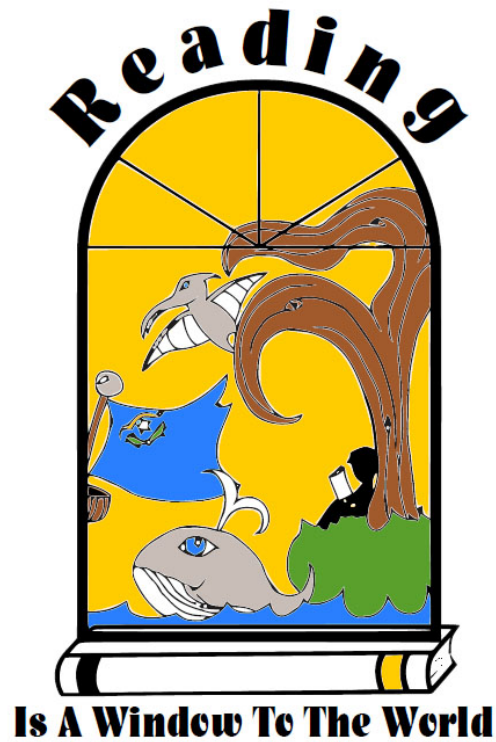


*Reading is a Window
To the World*



Nevada Reading Week 2014

Ideas and Activities
For Libraries and Classrooms

Reading is a Window to the World

Each year, the Idea book gathers together articles and ideas to coordinate activities in your library or classroom to encourage reading and promote the Nevada Reading Week theme. The ideas presented in this booklet are, as always, a compilation of old and new activities and ideas, some that have appeared in past Idea books and some borrowed from teachers and librarians, from journals and websites and lesson plans. If an idea has been adapted from a published source, that source has been identified.

The second part of this Idea Book is the Thematic Ideas handout from the Nevada Reading Week Theme workshop presented by Becky Ellis and Leanne Leeder. Their presentation is your best source for library and classroom activities.

Our thanks go to the teachers, librarians, and members of the Nevada Reading Week Committee, past and present, who have in some way contributed to this publication.

As always, the concept of Nevada Reading Week owes its existence to Bill Abrams, to whom our efforts are dedicated. Though Bill left us sixteen years ago this February, his indomitable spirit and belief in education and in the efficacy and love of reading and writing live on in those whose lives he touched, and continues to touch, through the traditions he established.

January 2014

EAF

Nevada Reading Week can be a month-long series of activities, a week of special events, or even just a few days, not necessarily consecutive, to encourage reading for pleasure and fun. A Reading Week celebration need not be elaborate or expensive; but it does take planning and cooperation. This booklet is intended to give you tips and ideas --- not only ideas for a Nevada Reading Week celebration, but ideas that may help both librarians and classroom teachers celebrate reading all year long.

Let's get started!

For tips and timelines on planning a Nevada Reading Week Celebration, see <http://www.nevadareadingweek.com/about.html> and click on "Creating Your Nevada Reading Week Celebration."

If you've planned an author visit, either as part of your Nevada Reading Week celebration or as an independent event, visit the website at <http://www.nevadareadingweek.com/about.html> and click on "Planning and Managing an Author Visit"

Nevada Reading Week Activities

Most schools create one of several kinds of reading competitions for the Nevada Reading Week celebration. Whether your competition is for individual reading prowess, a classroom or grade level competition for pages read or minutes reading, or whether the entire school works toward a total goal, you will need a visible means of tracking student reading.

To record student reading,



1. Decide on a symbol or group of symbols that are related to the Nevada Reading Week theme. *Reading is a Window to the World* offers many options. Your school could elect a multicultural theme, with each classroom representing a country. Another alternative would be to think of the various worlds (interests) that each of us participates in. There's the world of sports, the world of music, the world of science, the world of space, the world of travel and adventure – students can help to come up with many alternatives. What about worlds of the future? In reading, there's the world of mystery, the world of fantasy, the world of sports stories – or perhaps you could tap into students' interests in the past, in the world of dinosaurs or the world of history. What if you could time-travel to different worlds? In your classroom or library, ask students to

brainstorm and record their answers. Select a theme that will allow you to choose a symbol, possibly something available as an Ellison cutout (if that resource is available to you). A single symbol for the entire school works well, but symbols or cutouts for each

classroom can work well too, especially if each classroom elects a different “world” to celebrate.

2. Decide how your students will record their reading. Will students record the title and author of each book read, add the number of pages read, or will they record the number of minutes read? Will each classroom keep a running total of number of books, pages read, or minutes read? Have students record their reading on the cutout symbol as each book is finished. An ever-increasing number of reading records builds excitement and enthusiasm.
3. Students’ reading records can be displayed in a variety of ways, in the multipurpose room or dining commons, in hallways, or in the library. The important thing is that the records are visible for all students, and that the display can grow as students add their reading symbols. Displays can either be organized by classroom, by grade, or as a running record for the entire school. If you choose a multicultural theme, perhaps you could create a “roadway” or a map with signposts for each country, and use symbols (cutouts) for different modes of transportation to represent each grade level. As the number of cutouts increases, travel along the road progresses. You might use bulletin boards for each grade level and encourage competition between grades or classes. With a different kind of theme, you might start with a giant telescope on a library bulletin board and spaceships that travel toward distant “worlds,” then hang cutouts of spaceships and stars from the library ceiling. Much depends on what you have available within the school.
4. These are times when parent help can be valuable. Making cutouts, gathering finished reading records, hanging or posting them in the library or multipurpose room, and keeping track of minutes or pages toward a school-wide goal are all time-consuming activities. Delegating some of that responsibility is essential!



Reading is a Window

This certifies that _____

Read _____ minutes at home on _____ (date).

Teacher: _____

(Parent's or guardian's signature)



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