

APL Seeds

Growing public libraries across Alabama

August 14, 2015

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Summer Reading Special Edition 2015 Part I

If you are reading this, it means you survived another year of Summer Reading Programs (SRP)! And what a year it was! With themes like Every Hero Has a Story (children), Unmask (teens), and Escape the Ordinary (adults), it was bound to be a fun, creative summer of programming. Check out what libraries around the state did for the 2015 SRP.

Foley



Jukebox Superhero performed for adoring kids at Foley Public Library. Each band member dressed like a different superhero. Kids were dancing and having a great time. The band stayed to take pictures with fans and give autographs. The library served refreshments and gave out superhero drink cups filled with candy to 500 kids and their caregivers.



Opelika



Library Man and Dewey Girl taught kids how to find the books they want to read at Lewis Cooper Jr. Memorial Library. Of course, no super hero can be complete without a super villain, so Dr. No Read made an appearance as well!



Arab



Cowboy Bruce gave the kids at Arab Public Library's SRP program quite a performance during his Wild West Show.

Birmingham



Birmingham Public Library (BPL) offered something for everyone with SRP programs for children, teens, and adults. Participants discovered new books, made new friends, learned new skills, and enjoyed family-friendly programs.

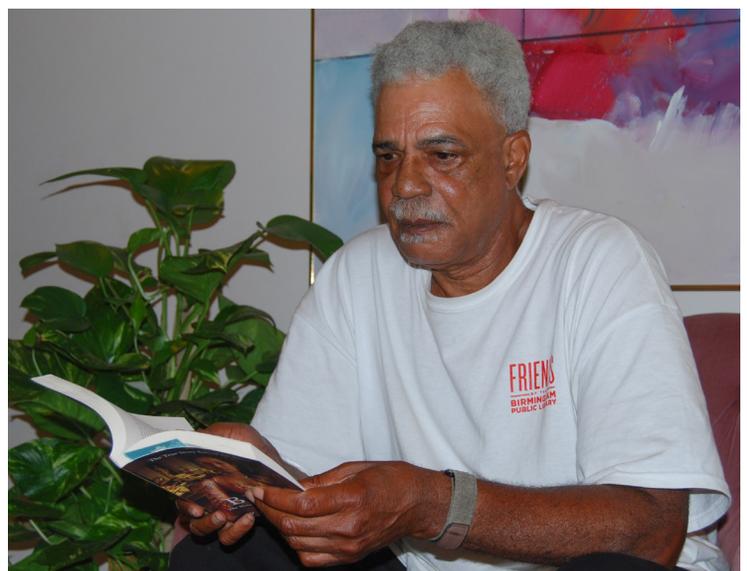
Ashland



Ashland City Public Library set up a photo booth for patrons to take pictures in their superhero gear.

The goal was to encourage participants to read for pleasure and to read often. Once participants read the number of books in their set goal, they were eligible for rewards ranging from admission tickets to the McWane Science Center and the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame to scavenger hunt prizes from Red Mountain Park's zip line.

"Summer reading is a magical time that transforms all of our libraries—and staff," stated BPL Director Angela Fisher Hall. "We are particularly excited that involvement in such a program over the summer months goes a long way in preparing students for the next school year. This is a time of the year that we all look forward to with much anticipation."



Alabaster

Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster saw nearly 700 children over the course of the 2015 SRP. Kids enjoyed tons of great performers like Magician Russell Davis, Juggler Brian Bruggeman of Jugglewell, Iron Giant Percussion, and Skin & Bones Comedy Circus.



Kids learned the science of bubbles during Lights, Action, Bubbles with Miss Kit.



Young adults learned about super foods and embarked on a Culinary Quest during an Iron Chef inspired competition.

Leeds

Kids had fun meeting local heroes and making crafts this summer at Leeds Jane Culbreth Public Library.



2 Resources, 1 Goal: Helping Alabama Succeed 

**LearningExpress Library &
HomeworkAlabama**

- Online Tutoring for Grades K-12
- College Placement Resources
- Help for all ages and all skill levels
- Certification Test/GED Preparation
- Career Resources

**Find both on the APLS
Resources and Research Links Page**

Homewood



Over 50 teens kicked off the summer with a Post-It Note Party at Homewood Public Library. Teens made art and buttons using Post-it notes and teams raced to see which team could decorate a person with the most Post-it notes under a minute (above left) and then which team could shake off the most in the same time.

At another SRP program, teens were able to channel their inner Katniss Everdeen in a program called Hunger Games: Hero of the Arena. Dynamic Education Adventures taught the teens the science of the Hunger Games by creating bows and arrows from pens and catching items on fire (above right).

Jacksonville

Jacksonville Public Library had some excellent SRP decorations. They used wall clings and decorations created by the staff.



Eva



Fireman and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Mike Hill along with local Air Evac crew presented a program at Eva Public Library. Kids loved seeing the Evac helicopter up close.



Magician Russell Davis got the audience involved during his performance.



Brave kids got to hold a snake during Yarbrough's Educational Reptiles of the World program.

Woodville



70 people attended Woodville Public Library's SRP finale. The library gave prizes to top readers and presented goodie bags to children and adults.

Troy



Troy Public Library transformed their space into a world for superheroes.



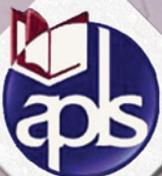
Satsuma

Children at Satsuma Public Library learned about local superheroes when Satsuma Fire Chief Clyde Miller and Fireman Eric Booker taught fire safety. Kids also got to meet a local police dog and learn about how animals are heroes too!



Stay tuned for more Summer Reading around the state in the Special Edition Part II!

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