinals, was born in Miami and pitched for Miami-Dade Community College. This is his official web page. Baseball fans of all ages will enjoy this site. Includes links to other baseball sites.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Parenting and Family Activities

Gregson, Bob. ***Outrageous Outdoor Games Book.***

Includes 133 group projects, games, and activities. Pick a few to share with children on a sunny day, in tight spaces, or even in wide open places.

Interest Level: Parents

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida Tips for Parents

Visit one of the major league baseball spring training camps, one of the minor league teams that make their home in Florida.

Is there a community skateboard park nearby? Does the community need one? Or does it need a soccer field? Talk with other families about this. Come up with a proposal to present to community leaders.

Make up some silly lyrics for a unique version of “Take Me out to the Ballgame.”

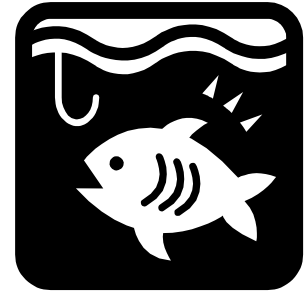
Visit a local library to find some books on popular sports, or a new one that the family can try together.





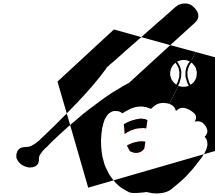
SCORE WITH SPORTS WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the letters to find
sports related words.



1. CIE KCOEYH _____
2. EBBLLAAS MOINDAD _____

3. FGHIINS DOR _____
4. STINEN ARQCUTE _____
5. IMAIM SDPOHLIN _____
6. GOYA _____
7. CUBAS GVDINI _____
8. CSORCE LBLA _____
9. LOAG _____
10. MHOE RNU _____
11. RMANAHOT _____
12. OUCTHOWND _____
13. ROFALDI TSHREPAN _____



SCORE WITH SPORTS WORD SCRAMBLE

ANSWERS:

1. ICE HOCKEY
2. BASEBALL DIAMOND
3. FISHING ROD
4. TENNIS RACQUET
5. MIAMI DOLPHINS
6. YOGA
7. SCUBA DIVING
8. SOCCER BALL
9. GOAL
10. HOME RUN
11. MARATHON
12. TOUCHDOWN
13. FLORIDA PANTHERS



TAKE A HIKE



It's time to explore the great outdoors with Flyp and learn all about the fun and exciting activities in Florida. Canoeing in the Everglades in search of alligators, scuba diving the coral reefs off the Florida Keys, or camping in the Ocala National Forest are just a few of the activities that abound. Load up a backpack and take a hike with Flyp to the library.

Stories – to share together or read alone

Brett, Jan. ***Armadillo Rodeo.***

Jan Brett's exquisitely detailed art is given southwestern flavor in this tale of an adventuresome armadillo. Bo the Armadillo tries to make friends with a cowgirl and has a thrilling time among the bucking horses, charging bulls, and dancing feet, until his mother comes to take him home. Though this book is set in Texas, all of the activities and animals can be found in Florida. Pair with a non-fiction book about rodeos. Talk about ranching out on the Kissimmee Plain.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Bunting, Eve. ***Anna's Table.***

Young Anna tells of the treasures on the nature table in her bedroom and how she acquired certain ones, such as the mouse bones she retrieved from owl pellets and the dead butterflies she and her mother found in the grass after a sudden freeze. Appealing pictures of Anna and her world are full of light, movement, and radiant color. Often the double-page spreads include a split image, with a large scene of Anna at the seashore or in the meadow and a smaller picture in the foreground showing a bone, stone, or other related object on her nature table. Set up a nature table in the children's area of the library. Ask children to bring in their nature treasures.

Have them create a label and write about where they found it, how they found it, and what it is.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Burningham, John. ***Mr. Gumpy's Outing.***

Mr. Gumpy tries to take all of the neighborhood animals for a ride on his small boat. Can you guess what happens? Allow young listeners to retell the story and practice their sequencing skills. Turn a large box into Mr. Gumpy's Boat and make or purchase masks for each character. Have children act out the story.

Interest Level: Preschool

Christelow, Eileen. ***Great Pig Search.***

After receiving a post card with a Florida postmark with the message "Oink!" on it, Farmers Bert and Ethel go to Florida on vacation. The whole time, Bert constantly searches for his missing pigs. This is a rib-tickling sequel to The Great Pig Escape. This would work well as a flannel board or clothesline story. Have the group draw postcards of where they would go on their vacation and have them write messages on the back.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Coffey, Maria. ***Cat in a Kayak.***

An island-dwelling cat learns to live with a myriad of other animals. Make masks for all the animals mentioned in the story then let the group act it out.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

Cooper, Elisha. ***Ballpark.***

This picture book explains, through words and pictures, a day at the ballpark. Read this aloud and allow readers time to explore the illustrations.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

Creech, Sharon. ***Fishing in the Air.***

School Library Journal says: "A father and son go fishing to 'catch the air' and 'catch the breeze' and readers see some of the many threads that connect the generations in this poetic story. As they drive through the dark city into the bright country morning, the man's words and Raschka's pictures lead the boy and readers to see everyday objects differently and to imagine the past. Streetlamps become moons and trees become soldiers. The father describes his boyhood home and explains that his father took him fishing. When the father muses about what happened to the boy he had been and the father he had, his son replies that they are 'right here' and readers will feel that it is true and will continue to be true through the generations." Read this aloud and pair it with other fishing books. Help young listeners enjoy the beautiful language and the Chagallesque illustrations. Have children try their hand at describing something in their lives using images found in the book.

Interest Level: PreSchool and Primary

Crews, Donald. ***Sail Away.***

Simple text and great illustrations describe a day of sailing. The day starts out perfectly; a small sloop leaves its mooring, putt-putts out under the bridge, passes the lighthouse, and sets sail. A violent and dramatic storm provides some perilous moments of adventure before the boat returns home safely as the sun is setting. Have participants act out the story as it is read aloud. Talk about the need to check the weather before going boating. Have a local boater come in to talk about sailing. This could also be presented in the "Water Mania" section.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

George, Jean Craighead. ***Fire Storm.***

This adventure story is inspired by actual events that happened to relatives of the author. While rafting down a mountain stream, a sudden forest fire engulfs the boaters. By finding a campsite that had already been burned, the family is able to survive as the firestorm rages around them. In the

morning, they see the devastation, but are mindful of the regeneration that will follow. Talk about fire safety while camping.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Hale, Bruce. ***Surf Gecko to the Rescue.***

Florida has anoles; Hawaii, geckos. Mokie, from the author's previous book *The Legend of the Laughing Gecko: a Hawaiian Fantasy*, wins a surfing contest and convinces others to help him clean up polluted beaches. Pair this with *Rhinos Who Surf* and the *Catch a Wave* CD found elsewhere in this manual and hang ten!

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate

Kalman, Bobbie. ***Nicola's Floating Home.***

Having the feel of a family album or scrapbook, this book is illustrated with full-color photographs, some of which are family snapshots. Find out what it is like to live on a sailboat by reading about Nicola's floating home. Have children compare Nicola's daily routine with their own.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Kimmel, Eric. ***Anansi Goes Fishing.***

Anansi is the protagonist in a series of trickster tales from Africa. This time, Anansi unsuccessfully tries to trick clever turtle into catching his dinner. This is a fine choice for oral presentation or for independent reading. Try this with puppets, stick puppets or as a flannel board presentation. Or, have older readers turn this into a reader's theater script and present it to younger audiences.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

McFarland, Cynthia. ***Hoofbeats: The Story of a Thoroughbred.***

Take a virtual hike to Ocala and visit its famous thoroughbred race horse farms. Share this along with *Misty's Twilight*. Find Ocala on a map of Florida.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Oppel, Kenneth. ***Peg and the Whale.***

Peg, who is almost seven, was born on her parent's fishing boat and has grown up on the sea. Now that she has caught just about everything there is in the ocean, she sets her sights higher and signs onto a whaling ship. A few days later, she hooks her prey, but the jealous first mate cuts the rope holding her to the mast and she is taken for a ride by the angry creature. Peg is never fazed, however, and as she flies through the air behind the huge animal, she thinks, "Just as well. That old ship was only slowing me down." This story combines some of the elements of the story of Jonah and with those of an old sea chanty. Turn this into a flannel board story or present it using stick puppets. Could also be used in the "Water Mania" section.

Interest Level: Primary grades

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. ***Treasures of the Spanish Main.***

This well-illustrated title discusses the sinking of Spanish galleons near the Florida Keys in the 1600s and the subsequent salvage of their riches (including 27 tons of silver). Talk about the Atocha and other Florida wrecks. It would be great to pair this with a visiting treasure diver or regular scuba diver.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Paulsen, Gary. ***Canoe Days.***

Gary Paulson, author of *Hatchet*, and his artist wife, Ruth Wright Paulson, team up to tell about the beauty of a solitary day on a lake. The day springs to life through poetic words and serene illustrations. Play a CD with water sounds in the background as this book aloud is read aloud. Share this book in your "Score with Sports" programs, too.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Ruurs, Margriet. ***When We Go Camping.***

A brother and sister describe all the enjoyable things they see and do on their camping trip with their family. Read this aloud with nature sounds playing in the background. Allow

plenty of time for everyone to enjoy the photograph-like illustrations by Andrew Kiss.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Stewart, Melissa. ***Life in a Wetland.***

Take a virtual tour of the Everglades National Park. This south Florida wetland is home to many plants and animals. Find out about the ecology of this unique ecosystem. Incorporate information from this informational book into your storytimes. It could also be used in the “Animals Alive” and “Water Mania” sections.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Temple, Charles. ***Shanty Boat.***

Uncle Sheb's never-ending adventures on the Mississippi are recounted here. Water sounds from a CD would create the appropriate atmosphere during the program.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Travis, George. ***Let's Go Fishing in Streams, Rivers and Lakes.***

This volume describes various freshwater fishing methods. Use the factual information in this book to expand *On a Riverbank* found elsewhere in this section.

Interest Level: Primary grades and middle school

Van Dusen, Chris. ***Camping Spree with Mr. Magee.***

Dee, a loving pooch, and his master, Mr. Magee, are enjoying a peaceful camping trip in a cool camper. Suddenly, Mr. Magee and Dee find themselves plunging down a mountain and teetering on the edge of a huge waterfall. Find out how they get out of the slippery situation by reading this rhyming text that is accompanied by amusing illustrations. A great read-aloud, this could lend itself to a creative dramatics presentation. Set up an area so that it looks like a campsite – including a replica camp fire and a real tent. Make s'mores to make it feel like a real camp.

Interest Level: PreSchool and Primary

Williams, Vera. ***Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe.***

This book has been featured on *Reading Rainbow*. It tells of a family's adventures on a three day camping trip with their canoe. Do a map-making exercise to go along with this book. Have children draw maps from their home to the library. Talk about how boaters find their way by using nautical charts and markers to find their way. Invite a boater who uses a GPS (global positioning system) unit to tell how it works.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Farley, Walter. ***Black Stallion's Ghost.***

A peaceful Florida vacation is transformed into a nightmare when Alec Ramsay and the Black stumble upon a mysterious man astride a ghostly gray mare in the heart of the Everglades. Alec's fascination with the man turns to fear as he realizes the man is dangerously close to insanity. Soon Alec and the Black are caught up in a deadly chase through the depths of the Everglades. Not for squeamish readers, even if they are horse lovers. This could be introduced in this section or "Animals Alive" or "We Are Family" sections.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Freeman, Marcia. ***Catfish and Spaghetti.***

Two kids create a bait business to help their family in times of financial crisis. Booktalk for young readers.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Henry, Marguerite. ***Misty's Twilight.***

Twilight is part thoroughbred, part Chincoteague pony, and one hundred percent fire and talent. This tale about a descendent of Misty has a Florida theme.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Heymsfeld, Carla. ***Coaching Ms. Parker.***

Fourth-grader Mike helps his teacher, Ms. Parker, learn how to play baseball for the game between the teachers and the sixth-graders in their school. In return, Ms. Parker goes out of her way offering encouragement to Mike to become excited about reading.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

O'Dell, Scott. ***Alexandra.***

Alexandra's family were sponge divers back in Greece and now in Tarpon Springs. But when tragedy strikes, Alexandra decides to become a sponge diver herself despite her family's objections. Locate Tarpon Springs on a Florida map. Bring in some natural sponges and compare them with cellulose ones.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Paulsen, Gary. ***Caught by the Sea.***

Gary Paulsen takes readers along on his maiden voyage, proving that ignorance can be bliss, but also really stupid and incredibly dangerous. He tells about boats that he has owned and about boats that have owned him. Paulsen's sparse and carefully selected prose help you the reader understand why he fell in love with the sea and why this love affair continues to this day.

Interest Level: Intermediate to High School

Paulsen, Gary. ***Tracker.***

This coming-of-age novel revolves around hunting, something John Borne's family does for survival. At the same time, thirteen-year-old John struggles with the impending death of his grandfather.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Peck, Robert Newton. ***Arly's Run.***

Arly and his friend, Brother Smith, are rowing across Lake Okeechobee to start a new life in the town of Moore Haven. The boat capsizes leaving Arly clinging for life to an oar. He

struggles ashore, only to be captured, branded, and forced into a work gang of migrant pickers. The adventures include surviving the devastating hurricane that hit the lake in 1928. Booktalk this and have some books about hurricanes to accompany this adventure tale.

Interest Level: Middle School

Schrecengost, Maity. ***Tasso of Tarpon Springs.***

Twelve-year-old Tasso stows away to be with his family as they embark from Greece to Florida to participate in the sponge-diving industry. Booktalk this with Scott O'Dell's *Alexandra*.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Sweeney, Joyce. ***Free Fall.***

Four high school boys are lost for 24 hours in an underground cave in the Ocala National Forest in this suspenseful adventure story. Seventeen-year-old Neil and his friend Randy grudgingly allow Neil's younger brother, David, and his friend Terry to join them on a road trip into Florida's Ocala National Forest for an afternoon of spelunking. An exciting tale that teaches the importance of preparing before any dangerous excursion.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Todd, Anne M. ***Caving Adventures.***

This non-fiction title about all kinds of caves and ways to explore them has full-color photos about this extreme sport.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Better Homes and Gardens. ***Better Homes and Gardens Let's Go Exploring (Max the Dragon Project Book).***

Read, set, float! Create a floating fish. Let children hold fish races in a small wading pool when their crafts are completed.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate

Better Homes and Gardens. ***Better Homes and Gardens Water Wonders (Fun Projects for Kids to Do).***

This book includes lots of great water and floating crafts. Try the "Paper Boat" on page 20. After the group makes their boats, set up a kiddy pool outside. Have the children race the boats that they have made. Could also be used as part of "Water Mania."

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Boat Races.

Set up a small kiddy pool in a water-resistant area in the library or just outside and have boat races with paper boats or with inexpensive plastic boats from a dollar store.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Carlson, Laurie. ***Kids Camp! Activities for the Backyard or Wilderness.***

Inexperienced young campers and their families will get lots of information about nature- and safety-based projects, crafts and activities. Use this to turn the family room or back yard into a camp site. Plan a camping trip to a local park, or even in the backyard.

Interest Level: Parents

Diehn, Gwen. ***Nature Crafts for Kids.***

The nature crafts are arranged by season and use easily-found materials. Some of the crafts may need the assistance of an adult. Great illustrations and step-by-step instructions help complete these crafts. Try "Sun Prints" on page 50, which requires some supplies that must be purchased, but the results are cool!

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Gibson, Ray. ***I Can Cut and Stick (Playtime Series).***

Lots of easy crafts to make. Try the "Hanging Fish," on page 12, or the "Octopus Puppet," on page 18. Some crafts can also be used in the "Animals Alive" or the "Water Mania"

sections. Have teen volunteers make some to decorate the program room and the children's area.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

Irvine, Joan. ***Build it with Boxes.***

Want to make a robot, a miniature-golf game, a puppet stage, or even a car? Just follow these instructions and look carefully at the diagrams to build most anything out of cardboard. Well-illustrated, step-by-step instructions are easy to follow; decorating ideas are included. A minimum of adult guidance is needed. Let young readers do these on their own and practice their following-directions skills. Many of the crafts can be used in other programs.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Kranz, Linda. ***Let's Rock! Rock Painting for Kids.***

How can an ordinary rock be transformed into a masterpiece? After taking a walk in the woods or on the beach and collecting some rocks, use this to help design some painted rocks. Lots of colorful samples and black-and-white patterns are included to help spark young imaginations.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Scavenger Hunt.

Create a scavenger hunt in the library. Ask participants to find fiction and non-fiction books about outdoor activities. Make sure that the rest of the staff knows when this activity will take place.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Toad, Toad, Frog.

If a child has ever played "Duck, Duck, Goose," then they will know how to play this version of the game. Frog lives in the water and toad lives on dry land. The children form a circle. Frog (one of the children) walks around the outside of the circle with a water spray bottle in hand. When Frog decides who will be Toad, Frog sprays Toad with the water and the chase begins.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Water Balloon Toss.

Select an area that can stand up to being soaked! Start by having partners a few steps away from each other. Toss the water-filled balloons back and forth. After each pair of tosses, each partner steps back increasing the space between the partners. Continue until only one pair's balloon is not broken. Provide each person with a large trash bag that they can wear to protect their clothes from getting too, too wet! Have prizes for everyone.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Catch A Wave: Beach Songs for Kids.

A great CD of ocean- and beach-related songs features renditions of classic surf pop hits sung by children. “Wipe Out,” can be used with *Rhinos Who Surf*. All songs may be used for dancing. These work well to introduce programs in this section and for “Water Mania” programs.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Ciardi, John. Hopeful Trout and Other Limericks.

The five chapters of this book contain 39 limericks. Black-and-white illustrations by Susan Meddaugh enhance this book. The title limerick on page 13 is an optimistic tale that leads one to believe that there will always be another chance. However, the reader must decide whether the trout will make it or not. Teach children the format of a limerick and then have them write on their own. Share other books of limericks, too.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Disney's Greatest Hits 1 & 2.

This CD contains lots of songs from many Disney movies. Listen to “Under the Sea,” on disc 2, track 8, from *The Little Mermaid*.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

Martin, Peggy Lou, compiler. ***Songs, Seas, and Green Peas: Poems for Anywhere.***

Why not read “Green Song” on page 8? This poem names many of the green things found in nature. Find pictures that illustrate the poems. Mount the pictures on poster board. Put the verse on the other side then laminate the whole thing. Have reading partners share the poems with each other. Or have the children sit in a circle and name as many green things as they can. To add to the challenge, have the children name things in alphabetical order. For instance, A is for apple -- a Granny Smith apple.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Natures Ensemble. ***River of Dreams.***

Waters sounds coupled with calming new-age type music will make a great background for water programs. Play it while reading any of the water-themed books, especially *Canoe Days*.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Prelutsky, Jack. ***Pizza the Size of the Sun.***

Author Prelutsky and artist James Stevenson have teamed up to give readers a rib tickling volume. Read “Oh Please Take Me Fishing,” on page 20, as part of the outdoor adventures in this section. Play the audio cassette and hear how the author interprets his own work.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Silverstein, Shel. ***Where the Sidewalk Ends.***

Some of the best-loved poetry for children is found here. Try catching the “Fish” on page 148. Make flannel board pieces to enhance the presentation of this poem.

Interest Level: All ages

Walt Disney Records: Children's Favorite Songs, Volume 1: 25 Classic Tunes.

Twenty-five traditional songs ensure that everyone in the family will find something they will enjoy. Sing along with “The Green Grass Grew All Around,” from track 18, or try singing

“Row, Row, Row Your Boat,” from track 21, as a round. Share this one with parents as well as the children in programs. Fun for all ages.

Interest Level: All ages

Community Assets – to broaden the world

Park Rangers and Environmentalists.

Have a park ranger from a local animal, county, or state park or an environmentalist come in and talk about what might be seen during a hike in your area.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Internet – connect with the world

Ecosport Printables.

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/sports/camp/print.html>

“Kids Domain is a leading and critically acclaimed educational and entertainment destination for kids (3-12 years old), parents, grandparents, caregivers and educators who are actively involved in the search for and use of appropriate, educational and entertaining content for kids.” This part of the site has coloring pages for “Camping, Hiking, Climbing Coloring Fun” and word puzzles that can be printed out. Click on the “Camp/Hike/Climb” link and explore the entire “Kids Domain EcoSports” section.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

Florida Underwater Archaeological Preserves.

<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/bar/uap/>

In 1987, Florida began to develop a statewide system of underwater parks featuring shipwrecks and other historic sites. Find out about them at this web site.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Kids Domain: Bikes and Boards.

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/sports/bike/index.html>

This part of the “KidsDomain” website includes information about “Safety Tips,” “Bikes and Boards,” “Online Games,” “Coloring and Puzzles,” “Clip Art,” “Wheely Bad Jokes,” “Trivia Bits,” and “Word Scrambles” as well as downloads for PCs and Mac's. There are tons of great bike riding and skateboarding links.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

KidZone National Wildlife Federation.

www.nwf.org/kids

This site is part of the National Wildlife Federation site. It is separated by age groups – ages 1-3, 3-7, 7-13, and ages 13 and up. There are games, activities, homework help, and even career information.

Interest Level: All Ages

Let's Go Camping.

<http://www.123child.com/summer/camping.html>

“Activity Idea Place” hosts over 1,650 activity ideas for Early Childhood Education professionals and the children they serve. One section of this website, “Let's Go Camping,” has lots of information for parents and children on planning camping trips, what to do on the trip, and lots more. Find camp songs to sing as well as activities to do at home or in the library.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

National Geographic Kids.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/index.html>

This website is filled with tons of information, activities, a cartoon factory, and coloring sheets. There is also a parents section, an encyclopedia, homework help and more. Can be used in many sections, not just in this one.

Interest Level: All ages

The Original Florida.

<http://www.originalflorida.org/home.html>

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has created a website that shows the land of freshwater springs,

pine forests, rivers and cypress swamps. This is The Original Florida, old home of native Americans, Spanish missionaries and those “crackers,” the whip-cracking, cattle-driving cowboys. There is lots here that helps explore the great outdoors in Florida.

Interest Level: All ages

Parenting and Family Activities

Lantz, Peggy. ***Young Naturalists Guide to Florida.***

This is an identification book and field guide full of Florida flora and fauna. Includes information on various careers in the environmental field and suggestions for how everyone can help protect Florida's priceless natural resources. Take this on a hike and use this book as a guide.

Interest Level: All ages

Neudecker, Joan. ***Adrift!: Boating Safety for Children.***

Before going boating, everyone should review the numerous tips this book provides for keeping children safe while boating.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Wyler, Rose. ***Science Fun with Toy Boats and Planes.***

Brief text and clear illustrations help readers perform experiments that explain relationships between weight and gravity, balance and the center of gravity, friction, equal and opposite reactions, air streams and lift, propulsion, drag, and air pressure. Open-ended explorations invite learning by doing.

Interest Level: Primary to intermediate

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida Tips for Parents

Whether it is the Everglades, the Ocala National Forest, Canaveral National Seashore, Florida Caverns State Park, or Caladesi Island State Park, Florida has lots of places to see Florida in its natural state. Take a hike with the family and record what you encounter.

Collect some rocks and then decorate them using natural materials and paint.

Make up new lyrics for “Row, Row, Row, Your Boat.” Sing them as when paddling a canoe or raft down one of Florida’s many rivers and streams.

Visit a local library and ask for some suggestions of books about the great outdoors that the family can read together.



Insert Fishing with Dad Hidden Pictures



WATER MANIA



FLYP and his friends love the waters in and around Florida and they know you will too! Float on the lakes and rivers or ride an airboat in the Everglades. Play and splash in the surf along the ocean and gulf shores, stroll the sandy beaches looking for shells and treasures, or try building a sand castle. Relax and watch a sunset or the guiding beam from a lighthouse.

There is much to discover about what is in, on, and surrounding the waters of Florida. So come along with Flyp, take a dip, and enjoy the water.

Stories – to share together or read alone

Barclay, Jane. ***Going on a Journey to the Sea.***

Older sister and her younger brother begin an adventure just trying to get to the beach. Once there, they enjoy a wonderful time together. Read aloud in a small group. Could also be used in a “Full Speed Ahead” program.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Berkes, Marianne Collins. ***Seashells by the Seashore (Sharing Nature With Children Book).***

An informative, rhyming story where a little girl collects a dozen seashells as a gift for her grandmother. Additional information about each shell and the mollusks that live inside can be found at the end of the book. Tell this with the actual seashells. Have a collection of shells for children to identify.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Blake, Quentin. ***Mrs. Armitage and the Big Wave.***

Mrs. Armitage is not your typical surfer. She and her dog continually need more items to make their wait for the big wave tolerable. Collect all the items that Mrs. Armitage has and then allow your listeners to make this into a great creative dramatics presentation.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

Cash, Megan Montague. ***I Saw the Sea and the Sea Saw Me.***

This rhyming story of a little girl using all of her senses to enjoy her day on the beach is a wonderful way to introduce the fun and danger that can be found on the beach and in the ocean. Read aloud. Make a chart showing what the children would experience using each of their five senses.

Interest Level: Preschool

Cole, Henry. ***On the Way to the Beach.***

Fold-out pages illustrate the flora and fauna that a child finds in the woods, in the salt marsh, on the dunes, and on the beach. A key at the back of the book helps with identification. Collect pictures of many of the items from the book. After sharing the book with a group, see if they can place the items in the correct habitat.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Cote, Nancy. ***Flip-Flops.***

Penny reluctantly goes to the beach with her mother, especially since she can only find one of her flip-flops! But that one flip-flop comes in so handy for many things; it becomes a shovel, a boat, a tool and a notepad to write down a new friend's number. Use a flip-flop to help tell this story. Bring in tubs of sand and water to act out Penny's useful flip-flop ideas. Make a list of other useful things that the children will need at the beach.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Fisher, Leonard Everett. ***Sky, Sea, the Jetty, and Me.***

A boy sits on the jetty rocks watching and listening to the sea as a storm approaches. The illustrations become darker as the storm draws closer. Read aloud. Have children talk about their experiences watching approaching storms.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Gay, Marie-Louise. ***On My Island.***

A little boy alone on his island (or is he?), complains that nothing ever happens there. But what about the erupting volcano, the fire-breathing dragon, and the parachuting elephants, among other happenings? Will he notice any of them? Read and share the illustrations and ask children if they've ever been so bored, but might have missed something right under their noses?

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Gay, Marie-Louise. ***Stella, Star of the Sea.***

Stella has been to the sea before and is quite the adventurous one. Her little brother, Sam, who hasn't been to the sea before, is very cautious and full of questions. Stella answers all his questions with enthusiasm and eventually Sam is satisfied and decides to join her. A wonderful story to read aloud and share the colorful illustrations. Have children talk about or write about their relationships with their siblings.

Interest Level: Preschool

Harrison, David L. ***Oceans: The Vast, Mysterious Deep.***

Illustrations by Florida resident Cheryl Nathan help show the glorious and mysterious world of water that Harrison describes. Have some of the children create underwater animals that can be attached to an underwater frieze other children have created on a length of craft paper. Use this to decorate the program room or hang it above the shelves.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Hubbell, Patricia. ***Sea, Sand, Me!***

A cheerful rhyming book about the simple pleasures of going to the beach; sandcastles, splashing in the water,

exploring and picnicking. After reading the book aloud, provide oak tag and pencils so that children can draw a castle. When they have the basic shape drawn, have them use school glue to outline the castle and some of the details. Then shake clean sand over the glue. Allow to dry and then shake off the excess sand.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Landstrom, Olof. ***Will Goes to the Beach.***

Will and his mother bike to the beach and all is fine until his mama wants him to try to swim. Will does give it a try and feels the warm welcome of the water. Read aloud. This could also be introduced in the "Full Speed Ahead" section focusing on how they get to the beach.

Interest Level: Preschool

Lessac, Frane. ***My Little Island.***

A *Reading Rainbow* selection. A boy recalls all the wonders of his Caribbean island, Montserrat, when he visits his best friend. Talk about volcanoes. Serve guavas. Find where Montserrat was on an older map -- before the volcano exploded.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Levine, Evan. ***Not the Piano, Mrs. Medley!***

Grandma takes forever to get ready for the beach, going back for more things they might need. Max just wants to play and splash and build sandcastles. Once there, Grandma realizes she doesn't need any of the things she's brought but forgot the most important thing--their bathing suits! Tell story using all the actual things Grandma brings to the beach or make felt board pieces of everything.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Luciani, Brigitte. ***How Will We Get to the Beach?***

While trying to get to the beach with her baby, a turtle, an umbrella, a book, and a ball, Roxanne must try many ways to get them all there. Each time, one thing will not fit and she must

try another method of reaching the beach, including a bike, skateboard, bus and kayak. The artwork makes it easy for the children to find which item had to be left behind. Read aloud and let children guess which item is missing. This also works as a clothesline story with children putting the items on the clothesline as the book is read aloud.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Marsh, Valerie. ***Stories That Stick: Quick & Easy Storyboard Tales.***

Twenty-two rhymes, songs, and stories have been stripped down to their barest essentials for use on magnetic boards, flannel boards, or other surfaces. The patterns are simple enough for the most craft-challenged among us; making them consists of copying pictures, coloring them or inviting the children to color, laminating them, and attaching fasteners, like Velcro, to the back. "The Magic Fish," page 34-36, plus patterns on pages 44, 45, 52, 82, and 84, is a retelling of an old folk tale. This can be used here in the "Water Mania" section or the "Animals Alive" section.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Meddaugh, Susan. ***Harry on the Rocks.***

Harry, a dog in man's clothing, is swept out to sea when a storm comes in. He is stranded on a small, rocky island with nothing on it but one scraggly tree and a rather large egg. Harry hopes that the egg will become hardboiled in the sun. Instead, it hatches into a lizard that grows into a fire-breathing one. Have children tell or write about their most unusual friends.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Pollotta, Jerry. ***Dory Story.***

A young boy has an imaginary adventure alone on the ocean while playing in the bathtub with his new red dory. Use a small red boat for prop while telling this story along with pictures of all the ocean sea life the boy encounters. Allow enough time for the children to explore the luminous

illustrations. Have children make up their own stories, just like the Danny does.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Pringle, Laurence P. ***Come to the Ocean's Edge: A Natural Cycle Book.***

There is nothing like a walk on the beach. Pringle shows us the beach and the ocean just beyond from early morning dawn, through the bright day, the clear night, and back to the next morning. Let children talk about what they have found and experienced at the beach.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Rand, Gloria. ***Sailing Home.***

The Madsen family lived aboard a four-masted sailing ship in the 1880s. Introduce to middle grade readers, or use as a family read aloud.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Rose, Deborah Lee. ***One Nighttime Sea.***

All night long, while you are asleep, millions of sea creatures move through the deep. This lavishly illustrated counting book offers a fascinating peek at ocean nightlife. Richly-textured collage art and infectious rhyme reveal the habits and habitats of otters, spider crabs, turtle hatchlings, and other nocturnal ocean dwellers. This counting book can be turned into a clothesline story where children can put the numbers on the line as the story counts from one to ten and then take them off again as the story counts backwards.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Van Rynbach, Iris. ***Safely to Shore: America's Lighthouses.***

What lighthouse was the first built in the United States and still has live-in keepers? Discover the answer to this and many more amazing facts about lighthouses around the U.S. Describes the purpose and history of lighthouses, how they work, who keeps them, and relates stories about famous American lighthouses. Have readers and listeners locate St.

Augustine (the only Florida lighthouse mentioned in this book) and other lighthouse locations on a map of the U.S.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Wolfe, Frances. ***Where I Live.***

With a sparse, poetic text, a little girl describes her home by the sea. The words and images together take readers to a lovely, serene seascape. Read aloud and have the children repeat the refrain “where I live” as it occurs in the story.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Adler, David A. ***Young Cam Jansen and the Double Beach Mystery.***

When Cam, friend Eric, and Aunt Molly walk the beach searching for seashells, Cam is sure she can find her way back. But using the beach umbrellas to mark her way like breadcrumbs wasn't such a good idea. They've all been moved! Now what will Cam do to solve her dilemma? Cam puts her photographic memory to work to find her mom.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Babbitt, Natalie. ***Eyes of the Amaryllis.***

A hurricane took the ship, Amaryllis, and her crew some thirty years ago. The captain's widow, Geneva Reade, still believes that her husband will send her a message from the sea.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Creech, Sharon. ***Wanderer.***

Sophie hears the sea calling her and decides to join her uncles and male cousins on a voyage across the Atlantic. Along the way, she keeps a journal of her adventures, proves her bravery, and finds her hidden past. Newbery award-winning author Creech once again captures the ebb and flow of a

vulnerable teen's emotional life in this enticing blend of adventure and reflection.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Davies, Micola. ***Surprising Sharks.***

Sharks have gotten a bad rap; most sharks are not giant, man-eating killers. Sharks come in all sizes, shapes, and colors, and are probably more afraid of humans than we are of them. Learn all about these mysterious creatures of the deep in this colorfully illustrated book.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

De Felice, Cynthia. ***Lostman's River.***

In 1906, Tyler MacCauley has come to love his new home in the Everglades even though his family's move there was under the shadow of a crime. His poverty-stricken life is rich in the beauty of the Everglades and the wildlife he comes to know. When that wildlife becomes threatened, will Tyler remain loyal to defending it? DeFelice uses this historical setting to give perspective to the troubling ecological situations that are of concern today. Use this in the "On the Edge" section and play up the ecological issues.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Doherty, Kieran. ***Marjory Stoneman Douglas: Guardian of the Glades.***

This nonfiction book tells of the remarkable woman who became a well-known writer and conservationist, especially in her work with the Everglades.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Forney, Melissa. ***Oonawassee Summer: Something is Lurking Beneath the Surface.***

Set on the banks of the fictional Oonawassee River in south Florida, 12-year-old cousins Addie and Tanner find adventure and intrigue while visiting relatives. Although the river is fictitious, there is a wealth of factual information about

boats, river otters, cypress trees, herons, alligators, cast nets, and other fascinating details of life in south Florida.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Hale, Wendy A. ***Florida Water Story: From Raindrops to the Sea.***

Florida: salty seas surround it, lakes shimmer within it, and rivers flow through it. This nonfiction book is divided into four sections--Oceans, Coral Reefs, Coastlines, and Wetlands. It tells about the plants and animals that have adapted to living in all the wet places of Florida. A great way to introduce animals, plants and fish that depend on Florida's waters. Make a Bingo type game with columns for Oceans, Coral Reefs, Coastlines, and Wetlands. Have pictures of various animals in appropriate columns on the cards, and the same animals on cards that can be drawn from a hat. Play this as you would a regular game of Bingo.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Jansson, Tove. ***Moominpappa at Sea.***

The Moomin family travels to their new home--a lighthouse on a tiny island in the Gulf of Finland--and they discover some wonderfully funny, new things about themselves.

Interest Level: Middle School

Kinsey-Warnock, Natalie. ***Gifts from the Sea.***

Quila MacFarlane's father tends the lighthouse on Devil's Rock, a remote island. When her mother dies, the lonely 12-year-old assumes the role of cook and housekeeper. One day, after a ship goes down, she finds two small mattresses tied together. Inside is a baby. Now the girl has more work than ever, but the baby Celia brings new life to the island, even giving some joy to Quila's grieving father. Interspersed throughout the novel are details of the lonely, difficult life as a lighthouse keeper in 1858.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Murphy, Elspeth Campbell. ***Mystery of the Haunted Lighthouse (Three Cousins Detective Club, #7).***

The Three Cousins Detective Club is made up of cousins Titus, Timothy and Sarah-Jane. Sarah-Jane's father takes them to check out a lighthouse that is for sale. They come to believe it is haunted, but by whom? After finding clues, the mystery is solved.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Orr, Wendy. ***Nim's Island.***

Nim lives on an unknown, uninhabited island with her scientist dad, Jack, an iguana, and a sea lion. Nim's link to the outside world is through her father's laptop. Nim is responsible for keeping the computer's batteries charged. Storms and a volcano add to other zany things that happen to Nim who must keep evil tourists from finding the island. There are plenty of drawings to add visual appeal to this wild tale that never loses its momentum.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Rylant, Cynthia. ***Lighthouse Family: The Storm.***

A cat lighthouse keeper, Pandora, watches over the seas alone until a storm brings to her door Seabold the dog. They become fast friends and together they take in three orphaned mice, becoming the family that the title suggests. Young readers will find success in this early chapter book.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Sauer, Julia L. ***Light at Tern Rock.***

Ronnie and his aunt agree to tend the Tern Rock lighthouse so the keeper can take a long-anticipated vacation. Ronnie loves the lighthouse, but can't wait to get back to his family for Christmas. But the keeper doesn't return. A Newbery Honor book in 1952. Locate the lighthouses that dot the coast of Florida on a map.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. ***Mystery of the Hidden Beach (The Boxcar Children Series #41)***.

The Alden children must, once again, solve a mystery. While attending Camp Coral in Key West, Florida, they encounter suspicious characters and a plot to steal valuable coral from the reef.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Boursin, Didier. ***Origami Paper Animals***.

From beginning origami artists to experts, everyone will find something that will delight, challenge, and amuse. Page 14 gives instructions on folding a Florida water bird, the Heron. Have some 'tweens and teens make some of the animals to decorate the children's section of the library.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Evans, Joy and Jo Ellen Moore. ***Folded Paper Projects***.

After learning the eight basic folds, you can create 30 different paper folding projects. Page 16 gives instructions for an easy to fold and cut jellyfish found in the Florida waters. You can also make an alligator and a fish.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Lighthouse Crafts.

www.k12.nf.ca/stpiusx/lighthouse/capespear/build.html

This page is part of the World Lighthouse Project website. This page offers clear instructions on making lighthouses from ordinary household items; Styrofoam cups and cardboard paper towel rolls. Add a little paint and imagination and create your own lighthouse! Older children will enjoy making the lighthouse. After doing some research about Florida's lighthouses, have them decorate their lighthouses like one found in Florida. Have the children locate them on a map of Florida.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Lighthouse in a Bottle.

This website gives directions for making a sports water bottle into a lighthouse using paint, clay and tape along with a flashlight. Because you must use a craft knife during this project, adult supervision and assistance is required.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Lord, Suzanne. ***Sand Art Craft Kit: Create Your Own Sand-Sational Works of Art! (Scholastic's Creativity Zone).***

Helpful tips and ideas on creating wonderful sand art projects.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

The Mailbox. ***Arts and Crafts for all Seasons.***

Check out the "Summer" section of this book for some great ideas to go along with beach stories. There are directions for a "Sparkly Starfish," "Build a Sandcastle," "Sand Pictures," "Beach Art," and a "Palm Tree." Available on line at www.themailbox.com.

Interest Level: Parents

Ross, Kathy. ***Crafts to Make in the Summer.***

Twenty-nine easy-to-make craft projects with summertime themes, including instructions for a "Swimming Fish Box" and a "Seashell Candleholder." This is also available as an e-book for Pocket PC 2002 devices.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Silver Dolphin. ***Let's Start Sand Art.***

Don't be like an ostrich and put your head in the sand; this kit is fun! It includes a 32-page instruction book, activity pad with four magic sticky sheets, seven colored sands, glitter, glue, funnel, sand sprinkler, and glue spreading tool. Use your imagination to come up with lots of activities. Purchase more peel and stick paper and additional sand from a craft store and let children create their own sand pictures. Adapt the projects for children ages 3 and over.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Sohi, Morteza E. ***Look What I Did With a Shell!***

This book provides plenty of information on collecting and using shells for art projects. Directions and photos are both clear in helping children create a fun finished seashell craft. Provide shells and craft glue and let children create their own shell animals.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Berry, James. ***Classic Poems to Read Aloud.***

Jamaican writer Berry has collected 138 poems that represent a wide variety of voices and organized them by subject. Use “Until I Saw the Sea” by Lillian Moore, page 73, as a poetry break for this chapter.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Child's Celebration of Silliest Songs.

This collection is sure to get children laughing. Sing along with their favorites. Use “There's a Hole in the Bottom of the Sea,” track 17. This cumulative, silly song will get the giggles going. Children repeat after singer and try to keep up! Use motions or props to make it funnier. “A Peanut on the Railroad Track,” track 9, can be used in the “Full Speed Ahead” programs.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Joseph, Lynn. ***Coconut Kind of Day: Island Poems.***

Sandra Speidel's illustrations add to the appeal of this poetry book. A gentle, nostalgic, loving recollection about growing up on an island in the Caribbean. Lynn Joseph follows one young girl in Trinidad through her day. The language rings with Caribbean rhythms. Caribbean sights, sounds, and people come alive in this taste of the Caribbean. Have readers compare their lives with those of the young girl in this poetic story.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

London, Jonathan. ***Sun Dance, Water Dance.***

The poetic text about summer fun tells about how children play on the beach and in the current, skip stones, stop for snacks and cold drinks, and then continue to explore their watery, woodsy world. Let the group write a poem about their experiences playing on the beach and in the water.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Prelutsky, Jack. ***It's Raining Pigs & Noodles.***

Puns, jokes, wordplay and shape play, wit, silliness, slapstick, and joy abound. Read "I am Stuck Inside a Seashell" on page 137 for "Water Mania." Cut poster board into a shell shape and write up poem in large letters in the same fashion as the book. Share with others.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Raffi. ***Baby Beluga.***

Raffi has lots of songs for singing, dancing, or listening. Sing along with "Baby Beluga," track 1, or listen to "Water Dance," track 10. "Water Dance" makes for wonderful background instrumental music for booktalks or read-alouds.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Raffi. ***Singable Songs for the Very Young.***

An enjoyable collection of songs that you can sing along with.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Save the Animals, Save the Earth.

Thirteen tracks help children become more responsible for planet earth by learning facts and developing an awareness of recycling, conservation, the ozone layer, and more. Find out about the wetlands by playing track 6, "The Wetlands."

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Siegen-Smith, Nikki. ***Sea Dream: Poems from Under the Waves.***

This volume celebrates the sea with action-packed poems by well-known authors. Facts about sea creatures are embedded in bouncy, rhymed verses, as are other fresh perspectives on the underwater world: Spike Mulligan's sardines describe a submarine as a "tin full of people." Also includes "The Sea's Treasures" by Daphne Lister and "The Pool in the Rock" by Walter de la Mare.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Silverstein, Shel. ***Falling Up.***

This favorite children's poet has several watery poems, including "Hungry Kid Island." Share Silverstein's illustration to get the full effect.

Interest Level: all ages

Various Artists. ***Catch a Wave: Beach Songs for Kids.***

Nothing says summer and the beach like music by The Beach Boys. Their music and signature sound are captured in this collection of covers performed by a team of kid vocalists and accomplished musicians. Try "Catch a Wave," track 1, and "Wipe Out," track 5, to add a beach sound to your programs. Try out the dances of the beach set.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

What's In the Sea.

This CD has songs about marine life and ocean ecology that can help children understand the need for clean waters and preserving sea life. Play these songs as they explore the undersea world. Many of the 12 tracks can be used here or in "Animals Alive." Try track 1, "A Whale Vacation," track 3, "Some Fish Swim In Schools," track 6, "Mama Manatee," or track 13, "Dancing Dolphins," for these programs. Use track 7, "Scuba Machine" in "On the Edge" programs.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

The Wiggles. ***Hoop-Dee-Do! It's a Wiggly Party.***

Enjoy the sound of the beach by listening to “Let's Spend a Day at the Beach,” track 14. Children can learn the motions and sounds of the things found on the beach.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Yolen, Jane. ***Jane Yolen's Songs of Summer.***

This book is full of great summer-time songs that work well with beach and ocean stories. Share “Oh, What A Summer” on page 8 to warm up a group.

Interest Level: Preschool to Primary

Yolen, Jane. ***Wild Wings: Poems for Young People.***

Bird watching at the Ding Darling Sanctuary and many other areas is a favorite pastime for many people. Whether it is an egret, an anhinga, a great blue heron, or a moorhen with an alligator in the background, readers and listeners are sure to recognize some of these birds that inhabit Florida. Have children write their own poems about the birds in their backyard. If there is access to a camera (digital, throw away, or regular), allow children to take pictures of the birds they write about and create an anthology.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Community Assets – to broaden the world

Lifeguards.

Have lifeguards from the local “Y,” recreation center, or beach come in and talk about water safety. For older participants, have the lifeguards talk about their training and what it is like to be a lifeguard.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Shell Collector.

If there is a shell shop in the area, chances are there are collectors. Invite one in to share their experiences and collections with the children.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Surfer and/or Scuba Diver.

Have a local surfer or scuba diver visit and talk about how to get involved with their sport.

Interest Level: Primary to Intermediate

Internet – connect with the world**Enchanted Learning.**

www.enchantedlearning.com/Home

This site is chock full of information on lots of things. Click on “Oceans” on right sidebar to learn about Oceans and Seas. Also includes coloring sheets and other activities about animals in the oceans, and information about why the sea is salty and blue.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Florida Archaeology.

<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/bar/uap>

This site was created by the Florida Division of Historical Resources. Check out the shipwrecks on the Florida coast.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Florida Lighthouse Association.

<http://www.floridalighthouses.org/>

There are 30 lighthouses along the Florida coastline. One of the highlights of this site is the photos of various lighthouses.

Interest Level:

Sand Castle Central.

www.sandcastlecentral.com

This website was developed by the Sons of the Beach (SoBs) of South Padre Island, Texas. It is devoted to sand

sculptures and includes photos, tips, and contests -- all related to sand sculpture. An awesome site for those who love the sand! Check the section on sand sculptors and see if there is someone in your area who can provide a sand castle building lesson.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

The Original Florida.

<http://www.originalflorida.org/home.html>

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council has created a web site that shows the land of freshwater springs, pine forests, rivers and cypress swamps. This is The Original Florida, old home of native Americans, Spanish missionaries and those “crackers,” the whip-cracking, cattle-driving cowboys. There is lots here that helps explore the great outdoors in Florida -- especially what can be done in the water.

Interest Level: All ages

Parenting and family activities

Fish in the Sea.

Make blue Jell-O and pour into clear plastic cups. Place in refrigerator until partially set. This takes about an hour. Remove from refrigerator and add gummy fish or sharks to each cup. Put them back in refrigerator until completely set. Enjoy as a special hot, sunny day treat!

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Visit a Lighthouse.

Visit a lighthouse if there is one near your neighborhood. Many lighthouses offer guided tours and give the history of its founding. Very young children may not be allowed to climb the stairs. Check with staff before venturing up.

Interest Level: All ages

Visit a State Park.

Visit one of the state parks in the area. Chances are, it will be near a beach, lake, river or marsh. Encourage children to find something unique to the park that isn't in their neighborhood.

Interest Level: All ages

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida

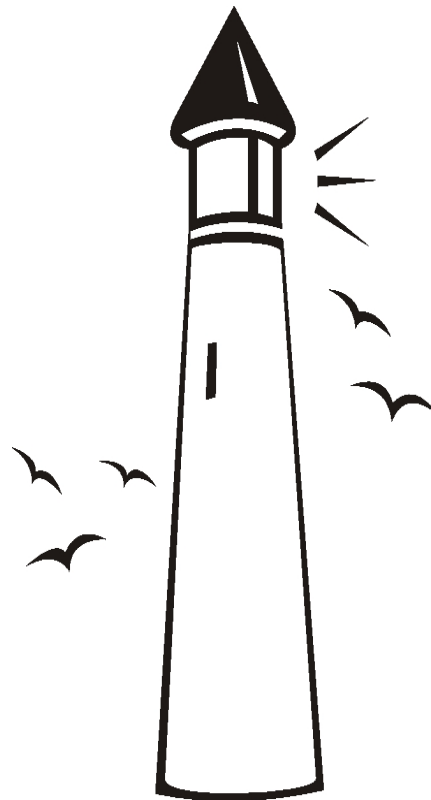
Visit a lighthouse. Find out when it was last in operation.

Go out to a local lake, pond, or stream. See what animals make their home in that environment.

Take a walk along the beach.
Collect some of the shells that
you find. Sort them by size,
color, if they are univalve or
bivalve.

If you can, plan a visit to a water
park such as Sea World or
Marine Land. Find out about the
animals that live in the water that
surrounds Florida.

Go to the library and check out
some books on the oceans that
surround Florida. Ask your
librarian for some suggestions.





WE ARE FAMILY



People began settling in Florida as early as 12,000 years ago when Florida's land area was twice the size it is today.

People from all over the US and the world continue to come to the Sunshine State, making Florida the fourth most populous state in the U.S. The people who live and work in

Florida make our population one of the most diverse in the world. In addition to the books that Flyp and his friends recommend in this chapter, they are sure that you will want to read about some of the other famous people with roots or ties to Florida. Here are just a few suggestions of some of the people who may be of interest:

"Cannanball" Adderley
John James Audubon
Mary McLeod Bethune
Jimmy Buffett
Steve Carlton
Jacqueline Cochran
Walt Disney
Faye Dunaway
Thomas Alva Edison
Gloria Estefan
Chris Evert
Mel Fisher

Henry Morrison Flagler
John Gorrie
Ernest Hemingway
Zora Neal Hurston
James Weldon Johnson
Osceola
Sidney Poitier
A. Philip Randolph
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
John and Mable Ringling
Isaac Bashevis Singer
Tiger Woods

Stories – to share together or read alone

Baca, Ana. ***Benito's Bizcochitos.***

As they prepare to make Christmas cookies known as Bizcochitos, Christina's grandmother tells her the story of how a

magical butterfly first introduced these sweet treats to her great grandfather, a shepherd in the hills of New Mexico.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Barasch, Lynne. ***Radio Rescue.***

In an exciting story about the heroism of ordinary people, a 10-year-old boy earns his amateur radio license and aids in the rescue of hurricane victims. The book includes a time line of the invention of the telegraph, a list of the advantages of the telegraph, and a chart of Morse code. Help children construct a time line of their life and the significant events they have experienced.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Bruce, Annette J. ***More Tellable Cracker Tales.***

Drawn from Florida history, folklore, and fiction, this collection of stories tailor-made for telling will entertain, inspire, and astound readers and listeners of all ages. Annette Bruce founded the Cracker Storytelling Festival and co-founded the Florida Storytelling Guild and the Florida Storytelling Camp.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Bruce, Annette J. ***Tellable Cracker Tales.***

A collection of tall tales, modern fables, nonsense stories, and stories from history -- all with a Florida flavor that are perfect for telling. Notes for the storyteller include telling time, intended audience, and tips on how to tell it. Pull up your favorite chair and a few listeners and start your own storytelling tradition with the gems from this collection.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Caraballo, Samuel. ***Estrellita se despide de su isla/Estrellita Says Good-bye to Her Island.***

This bilingual picture book for older children tells of Estrellita's farewell song to her island home. The gentle words paint a picture of her beloved environment in vivid strokes. She tells of the rooster calling to her in the morning, the coquf appearing at her bed, and the people that populate her lovely countryside. What comes across best is the poet's strong

feeling for the island's "exquisite Caribbean song," which will strike a response in readers, whether recent immigrants or not.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Charlip, Remy. ***Fortunately.***

"Fortunately, Ned was invited to a surprise party. Unfortunately, the party was a thousand miles away." See how Ned's luck alternates from good to bad and back again as he travels from New York to Florida to attend a surprise party that turns out to be for him. Have children write their own stories that alternate from good to bad and back again.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Galindi, Mary Sue. ***Icy Watermelon/Sandia Fria.***

When three generations of a family gather to eat watermelon, the grandparents reminisce about how the sweet fruit brought them together.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Garza, Carmon. ***Family Pictures.***

The author describes her experiences growing up in a Hispanic community in Texas. Get children to talk about their own family experiences.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Hutchins, Pat. ***There's Only One Of Me!***

Hutchins tackles family relationships in this cheerful, cumulative story with a birthday-party finale. In a series of spreads, a child greets her mother, sister, half brother, stepfather, stepbrother, cousin, aunt and uncle, grandparents, and great-grandmother as they arrive for the celebration, carefully stating her relationship to each one of them. After reading the story aloud, have the children make a "family tree" showing who they are related to and how.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Joseph, Daniel M. and Lydia J Mendel. ***All Dressed Up and Nowhere to Go.***

David and his parents travel to Florida to spend the winter holidays with his grandparents. After dreaming of snow, young David awakes and dresses in many layers to go out and make a snowman. Grandma searches for David, who is easily found: she simply follows the trail of discarded winter clothes to find David and his sandman. Create a flannel board with David and all his clothes. Layer them on and off as the story is told. Or, dress a child up with real winter clothes as the book is read.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Khalsa, Dayal Kaur. ***My Family Vacation.***

May has many new experiences on her first family vacation in Florida. Some of the new experiences include sleeping in a motel, playing miniature golf, and going sightseeing in places like Parrot Jungle. They play car games while on the road. Getting there is only part of the fun! Let the children talk about where they go with their family on vacation -- or about their distant family members that come to visit them in Florida.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Pollaco, Patricia. ***Keeping Quilt.***

A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith. Let the children design a quilt square to symbolize their family. Provide many different types, colors, and textures of paper. Have the children glue their designs onto a blank square of paper, then glue all of them onto a large piece of craft paper.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Ryan, Susan Jane. ***Florida A to Z.***

Crammed into the 26 letters of the alphabet are almost 200 facts about Florida personalities, history, geography, nature, and culture. The facts are both fun and accurate. From Alligator to Zephyrhills, there is more information on Florida packed in this alphabet than can be imagined. Sprinkle these

facts throughout presentations in this section, throughout the summer, or any time during the year. After sharing all the information, turn this into a game show and ask questions about Florida.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Vigil-Piionon, Evangelina. ***Marina's Muumuu / El muumuu de Marina.***

In this bilingual book, Marina is a girl with a great imagination. She can imagine herself in Mexico, the country from which her grandfather came, or in Hawaii, her grandmother's homeland. After looking at pictures of her aunts and cousins in colorful muumuus, Marina decides she wants one for herself. Have children draw a picture of themselves in the type of clothing they want for themselves. Have them write a paragraph about why they would like that type of clothing.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Winner, Ramona Moreno. ***Lucas And His Loco Beans: A Bilingual Tale Of The Mexican Jumping Bean.***

Written in a lively, rhyming, bilingual style, with English as the main language and English meanings given for the Spanish words used, this tells the story of Lucas' summertime visit to his grandfather's ranch. There are four pages at the back of the book with jumping bean facts in both English and Spanish, and then a neat multiple-choice quiz on word meanings. A wonderful way to introduce Spanish to English speaking audiences and to entice Spanish speakers to be part of programs.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Zamorano, Ana. ***Let's Eat!***

Every day, Mama prepares a mid-afternoon meal for the family. Grandparents, parents, and three children all join in to share stories as well as wonderful food. Lots of Spanish words and phrases help introduce readers and listeners to Latino culture.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Bode, Janaet. ***New Kids in Town: Oral Histories of Immigrant Teens.***

Eleven young people describe their lives since coming to the US.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Bloor, Edward. ***Crusader.***

Set in Miami, this book tells about Roberta River and her father. He operates an arcade in a failing mall where most of the action takes place. There is also a mystery about how Roberta's mother died seven years ago. Was she murdered?

Interest Level: High School

Blume, Judy. ***Starring Sally J. Freedman As Herself.***

Sally J. Freedman is spending the winter of 1947/48 in Miami Beach and she is full of wild ideas. She casts herself in starring roles in movies. She's got her eye on handsome Peter Hornstein, the Latin lover of her dreams. She encounters a stranger who looks suspiciously like Hitler. Sally's school year in Miami Beach is unforgettable.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Brown, Robin C. ***Florida's First People: 12,000 Years of Human History.***

The author uses the discoveries at five archeological sites around the state to illustrate the major cultural periods of Florida prehistory. Pottery, tools (both shell & stone) and other artifacts as well as photos and drawings of hundreds of different potsherds provide the reader with a greater understanding of the people who created them.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Cavanagh, Helen. ***Panther Glade.***

Bill Carven gains self-confidence when he spends the summer in Florida with Aunt Cait, an archaeologist studying the burial mounds of the Calusa Indians. He quickly gains interest in the Calusa Indians, especially in the legend of Manther, the

Cat-god of the Calusa. Bill learns how Calusa boys went alone into the Everglades to search for a vision and find their own spirit guides and protectors. The thought of being alone in the Everglades terrifies Bill, but he confronts his fears and finds the courage to survive when a sudden storm leaves him stranded in the Everglades. Author Helen Cavanagh is a resident of Marco Island, FL.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Crewe, Sabrina. ***Settling of St. Augustine.***

The story of the settling of St. Augustine, Florida is described with information about the indigenous people who lost their way of life, freedom, and their lives when the Spanish came to Florida.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Crist-Evans, Craig. ***Amaryllis.***

Amaryllis. That was the name of the ship that ran aground on Singer Island during a hurricane in 1965. For several years, it jutted out into the Atlantic off the coast of Florida, creating perfect sets of waves that called to surfers Jimmy Staples and his older brother Frank. Now that Frank is off in Vietnam fighting the enemy and his own demons, and Jimmy is left at home to deal with the repercussions, Amaryllis takes on an ominous new meaning -- a symbol of what happens when life places unexpected events in our paths.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Doherty, Kieran. ***Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Guardian of the Glades.***

This is a biography of Florida's foremost environmental activist. Grass motifs are used in the chapter title pages as well as to complement the soft, gray-toned photos scattered throughout the book. This is not just a book about the history of Florida; it is an interesting and eloquent account of Douglas' life and her evolution as a conservationist.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Englar, Mary. ***Seminole: The First People in Florida.***

Provides overview of past and present lives of the Seminole people of Florida and Oklahoma.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Ferris, Jean. ***All That Glitters.***

Sixteen- year-old Brian is forced to stay with his father, Leo, in the Florida Keys while his mother is off on a honeymoon with her new husband. Leo alienates Brian who then gets involved with a local group who search for a sunken galleon. There is a bit of romance and lots of adventure as the group has to cope with a hurricane.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Fichter, George S. ***Floridians All.***

A review of the lives and accomplishments of people who were either born in Florida and achieved greatness elsewhere, or came to Florida and achieved greatness here.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Freedman, Russell. ***Immigrant Kids.***

Text and contemporary photographs chronicle the life of immigrant children at home, work, and play during the late 1800's.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

George, Jean Craighead. ***Talking Earth.***

Billie Wind, a member of the Seminole nation, does not believe in the tribe's beliefs about talking animals and spirits. She wants to believe in the culture of her heritage, but it conflicts with the science she is learning in school. Billie goes to live in the Everglades where she survives a hurricane and lives with the animals until she hears the spirits of the animals talk and sees the magical serpent.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Harvey, Dean. ***Secret Elephant of Harlan Kooter.***

Harlan, the smallest boy in school, is always picked on by the school bully. When the circus comes to his home town of

Pine View, Florida, he discovers “a medium-sized elephant, which is to say it was about the size of a delivery van” that has run away from the circus. Harlan befriends the elephant who wants to be free of the circus.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Heinrichs, Ann. ***De Soto: Hernando De Soto Explores the Southeast.***

A biography of the sixteenth-century Spaniard who explored Florida and other southern states, and became the first white man to cross the Mississippi river.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Heinrichs, Ann. ***Ponce De Leon: Juan Ponce De Leon Searches For The Fountain Of Youth.***

A biography of the Spanish explorer who first came to the new world with Columbus, went on to become the governor of Puerto Rico, and later came to Florida looking for the Fountain of Youth.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Horne, Will. ***Tales of the Tamiami Trail.***

This tells the stories of floods and hurricanes in the Everglades, of people who lived through them, or died there—and especially the story of a strange young woman born in the eye of a hurricane.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Hoobler, Dorothy. ***African American Family Album.***

A collection of memories, experience, and photographs of a people who were first Africans, then slaves, then Americans.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Hoobler, Dorothy. ***Mexican American Family Album.***

This book tells the story of Mexican-Americans, explaining their role in U.S. History and the contributions they have made to American culture.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Hudson, Joyce. ***Apalachee.***

A Native American woman is caught in the rapidly changing world of the early colonial south. The novel recounts the beginnings of the colony of South Carolina and the struggle between the colonists and the Native Americans.

Interest Level: Middle School

Johnson, Delores. ***Seminole Diary: Remembrance of a Slave.***

Using diary entries, Johnson introduces readers to a seldom recognized aspect of Native-American and African-American relationships.

Interest Level: Preschool and Primary Grades

Jones, Maxine D. ***African Americans in Florida.***

This book includes brief descriptions of the lives and contributions of more than 50 notable African Americans in Florida, from 1528 to the present. These people made contributions in fields such as education, politics, journalism, sports, music, and religion. Also included is a detailed description of the 141 sites on the Florida Black Heritage Trail that mark African-American contributions to culture and history in our state. A month-by-month calendar of important dates that highlight the history, culture, setbacks and successes of one of the state's largest minorities makes this volume useful all year long.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Jumper, Moses. ***Osceola: Patriot and Warrior (Stories of America).***

This fact-filled book describes the struggle of Seminole chief and warrior Osceola to save people from being forced off their land in Florida.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Kavasch, E. Barrie. ***Seminole Children and Elders talk together.***

A child and older person of the Seminole Native American tribe of Florida talk about their history, culture, and festivals.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Kavasch, E. Barrie. ***Seminoles.***

This book Introduces the history, culture and daily life of the Seminoles.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Koestler-Grack, Rachel A. ***Seminole: Patchworkers of the Everglades.***

This book discusses the Seminole Indians, focusing on their tradition of creating patchwork.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Konigsburg, Elaine L. ***T-backs, T-shirts, Coat, and Suit.***

Spending the summer in Florida with her stepfather's sister, who operates a "meals on wheels" van, twelve-year-old Chloe and her aunt become involved in a controversy surrounding the wearing of T-back bathing suits. Written by two time Newbery award-winning author and Florida resident.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Konigsburg, Elaine L. ***View From Saturday.***

Florida resident Konigsburg tells the story of four extraordinary sixth-graders. They form an incredible friendship centered around the ritual of Saturday tea, and, later, on an academic bowl team coached by their teacher, Mrs. Olinski. Konigsburg won her second Newbery Medal for this book. Serve tea before you booktalk this. Set up a quiz bowl type program using questions about Florida and the books the group is reading.

Interest Level: Middle School

Knotts, Bob. ***Florida Native Peoples.***

This book contains interesting facts that tell of the people who lived in Florida from 10,000 years ago to the present day.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Kudlinski, Kathleen V. ***Night Bird: A Story of the Seminole Indians (Once upon America).***

Night Bird is a young Seminole girl who lives in the Florida Everglades in the mid-19th century. Unexpectedly, her cousin and her family come to her village fleeing white soldiers. This act inadvertently exposes the tribe's safe haven in the swamp. Given the option of relocating to Oklahoma or being driven further into the swamp, the members of the camp must decide what to do. Night Bird, who is destined to head the Otter clan in this matriarchal society, faces a decidedly difficult choice. She ultimately opts to remain with her grandmother and learn the ways of the clan in their homeland even though the rest of her immediate family heads west. Full-page black-and-white paintings punctuate the narrative and reveal unique aspects of the Native American customs and dress.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Lenski, Lois. ***Strawberry Girl.***

This Newbery award-winning book tells how life was in rural Florida in the early 1900s. Birdie Boyer and her hard-working family raise strawberries in Florida, but have to face the dislike of their neighbors.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Lourie, Peter. ***Everglades: Buffalo Tiger and the River of Grass.***

Take a tour of the “slow-moving swamp that is in fact a huge, silent river” covering a vast area of southern Florida in this book with former Miccosukee chief, Buffalo Tiger. This is an engrossing and moving narrative, clearly presented and liberally supported with full-color photographs.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Maestro, Betsy. ***Coming to America: The Story of Immigration.***

The basic overview of immigrant experiences in early American tales of how new arrivals came to this country in search of religious and political freedom.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

McCarthy, Kevin. ***Native Americans In Florida.***

This book explores the importance of archaeology in preserving the past for future generations, how archaeologists do their work, and even how young people can gain hands-on experience in a real dig. Traces the history and culture of various Native American tribes in Florida, addressing such topics as mounds and other archeological remains, languages, reservations, wars, and European encroachment. Provides detailed descriptions of 185 sites on the Native American Heritage Trail that mark important historical events as well as a calendar of important dates.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

McDonald, Megan. ***Beezy.***

In three short stories styled just right for the beginning-to-read crowd, Beezy waits out a Florida hurricane with her Gran; adopts a homeless dog she names Funnybone; and befriends newcomer Sarafina Zippy, whose parents are the Flying Zippys in the Pickle Circus.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

McGoun, William. ***Ancient Miamians: The Tequesta of South Florida.***

This concise and readable tale of the remarkable predecessors of Miami-Dade's current 2 million residents is the first such treatment of Florida's pre-European and early historic native people. McGoun includes the major cultural periods and significant archaeological sites in the region, all in terms of day-to-day life rendered in engaging narrative.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. ***To Walk the Skypath.***

Ten-year-old Billie Tommie, a Seminole Indian, is caught between the cultures when his family moves away from a mangrove island in the Florida Everglades and nearer the white man's civilization. Billie is the first person in his family to attend a public school.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Nolan, Peggy. ***Spy Who Came In From The Sea.***

Fourteen-year-old Frank Hollahan moves to Florida at the height of World War II to join his father, a Navy seaman. Frank soon develops such a reputation for exaggeration that when he announces having seen an enemy spy land on the beach, no one believes him. He sets out to prove the spy's existence and warn his neighbors of impending danger.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Oppel, Frank. ***Tales of Old Florida.***

Prior to the boom of the 1920s, when Florida was a wilderness, only the brave chanced swamps, alligators, hurricanes, and the lush, tropical forests. This collection of original articles and period stories is illustrated with contemporary drawings, photographs, and etchings. An amazing contrast to the vacation paradise of today!

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Osa, Nancy. ***Cuba 15.***

This first novel by Nancy Ocal tells of Violet Paz, who has just turned 15, a pivotal birthday in the eyes of her Cuban grandmother. Fifteen is the age when a girl enters womanhood, traditionally celebrating the occasion with a quinceañero. But while Violet is half Cuban, she's also half Polish, and more importantly, she feels 100% American. Except for her zany family's passion for playing dominoes, smoking cigars, and dancing to Latin music, Violet knows little about Cuban culture, nada about quinces, and only tidbits about the history of Cuba. So when Violet begrudgingly accepts Abuela's plans for a quinceañero and as she begins to ask questions about her Cuban roots, cultures, and feelings

collide. The mere mention of Cuba and Fidel Castro elicits her grandparents' sadness and her father's anger. Only Violet's Aunt Luz remains open-minded. With so many divergent views, it's not easy to know what to believe. All Violet knows is that she's got to form her own opinions, even if this jolts her family into unwanted confrontations.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Peck, Robert. ***Cowboy Ghost.***

Sixteen year old Titus MacRobertson can handle a wild mustang, but can't prove to his father that he's as good a rancher as his brother. In this riveting coming-of-age story, Titus faces ghosts, Seminoles, and a stampede on an unforgettable cattle drive. Could also be used in the "Score with Sports" segment of your program.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Peck, Robert Newton. ***Horse Hunters.***

This is a heart-warming coming-of-age tale set on a Florida ranch during the early 1930s. Fifteen-year-old Ladd sets off on a journey in open country where horses roam. His mission is to round up these wild horses. His trek is filled with danger, triumph and discovery.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Peck, Robert. ***Horse Thief: A Novel.***

This book is set in Depression-era Florida. Tullis Yoder has never known a home, and his only family is a group of horses that he tends for the rodeo. After losing two fingers in his first bull ride, seventeen-year-old Tullis Yoder worries he'll never have a chance to top another bull. Then the rodeo show he works for goes broke, and he learns that its thirteen horses, his only family, will be slaughtered for dog meat. With the help of a lady doctor and an aging professional horse thief, Tullis steals his beloved horses. He wants to set the horses free, but with crooks, three sheriffs, and a powerful judge after him, will he have a chance?

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Peck, Robert Newton. ***Nine Man Tree.***

Deep in the Florida swampland in the 1930s, young Yoolee Tharp is fast becoming a man. When his family's tiny Everglades settlement is stalked by an enormous killer beast, and his father disappears, it is up to Yoolee to protect his family. He's aided only by his wits, courage, and a mysterious stranger.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Phillips, Jane. ***Gloria Estefan.***

Gloria Estefan went to Miami after the Bay of Pigs. This is the biography of this Cuban-American superstar.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Schrecengost, Maity. ***Panther Girl.***

After moving to the Tampa area in the 1840s, a young pioneer girl befriends the son of a Seminole chief. Winner of the Patrick Smith Historical Fiction Award.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Selden, Bernice. ***Story of Walt Disney, Maker of Magical Worlds.***

There is more to Disney than Disney World. This is the fascinating life story of Walt Disney, who was responsible for creating the first full-length animated motion picture and today's most popular amusement parks.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Sweeney, Joyce. ***Spirit Window.***

Miranda, a budding photographer, finds her skills put to the test while staying with her grandmother in Florida. The blossoming romance between Miranda and Adam adds to the interest.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Veciana-Suarez, Ana. ***Flight to Freedom.***

Thirteen-year-old Yara is given a diary by her father. The story, set in the 1960s, is told through her diary entries. As the family waits for permission to leave, readers are told about the

rationing of food, neighbors spying on neighbors to report disloyalties to Castro, and the humiliation of being labeled a Cuban exile. Arrival in Miami is fraught with a new set of difficulties as language and cultural differences make adjustment painful. The story and characters ring true in their portrayal of loss, longing, and the hope of starting a new life.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Wade, Mary D. ***Cabeza de Vaca: Conquistador Who Cared.***

This is a biography of Cabeza de Vaca. This Spanish conquistador survived a failed mission to Florida. He spent seven years among Indians in the American Southwest and then tried to secure humane treatment of the Indians in the lower half of the South American continent.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Weitzel, Kelley G. ***Timucua Indians: A Native American Detective Story.***

Discusses the history, language, customs, and explores the daily life of the Timucua Indians who lived in northern Florida and southern Georgia. The story is told from a young person's perspective. Page by page activities reinforce information presented.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

D'Amico, Joan and Karen Eich Drummond. ***The United States Cookbook: Fabulous Foods And Fascinating Facts from all 50 States.***

Registered dietician Drummond and cooking instructor D'Amico have combined a delicious mixture of maps, facts, history, and recipes from each state. They have also included fun food trivia. Make the Key lime pie or learn some Florida facts, read a brief history of Florida, and find out about Florida foods and the Florida citrus industry. Make some of these tasty treats with older program participants or make some ahead of

time and have a tasting. Use a U.S. map to show where each of the treats originates.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Pavon, Ana-Elba. **25 Latino Craft Projects.**

Prepared by practicing children's librarians, this book has 25 Latino craft projects that you can add to your programs. Each chapter includes an activity for preschoolers, after-schoolers (over 6 years old), and families (all ages). Related resources help turn each craft project into a comprehensive program by incorporating songs, poems, and books.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Perl, Lila. ***Piñatas and Paper Flowers: Holidays of the Americas in English and Spanish.***

Brief descriptions of several Hispanic holidays as they are celebrated in North, Central, and South America.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Agard, John and Grace Nichols. ***Under the Moon & over the Sea: A Collection of Caribbean Poems.***

This exuberant anthology provides a feeling for what it is like to live near the Caribbean Sea. Read “Nature,” page 42, to find out how people live in the endless summer, “Fruit in a Bowl,” page 60, to get a taste of some of the tropical fruits that are grown in Florida, or “Emily Hurricane,” pages 14-15, to see how people react to a hurricane.

Interest Level: All Ages

Alarcon, Francisco X. ***Iguanas in the Snow / Iguanas en La Nieve: And Other Winter Poems / Y Otros Poemas de Invierno.***

Though these poems are actually about people in California, the one on page 23, “Migrant Life in Seasons,” mirrors the lives of the migrant families that work in Florida. Share the other seasonal poetry books by Alarcon with groups:

From the Bellybutton of the Moon, Angles Ride Bikes, and Laughing Tomatoes.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Buffet , Jimmy. ***Floridays.***

Parrot Heads and others will enjoy this traditional Buffett sound. Play the title track to get in the mood for your Florida programs.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Buffet, Jimmy and Savannah Buffett. ***Jolly Mon.***

A magical guitar floats to Jolly Mon while he is singing for fish. The guitar is inscribed with instruction for the Jolly Mon to share his singing talent with everyone on the neighboring lands. Play some reggae and other Caribbean music and let the children dance and sing to the beat. Have rhythm instruments available for them to join in the fun.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Chapin, Tom. ***Billy the Squid.***

This foot-tapping, finger-snapping collection is done with a fresh approach. Singer and guitar player Chapin brings humor and imagination to children in Billy the Squid. Parents will be thrilled with this variety of amusing, thought-provoking songs that they, too, can enjoy even after listening for the 20th time. Enjoy “Great Big Words,” track 1, or “All My Friends,” track 3, in this program or “You’ll Be Sorry,” track 4, in “Animals Alive.”

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Dole, Mayra L. ***Drum, Chavi, Drum/Toca, Chavi, Toca.***

Even though nobody in her Cuban-American neighborhood thinks girls should play the drums, Chavi knows she was born to make just this kind of music. And the whole world is her instrument: she drums on paint cans, sofa arms, even on her mother’s cheeks. Her favorites, however, are the tumbadoras, the conga drums that liven the Caribbean music she and her neighbors love. This book will give you a taste of Miami and its unique blends of cultures. Use this bilingual book to introduce your participants to the Calle Ocho festival in

Miami. This is the biggest street party and the largest Latino festival in the nation. Stage a Latin-American festival after sharing this book.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Herman, Micahel. ***World of Fun (kit): Around the World in Folk Dance.***

This kit includes 3 CDs containing dances to 79 tunes from 22 different countries, and the accompanying manual provides directions on for folk dances and games. The dances and games promote cultural understanding. Available on-line at www.erckids.com

Interest Level: All ages

Jammin' Oldies.

This recording has the theme for this section, "We Are Family." Play this at the start and end of your program.

Interest Level:

Lessack, Frane. ***Camp Granada: Sing-Along Camp Songs.***

Camp songs can make any day of the year more enjoyable. Enjoy old favorites such as "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here!" page 16, or new ones such as "Swimming," sung to the tune of "Sailing, Sailing, Over the Ocean Blue," page 25. After sharing some of these songs, let the group make up their own verses for some of their favorites.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Smith, Charles, R. ***I Am America.***

The poetic text in this book is enhanced by the accompanying photographs that represent children of diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds. The playful images and touching poetry work together to tell the story of America. Children and parents alike will be moved by each unforgettable face and each strikingly beautiful line of verse. Photographer Charles Smith, Jr. brings his unique artistic style to this patriotic and poignant portrayal of America's children. Have a Polaroid or digital camera available and let the children take pictures of each other. Let them write a line or two to describe

themselves. Mount the pictures with the text and either display on a bulletin board or bind into a book. Written permission from parents is necessary to have the children photographed.

Interest Level: Primary Grades

Thomas, Marlo. ***Free To Be a Family.***

A collection of stories, poems, and songs about different types of families and family relationships.

Interest Level: Professional Resource

Thomas, Marlo. ***Free to Be . . . You and Me.***

This is a songbook, a collection of poems, and a gallery of pictures that brings out the child in readers of all ages.

Originally published more than a decade ago, this innovative book celebrates diversity, challenges stereotypes, and encourages kids to be themselves in a joyful, positive manner. The contents of this book can be read aloud and shared.

Interest Level: All ages

Internet – connect with the world

19th Century Seminole Men's Clothing.

<http://www.nativetech.org/seminole/index.php>

This is part of the larger Native American Technology and Art web site. This portion of the site includes patterns and instructions for making Seminole clothing and beadwork. Basic clothing construction techniques are required to make these items from simple patterns. Also includes information about the significance and use of turbans, face painting, and moccasins.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Music from the Sunshine State.

<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/folklife/radio.html>

Music from the Sunshine State is a series of eight one-hour radio programs that presents a sample of the traditional music of the people who call Florida home. Music includes: Fiddling Traditions, Mexican, Old-Time Country and Bluegrass,

Pacific Island, Sacred Music, Blues: Roots and Branches, Cuban, and Caribbean. Presented by the Florida Division of Historical Resources.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Pioneer Florida Museum and Village.

<http://www.pioneerfloridamuseum.org/>

Take a virtual tour of the Pioneer Florida Museum and Village, located in Dade City, Florida and see eight buildings that are historically significant. The buildings were moved from various parts of Pasco County communities to the museum grounds.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades and Middle School

Ringling Museum of Art.

www.ringling.org

Once you enter this site, you can take a virtual tour of the museum of art or the circus museum.

Interest Level: Intermediate Grades

Seminole Tribe of Florida.

www.seminoletribe.com/

This web site is the official site of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. It includes information about the history of the Seminoles, how and where they live, their food, culture, government and more. There is even a link to the Seminole Marketplace.

Interest Level: Primary and Intermediate Grades

Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Foundation, Inc..

<http://www.ellisland.org/>

Located in the Ellis Island Immigration Museum and on the World Wide Web, the American Family Immigration History Center (AFIHC) allows visitors to explore the extraordinary collection of immigrant arrival records stored in the Ellis Island Archives.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Parenting and family activities

Walton, Chelle Koster. *Fun with the Family in Florida*.

This easy- to- use guide contains up-to-the-minute information on Florida's family attractions. Includes things to see and do to keep the kids busy and happy for an hour, a day, or a weekend. A guaranteed antidote to vacation boredom!

Interest Level: Parents

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida

Use events such as the Olympics to explore the cultures and customs of other countries.

Make maps of your neighborhood and places you visit with your children.

Interview older community members about their lives and the history of the neighborhood.

Learn capitals, countries, and continents by playing games and taking virtual trips online.

Visit your local library or historical society and start working on your family tree.



These tips are adapted from the Center for Summer Learning, Inc. ©2002

Insert We Are Family Crossword Puzzle and answer sheet



WORKING WITH 'TWEENS AND TEENS

prepared by
Jay Carter, Young Adult Librarian
Winter Park Public Library

Reading! Just imagine the possibilities! Hiking mysterious mountains. Catching a wave in a tropical paradise. Journeying on a safari in a jungle wilderness. Riding a rocket to a distant galaxy. Traveling back in time for historical adventure. Make way for a summer of extreme reads!

Who are YAs? Generally, YAs (Young Adults or teens) are considered to be students from grades 6 through 12. They are a group that requires a different level of service than with children or adults. They differ mainly because they are passing through that difficult stage of adolescence when they are trying to find out who they are and how they fit in to the world around them. Most people, librarians included, have grave misgivings about dealing with teens. They believe that teenagers:

- question authority;
- stray from the norm;
- wear outrageous clothes;
- love to test limits;
- tend to make a lot of noise; and
- travel in groups or may be loners.

Yes, 'tweens and teens do all this, but primarily they simply crave respect and attention. They enjoy being rewarded for a job well done and not be treated as if they were young children.

We all know when teens come to the library. They can be heard as soon as they reach the door – sometimes even before we see them. They are there to unwind and meet friends, check email, surf the net, possibly get excited, and make a little noise. After this daily routine, they will work on their homework. The job of the YA librarian is to greet them as they come in, help them find the information they need, and sometimes just play the role of an active listener. The key is to be there for

them. And all this must be done while still maintaining a sense of order.

Over the years, libraries have found an increasingly large number of 'tweens and teens that use the library. Some libraries have responded to this trend by offering spaces and rooms just for them. Library staff should realize that 'tweens and teens are an ever-increasing presence in public libraries. Services and spaces should be planned and designed so that they respond to the needs of teens and are geared to promoting and serving this underserved audience. Staff should have an attitude and demeanor that welcomes this special population. By providing excellent services designed specifically for 'tweens and teens, a new generation of library users, supporters, and patrons who will continue to use libraries throughout their lives will be created.

It is important to get to know these teens; learn their names and greet them as they come in. Let them know that you're here to help them, not to hinder them. Get them involved with the library program. More likely than not, they want to help. They want and need opportunities to give back to and contribute to their communities.

Remember to provide incentives, and the mother of all incentives is food: *If you feed them they will come.* When possible, have music available for them and let them choose what music they wish to listen to. Offering prizes such as music CDs is a great way to encourage teens to become actively involved in your programs.

Start a teen advisory board. Let the teens help decide programs and procedures for the department, and even contribute to the library programs. Start a teen volunteer program. For libraries with insufficient staff, having teens plan and present the programs is a great way get programs done; it also fosters good will between teens and the library. Being a proactive teen librarian helps to avoid potential problems by letting teens be active participants in the decision-making

process. For more information about teen volunteer programs, see “Teen Volunteers” in *Rhythm and Books – Feel the Beat! 1996 Florida Library Youth Program Manual*.

Be honest with the teens and yourself. Teens can tell when you aren’t, and will tune you right out and keep right on walking. Teens can be a very rewarding group of people to serve if you can learn to respect them and realize that they’re just people going through a very awkward and emotional time of their lives.

Developmental assets – giving teens what they need to succeed. Why do some young people grow up with ease while others struggle? Why do some become involved in dangerous activities while others make meaningful contributions to society? Why do some youth seem to beat the odds in difficult situations while others get trapped? Many factors may influence why some succeed while others do not. Economics, genetics, or an abusive home may be some but not all of the reasons. Research done by the Search Institute, a not-for-profit organization conducting research to benefit children and youth, has identified 40 developmental assets that have a great influence on the lives of teenagers. (See page 207 for the entire list of assets.) The research shows that these assets can help teens make wise decisions, choose positive paths, and grow up to be competent, caring and responsible adults. These assets are grouped into eight categories: support, empowerment, boundaries and expectations, constructive use of time, commitment to learning, positive values, social competencies, and positive identity.

Librarians play a crucial role in building these assets by:

- Learning the names of children and teenagers who visit the library. Greet teens by name.
- Building sustained, caring relationships with teens either informally or through a mentoring program. Volunteer opportunities and teen advisory boards (TAB) accomplish this. If you don’t already have a teen volunteer program or a TAB, start one.

- Look at the 40 developmental assets at least once a week and commit to at least one act of asset building each day.
- Volunteer outside the library as a tutor, club leader, reader to students, or other helping roles.
- Listen to what ‘tweens and teens say they want.
- Maintain year-round connections with ‘tweens and teens. Have a summer program for them.
- Provide opportunities for teens to take a leadership role and contribute to the library.
- Train all library staff members in asset building.

No matter what the specific mission of your library is, you can build assets and make a difference in the lives of children and teens. For more information on asset building, contact:

Search Institute

700 South Third Street, Suite 210

Minneapolis, MN 55415

Phone: 612-376-8955

Toll-free: 800-888-7828

Web: <http://www.search-institute.org/>

Programs and activities – When planning summer programs for ‘tweens and teens, be creative. Libraries can attract teens by responding to their needs – personal, recreational, and educational. Include booktalks, crafts, and a variety of programs in the offerings provided by the library. Do booktalks as a school program or as part of on the floor reader guidance. Make sure that the ‘tweens and teens are actively involved in helping to decide what programs will be offered as well as being involved in the planning and presentation.

For a summer of extreme reading, here are a few program ideas. When these ideas relate to a specific section of the 2004 FLYP program, it is indicated.

- Rock climbing - Partner with a local outdoor adventure store or YMCA or similar organization and have them bring an artificial rock tower for the teens to climb.

- Have a professional climber instruct teens in the proper techniques and safety issues involved in this extreme sport. Have a table set up for water, Gatorade, and power bars to help replenish their strength. A local supermarket or health food store may want to sponsor the refreshments. (Take a Hike or Score with Sports)
- Have a local band come and perform for other teens. Hold this event in a large meeting room or outside as this will surely draw large crowds. The teens should have a hand in choosing the band and promoting this program.
 - Have a local artist or photographer present a workshop on nature painting or photography. (Take a Hike)
 - Have a local beautician present a workshop on makeup application and techniques. Programs on body art are also popular in many areas. (We Are Family)
 - Have a YA author speak about their work and on the craft of writing. Make arrangements to have the author critique the teens' writing. (We Are Family)
 - Have a teen present a workshop on writing and creating a "zine." A zine is a magazine that the teens create themselves. They include their own thoughts, poetry, pictures, and other creative things that can be captured on paper or on a web site. In 2002, the Winter Park Public Library had a member of the TAB teach other teens how to create a zine. For more information on this creative process, see *Zine Scene*, by Francesca Lia Block and Hillary Carlip. (We Are Family)
 - Contact the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Speaker's Bureau and have an astronaut or scientist speak with teens about space exploration, the International Space Station, or the history of manned space flight. For information visit the web site at http://pao.ksc.nasa.gov/speakers/request_form.cfm or contact Bennie Bell at the John F. Kennedy Space

Center (KSC), 321-867-2078, Bennie.Bell-1@ksc.nasa.gov. (On the Edge)

- Plan a hiking trip. Florida is host to over 150 beautiful parks and nature areas that provide miles of hiking trails. Plan a day trip and discover the Real Florida. For more information visit the Florida State Park Homepage at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/>. (Florida, Take a Hike, or Animals Alive)

These are just a few ideas to help you get started. Check out the bibliography at the end of this chapter for more exciting ways you can have an Extreme summer of reading.

Music and graphic novels – As mentioned earlier in this chapter, music is another way to get teens interested in using the library. Music is a draw that helps get this target audience into the library. At recent state, regional, and national conferences, several vendors were seen with many graphic novels in their offerings. If we wish to continue to entice teens and continue serving them, graphic novels are another way to reach ‘tweens and teens. A successful YA Department integrates these items along with the programs and services previously discussed. The best place to find out about artists, music, and graphic novels that the teens in your community want to have in the library’s collection is to have the ‘tweens and teens assist in selecting them. The following is a list of some core titles most YA Departments should have:

Music (artists or groups):

Ashanti (R&B)	Garth Brooks (country)
Beatles (rock)	GreenDay (rock)
Christina Aguilera (pop vocal)	Jay-Z (rap)
Creed (rock)	MXPX (sacred)
Dave Matthews Band (rock)	Nirvana (rock)
Destiny’s Child (R&B)	Shakira (R&B)
Dixie Chicks (country)	Shania Twain (country)
Eminem (rap)	Switchfoot (sacred)
	Tupac Shakur (rap)
	Zoe Girl (sacred)

Graphic Novels:

The Dark Knight Returns - Frank Miller
Watchmen - Alan Moore
The Sandman Series - Neil Gaiman
Akira - Katsuhiro Otomo
Marvels - Kurt Busiek and Alex Ross
Weapon X - Barry Windsor-Smith
Batman: The Long Halloween - Jeph Loeb and Tim Sale
Daredevil Visionaries -- Frank Miller
Kingdom Come - Mark Waid
Batman: The Killing Joke - Alan Moore
From Hell - Alan Moore
Ghost World - Daniel Clowes
League of Extraordinary Gentlemen - Alan Moore
The Essential Spiderman - Stan Lee and Steve Ditko

Professional resources – The following are some of the professional resources that can assist when developing and expanding services 'tweens and teens.

Benson, Peter L. et. al. ***What Teens Need To Succeed.***

This book contains a variety of proven, practical ideas for teens to shape their own future and learn the best ways to succeed. Defines and shows the best ways to implement the 40 developmental assets. This book is a must for any YA program planning to, or is implementing, the 40 developmental assets into its services.

Carter, Betty B., Sally Estes, and Linda Waddle. ***Best Books for Young Adults, 2nd Edition.***

This is an updated edition of Betty Carter's classic work on selecting books for young adults. It offers insights and guidance that will help library staff direct contemporary young readers through the vast and ever-changing world of young adult literature. Not only will it enable you to prepare reading lists of appropriate books, but it also lists books that teens themselves consider as "best." This is a great resource for not

only creating book lists and biographies, but also serves as a good starting point for book talks and discussions.

Chelton, Mary K. ***Excellence in Library Services to Young Adults, 3rd edition.***

For every librarian who seeks to better serve the new and unique young adult market, this completely revised edition of Excellence in Library Services to Young Adults: The Nation's Top Programs presents 30 library programs that are doing just that. By studying the examples set by award-winning initiatives around the country, librarians will be able to create and maintain a Young Adult program that will keep the teens coming back. This book contains great ideas for programs, designs for YA departments, and ways to get staff involved with teens. A fourth edition is planned for release sometime in 2004.

Jones, Patrick. ***Connecting Young Adults and Libraries, Second Edition: A How-To-Do-It Manual For Librarians.***

This is the bible for YA service. It covers everything from who YAs are to examples of different programming ideas. It is a must for any YA program. Use this resource for the foundation for YA programs. It answers most questions, and is perfect for the YA librarian just starting out.

Jones, Patrick. ***New Directions for Library Service To Young Adults.***

This book describes the newest trends and best practices in YA services. It also discusses and describes the 40 Developmental Assets that have been determined as essential for positive growth. Use this book to help implement services and programs geared to developmental assets.

Jones, Patrick and Joel Shoemaker. ***Do It Right! Best Practices for Serving Young Adults in School and Public Libraries.***

Young adults are a growing population in libraries, yet few librarians know how to provide the unique kinds of services teenagers need and want. Now, YA experts Jones and Shoemaker apply customer service theory and technique to

serving this unique population. The book includes charts, examples, and real-life case studies. These two innovative YA librarians have written the definitive guide to customer service for librarians serving youths. Another great source for understanding YA behavior and how to design services, policies, and programs geared to them while providing a current look into best practices for today's teens. This is a great resource for the YA Department.

Kan, Katharine L. ***Sizzling Summer Reading Programs For Young Adults.***

Sizzling Summer Reading Programs presents a variety of winning ideas organized by section so programs can be developed by subject interest. This book provides how-to and hands-on advice for designing and creating summer programs that have been a proven success in other libraries. This is a great resource to have.

Littlejohn, Carol. ***Keep Talking That Book! Booktalks To Promote Reading Volume II.***

This volume provides background information on how to write and present successful booktalks, and discusses the elements of great booktalks. Books included are recent, of interest to teens, and are on many school reading lists. This is a great resource for successful booktalks. Each book selected provides bibliographic information, interest and reading level, genre, related books, summary, and a unique focus for a booktalk. Using this will make planning booktalks an easier and smoother process.

INSERT PAGE FROM SEARCH INSTITUTE

TWEENS AND TEENS – EXTREME READS



Florida . . . just imagine the possibilities! Hiking along the Florida Scenic Trail, taking a canoe trip through the Everglades, catching a wave at Cocoa Beach, watching a liftoff at Cape Kennedy, water-skiing on St. Josephs Bay, scuba diving the Keys, Florida is a land of adventure! And with that adventure come extreme reads for extreme readers. Flyp and his friends have selected some

of the best reads for you. Get your books from the library, find a comfortable place to settle down, and begin your extreme reading adventure.

Booktalks – to excite everyone to read

Armstrong, Jennifer. ***Kindling (The Fire-Us Trilogy, Book 1).***

In 2007, a small band of children have joined together in a Florida town, trying to survive in a world where it seems that all the adults have been killed off by a catastrophic virus. A great new trilogy that takes place in Florida in the near future. Explore the themes of science, genetics, survivalist, and teamwork.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Barker, Clive. ***Abarat.***

Candy Quackenbush is growing up in Chickentown, Minnesota. She yearns for more. Candy's epic adventure to the islands of the Abarat begins when a man with eight heads appears from nowhere in the middle of the prairie, being chased by something really monstrous. Peopled by all manner of creatures, cultures, and customs, the islands prove a fertile setting for the series that Barker is calling The Books of Abarat. A great fantasy work that lends itself to discussing the different

cultures, customs, and peoples of the world and how to understand and respect them.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Bloor, Edward. ***Tangerine***.

Twelve-year-old Paul lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik. Paul fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight. Use for discussions about dealing with siblings, especially how the younger ones can find their own identity.

Interest Level: Middle School

Chabon, Michael. ***Summerland***.

Summerland is a magical place, where the local Little League gathers to play baseball on a perfectly manicured lawn, and the sun is always shining in a flawless blue sky. However, the small beings known as ferishers, who ensure this perfect weather, are threatened by an ancient enemy. They need a hero—a baseball star, in fact—to vanquish their foe. This is a great book that mixes baseball facts with the fantasy genre. Teens will identify with Ethan and his motley crew, with their insecurities, longings, family problems, and their sometimes clumsy ingenuity.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

DiCamillo, Kate. ***Because of Winn-Dixie***.

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog, Winn-Dixie. With Winn-Dixie by her side, Opal starts to make friends in the small town where she has recently moved. More importantly, she is able to come to terms with her feelings about her mother who abandoned her years earlier. Use to show the effect and influence pets have on our lives.

Interest Level: Middle School

Farmer, Nancy. ***House of the Scorpion.***

In a possible near future, the United States and Mexico have dealt with their continuing border troubles by forming a third country called Opium. It is run by drug lords who control opium production using the labor of humanoid "eejits" with computer chips in their brains. To most people around him, Matt is not a boy, but a beast. A room full of chicken litter with roaches for friends and old chicken bones for toys is considered good enough for him. But for El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium -- a strip of poppy fields lying between the U.S. and what was once called Mexico -- Matt is a guarantee of eternal life. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, for Matt is himself. They share identical DNA. Lots of ethical questions can be discussed after reading this book, including the dangers of drugs and the inherent dangers in genetic engineering.

Interest Level: High School

Ferris, Jean. ***All That Glitters.***

When he visits his father in the Florida Keys, sixteen-year-old Brian is befriended by a local captain who involves him in the search for a centuries-old sunken ship and gives him insight into several difficult personal relationships. This book is great for discussing the shipwrecks of Florida.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Frank, Pat. ***Alas, Babylon.***

A classic story of a group of people who rely on their own courage and ingenuity to survive in a town that escaped nuclear bombing. A classic tale of survival at a time when the world stood at the brink of nuclear war. An excellent choice for discussions of science gone wrong, and survival in an untamed world.

Interest Level: High School

Hiaasen, Carl. ***Hoot.***

Roy, who has recently moved to a small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. In typical Hiaasen style, this book not only offers his own

urbane wit, but also deals with saving an endangered species. This book was awarded a 2003 Newbery Honor.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Herriot, James. ***All Creatures Great and Small***.

Herriot recounts his first years as a country vet in a small Yorkshire, England village. His humorous and touching tales depict the wonderful relationship between man and animal. Great for discussion of the interaction between humans and animals. Have readers focus on how Dr. Herriot feels when he first arrives in Yorkshire and have them compare how they have felt in new situations.

Interest Level: High School

Hickam, Jr., Homer H. ***Rocket Boys: A Memoir***.

Rocket Boys is a uniquely American memoir--a powerful, luminous story of coming of age at the dawn of the 1960s. When Homer, the son of a coal miner from West Virginia becomes enthralled with Sputnik, he wonders what it would take for him to build a rocket. The film *October Sky* is based on this biography. Teens are sure to enjoy reading about Homer as he embarks on a self-searching mission to attain his true potential. Discuss not only rockets and rocket-making, but the bond of friendship, and especially the relationships between teens and their parents.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Krakauer, Jon. ***Into the Wild***.

In April 1992, a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. His name was Christopher Johnson McCandless. He had given \$25,000 in savings to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet, and invented a new life for himself. Four months later, his decomposed body was found by a moose hunter. How McCandless came to die is the unforgettable story of *Into the Wild*. This provides a good basis for a discussion of

the allure of high-risk activities to teens, and on the complex, charged bond between fathers and sons.

Interest Level: High School

Krakauer, Jon. ***Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster.***

A first hand account of the 1996 expedition by journalist and climber Jon Krakauer. Teens will be riveted by this account of mistakes and human error taken to the extreme, and also by the sheer determination and capacity for human endurance these men go through. The adventure story makes a great booktalk on human error and physical endurance. Discuss decisions and the consequences of them. A great book that shows teens the great challenge of the outdoors, but also the need to be always prepared for the unexpected.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Lorimer, Sara. ***Booty: Girl Pirates On the High Seas.***

A treasure trove of high adventure and bad behavior, *Booty* tells the all-true tales of real women pirates who prowled the seas from the 9th to early-20th centuries in search of easy prey and easy profit. Raiding ships, brawling, and looting, they struck terror in the hearts of men from the Mediterranean to the South China Sea to the rivers of New York. Use this book for a discussion of the women pirates who are included in this book. Compare and contrast them to some famous male pirates. For middle schoolers, try creating a pirate ship. Have participants create their own treasure maps.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Matthiessen, Peter. ***Killing Mister Watson.***

Drawn from fragments of historical fact, this novel brilliantly depicts the fortunes and misfortunes of Edgar J. Watson, a real-life entrepreneur and outlaw who appeared in the lawless Florida Everglades around the turn of the century. This is another great book depicting life in historical Florida. Discussions may also include the transition of a lawless frontier into a law abiding community.

Interest Level: High School

Miller, Frank. ***Dark Knight Returns***.

One of the three graphic novels written during the 1980s that forever changed the way comic books were written and drawn. After having retired 10 years previously, a tortured hero tries to save a city in chaos from Two-Face, the Joker, and a violent Batman-inspired gang. Another great book for discussing the way people deal with and react to adversity. While this tale may take it to the extreme, it is a book that most teens will enjoy reading.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Moore, Alan. ***League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, Volume 1***.

In the waning days of the Victorian era, a cast of five agents is instructed to save England. Each agent had been a respected member of society, but for various reasons (divorce, drug addiction) they have all dropped out of public favor. Whom they work for is uncertain. The group's leader, Miss Murray, believes that it is the famed detective Sherlock Holmes, back from the dead. Against an atmosphere that is both exciting and repressive, Moore and illustrator Kevin O'Neill have superimposed a drama that is inventive and suspenseful. The movie of the same title was released during Summer 2003. Show the movie and discuss how closely the movie follows the book.

Interest Level: High School

Moore, Alan. ***Watchmen***.

Another one of the three graphic novels written during the 1980s that forever changed the way comic books were written and drawn. It all begins with the paranoid delusions of a half-insane hero, Rorschach. But is Rorschach really insane or has he, in fact, uncovered a plot to murder super-heroes and millions of innocent civilians? On the run from the law, Rorschach reunites with his former comrades in a desperate attempt to save the world and their lives. What they uncover will shock them to their very core and change the face of the planet. This is a groundbreaking comic book story. Pair with *The Dark*

Night Returns for a great discussion of human nature and adversity.

Interest Level: High School

North, Sterling. ***Rascal***.

This Newbery Honor book offers a memorable portrait of a friendship between a boy and a wild animal. Another book to discuss the positive effects pets and animals have on us.

Interest Level: Middle School

Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan. ***The Yearling***.

A young boy living in the Florida backwoods is forced to decide the fate of a fawn he has lovingly raised as a pet. Originally published in 1938 and illustrated by N.C. Wyeth, this is a classic tale of old Florida. Good for discussing Florida animals and life in Florida at the turn of the century. Could also be used in the "Animals Alive" and "We Are Family" sections.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Smith, Patrick D. ***Land Remembered: A Novel Student Edition***.

Patrick Smith tells the story of three generations of the MacIveys, a Florida family who battle the hardships of the frontier to rise from a dirt-poor Cracker life to the wealth and standing of real estate tycoons. Covering several generations, this is an epic novel that chronicles 100 years of life in Florida. Great for discussing the way people lived in Florida, from the days of the pioneers to the urban lives of today.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Wolfe, Tom. ***Right Stuff***.

These men had it: Yeager. Conrad. Grissom. And Glenn. Heroes all, they were the first Americans in space. As the U.S. was battling the Russians for control of the heavens, they were putting their lives on the line. The women had the right stuff, too. While the astronauts were aloft, the heros' wives were on the ground and had to perform with the whole world watching. Teens will learn about the history of manned space flight and what "The Right Stuff" really is. Make a real or virtual visit to

one of the Challenger Learning Centers (<http://www.challenger.org/index.html>) to get feel for the current space program.

Interest Level: High School

Crafts and Games – to involve everyone

Block, Francesca Lia and Hillary Carlip. ***Zine Scene: The Do It Yourself Guide To Zines.***

Are you hip to the zine scene? Whether your answer is "absolutely!" "sort of," or "what's a zine?" everyone can learn from and be inspired by the funky, funny, fertile ideas set forth in *Zine Scene*. Written by Francesca Lia Block, author of the *Weetzie Bat* books (collected in *Dangerous Angels*), and Hillary Carlip, author of *Girl Power: Young Women Speak Out*, *Zine Scene* is both a tribute and a how-to guide to zines. Zines (as in magazines), are a righteous, radical form of creative self-expression. There are no hard-and-fast standards for zines, but they may contain one or more of the following: newsletters, journals, comic strips, artwork, photography, collage, poetry, and/or scrapbooks. The sky's the limit when it comes to production and length--from three pages of glossy paper to 30 pages of grainy photocopies. Block and Carlip teach by example, providing a plethora of reprints and excerpts from the tremendously diverse sea of zines. Great book to use for a craft that's out of the ordinary. If possible, have a teen present the ideas. It will make for a well-attended and enjoyable program.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Lantz, Peggy Sias and Wendy A. Hale. ***Young Naturalist's Guide to Florida.***

Take this book on a walk in the woods. This enticing book for readers of many ages is a treasure of information and suggestions on where and how to look for Florida's most interesting natural features and creatures. Discusses various careers in the environmental field and suggestions for how everyone can help protect Florida's priceless natural resources.

Includes a glossary and an index. Use these great suggestions for craft projects about Florida's wildlife and nature.

Interest Level: Middle School

Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme

Greenberg, Jan, Editor. ***Heart to Heart: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth-Century American Art.***

These original poems celebrate some of the finest twentieth-century American art by noted authors. The poems are grouped according to how the writer responded to the art: some tell a story about the whole painting; some speak from the perspective of an object within the artwork; some transform the visual elements into poetic metaphors; some talk about the artists and their techniques. From a tight diamante and pantoum to lyrical free verse, the range of poetic styles will speak to a wide age group.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Homer, translated by W. H. D. Rouse. ***Odyssey: The Story of Odysseus.***

A classic story that encompasses the entirety of human emotion, *The Odyssey* remains one of the greatest literary works in the history of the world. After the Trojan War, it takes Odysseus 10 years to return home to his family and kingdom. Having angered the gods with his pride after the Greek victory, he finds himself cast adrift at sea, facing dangers beyond measure and trials beyond understanding. Truly a staple of literature and an epic adventure. This is the ultimate wilderness adventure. There are numerous possible topics for discussion.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Koertge, Ron. ***Brimstone Journals.***

Through a series of poetic journal entries from 15 students, author Ron Koertge chronicles the sometimes funny, sometimes poignant, and ultimately chilling lives of fictional high school students in contemporary America. This novella, written in poetry, deals with social messages covering racism,

classism, homophobia, and an entire high school melting pot of "isms." With just a few words from each character in each entry, readers glean more than a glimpse into their complex and often troubled worlds.

Interest Level: High School

Shakur, Tupac. ***Rose that Grew from Concrete.***

These passionate, sometimes angry, and often compelling poems were written by the late rapper before he became famous. Many teens will identify with this must-have for YA poetry collections. A paperback edition is scheduled to be published by MTV Books in 2006.

Interest Level: High School

Watson, Esther Pearl and Mark Todd, editors. ***Pain Tree.***

This is a book of original poetry by and for teens. Dramatic, plaintive, despairing, and hopeful, this unusual collection has been gathered together by artists Esther Pearl Watson and Mark Todd and dramatically illustrated with stunning paintings. Throughout the 25 selections, the young people address a wide range of emotions. The poetry offers great insight into the emotions inherent in the everyday lives of teens. The accompanying paintings, both colorful and creative, are abstract rather than exact representations of the narratives associated with them. While some selections are suitable for reading aloud, the majority are introspective accounts of personal experiences. Have your teens try their hand at writing their own poetry. Encourage but don't force them to share their writing.

Interest Level: Middle and High School

Read Around Florida

Lectura Alrededor de la Florida

Talk to your teen about graphic novels. They are more than just comic books.

Set aside one evening per week when the family sits down to dinner together and everyone talks about what they have read during the week – magazines, newspapers, books.

Plan a family trip. Use travel guides from the library to help you make your plans.

Listen to what your teen is saying.

Pick a book that you and your teen can read and discuss. Ask your local librarian for help in selecting an appropriate book.



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It's Disgusting and We Ate It! True Food Facts From Around the World and Throughout History	Let's Rock! Rock Painting for Kids
It's Raining Pigs & Noodles	Let's Start Sand Art
Jack on the Tracks: Four Seasons of Fifth Grade	Let's Try It Out in the Water: Hands-On Early-Learning Science Activities
Jammin' Oldies.....	Life in a Wetland
Jane Yolen's Songs of Summer	Life on a Cattle Farm.....
Joe-Joe's First Flight	Lifeguards
Jolly Mon	Light at Tern Rock.....
Keep Talking That Book! Booktalks To Promote Reading Volume II	Lighthouse Crafts
Keeping Quilt.....	Lighthouse Family: The Storm
Kiddyhouse	Lighthouse in a Bottle.....
Kids Camp! Activities for the Backyard or Wilderness	Lily's Garden
Kids Domain: Bikes and Boards.....	Literature-Based Geography Activities: An Integrated Approach.....
Kids' Planet	Little Engine that Could
Kidz Page -- Historical Museum of Southern Florida.....	Little Hands Paper Plate Crafts
KidZone National Wildlife Federation	Liza Lou and the Yeller Belly Swamp
Killing Mister Watson.....	Local Water Safety Program
Kindling (The Fire-Us Trilogy, Book 1)	Look What I Did With a Shell!.....
Lance Armstrong: A Biography	Lostman's River.....
Land Remembered: A Novel Student Edition	Lucas And His Loco Beans: A Bilingual Tale Of The Mexican Jumping Bean ...
League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, Volume 1	Machines, Transportation and Art Activities (Arty Facts).....
Leah's Pony.....	Mama and Me and the Model T
	Manatees
	Maria's Comet
	Marina's Muumuu/ El muumuu de Marina

Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Guardian of the Glades	2 entries	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Hurricanes	
Marsh Music		Native Americans In Florida	
McBroom's Ear		Nature Crafts for Kids	
Mediopollito/Half-Chicken: A New Version of a Traditional Story		New Directions for Library Service To Young Adults	
Mexican American Family Album		New Kids in Town: Oral Histories of Immigrant Teens	
Milk: From Cow to Carton (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Book)		Nicola's Floating Home	
Million Fish More or Less		Night Bird: A Story of the Seminole Indians (Once upon America)	
Miss Nelson Has a Field Day		Night Iguana Left Home	
Missing 'Gator of Gumbo Limbo		Nim's Island	
Misty's Twilight		Nine Man Tree	
Model Railroad Club		Not the Piano, Mrs. Medley!	
Moo Cow Kaboom!		Oceans: The Vast, Mysterious Deep	
Moominpappa at Sea		Odyssey: The Story of Odysseus	
Moon Ball		Old Cricket	
More Tellable Cracker Tales		Old Granny and the Bean Thief	
Mr. Gumpy's Outing		Old Man and the Flea	
Mrs. Armitage and the Big Wave		Old Woman and the Wave	
Multimedia Storytimes		Olivia Saves the Circus	
Museum of Science and Industry, Tampa		On My Island	
Music from the Sunshine State		On the Course With...Tiger Woods	
My America: What My Country Means to Me, by 150 Americans from All Walks of Life		On the Farm Series	
My Family Vacation		On the Way to the Beach	
My Football Book		One Nighttime Sea	
My Little Island		Onions and Garlic: An Old Tale	
Mystery of the Haunted Lighthouse (Three Cousins Detective Club, #7)		Oonawassee Summer: Something is Lurking Beneath the Surface	
Mystery of the Hidden Beach (The Boxcar Children Series #41)		Opossum and the Great Firemaker: A Mexican Legend	
NASCAR -- Stock Car Racing		Oranges to Orange Juice	
National Geographic Kids		Origami Paper Animals	
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Aircraft Operations Center (AOC)		Osceola: Patriot and Warrior (Stories of America)	
		Outrageous Outdoor Games Book	
		Pain Tree	
		Panther Girl	

Panther Glade	Ringling Museum of Art
Paper Cutting Stories from A to Z	River of Dreams
Paper Stories	Road Signs: A Hare-Y Race With a Tortoise
Park Rangers and Environmentalists	Rocket Boys: A Memoir
Peg and the Whale	Rose that Grew from Concrete
Pick, Pull, Snap!: Where Once a Flower Bloomed	S is For Sunshine: A Florida Alphabet....
Pig in a Wig	Safe At Home
Pigs On The Ball: Fun With Math and Sports	Safely to Shore: America's Lighthouses.
Piñatas and Paper Flowers: Holidays of the Americas in English and Spanish ..	Sail Away
Pioneer Florida Museum and Village.....	Sailing Home
Pirates Past Noon (Magic Tree House #4)	Sam the Sea Cow
Pizza the Size of the Sun 2 entries	Sand Art Craft Kit: Create Your Own Sand-Sational Works of Art! (Scholastic's Creativity Zone)
Planetarium	Sand Castle Central
Plant Person.....	Sandspun
Plantzilla	Save the Animals, Save the Earth.....
Playing with Dolphins (Hello Reader! Science -- Level 4).....	Save the Florida Key Deer
Ponce De Leon: Juan Ponce De Leon Searches For The Fountain Of Youth..	Scarlette Beane.....
Porkenstein	Scavenger Hunt
Presenting Reader's Theater: Plays and Poems to Read Aloud.....	Science Fun with Toy Boats and Planes
Puff-Puff, Chugga-Chugga	Science Songs
Quiet Night	Science Songs: Science Experiences for the Very Young.....
Radio Rescue.....	Scranimals
Railroads -- CSX, Atlantic Coast Rail lines, Amtrak, and others.....	Sea Dream: Poems from Under the Waves
Rails-to-Trails Florida	Sea, Sand, Me!
Rascal	Seashells by the Seashore (Sharing Nature With Children Book)
Read Around Florida - Summer Library Reading Game	Secret Elephant of Harlan Kooter.....
Realm of the Panther: A Story of South Florida's Forests	Seed to Peanut
Rebel's Choice	Seedfolks
Rhinos Who Play Soccer.....	Seminole Children and Elders Talk Together
Right Stuff	Seminole Tribe of Florida
	Seminole: Patchworkers of the Everglades

Seminole: The First People in Florida	Starry Messenger: A Book Depicting the
Seminoles	Life of a Famous Scientist,
Seminoles Diary: Remembrance of a	Mathematician, Astronomer,
Slave	Philosopher, Physicist Galileo Galilei ..
Settling of St. Augustine	Stars! Stars! Stars!
Shanty Boat.....	State of Florida
Sharing the Sun: A Kid's Guide to South	State of Florida Seed Necklace
Florida	Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island
Shell Collector	Foundation, Inc.....
Sidney's Star	Steamboat Annie and the Thousand-
Sing a Song All Year Long	Pound Catfish
Sing and Learn about Science	Stella, Star of the Sea
Singable Songs for the Very Young	Steve "Lefty" Carlton
Sitting Ducks	Stinky and Stringy: Stem and Bulb
Sizzling Summer Reading Programs For	Vegetables
Young Adults	Stories That Stick: Quick & Easy
Skateboarding in Action (Sports in	Storyboard Tales
Action)	Story of Walt Disney, Maker of Magical
Skunks!	Worlds
Sky, Sea, the Jetty, and Me	Storyteller's Sampler
Slave Ship: The Story of the Henrietta	Strawberry Girl
Marie	Summerland.....
So, You Want to Be an Inventor?	Sun Dance, Water Dance.....
Somewhere in the Ocean.....	Surf Gecko to the Rescue
Songs about America: Celebrating	Surfer and/or Scuba Diver.....
America's History..... 2 entries	Surprising Sharks
Songs About Insects, Bugs and	Switcharound
Squiggly Things.....	Taking Sides
Songs, Seas, and Green Peas: Poems	Tale of the Swamp Rat.....
for Anywhere	Tales From the Hive
Souperchicken	Tales of Old Florida
Space Songs: A Children's	Tales of the Tamiami Trail.....
Intergalactical Musical	Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of
Spill the Beans and Pass the Peanuts:	Aviator Elizabeth Coleman
Legumes (Plants We Eat).....	Talking Earth
Spirit Window	Tangerine
Spy Who Came In From The Sea	Tangerine
Stargazers	Tasso of Tarpon Springs
Starring Sally J. Freedman As Herself ...	T-backs, T-shirts, Coat, and Suit.....

Tellable Cracker Tales	There Was a Bold Lady Who Wanted a Star
Tennis Ace	There's No Place Like Space (Cat in the Hat's Learning Library)
Terror in Florida (The Screech Owls Series)	There's Only One Of Me!.....
The Amazing International Space Station	They Dance in the Sky: Native American Star Myths
The Bat Boy and His Violin.....	Three Armadillies Tuff
The Beeman.....	Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe..
The Best Book of Weather	Tiger Rising
The Book of Flight: From the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.....	Timucua Indians: A Native American Detective Story
The Chizzywink and the Alamagoozlum.	To Walk the Skypath
The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child	Toad, Toad, Frog
The Edison Mystery: Qwerty Stevens, Back in Time.....	Tortoise and the Hare.....
The Fruit and Vegetable Florida Vacation Game.....	Tracker
The Gardening Book	Treasures of the Spanish Main
The Gigantic Turnip.....	Trouble Dolls
The Jumbo Book of Art.....	Turtle in the Sea
The Jupiter Stone	Under the Moon & over the Sea: A Collection of Caribbean Poems
The Magic School Bus Lost in the Solar System	Unofficial Guide to Florida with Kids, 3rd edition.....
The Magic School Bus Sees Stars: A Book About Stars (Magic School Bus Book Series).....	View From Saturday.....
The Man Who Went to the Dark Side of the Moon: The Story of Apollo 11 Astronaut Michael Collins: Or a Book About Michael Collins, Apollo 11, and 20 Pounds of Checklists	Visit a Lighthouse
The Moon	Visit a State Park.....
The Mouse Was Out at Recess	Visit from the Zoo
The Original Florida.....2 copies	Vroom! Vroom!: Making 'Dozers, 'Copters, Trucks & More (Williamson Kids Can! Series).....
The Story of Florida Orange Juice	Walt Disney Records: Children's Favorite Songs, Volume 1: 25 Classic Tunes
The United States Cookbook: Fabulous Foods And Fascinating Facts from all 50 States	Wanderer
	Watchmen
	Water Balloon Toss
	Water Sports Links
	Way to Go!: Sports Poems
	Wee Sing 25th Anniversary Celebration

What a Great Idea! Inventions That Changed the World.....	
What Teens Need To Succeed	
What's In the Sea	
When We Go Camping	
Where I Live	
Where the Sidewalk Ends	
Why Do Horses Neigh?	
Wide-Mouthed Frog.....	
Wild Wings: Poems for Young People....	
Will Goes to the Beach.....	
World of Fun (kit): Around the World in Folk Dance	
Worst Goes South.....	
Yearling.....	2 entries
Young Cam Jansen and the Double Beach Mystery.....	
Young Naturalists Guide to Florida	2 entries
Zine Scene: The Do It Yourself Guide To Zines	
Zobooland Family Fun.....	
Zucchini Warriors	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

When people talk about team efforts, the FLYP 2004 program manual and workshops can really be looked at as a model. Our focus this year was on everything Florida. While we have previously done animals, growing things, and other topics that are found in this year's manual, this year we concentrated on how those things relate to Florida. Rather than just looking at gardens, we concentrated on plants that are native to Florida or that are grown in Florida as part of our agricultural industry. For transportation, we tried to highlight books about travel in and around Florida or that showed how people travel to Florida.

This year's manual has truly been the work of an enormous number of people. The FLYP 2004 Planning Committee was at the forefront in making this year's program manual a wonderful resource that will be of service for many years to come. Members of the committee are to be praised for balancing their regular workload with the extra work of making significant contributions to this manual. We want to thank each and every one of them for their assistance in gathering books, looking at and evaluating web sites, investigating community contacts, writing annotations, and making suggestions for using these materials in programs. We also want to acknowledge the support their supervisors and library administrators provided in allowing them to participate in this statewide program.

As this really is an extraordinary effort that goes well beyond the regular call of duty, the members of the planning committee each recruited other people in their system and region to make contributions. While each member of the planning committee concentrated on one chapter, they all shared ideas with each other. When someone located a book or web site that fit more appropriately in another section of the manual, they shared that information. We hope that we have included all of those very important people in this list as well:

Mary Brown, Director of the Union County Library, a member of the New River Library Cooperative, stayed on the FLYP Planning Committee for a fourth year when we had an unexpected vacancy. Mary has made significant contributions to the FLYP program during her tenure on the Committee and is to be publicly acknowledged for her assistance and advice. This year, she took the lead on the **Animals Alive** chapter and found wonderful books, stories, web sites and more about Florida's native animals. Misty DuBose at Union County Public Library assisted Mary with the development of this chapter.

Kathy Graw, Supervisor of Programming with the **Jacksonville Public Library** provided the energy to help us all go **Full Speed Ahead**. Whether by train, plane, car, or boat, Kathy provided plenty of suggestions for you to use in your programs on transportation and getting around our state.

New to Florida and new to the FLYP Planning Committee is **Nancy Young** of the **Marion County Public Library System**. Nancy brought her expertise to the

Grow It section of the manual. Agriculture is one of Florida's major industries and Nancy helped us capture those books, songs, and web sites that relate to this area of our economy.

Prior to becoming a librarian, **Maria Mena, Youth Services Coordinator, LeRoy Collins Leon County Library System**, was a scientist. She brought her scientific and inquisitive mind to our **On the Edge** chapter. No matter if it is the Kennedy Space Center or the weather around us, science affects our daily lives. Maria has selected materials for many ages that will awaken the curious scientific mind in all of us.

Whether you are a sports fan or not, if you live in Florida, then you know that we are surrounded by sporting events. High school and college football, basketball, and softball are just the start. Golf courses and tennis courts are found everywhere. Many professional baseball teams have spring training camps around the state. Help your readers and program participants find just the sport for them. **Olga Kuharets** from the **Broward County Division of Libraries** helps us all **Score with Sports**. Olga was ably assisted by Arlene Garcia who is based at the Main Library.

Having a new baby did not prevent **Patti Pankiewicz Fuchs**, formerly with the **Indian River County Library**, from getting us to **Take a Hike** so we can enjoy the great outdoors of Florida. Hiking, rafting, camping, and more are enjoyable ways to spend some time experiencing the original Florida.

You are never more than 90 miles from either the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico from any point in Florida. Water, whether it is oceans, lakes, rivers, or streams, plays an important part in our lives. **Martha Zimmerman** from the **Niceville Public Library, a member of the Okaloosa Public Library Cooperative**, brought together materials on water, islands, beaches, lakes, lighthouses, and more in the **Water Mania** chapter. Martha wants thanks to go to "those who inspire, encourage, help, have patience, and grant me space and time for this project: my family, my director and coworkers, friends, the leader of this FLYP manual pack, and all those who walked by and wondered what I could possibly be doing now."

While **Lynn Piper Carpenter** officially served on the FLYP Planning Committee, she had lots of assistance and support from the entire **Lee County Library System** family as she pulled together the materials for the **We Are Family** section. Support and assistance was provided at all levels and includes the following people: Dawn Ambrose, Chrissy Bishop, Kaye Campbell, Michael Carpenter, Angel Coates, Cynthia Cobb, Dorothy Conners, Terri Crawford, Linda Dziuk, Wendy Harrington, Sherry Hill, Beth Lindsay, Nina Lithgow, Barbara Maloy, Lilly Mason, Thelma Mims, Ann Minner, Naomi Pastor, Brenda Pelkey, Jodie Raddatz, Linda Riczo, Marge Seegmuller, Mary Selleck, Denise Singleton, Kathleen Young, Toni Vanover, Nancy Wakeley, Bonnie Ward, and Voncile

Williams. Many of these same people will be presenters at the Southwest Florida area workshop.

Working with teens can be challenging and rewarding. **Jay Carter**, Young Adult Librarian at the **Winter Park Public Library** compiled the Extreme Reads list and offers suggestions on how to work with **'Tweens and Teens**.

I also wish to publicly acknowledge all the publishers who provide examination copies of new books prior to publication so that we may include new materials that are appropriate to our program. We also would like to thank them for allowing us to use images of many of the book jackets on our FLYP web site. We know that having the image along with the annotation will help entice children and their families to look for these books in local library collections.

The FLYP workshops could not take place without the support, creativity, and contributions of numerous people. We would not be able to have the great FLYP workshops without all the local librarians who have volunteered to present chapters at regional workshops and host or sponsor the workshops. Finding sites that are large enough to accommodate our large and growing number of participants is always a challenge. In several areas of the state, we have outgrown library sites and are partnering with other agencies. We appreciate the staff of the host sites who provide logistical support for the workshops. We also wish to acknowledge each and every presenter and extend our thanks to everyone who is contributing in this fashion. As of the date this manual was going to press, these are the people who are making contributions to the success of the workshops. If we missed anyone, it was an oversight and we apologize:

The Panhandle area workshop is being held at the Chipola Junior College in Mariana. We wish to thank Dr. Carolyn E. Poole, Director of Library Services at Chiploa Junior College for making the arrangements for use to use the Arts Center for the workshop. We also wish to thank the librarians of the Panhandle Public Library Cooperative for providing the refreshments for this workshop. Thanks also to our workshop presenters for this site including: Maria Mena, LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library; Cindy Birden, West Florida Regional Library Martha Zimmerman, Niceville Public Library;

In the Tampa Bay Area, we wish to acknowledge all the presenters, including: Karen Slaska, Citrus County; Nancy Young, Marion County; THPL

Our heartfelt thanks goes to the Southwest Florida Library Network for hosting the workshop at Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers. Many of the same Lee County libraries that contributed to the manual are presenters at this workshop. We thank them doubly for their support and contributions.

You could not ask for a better facility for the FLYP workshops than the auditorium at the Blake Library, Martin County Library System. The large auditorium and

elevated stage make for comfortable surroundings. Presenters at this workshop include: Gicele Perna, Ft. Pierce Branch Library, St. Lucie County Library; Shirley Wolstenholme, Indian River County Library;

Another place where we have outgrown library sites is the central Florida region. The workshop in this area is being held at the Lake Mary Marriott. Presenters for this workshop include: Evelyn Malles, Shanna Kuster, Tom Tarvin, Winter Park; Nancy Young, Marion County; Jay Carter, Winter Park

The Columbia County Public Library is hosting the final workshop. Signifying the growing partnerships with local school districts, the workshop will be held at the Columbia County School District Administration Building Auditorium. Presesnters for this workshop include: Mary Brown, Union County; Kathy Graw, Jacksonville; Belinda Belzell, Putnam County; Kathy Graw, Jacksonville

And last, but not least, we wish to thank each library staffer and volunteer in Florida's public libraries, and the staff and volunteers in our partner organizations who implement the Florida Library Youth Programs locally in all of the libraries and outreach locations across the Sunshine State. Without all of you, this program would not be the success it is. Florida has long been recognized for its innovative library programs for youth. This year, we have again proved that it is this dedication and support at the grassroots level that makes this program. Thank you all for your support, hard work, and dedication to the future of Florida!

Carole D. Fiore
Youth Services Consultant

Read Around Florida

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HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM 2004

This manual is designed to be a starting point to help you plan your programs for the Florida Library Youth Program 2004 and beyond. It may also be used to help you plan programs primarily for school age children at other times during the year. It does, however, include materials for both younger and older students. We have included for the first time a special section on working with teens and extreme reads, books that hold special attraction for this sometimes difficult to reach audience.

We have formatted the manual so that you may add to it and customize it to your collection and your community. We have provided wide outside margins so that you may take notes during the workshop, make sketches of props that are used, or just make comments. The three-hole punch format allows you to add additional pages when necessary. Feel free to add additional titles as you discover them.

As we did in 2003, we have added suggested interest levels for most of the materials. Consider this an approximate guide. Depending on the children you serve, you may want to adjust these up or down as needed.

The majority of the titles selected for inclusion in this program guide were in print at the time this manual was developed. Every attempt has been made to verify the ISBNs for all titles that have been included. Prices have not been included as they may fluctuate – depending on the vendor you select to purchase your materials from. Occasionally, an out of print book or other item has been included upon the recommendation of the person selecting materials for that chapter; many of those items are standards and may already be in your collection. Also, books may have been in print when this manual was developed, but, due to the nature of the publishing industry, may be out of print when you go to order materials. You may, however, be able to access these materials through interlibrary loan.

Most of the chapters have many of the following subsections. As each chapter was developed by different individuals, there may or may not be the same emphasis on each area in each of the chapters:

- *Stories – to share together or read alone.* These are the books that will be of primary importance as you plan your presentations. Share these as read-alouds, flannel board stories, creative dramatics, box stories, puppet shows, etc.
- *Booktalks – to excite everyone to read.* The majority of the books in this section are for older elementary and middle school readers; occasionally, there are books for younger readers. Introduce these titles to your readers as booktalks, or just have them out on display.
- *Crafts and Games – to involve everyone.* Some of these are original ideas; many are from books that you can pull from your collection or obtain on interlibrary loan. Crafts and games are a good way to end a story time program; some are more involved and can be done as a whole program. Many are

designed to be done at home with parental involvement. In addition, the chapter title pages may be used as coloring sheets to complement your program. Many libraries have button maker machines. These chapter title pages can be reduced in size and used as the basis for these buttons.

- *Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme.* Poetry and music can set the mood for your program, or can serve as a change of pace. Don't forget to add something from this section to each of your programs.
- *Community Assets – to broaden the world.* While we have provided some suggestions from whom you might want to ask for assistance for most of the chapters, your knowledge of your individual community is the best resource here. Check with clubs and organizations in your community to customize your programs.
- *Internet – connect with the world.* Each of the sites listed were visited several times during the development of this manual. Each was found to be operating and appropriate for children. However, due to the ever-changing nature of the Internet, it will be your responsibility to check these sites to make sure they are still operating and appropriate for your users. You may find it helpful to add these sites to your home page – or add the FLYP Web Site that will include these and other features.
- *Parenting and Family Activities.* Parents are a child's first teacher and we strongly urge libraries to promote family activities. Select one or two that are useful and put them on a handout that can be distributed to parents, teachers, and caregivers weekly to coordinate with your theme.
- *Game Sheets and Parent's Pages.* These pages are designed so that they may be duplicated and distributed to go along with your weekly themes. Many of the game sheets have been created by members of the FLYP Planning Committee. The hidden pictures in the "Full Speed Ahead" and "Take a Hike" chapters are used with permission of Boyds Mills Press. Parent's Pages are designed to encourage parental involvement.

The *Combined Author/Title Index and Master Bibliography* at the end of the manual will provide complete bibliographic information for every book or CD included. Web sites are not included in this index. ISBNs for various formats are included when they were available. If only one ISBN is shown, it is for a hardcover edition.

We hope that you find this 2004 edition of the Florida Library Youth Program manual useful and that you and your community have fun as you Read Around Florida!

Carole D. Fiore
Library Program Specialist

Florida Library Youth Program 2004

**Read
Around
Florida**



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FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

BASIC PHILOSOPHY: While we look forward to another exciting year for the Florida Library Youth Program, our basic philosophy and goals remain similar to that of previous years. We have made adjustments in our target audience to parallel the intent of the Library Services and Technology Act, the federal program that currently provides funding for this statewide youth program. This year, we are again targeting "people who have difficulty using libraries" whether that difficulty results from lack of experience using libraries, lack of transportation, language or cultural differences; and "children in poverty." We will continue to focus our efforts on reaching out to children in our communities. To reach these underserved audiences, we encourage local libraries to move beyond the library walls and take their library programs out into their communities.

During the summer of 2003, The State Library and Archives of Florida initiated the Summer Library Reading Partnership Pilot (SLRPP) Program. This LSTA funded program targets children completing the third grade but who did not perform well on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). For 2004, we are extending this program to more libraries and hope that by the summer of 2005, all libraries will be providing specialized outreach programs that target these underachieving third graders. Through the SLRPP program, we are working in partnership with the Just Read, Florida! office and encouraging local libraries to work with their local school districts. Additional information about the SLRPP program can be obtained by contacting the Youth Services Consultant of the LSTA grant program manager at the State Library and Archives of Florida.

The goal of the Florida Library Youth Program is "to encourage children in Florida to become lifelong readers and library users." We want children to learn about the library and the services it offers, to understand that there is a wealth of information and fun waiting for them in a friendly, encouraging atmosphere. We want the experience to be relaxing, pleasurable, and free of stress, especially during school breaks and vacation periods. We want to provide activities and opportunities for children and their families to experience the joy of reading. For that reason, we downplay numbers of books read. "How many" is not nearly as important as "how good." No prizes should be given for number of books read **unless** it is an agreed upon contract between child and librarian. We want children to share books and stories in the company of others and discover the satisfaction of reading alone or being read to. That's why we encourage local libraries to have both group programs and individual guidance.

The ability to read is one of the most important factors leading to success in life. Reading is the foundation for all other learning. Reading skills enable children to negotiate and travel the information superhighway and provide them with the ability to access information in various formats. While the Florida Library Youth Program does not provide formal reading instruction, it does provide numerous opportunities for children and their families to discover the joy of reading. Library programs provide

language and literature experiences that expand children’s knowledge about the world as well as providing those experiences that enhance literacy.

Even though we do not encourage competition between individual children in the number of books read, this year we are encouraging libraries to track how consistently children read or are read to. Research has shown that children who read at least twenty minutes a day, five times each week, not only maintain their reading skills over the summer, but can actually improve their reading. Since our goal is to create lifetime readers and library users, we need to encourage daily reading so that it becomes a lifelong habit. To that end, activities and materials for the Florida Library Youth Program are designed to encourage reading on a daily basis, whether that time is as short as five to fifteen minutes each day or as long as five hours or more a day. While “binge reading” can be fun, we really want to encourage the daily habit of reading. Libraries are encouraged to count the number of days children read on their own or are read to by others.

Invite community celebrities to a “read-in” at your library. Train interested adults to become volunteer reading partners and pair them with children or outside child serving agencies. Have a designated reader program with significant adults reading to children. Include adults in your summer library program; it is vital for children to see adults participating in reading and literacy activities. Make reading an integral part of your overall program. Work with the Newspapers in Education, Community in Schools, and AmeriCorps programs that may be in your community. Work with the Ready to Learn coordinator at your local PBS station. Integrate the “Designated Reader Campaign” from *Between the Lions* into your program. These programs all want to create a new generation of readers; this is similar to the long-term outcome of the Florida Library Youth Program.

DEVELOPING ASSETS IN YOUTH. The Search Institute has identified a framework of 40 developmental assets for children and young adults that provide a theoretical basis for our summer library reading program. Included in this framework are the following and additional assets that we can contribute towards through the Florida Library Youth Program:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Asset no. 3 | Other adult relationships – Child or young person receives support from non-parent adults. |
| Asset no. 15 | Positive peer interactions – Child or young person plays with children who model responsible behavior |
| Asset no. 17 | Creative activities – Child or young person participates in music, arts, or drama three or more hours each week through home and out-of-home activities. |
| Asset no. 25 | Reading for pleasure – Child and a caring adult read together for at least 30 minutes a day. Child also enjoys reading without an adult’s involvement. |
| Asset no. 34 | Cultural Competence – Child or young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds. |

From the research done by the Search Institute on these 40 developmental assets, it appears that the more of these assets a child or young person has, the less likely that individual will be deemed “at-risk” by society. Additional information on this research and to see the entire framework, read *Starting Out Right: Developmental Assets for Children*, by Nancy Leffert, Peter L. Benson, Jolene L. Roehlkepartain (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Search Institute, 1997).

PARENTAL AND CAREGIVER INVOLVEMENT. Building on the research of the Search Institute, we have added a new component in our Florida Library Youth Program manual. Again this year we are including activities that provide suggestions for family literacy activities. This section of each chapter, Parenting and Family Activities, is our way of promoting family involvement. We are encouraging local libraries to provide information on activities that allow the parent and child to spend time together in literacy related activities. The purpose of these activities is multifaceted:

- To remind parents that they are their child’s first teacher.
- To involve parents in their child’s library activities.
- To provide parents with ideas for literacy activities that can be shared with their children.
- To promote parent and child together (PACT) time, a component of family literacy programs.

We hope that you will take the ideas presented in the Parenting and Family Activities section of each chapter and share them with the families you serve.

OUTREACH TO CHILDREN IN POVERTY – The Florida Library Youth Program is funded through a federal Library Services and Technology Act grant. This legislation provides that LSTA funded projects target “people having difficulty using libraries” and “children in poverty.” To more closely align the Florida Library Youth Program with this goal, we are encouraging libraries to provide the majority of their summer programming in outreach locations where this target population actually is. Traditionally, children in poverty have had a difficult time getting to libraries – due to distance, lack of transportation, or lack of knowledge of what the library could do for them. To counter that, libraries need to provide programs outside the traditional library setting. Libraries are encouraged to provide programs and deposit collections in locations including but not limited to:

- Camps
- Child care centers
- Churches and other religious organizations
- Community colleges
- Family child care providers
- Government sponsored child care centers
- Head Start centers
- Hospitals and other health care agencies (other than public health centers)

- Housing Projects
- Literacy/Family literacy centers
- Migrant worker camps
- Parks and recreation centers
- Private child care center
- Public health centers
- Summer schools
- YMCA and /or Boys & Girls Clubs

Develop partnerships with these and other agencies. Provide promotional materials for them to distribute to their clientele. Provide programs at these locations. Distribute reading logs during your initial visit. On a return visit, collect the completed reading logs and provide hand stamps or some other small reward to each child who has turned one in. Leave deposit collections at these outreach locations and encourage the adult leaders/caregivers/service providers to read to the children and/or provide time for the children to read independently on a daily basis.

To assist libraries to develop outreach programs, a special section, "Stories to Go: Portable Outreach Library Programming for School Age Children," was included in the FLYP 1999 Manual, *Readers on the Prowl*. Please refer to this section for suggestions and guidance in developing this important and necessary service.

Libraries are again being asked to keep track of how many outreach programs they present as well as how many people attend these programs. Since we must be able to report that a significant part of our efforts are reaching those children who previously have been underserved, please make certain that much of your local programming efforts are targeted, through outreach programming, to children in poverty.

We are also concerned about reaching children whose primary language is not English. This year, we are again providing many of the promotional materials in Spanish. Please use these items in appropriate places throughout your community. Materials in other languages will be added in future years as warranted.

AGE AND ABILITY LEVELS. The Florida Library Youth Program is designed *primarily* for elementary school age children. Its purpose is to encourage library use for leisure and continued learning during the weeks that school is not in session. The Program tends to be recreational rather than educational in nature. This is more a matter of emphasis rather than a true difference in content. The Florida Library Youth Program allows children the freedom and time to follow personal interests and inclinations that may or may not be found in the school curriculum.

Although we realize that toddlers and preschoolers also have library needs, the primary thrust of the Florida Library Youth Program is not for that age group. The majority of libraries completing the evaluation form for the 1998 program agreed that elementary school age children are the age group that they want this program to serve. When the FLYP Planning Committee when it met to plan the Programs for 1999, 2000,

2001, 2002, and this, the FLYP 2003 program, they readopted the philosophy of targeting school age children. The FLYP Planning Committee is trying with this 2003 program to extend programming ideas for both younger and older children. The focus group that met in April 1998 to discuss the FLYP Program also endorsed elementary school age children as the target for this program. This does not mean, that preschool storytimes must be eliminated; only that the suggestions for programs, bibliographies, and materials supplies through the Florida Library Youth Program will be aimed at elementary school age children. Nor does this mean that young adolescents and teens are not permitted to participate. It does mean, however, that libraries are encouraged to adapt the ideas and materials provided through the Florida Library Youth Program for both their younger and older children -- if that is appropriate for your community. For ideas on how to include teens as volunteers in your program see the section "Teen Volunteers" in the 1996 FLYP Manual, *Rhythm and Books: Feel the Beat*. The importance of keeping school age children reading during the summer and how it effects school learning has been documented in various studies. These studies have been collected and synthesized in Chapter One, "The Literacy/Learning Value of Summer Library Reading," *Running Summer Library Reading Programs: A How-to-do-it Manual* by Carole D. Fiore (Neal Schuman, 1998).

All children, regardless of ability or disability, are encouraged to participate in the Florida Library Youth Program at their local public library. Libraries need to offer adaptations, such as sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or visual adaptations to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Local libraries are encouraged to request deposit collections through the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Services for children with limited vision or physical disabilities that prevent them from using traditional print materials. The combined bibliography/ index in this volume denotes which books are available through the Regional Library and in what alternative format (Braille or talking book). Contact the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Services at (904) 239-6000 or 1-800-226-6075. For detailed information on working with children with disabilities, see the 1992 Summer Library Program Manual. Additional information about working with children with disabilities can be found in *Programming for Serving Children with Special Needs* (American Library Association, 1994), an Association for Library Service to Children Program Support Publication.

Additional and more detailed information on serving diverse populations can be found in *Running Summer Library Reading Programs: A How-to-do-it Manual* by Carole D. Fiore (Neal Schuman, 1998).

MATERIALS AND INCENTIVES. Children's book illustrator and Florida resident Cheryl Nathan has again designed the art for this year's full color poster and bookmark. The mascot character again this year is "Flyp," a Florida panther. Cheryl has also provided art for the reproducible master pack that includes our logo sheets, coloring sheet, and the reproducible reading logs. This year we are again supplying a reproducible "Read To Me" log. Due to requests from the field, most of the print promotional materials are being done in a bilingual (English/Spanish) format. We are also including in this introduction a grid that has many of the phrases used in the

promotional materials in several languages. Use these translations to customize your promotional materials to meet the needs of your community.

Posters - Space is provided for you to include additional information. If you need more space than provided to customize the poster, mount it on a larger sheet of poster board or foam core. Attach a pocket to the larger poster for display and distribution of bookmarks and/or program fliers. Display posters in schools, community centers, childcare centers, literacy centers, and hospitals and other health care agencies, etc. – not just in the library! Since we are trying to reach people who have not been library users, we need to take our information out into the community where these potential users are.

Bookmarks - These are your first form of publicity. Use them freely during your school and community visits. Leave large quantities of bookmarks with each of your community partners and at all the outreach locations you visit. If you cannot afford to have bookmarks overprinted with your library information, get a rubber stamp that includes at least the name, address, phone number, and hours of operation for the library.

Repro Pack - While not every library will use every item in the reproducible pack, we try to provide a variety of materials so that there is something for everyone. Use what you can as is; adapt the rest for your individual library's needs.

This year the repro pack will include more than 10 pages. Many of these items will be provided in a bilingual (English/Spanish) format:

- Logo sheets (2 sheets)
- Doorknob hanger (front and back)
- Reading log (2 sheets – cover and inside)
- Read to me log (2 sheets – cover and inside)
- Certificate
- Coloring sheets
- Membership card
- Coloring sheet
- “Read Around Florida” coloring and activity sheets
- Subtheme heads for each section of the manual that can be used on button machines

The logo sheet contains line drawings of Flyp adapted from the poster and the bookmark as well as the program slogan in several type sizes. Use the logo sheets to create program fliers for your series of programs. Add the mascot to your press releases to garner attention.

As we continue getting many positive responses about the doorknob hanger, the repro pack this year will again include that piece. If possible, reproduce this on card

stock. Have children use crayons, markers, or colored pencils to brighten these privacy signs before they are cut out. To make these doorknob hangers last longer, have clear contact available so your young readers may laminate them back-to-back after they have been decorated. Encourage children (and their caregivers) to set aside a special place and time every day to read. Please remind them to report the number of days they read each week. You are requested to report that information on the annual evaluation form for FLYP.

Two sheets in the repro pack are designed to be duplicated back-to-back to create a two-sided reading log. There is a cover sheet with the program logo and space for the reader to place his or her name on the front. The inside provides places that will allow the reader to list books read.

In addition to the reading log, there again will be a "Read To Me" Log. This log will be very similar to the reading log. The outside cover has a place for child's name and age. Encourage children to add the names of their reading partners.

The inside of both the reading and read to me log will look similar with wide lines that will allow the reader/listener to list the books they read independently or that someone has read to him or her. Add additional inside sheets as the children "visit" more reading destinations. Feel free to customize the inside of the logs as you see fit. Add categories or genres for books read. Add library-related activities. Use a rubber stamp to validate the child's trips and adventures.

The back cover of both the reading and read to me log have a modified calendar so children can keep track of the days they read over the course of the summer. *Please encourage children to complete this and report that information to library staff. **Please compile these figures and report the number of days children, teens, and other family members have read over the course of the summer on the annual program report.*** While you may want and need to collect other data elements to report to your local stakeholders, the State Library **does** need information on the total number of days that children read during the summer.

Incentives – This year, libraries will again be receiving reading incentives. The incentives distributed statewide to participating libraries will be something related to our hat theme and will have the program slogan incorporated into the design.

Prizes and completion – The Florida Library Youth Program does **not** give prizes to children in competition with each other to see who can read the most books. It is not a competitive program in which one child is the winner and all others are losers. Rather, in as many ways as possible, local libraries need to devise methods to make certain that every child feels a sense of achievement and pride in accomplishment. This is where we walk the thin line between incentives and competition. Rewards for completing individual contracts, rewards and recognition for number of pages read or number of minutes read, for coming to specific programs, or for teamwork should be

handled in such a way that there are no losers. Exactly how this is done varies with the children you serve and requires judgment on the part of the librarian.

Remember, as we stated at the beginning, the goal of the Florida Library Youth Program is “to encourage children in Florida to become lifelong readers and library users.” We want children to learn about the library and the services it offers, to understand that there is a wealth of information and fun waiting for them in a friendly, encouraging atmosphere. Especially during school breaks and vacation periods, we want the experience to be relaxing, pleasurable, and free of stress. We want to provide activities and opportunities for children, teens, and their families to experience the joy of reading. We hope that you and your community will participate and enjoy the Florida Library Youth Program 2004.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Glenda E. Hood

Secretary of State

Florida Division of Library and Information Services

December 2003

Dear Youth Serving Staff:

It is our honor to present the 37th annual Florida Library Youth Program (FLYP) to the children and families of Florida. Our theme this year, Read Around Florida, serves several purposes. First, this program serves as a true expression of the fundamental mission of Florida's public libraries – to spark the imagination of young people and treat them to great adventures in reading. Secondly, this program provides an enjoyable way to learn about the diverse and astonishing state where we live and work. In addition, this long-running, award-winning program supports Governor Jeb Bush's Family Literacy Initiative and Just Read, Florida! programs that focus on bringing families together and improving everyone's literacy and reading skills. With local libraries providing programs through FLYP, we can help every child read at grade level and gain a year's worth of knowledge and skills in a year's time. Children who participate in summer library reading programs maintain their reading skills over the summer and do not have to spend time in the fall getting reacclimated to a learning climate.

We know that reading provides the core for a well-educated and productive populace and your continued efforts to share the joy of reading with our children makes an enormous difference in their lives. Through your participation in programs such as FLYP, reading is presented in an interesting and engaging format, and more children are taught the joy of reading and provided the foundation for a successful life.

While working with children of many ages is an integral part of the Governor's Family Literacy Initiative, we encourage you to target those children who are not performing well on the FCAT. Those 3rd grade students who may be retained in grade due to poor performance are especially needy of the extra support and encouragement that your FLYP programs can supply. I encourage you, your staff, and your volunteers to partner with other youth serving agencies as well as the business and faith communities to fully participate in this year's Florida Library Youth Program, Read Around Florida.

Sincerely,

Glenda E. Hood
Secretary of State

STATE LIBRARY OF FLORIDA

R.A. Gray Building • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 • (850) 245-6600

FAX: (850) 488-2746 • TDD: (850) 922-4085 • <http://www.dos.state.fl.us>

LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY SERVICE
(850) 488-2812 • FAX: (850) 488-9879

RECORDS MANAGEMENT SERVICES
(850) 487-2180 • FAX: (850) 413-7224

FLORIDA STATE ARCHIVES
(850) 245-6700 • FAX: (850) 488-4894

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM 2003

For additional information, please contact:

Name/Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ Fax Number: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Audience: Children and Families

Start Date: _____ Kill Date: _____

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT – 10

READ ALL ABOUT IT! FROM JACKSONVILLE TO KEY WEST, PENSACOLA TO MIAMI AND EVERY PLACE INBETWEEN. THE ____(LIBRARY NAME)_____ LIBRARY WILL HELP YOU **READ AROUND FLORIDA** THIS SUMMER. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE LIBRARY AT ____(PHONE NUMBER)_____.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT - 20

WHAT FAMOUS SCIENTIST MADE HIS HOME IN FORT MYERS? HOW MANY LIGHT HOUSES ARE THERE IN FLORIDA? WHAT SPORTS TEAMS MAKE THEIR HOME IN THE SUNSHINE STATE? FIND OUT AS YOU **READ AROUND FLORIDA** DURING THE FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM AT THE _____(LIBRARY NAME)_____ LIBRARY. THE FUN AND EXCITEMENT BEGINS ON ____(DATE)_____ AT THE ____(LIBRARY NAME)_____ LIBRARY. CALL ____(PHONE NUMBER)_____ FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT - 30

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL TO FILL YOUR VACATION TIME? COME TO _____(LIBRARY NAME)_____ LIBRARY FOR SOME FUN AND EXCITEMENT. JOIN OUR MASCOT, A FLORIDA PANATHER NAMED FLYP, AND HIS FRIENDS AS WE ALL **READ AROUND FLORIDA**. FIND OUT ABOUT THE ANIMALS THAT MAKE THEIR HOME HERE. FIND OUT ABOUT THE PLANTS WE GROW AND THE PEOPLE THAT MAKE UP WONDERFUL SUNSHINE STATE. FIND OUT ABOUT OUR BEACHES AND NATURAL AREAS AS YOU TAKE A HIKE. **READ AROUND FLORIDA** THIS SUMMER AND LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR STATE. THE FUN BEGINS ON _____(DATE)_____ AT THE _____(LIBRARY NAME)_____ LIBRARY. CALL _____(PHONE NUMBER)_____ FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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READ AROUND FLORIDA

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Stories – to share together or read alone	
Booktalks – to excite everyone to read	
Crafts and Games – to involve everyone	
Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme	
Community Assets – to broaden the world	
Internet – connect with the world	
Parenting and family activities	

Full Speed Ahead	
Stories – to share together or read alone	
Booktalks – to excite everyone to read	
Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme	
Community Assets – to broaden the world	
Internet – connect with the world	
Parenting and family activities	

Grow It	
Stories – to share together or read alone	
Booktalks – to excite everyone to read	
Crafts and Games – to involve everyone	
Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme	
Community Assets – to broaden the world	
Internet – connect with the world	
Parenting and family activities	

On the Edge	
Stories – to share together or read alone	
Booktalks – to excite everyone to read	
Crafts and Games – to involve everyone	
Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme	
Community Assets – to broaden the world	

Internet – connect with the world	
Parenting and family activities	
Score with Sports	
Stories – to share together or read alone	
Booktalks – to excite everyone to read	
Crafts and Games – to involve everyone	
Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme	
Community Assets – to broaden the world	
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Take a Hike	
Stories – to share together or read alone	
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Crafts and Games – to involve everyone	
Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme	
Internet – connect with the world	
Parenting and family activities	
Water Mania	
Stories – to share together or read alone	
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Poetry and Music – rhythm and rhyme	
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We are Family	
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Booktalks – to excite everyone to read	
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READ AROUND FLORIDA FLORIDA LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAM 2004 WORKSHOPS



Date	Location
Wednesday, January 21	Chipola Junior College Arts Center Marianna
Wednesday, January 28	Tampa Bay area
Friday, January 30	Florida Gulf Coast University Fort Myers
Monday, February 2	Martin County Library System -- Blake Library-Headquarters Stuart
Wednesday, February 4	Lake Mary Marriott Lake Mary
Friday, February 6	Columbia County Schools Administration Building Auditorium Lake City

**PLEASE BRING YOUR MANUAL WITH YOU.
IT WILL SERVE AS THE AGENDA FOR THE DAY!**

9:00 a.m.	Registration and get acquainted. Now is your time to meet your colleagues and to start browsing the exhibits
9:30 a.m.	Workshop begins
11:00 a.m.	Break - Take time to browse exhibits
12:30 p.m.	Lunch - Share your ideas with colleagues old and new
2:00 p.m.	Workshop resumes – Please return promptly
3:30 p.m.	Workshop adjourns. Return home safely with lots of ideas!



