
Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)

This manual was assembled to help Wisconsin librarians plan summer children's programming based on the theme "Sportacular Summer." Ideas in the manual were submitted by more than 45 Wisconsin librarians and gleaned from similar manuals in 5 other states. All materials have been designed to reflect a spirit of fun and to encourage delight in recreational reading. Part 1, "Planning and Promoting Programs," examines generalized fundamentals of planning, promoting, and evaluating programs. Part 2, "Decorating the Library," offers tips for decorating and display ideas and for creating thematic bulletin boards and name tags. Part 3, "Programs and Activities," outlines suggestions for the actual "Summer Sportacular" programs, including guest speaker possibilities, games and activities, sample programs, booklists and audiovisual recommendations, craft ideas, and a sample skit. Part 4, "Giveaways and Games," contains theme-related clip art, puzzles, word games, mazes, coloring pages, and answer keys. Part 5, "Performing Artists," contains a directory of performers from around the state and a performer evaluation form. Part 6, "Sources and Resources," contains lists of professional reading and resources for the hearing and visually impaired, catalogs and other resources. (BEW)

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SPORTACULAR SUMMER

1995 SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM MANUAL
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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
1995 Summer Library Program Manual
based on the theme
“Sportacular Summer”

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Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Madison, Wisconsin
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Foreword

This year, 1995, marks the twentieth consecutive summer of Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, sponsorship of the statewide Summer Library Program. From the beginning, the program's role has been to help librarians prepare and implement attractive and meaningful summer activities for children. The department is proud of its continuing association with community librarians and is pleased to make available materials contributed by and developed with the cooperation of librarians across the state.

I hold in high esteem the role public librarians play in enhancing the lives of Wisconsin's children year round, and I value the important results their summer programs produce in helping children maintain their reading skills. Personal traditions of using library resources for both pleasure and information grow from the experiences provided in such library programming.

I am especially pleased to have the Department of Public Instruction working closely this year with the Department of Natural Resources to make state park passes available as statewide incentive awards. This recognition gift to participants in Sportacular Summer activities and their families demonstrates the commitment to excellent learning opportunities shared by both departments.

To the members of each community involved in this summer's Sportacular activities, I extend my very best wishes and my compliments on their dedication to children's well-being through support of public library service.

John T. Benson
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Preface

While the majority of public libraries in the state have an established tradition of offering a summer program for children, there is a continuing need to provide practical suggestions that will be valuable for both veteran program planners and neophytes.

This manual is offered in response to that need. It has been created with the assistance of more than 45 Wisconsin librarians who submitted a wide variety of recommendations and materials. Ideas also were gleaned from summer library program manuals produced in Idaho, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Mexico, and South Carolina. My sincere thanks to each contributor to the 1995 Summer Library Program Manual. The success of the entire summer program depends on a willingness to share ideas.

In addition to this manual, the Department of Public Instruction has printed promotional materials to complement the Sportacular Summer theme, including large and small posters, cut and uncut bookmarks, reading records, achievement certificates, a button, and a stamp. All materials have been designed to reflect a spirit of fun and to encourage delight in recreational reading.

May your Sportacular Summer be filled with splendid, spirited, special, sparkling, and spectacular success!

Jane A. Roeber
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Acknowledgments

For helping to establish the atmosphere of fun for Sportacular Summer, very special and very sincere thanks are due Joe Heller, editorial cartoonist for the Green Bay Press-Gazette. Heller's action-packed poster conveys a high-energy sense of delight in activity. Heller's editorial cartoons are printed regularly in more than 85 newspapers, including the Milwaukee Journal, Wisconsin State Journal, Chicago Tribune, Washington Post, and USA Today. Nationally, his work has appeared in such magazines as National Review, The New Republic, Newsweek, and Time. Heller's talent has been recognized with such honors as 1988, 1990, and 1992 Best of Gannett Awards; a 1989 Milwaukee Press Club Award; and a 1987 Outstanding Civil Liberties in Journalism Award. Politicians seem to understand and enjoy Heller's lampooning. Among those who have samples of his work in their collections are Wisconsin governors Thompson, Earl, and Dreyfus; United States senators Proxmire, Kasten, and Nelson; Presidents Reagan and Clinton; Vice President Gore; and Secretary of Health and Human Services Shalala. Heller has illustrated three children's school books for Center Stage Productions, Danger, Dinosaurs! (1989), Music of the Planets (1989), and To Save the Planet (1991). A book of his cartoons, Give 'em Heller, was published by the Press-Gazette in 1991.

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State Program Manuals

Footloose
Iowa State Library Division, Department of Education (1994)
Des Moines, IA

Plant a Reading Seed
South Carolina State Library (1993)
Columbia, SC
Read around the World
Iowa State Library Division, Department of Education (1989)
Des Moines, IA

Read...Funtastic
Idaho State Library (1993)
Boise, ID

Ticket to Read
Massachusetts Regional Library Systems (1994)
c/o Board of Library Commissioners
Boston, MA

Wild about Reading
New Mexico State Library (1994)
Santa Fe, NM

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A special thanks to George E. Meyer, Department of Natural Resources Secretary, Kimberly Eilenfeldt, State Parks Marketing Manager, and all DNR staff members for their interest in providing state park passes as incentive awards for Sportacular Summer participants and their families.

Copyrights and Trademarks

Every effort has been made to ascertain ownership of copyrighted materials and obtain permission for their use. Any omission is unintentional. Trademark names—Frisbee, Ping-Pong—are capitalized throughout this manual; some also are marked with the ™ symbol.
This year marks the 25th anniversary of statewide summer library programs in Wisconsin and the 20th anniversary of program coordination by the Division for Libraries and Community Learning. The first programs were coordinated by Marian Edsall, director of the Cooperative Library Information Program (CLIP), with the help of Elizabeth Burr, children's library consultant, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Since 1975, Summer Library Programs have been coordinated by the division in close cooperation with youth services librarians across the state. The following statewide themes have been used over the years.

1970 “Summer Reading Is Out of This World”
1971 “Magic Maze”
1972 “The Enchanted Forest”
1973 “Take a Giant Step”
1974 “Travel through Time with Tobor”
1975 “Yankee Doodle Rides Again”
1976 “Be a Super Snooper at the Library”
1977 “Summer of the Whangdoodle”
1978 “Star Worlds at the Library”
1979 “Super People Enjoy the Library”
1980 “All Creatures Great and Small”
1981 “Merlin’s Midsummer Magic”
1982 “Through the Looking Glass”
1983 “Where the Rainbow Ends”
1984 “Hats Off to Kids”
1985 “Thriller-Dillers and Chillers”
1986 “Star Spangled Summer”
1987 “Hands around the World”
1988 “Summer Splash”
1989 “Super Summer Safari: Make Books Your Big Game”
(Winner of the 1990 John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award sponsored by the H. W. Wilson Company and the American Library Association Library Administration and Management Association Public Relations Section)
1990 “Readlicious: Carryouts Available”
1991 “Wheels, Wings ’n’ Words”
1992 “Summer Quest”
1993 “Go Wild! Read!”
1994 “Rock ’n’ Read”
PLANNING & PROMOTING PROGRAMS
Program Planning Principles

In 1995 the Youth Services Section of the Wisconsin Library Association published Wisconsin Public Library Youth Services Guidelines to help youth service librarians develop and maintain strong local services for young people. One section of the guidelines is devoted to programming and is particularly relevant to summer library program planning and implementation. For further information about the publication, contact WLA at 4785 Hayes Road, Madison, WI 53704-7364; (608) 242-2040.

The Guidelines identify programming as an essential part of library services for children and teens, and state that library programs help meet the “informational, recreational, cultural, and educational needs of youth and their families.” As you read the following summary statements based on the Guidelines, apply them to your summer program in its present form and think about ways in which you would like to modify it.

- Programming promotes reading and library use and helps young people develop a love of lifelong learning. During programs, library staff model the use of both print and nonprint materials for children, parents, and caregivers.

- Programming contributes to the visibility of the library in the community. Increased visibility can mean increased use of all library services and resources. As library use increases, so will community support.

- Programming can be designed to meet the needs of any or all of the following groups: infants, toddlers, preschoolers, elementary-school-aged children, middle schoolers, high schoolers, and parents, as well as children, families, and care providers involved in day-care programs.

- All library programming should be free of charge, be promoted through various means to reach diverse populations, and reflect an awareness of the multicultural nature of our society.

- Program schedules should be set up to accommodate the varied lifestyles of community members.

- Program schedules should be developed in cooperation with other agencies and organizations that provide summer programs for youth.

- Programming costs are legitimate library expenses and should be reflected as such in the library’s budget. The summer library program, or youth programming in general, should be included as a separate line item in the budget.

- Space designed specifically for programs should be provided in the library building. Because programs are not necessarily compatible with other uses of the library, an area that can be closed off from the rest of the library is useful. The space may be used for other functions, but programming needs should be given high priority when use of the space is scheduled. Making programs a priority acknowledges their importance to the library’s mission.

- All programming activities should be designed so that children with disabilities can participate. Programs should be presented in areas that are physically accessible for children who use wheelchairs or have mobility problems. Programs can be signed for children who are deaf, and/or program presenters can use a flannel apron rather than a
flannelboard to make lip reading easier. Being flexible about age limits will make programs available to children for whom they are developmentally appropriate, regardless of chronological age. Allowing parents or care providers to accompany children who need adult assistance can enable those children to participate in library programs.

- All programs should be evaluated to determine if changes and improvements can be made and if programs are meeting intended goals. Evaluation is discussed in some detail in the final section of this chapter. Consider applying appropriate output measures in the evaluation process. Two recommended sources of information on output measures are Virginia Walter's *Output Measures for Public Library Services to Children* (American Library Association, 1992) and *Output Measures and More: Planning and Evaluating Young Adult Services in Public Libraries* (American Library Association, 1995).

### Elements of Planning

Basic planning for any program must include these components. You might want to create a checklist to ensure that you take all of them into consideration when developing summer library programs.

- Identification of program goals and of target audiences
- Identification of strategies to be used in reaching those audiences
- Definition of program completion requirements
- Preparation of program budget
- Determination of schedule for promotional and publicity efforts
- Organization of materials and personnel for storytimes and other activities
- Carrying out of events and activities as planned
- Evaluation of concluded program(s)

### Special Concerns for Sportacular Summer

The 18-member 1995 Summer Library Program Planning Committee had these basic elements of planning in mind when it chose the “Sportacular Summer” theme. Composed of youth librarians representing Wisconsin's 17 library systems and the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, the group agreed that librarians working with the theme were likely to be able to carry out all the basic planning steps.

“Sportacular Summer” could be interpreted to encompass a very broad range of recreational pursuits and fitness activities, committee members said. The slogan was thought to convey the sense of fun that summer library activities should project. Other strong considerations influenced the committee’s decision as well.

- Theme-related materials for storytimes and other activities are plentiful.
- Young people are highly interested in play and games.
- Excellent opportunities to cooperate with the recreation programs of local school and park districts and other community programs, groups, and agencies can be found in every community.
- Previously reluctant readers and older readers may well be attracted to participate because of the theme's subject.
- The theme lends itself well to organizing events and activities that entire families can enjoy.
- Many theme-related activities can involve young adults as volunteers and raise their awareness of library services and resources.
Stressing Fun and Fitness

Because its function is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Division for Libraries and Community Learning, the 1995 planning committee also recognized that the slogan “Sportacular Summer” could have some problematic connotations. Members suggested that librarians who want to avoid undue emphasis on competition and a winning-is-the-only-thing-that-matters philosophy would be able to find ways of stressing the joy of play for its own sake as well as the pleasures in individual activities. The variety of material submitted for Chapter 3: Programs and Activities clearly indicates that there are many ways to celebrate a Sportacular Summer without becoming enmeshed in competitive activities.

Chapter 3 also includes an annotated bibliography from the Wisconsin Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse that emphasizes good sportsmanship and healthy perspectives on athletics. It is part of the committee’s public education campaign called Winning Ways with Young Athletes. A related news release aimed at parents is reprinted on page six. You may reprint the release as a handout or include it in your library’s newsletter.

The Wisconsin Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse also has published a brochure titled “Hey, Coach!” with a foreword by Bud Selig, Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club president. It is addressed to youth coaches in school and community programs and emphasizes the concepts of respect, encouragement, support, praise, communication, and discipline within the context of coaching. You may want to distribute the brochure in your community as part of the Sportacular Summer program. Wisconsin residents can obtain free multiple copies by contacting the committee at 214 North Hamilton Street, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 256-3374.

Including All Children

The 1995 SLP Planning Committee also was aware of a second potential problem area, the possibility that some community members might feel that a Sportacular Summer would exclude children with disabilities of any kind. In discussing the issue, planning committee members made several significant points.

- Many children who have physical or mental disabilities do participate in athletic events and play physical and/or intellectual games. An integral, educative function of any library’s programs during Sportacular Summer can be making this known to other children and to adults.

- In many communities there are individuals involved in the Special Olympics program who can be invited to present positive information about the abilities of the “disabled.” These include adults who serve as coaches, professional and college-level athletes who help raise funds and work directly with Special Olympics athletes, and high school students who help Special Olympics athletes practice sports skills and attend sports competitions. In addition to the Special Olympics organization, there are other volunteer groups that help people with disabilities learn to enjoy such activities as horseback riding and skiing. Volunteers from those groups and athletes such as wheelchair basketball players and wheelchair marathon racers can be featured as guest presenters in library programs.

- The fact that a child has a physical or mental disability that precludes participation in an activity does not automatically mean the child has no interest in watching others or hearing about others who participate.

- A small number of books featuring children with disabilities engaged in sport activities is available. They can be incorporated in programs in positive, nondidactic ways. Consider these titles which were suggested by your library colleagues; most are widely available in Wisconsin public libraries.
Books
Aiello, Barbara, Jeffrey Schulman, and Loel Barr. *It's Your Turn at Bat: Featuring Mark Riley*. (The Kids on the Block) Twenty-First Century, 1988
A fifth grade boy who has cerebral palsy has a role to play on his baseball team.

Brown, Tricia. *Someone Special, Just Like You*. Holt, 1984
Children with disabilities are shown singing, dancing, going down slides, and blowing bubbles in this book of photographs.

Bunnett, Rochelle. *Friends in the Park*. Checkerboard, 1993
Full-color photographs show preschoolers, some with physical disabilities, enjoying playtime together.

Wearing a prosthetic hand doesn't stop Harry from joining his friends to make monster masks, fly paper airplanes, and play baseball.

Through words and pictures, readers experience the feelings of a boy as he goes horseback riding in the country; only at the end is it revealed that his usual mount is a wheelchair.

Hearn, Emily. *Good Morning Franny, Good Night Franny*. Women's Press, 1985
Franny uses a wheelchair but thoroughly enjoys days in the park, flying kites, and playing with Frisbees with a friend.

Text and photographs present seven people, aged nine to 19, who use wheelchairs in active lives at home, at school, and on vacation.

This novel for upper-grade students introduces Colt, handicapped by spina bifida, who sheds dependence as he learns to ride horses.

A way of helping children and adults understand the needs of deaf children is described in a letter sent home to the parents of summer library program participants in Waukesha County during the summer of 1994. It is reprinted on page seven. Consider the possibility of using this approach in your community, adapting the letter to your own needs.
Parents: Making a Winner of Your Young Athlete
by Bonnie Hutchins, Program Director, Wisconsin Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse

Many parents wonder how to help their children have a positive experience as they take part in sports activities. Sports are very important to children and can help them develop physically and personally. But simply placing children in sports situations does not guarantee that they will benefit.

The kind of support parents give their children can make sports fun and rewarding, or it can be the source of stress. Here are some ways parents can help their children, whether six or 16, enjoy the sports experience and benefit from it. By following these principles, parents can both motivate their young athletes in sports and help them develop a healthy, positive self-image.

- Keep in mind the two major reasons kids play sports—to have fun and to feel worthy, competent, and successful.
- Teach your children that success in sports is more than just winning. Help them feel successful when they are improving or mastering skills, giving maximum effort, and striving to win. In this way, parents can help their athlete accept disappointments and not see losses as personal failures or blows to self-worth.
- Help your athlete set realistic, achievable, yet challenging goals. Then, offer to work with him or her to meet those goals. When your child's skill level improves, he or she will feel a sense of accomplishment.
- Reward and encourage skill improvement, good plays, and good behavior. Remember to praise effort, not just performance, to motivate them to try hard. The best way to reward is verbally or with a physical response like a smile or thumbs-up sign. Try to avoid giving money or other material rewards.
- Athletes make plenty of mistakes; making mistakes is part of learning the game. When your child makes a mistake, give encouragement and, if needed, ideas on how to correct the error. Be sure to do it in a positive way. Avoid criticizing and punishing for mistakes. Criticism teaches athletes to fear failure, making them worry that they won't perform well and dread the possible disapproval of their parents, coach, and teammates. It hurts rather than improves performance.
- Show your children that you love and accept them, regardless of their performance. This is the basis for a positive self-concept.
- Though it's perfectly natural to identify with your children and want them to be successful, be careful not to live out your own dreams through them. Seeing your child's performance in sports as a reflection of your own self-worth and success can cause you to set unrealistically high goals for your child and place pressure on him or her to perform, a major cause of stress in sports for kids.
- Watch your behavior at games and practices. Remember, you are a role model for your children. If you want your son or daughter to show good sportsmanship and self-control, you need to exhibit these traits yourself, no matter how frustrating it may be to see a poor call or bad play.
- During games and practices, leave the coaching to the coach. It confuses players when they get instruction from more than one source.

The positive attributes that can be developed through sports can be strengthened by parents' wise management and support of their child's sports experience. Years from now, it won't matter whether an athlete could field a line drive or make a left-handed lay-up at age 12. But the self-esteem, attitudes toward achievement, and understanding of success as maximum effort and improving skills that parents can help instill through sports, can make a child a winner today—and tomorrow. If you have questions or want further information on positive parenting, please write or call the Wisconsin Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, 214 Hamilton Street, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 256-3374.
Dear Parent:

Thank you for your commitment to keeping your child interested in reading over the summer months. Today's program, sponsored by the Waukesha County Federated Library System, was signed by an interpreter for the deaf and hearing impaired. The library system wants all children to feel at home in the library and makes every effort to meet special needs. There may not have been any deaf or hearing impaired children in the audience today, but all children benefit from an awareness of the needs of others.

Deaf children can do most of the things a hearing child can, including enjoying a library program and reading books. Please help to build on this experience by talking with your child about today's program. Here are some questions you may want to ask.

- Did you notice the signer today?
- Why do you think a signer was included?
- Do you know any sign language?
- What would it be like to be unable to hear?

Listed below are books that you and your child can check out to learn more about hearing impairments and what it is like to be deaf. Your librarian can help you find these books in your local library or through interlibrary loan.

*The Day We Met Cindy* by Anne Marie Starowitz
*The Flying Fingers Club: Secret in the Dorm Attic* by Jean Andrews
*The Flying Fingers Club: Hasta Luego, San Diego* by Jean Andrews
*Handtalk Zoo* by George Ancona and Mary Beth Miller
*I Have a Sister: My Sister is Deaf* by Jeannette Whitehouse Peterson
*Mandy* by Barbara D. Booth
*Sesame Street Sign Language with Linda Bove* by Linda Bove
*Sesame Street Sign Language Fun with Linda Bove* by Linda Bove
*A Very Special Friend* by Dorothy Levi
*A Very Special Sister* by Dorothy Levi

Providing a sign language interpreter for today's program is just one of many ways that Waukesha County Federated Library System serves people with special needs. Please contact Nancy Fletcher, Special Needs Librarian, at 896-8245, TTY 896-8089, for more information about other special library services.
Saving Money, Raising Money

Being involved in some sports can get very expensive. Consider sponsoring a sports equipment exchange of some kind as one way to demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to some parents' need to save money. You might set up a special Equipment Exchange Bulletin Board where families can post information about equipment they no longer need and are willing to sell or exchange. Or you might organize an evening event where families can trade or sell their used sports equipment.

Putting on summer library events can involve a number of costs as well. If your library needs to raise money for the summer program, adapt the concept of an equipment exchange. Solicit donations of used equipment and auction it off. The “Sportacular Summer” theme also suggests the possibility of a fund-raising marathon run or walk. Individual participants could solicit promises of financial support for every mile run or walked, with the understanding that all proceeds would benefit the library's summer program. Similar fund raisers might be based on the number of jumps completed in a jump-rop e marathon or baskets made in a free-throw contest.

Roles for Volunteers

Libraries of all sizes may find that volunteers could be vital to carrying out summer library activities. Among the jobs volunteers can do are:
- helping register children for the program,
- preparing craft materials and assisting with craft projects,
- putting up decorations,
- photocopying,
- listening to children read aloud or report on books read,
- ushering at guest performances,
- teaching games, and
- judging contests.

Volunteers can be found in a range of age groups, from middle school students to senior citizens. Providing appropriate training for volunteers is essential, but that initial investment of time can pay excellent dividends. Some form of recognition for volunteer assistance should be part of the program structure.

Junior Volunteers

Librarians across the country often note that providing volunteer opportunities for older children is one of the most successful ways to maintain and build interest in library resources. L. E. Phillips Memorial Library in Eau Claire has used students in fourth through sixth grades, members of an age group that often begins to lose interest in summer library programs. They serve as junior volunteers who help younger children with program registration, shelve videos and paperbacks, and staff the audiovisual desk to hand out headphones and other equipment.

Part of the library's volunteer training effort has involved a scavenger hunt designed to increase students' familiarity with the physical layout of the Children's Services area and develop their abilities to search for library materials using the computer catalog, bibliographies, indexes, and other resources. The children work in teams and take about 45 minutes to go through the list that is reprinted here. At the end of the hunt, all teams share their findings and their strategies for locating materials. The scavenger hunt list can be adapted for your library.
Library scavenger hunt directions. You have 45 minutes to locate all the things on this list. Some can be located using the computer catalog. Some can be found on the literature racks. You can find still others by browsing through the Children's Services room. Have fun!

2. Find a book about a bird.
3. Find a copy of Cobblestone magazine.
4. Find a biography of a famous woman.
5. Find an easy picture book that has a pig in it.
6. Find a sound recording about Christopher Columbus.
7. Find the book Superfudge.
8. Find a sound recording of children's music.
10. Find a book that won the Caldecott Award.
12. Find a sports book.
13. Find a dictionary.
15. Find a sound recording that teaches a foreign language.
16. Find an adventure story in paperback.
17. Find a joke book.
18. Find a book about Paul Bunyan, Pecos Bill, or another tall tale character.
19. Find a book about a dragon or a unicorn.
20. Find a copy of one of your own favorite books.

Teens as Storytellers

Building a company of teen storytellers is another way to reinforce interest in library services by offering a volunteer opportunity. Teens could give presentations at the library or, with appropriate preparation and supervision, tell stories for children in other locations such as child care centers, schools, and homeless shelters. The following outline is adapted from Footloose, the 1994 Iowa Summer Library Program manual.

Benefits and preparation. Teens interested in acting and storytelling can develop stories and techniques to use during storytimes for younger children. Such activities can help the storytellers gain self confidence. A volunteer program using teen storytellers also can be a winner for younger children, who often relate especially well to teenagers.

To train teenagers to be storytellers, the librarian will need to schedule several sessions designed to help them select and prepare stories. Some will be interested in using puppets, props, and costumes in their presentations; some will simply want to read their stories and can concentrate on oral presentation skills.

Suggested Program Components

- Discuss the following topics with teens:
  - selecting a theme for the story program;
  - using visuals such as flannelboards, masks, and puppets to tell stories; and
  - reading picture books to groups.
- Display a selection of picture books with potential appeal.
- Show resource books and visual resources.
- Demonstrate reading techniques.
- Demonstrate use of several kinds of visuals with stories.
- In small groups, have teens select a story to learn and practice from among those that have been demonstrated with visuals.
In small groups, have teens select and practice reading a book aloud in a style likely to appeal to young children.

As a whole group, have teens plan one or more actual storytimes (depending on the number of participants).

Have teens practice their chosen presentations beforehand.

Have teens present their storytime to an audience of younger children.

Continue the planning and practice sessions throughout the summer or through the entire year.

As new individuals become interested in joining the company, reschedule the initial introductory session(s) and utilize company veterans as co-instructors.

Suggested Storytelling Resource Books


MacDonald, Margaret Read. *Twenty Tellable Tales: Audience Participation Folktales for the Beginning Storyteller.* Wilson, 1986


A Role for Computers?

Read “Go Figure: Computer Database Adds the Personal Touch” in the July 1992 issue of *School Library Journal.* It describes the way an Ohio public library used Microsoft Works’ software to create a database that made management of a summer reading program more efficient.

Elements of Promoting

Putting on a summer library program can be one of the best ways to acquaint your entire community with library services and resources. As the program proceeds, many people will be receiving a positive message about your library, including the families and friends of those who participate in SLP activities and the teachers and administrators in the schools you visit. Others who will learn about the positive things your library does will be the staff of organizations and businesses you contact in efforts to raise funds and solicit incentive awards; the people who watch local parades where summer library program participants march or ride a float; the retirement home and nursing home residents and facility staff who are visited by young readers; the local newspaper, radio, and television contact persons you work with; the consumers of local media; and the people who see summer library program supporter signs in the windows of stores and professional offices. This positive message is something you can build on year-round.

Think of the summer program message as an integral part of the active advocacy policy librarians, trustees, and library Friends groups need to adopt in order to increase awareness of library roles. When you make a case for sustained or increased support of public library children’s services and of overall public library services in your community, summer program statistics and testimonials are likely to serve you well. Let opinion leaders and local officials know

- what percentage of the community’s population ages four through 14 were directly involved in the program,
- what percentage of the community’s families that figure represents,
• how circulation and program attendance figures demonstrate the library's response to community interests,
• how foundations laid during the summer program are used to plan effective services during other times of the year,
• how many childcare centers enriched their programs by participating in the library's activities,
• where you provided outreach activities to enable more children to benefit from library resources,
• what other community agencies cooperated in some way in the program's design and implementation, and
• what teachers' comments reveal about summer reading's impact on maintenance of academic skills.

Promotion of the summer library program can have far-reaching implications. As you plan your Sportacular Summer promotion campaign, consider some of the practical suggestions described in the remainder of this chapter. Make good use of the posters, bookmarks, buttons, and clip art produced by the Department of Public Instruction's Division for Libraries and Community Learning. Cooperate in any systemwide promotional efforts and utilize any services your system can provide to produce flyers or other materials you need.

Working with Schools

Your schedule is a busy one, and school personnel have full schedules, too. Therefore, it is essential to plan visits to classrooms and school libraries well in advance. When seeking permission to make SLP promotional visits and establishing visit dates, contact school administrators as well as teachers and librarians. Give those you talk to the option of scheduling a class trip to the library if they prefer that to having someone from your library visit the school.

From the tips described here, select other ideas for working with schools that might be helpful. You may also wish to use the sample letters to teachers and parents that follow the tips list, entering appropriate information about your library and programs. The basic letter to parents is shown in Hmong, Lao, and Spanish as well as English.

• Target one grade level for visits to make the most efficient use of your time.
• Provide attractive, informative letters or flyers about the summer library program for children to take home to parents. Schools may be willing to enclose the letters in their own end-of-the-school-year mailing or to reprint the information in a parent newsletter.
• Provide plenty of posters for use in classrooms, the school library, and hallways.
• Provide promotional buttons to teachers, teacher's assistants, librarians, principals, and other administrative staff.
• Consider making visits to child care centers in addition to public and parochial elementary and middle schools. Provide letters for parents.
• Be willing to present a program about public library services and the summer program at a meeting of the parent/teacher organization. Join forces with the school's librarian to make an even bigger impact. Provide summer library program information for inclusion in the organization's newsletter.
• Make your classroom visits in costume. For this Sportacular Summer you may choose to wear something as simple as a canvas hat adorned with fishing flies and carry give-aways in a tackle box. Somewhat more dramatic apparel options include a cheerleader’s or pom pon squad member’s uniform, complete with team color pennants and pompons; a letter jacket from the local high school; a jogging suit with appropriate shoes; a Bucky Badger (or other mascot) sweatshirt; a baseball or softball uniform (do you, your spouse, or a friend play in a local league?); a referee’s shirt and whistle; biking shorts and a helmet; or hiking clothes and boots. You could arrive on in-line skates. You could balance a stack of books on a tennis racket. You might even choose to dress up in imitation of the Sportacular Wisconsin cow seen on a chapter 4 coloring page.

• Arrange for middle school or high school cheerleaders or sports team members in uniform to accompany you on visits to elementary schools. They can put in a plug for a favorite book or other library resource. Cheerleaders can teach a summer library program cheer. If you are fit, after your presentation sprint from the school to the public library with members of the track team.

• For middle-grade classes and older students, booktalk three or four sure-fire, age-appropriate titles. Older children also can be told about volunteer opportunities and encouraged to learn more about how a library works by becoming part of the summer program team.

• Display a trophy and explain that it is a traveling award. Announce that the school within the district that has the most students who complete the summer library program will win the trophy each year.

• Work in advance with two older students or adult volunteers to prepare the humorous promotional skit called “Station W-Library” from Dog Days and Winter Ways: Skits to Promote Reading All Year Long by Anne Lemay (Alleyside, 1994). In it two radio broadcasters, a hare and a bear, are covering the “summer reading olympics.” Full production notes are provided.

• Put on the “Fancy Footwork” promotional skit printed after the sample letters to teachers and parents in this chapter. It requires only one person/performer—you, another staff person, or a library volunteer.

• “What Will Melody See?” is a promotional cut-and-draw story you might use in preschools and kindergartens. It is printed after the “Fancy Footwork” skit.
Sample Letter to Teachers
(On library letterhead)

March __, 1995

Dear (Teacher's name):

At this time I am contacting all second-grade teachers in the _______________ School District to let you know that I am interested in scheduling a 15-minute segment of classroom time to tell your students about the __________________ Public Library's 1995 Summer Library Program. If you are willing to arrange such a visit any schoolday morning during the weeks of May 15 or 22, please contact me before April 15 to confirm a date.

My presentation will consist of a brief humorous promotional skit, distribution of informational flyers for students to take home to parents, and a chance for children to ask questions about the Summer Library Program. The skit will be presented by two library volunteers and requires nothing more than two classroom desks and chairs arranged to face the students.

If you would prefer to schedule a class trip to the public library instead, I will be happy to discuss arrangements with you. I recommend the weeks of May 27 and June 5 for field trips.

I hope you will join me in this effort to keep new readers excited about reading and library resources.

Yours truly,

(Your name and title)
(Your telephone number)

cc: (Principal's name)
Sample Letter to Parents
(on library letterhead)

Dear Parents:

The __________ Public Library invites your children to participate in its annual Summer Library Program. There will be special activities at the library designed to encourage children to enjoy reading and to keep up their reading skills.

Research carried out by the U. S. Department of Education shows that the more reading students do outside of school, the higher their reading achievement levels are. Support at home for reading also has a very positive impact on their achievement. The Summer Library Program is sponsored each year by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries and Community Learning.

The enclosed announcement gives details of dates and times and information about registering for activities. I look forward to seeing you and your family at the __________ Public Library this summer.

Yours truly,

(Your name)
Estimados Padres:

La biblioteca pública de___________ invita a sus niños que participen en el programa anual de verano de la biblioteca (Summer Library Program). Habrá actividades especiales en la biblioteca para motivar a los niños leer más y desarrollar sus habilidades de leer.

Investigaciones hechas por el departamento de la enseñanza de los Estados Unidos indican que cuando los niños leen mucho fuera de la escuela logran niveles más altos de leer. El apoyo en casa de la lectura también tiene un efecto positivo en aprender más. El «Summer Library Program» se ofrece cada año por la división de bibliotecas y del aprendizaje de la comunidad del departamento de la enseñanza pública de Wisconsin (Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction).

El anuncio aquí incluido indica los detalles sobre las fechas y las horas del programa. Además indica cómo puede matricularse en las actividades. Esperamos verlos a Ud. y a su familia en la biblioteca pública de___________ este verano.

Atentamente,

(Your name)
Sample Letter to Parents
(Hmong)

Ib tsoon Niam Txiv:

Lub __________________ Public Library thov caw koj tus me nyuam tuaj koom peb lub Summer Library Program. Lub tsev cia ntawv (library) yuav muaj kev ntau yam los qhia rau koj tus me nyuam kom nws nyiam, rau siab, muaj siab thiab pab tau nws txoj kev nyeem ntawv.

Nyob rau hauv qhov chaw U. S. Department of Education tau tshawb nriav pom hais tias kev nyeem ntawv thaum tsis nyob hauv tsev qhia ntawv mas yog ib qho yuav pab tau tus me nyuam nyeem ntawv kom tau zoo thiab paub zoo. Cov me nyuam uas nyeem ntawv tom tsev thiab Niam Txiv mob siab pab tus me nyuam mas tus me nyuam yuav paub ntawv zoo tshaj. Qhov chaw uas txhua txhua xyoo txais lub Summer Library Program no yog The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries and Community Learning.

Cov ntawv nram qab no yuav qhia rau koj txog lub program no. Nws yuav qhia txog lub sij hawm thiab pib thaum twg, yuav qhia txog seb mus ncuv npe li cas thiab lub program no yuav qhia dab tsi rau koj tus me nyuam. Kuv xav tias kuv yuav ntsib koj thiab koj tsev neeg nram __________________ Public Library thaum lub caij ntuj quhau yuav tuaj no.

Sau Npe,

(Your name)
Sample Letter to Parents
(Lao)

Dear Parents,

As you may have noticed, our students are showing signs of improvement in their academic performance. As a result, we have decided to implement a new curriculum that will better cater to their needs.

In the upcoming semester, we will be focusing on improving their critical thinking skills, which will be assessed through group projects and discussions. We believe that this approach will help them develop a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

We would like to request your support in encouraging your children to participate actively in class discussions and to complete their homework on time. Your input and feedback would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Best regards,

(Your name)
Fancy Footwork
Adapted from the 1994 Iowa Summer Library Program manual, *Footloose.*

**Directions.** Fill a gym bag or sports duffel bag with the following assorted props: bicycle pump, bike helmet, bike reflector; swim fins, goggles, nose plugs; jump rope, badminton birdie, hacky sack; hockey puck, sweat socks, Ping-Pong ball; books; envelope with letter inside; promotional flyers. Provide a table for setting out the props as the skit progresses.

The Coach should dress in a sweatshirt and running shoes and have a whistle and/or a stopwatch on a lanyard. The Coach's demeanor should be "no-nonsense" coupled with a certain amount of bewilderment!

To guarantee a fast pace, discuss the skit ahead of time with several people, so they know what kinds of responses will be needed at various points. Adapt the props, script, and text of the letter to match your library's plans.

**Script**

Coach Hello there, people! I'm Coach __________ and I've just been asked to come here today to tell you about the summer library program at the __________ Public Library. They gave me this bag, but no one actually told me what to do with it. I'm a little embarrassed about this; I usually know what's what before anyone else. I usually come up with the game plan you know. Well, since all they gave me is the bag, maybe there's some kind of clue inside. Should I look?

Kids Open the bag!

Coach (with prompting)

Hmm. What do you think this means?

Kids (Will probably make several guesses; Coach will ad lib as appropriate.)

Coach Well, biking is a pretty healthy thing to do, but what it has to do with me or the library just isn't clear. I'm just going to have to look in this bag again. (Pulls out bicycle pump and bike helmet and a reflector.)

Hmm. What do you think this means?

Kids (Will probably make several guesses; Coach will ad lib as appropriate.)

Coach Okay, I get it. Those librarians want you all to bike to the pool this summer instead of biking to the library. No, that can't be right. Let's look in here again. (Pulls out swim fins, goggles, and nose plugs.)

Well, biking is a pretty healthy thing to do, but what it has to do with me or the library just isn't clear. I'm just going to have to look in this bag again. (Pulls out jump rope, badminton birdie, and hacky sack.)

Okay, I get it. Those librarians want you all to bike to the pool this summer instead of biking to the library. No, that can't be right. Let's look in here again. (Pulls out jump rope, badminton birdie, and hacky sack.)

Hey! What's this? Is someone trying to put something over on me? What's this stuff got to do with a library program anyway?

Kids (Will probably make several guesses; Coach will ad lib as appropriate.)

Coach I'm getting confused, and I don't like getting confused. (Pulls out hockey puck, sweat socks, and Ping-Pong ball.)

Is this some kind of joke? Are you people in on it? Are you in league with the librarians on this? We've got bike stuff and swim stuff and a gosh darn bird...and a rope...and a puck...and a pretty smelly sock...and I don't know what all. What's it all got to do with the library program?
Kids  (Will probably make several guesses; Coach will ad lib as appropriate.)

Coach  OK. I'm going to get to the bottom of this confusion and to the bottom of this bag. (Pulls out books; one has envelope sticking out of it.)

Well, books...that's better. That really says "library" to me. Hmm, there are some pretty well-known sports figures here—Jackie Robinson, Mary Lou Retton—and there are rule books, and here's a brand new book I've been wanting to read myself. Hey, there's a letter in here too and it's addressed to me. (Pulls out envelope with COACH in large letters and reads the following message.)

Dear Coach,

I hope you opened this envelope first because it explains why I put all the stuff in the bag. The 1995 Wisconsin Summer Library Program is called Sportacular Summer, so all these items are just a way to tell the kids there will be lots of sports-related stuff going on at the ____________ Public Library this summer. We'll have activities like speakers and story hours, contests, games, and crafts. There will be simply super Sportacular opportunities for kids of all ages and for their whole families, too.

Thanks for your help in telling the kids to come, Coach.

Signed, The Librarian

P.S. I'm enclosing Sportacular Summer flyers for the kids to take home to their parents.

Coach  Hey, people. This looks good. This sounds like fun. You be sure to let your folks know all about it. Then your whole family can get in on the Sportacular Summer action. Don't strike out. Be a winner with books! (Distributes flyers.)

What Will Melody See?
This cut-and-tell story is by Barbara Huntington, ©1994.

Directions. Before you start, fold an 8-1/2-inch by 11-inch sheet of paper in half horizontally. Starting at the fold line, make progressive cuts in the folded sheet as you tell the story. Cuts are shown in the illustrations. It may help you to draw the cutting lines on the side of the paper that faces you.

Story. Melody was very excited. It was a bright sunny day, and her big brother told her he would take her to see the big ball game at the park. Melody really wanted to watch the game, but her mother didn't like her to go to the park alone. So she was happy her brother would go with her.

Melody and her brother walked to the park and walked around the parking lot where the bright sun was blazing down. "I can't see," said Melody.
“We’re not at the field yet,” said her brother. “When we get to the field you’ll be able to see.” So they walked on under the very bright sun until they were at the middle of the field. “I can’t see,” said Melody.

“We can try the corner of the field,” said her brother. “Maybe you’ll be able to see better from there.” They walked along under the dazzling sun to the corner of the field. “I can’t see,” said Melody.

Her brother lifted her and put her high up on his shoulders.

Melody squinted in the bright sunshine, but “I still can’t see,” she said. So her brother put her back down on the ground.

“Melody,” he said, “I took you to the park. We tried the middle of the field. We tried the corner of the field. I put you on my shoulders. If you still can’t see, we might as well go home. There’s just nothing more I can do to help you.”

Melody sadly followed her brother back across the field with her head down. They walked back around the parking lot, and then....

“Wait!” said Melody. “I found something that might help!”

She picked up something off the ground. She smiled and said, “We don’t have to go home after all. Now I’ll be able to see!” And Melody and her brother went back to watch the game.

Can you guess what Melody found in the grass that helped her see? I’ll show you. Melody found a pair of sunglasses! (Unfold and display the cut out sunglasses.) So the bright sunshine didn’t get in her eyes and she could see the ball game.
Melody and her brother saw that their friend the librarian was also there watching the game, and she was wearing her sunglasses too (storyteller puts on her own real sunglasses). After the game was over, she told them about summertime story hours at the library, where they could hear about other ball games and all kinds of different games besides. She said it was going to be a Sportacular Summer at the library! She gave Melody and her brother a letter telling all about the library summer storytimes and asked them to take the letter home to their mother. I've got the same letter here today. And I'm going to give each of you a copy to take home to your families. I hope I'll see many of you at the ________________ Public Library at special programs this summer.

**Working with Businesses, Professions, and Organizations**

If you are not yet a member of your community's chamber of commerce, or if your library director is not, now is a good time to join. An established, cooperative relationship with chamber members often can simplify the process of determining who to contact for donations of funds or prizes for your summer library program or for support of the library's overall program.

Chamber membership also can foster mutual understanding of perspectives, helping your library become more responsive to community needs while chamber members become more aware of library services and goals. Adopt or adapt some of these other ideas for making the library and the summer program more visible throughout your community.

- Provide summer library program supporter signs for display in the windows and on the walls of all businesses and individuals who donate moneys or incentive prizes. You may reproduce the sign provided on the next page if you wish.

- Make known your willingness to speak at meetings of service clubs, church groups, and professional organizations year round. Provide presentations directly related to summer programming, children's services in general, and/or your library's overall resources.

- Increase library visibility with a Friends of the Library-sponsored tee-ball, baseball, or softball team. This investment will get your library's name in the newspaper, where it can be read by people who may not be traditional library users. The library name also will be seen by all who attend games.

**Working with the Media**

A sound working relationship with local radio stations, television stations, newspapers, and free shoppers' guides is important to getting the word out about summer library activities. The media are vital to the initial dissemination of basic information about your program. Learn and respect their deadlines and formats. Suggest feature stories, send out news releases, and put inserts in community calendars of all kinds. Get as much media "mileage" as possible out of any unique kick-off events you have planned or any appearances by special guests and performers.

Consider using two television spots from the American Library Association that have Sportacular Summer possibilities. In "NBA Trail Blazers," the basketball team says "check out the action" at the library. "Best Gift" is a fishing story dramatizing the value of a library card; it is available in both English and Spanish. For more information, consult the Fall 1994/Winter 1995 *ALA Graphics Catalog*. 
Proud Supporter of the
1995 Summer Library Program
Press Releases and PSAs

At the top of any press release or public service announcement (PSA), be sure to include information about the person at the library to contact for additional information. A sample PSA and sample release are given on the following page; adapt them to meet your needs. Here are other helpful tips to remember.

- Be concise; one-page releases are best.
- Try to include all basic information in the first paragraph.
- If a release is more than one page, do not continue a paragraph from one page to the next; start a new paragraph on the next page.
- Double space; use wide margins.
- Include library address and telephone number.
- If you submit photos, include identification; send only black-and-white, glossy prints.
- Press releases are straight facts; PSAs can be more creative.
- Send originals, not photocopies, to each paper or station.

When preparing PSA spots for radio, use these basic guidelines: 25 words for a ten-second announcement, 37 for a 20-second announcement, 75 words for a 30-second announcement, and 150 words for one minute. Listeners can only comprehend so much information in a few seconds, so your message should be clear, concise, and well-paced. Practice reading the announcement to check its length.

Sample 60-second PSA

It’s going to be a Sportacular Summer at the ____________ Public Library. Do you like biking, hiking, baseball, board games, skiing, skating, tennis, tee-ball, swimming, soccer, hopscotch, hockey? Then join in the storytimes and game times at the public library. You’ll hear more about sports and the people who play them, find books about games of many kinds, and learn about keeping fit. There are programs for ages 5 through 7, for ages 8 through 11, and special programs for the whole family, too. Guest performers include (list). Register beginning (date). Activities begin on (date). For complete information call ____________

Public Library at (phone number).
Sample News Release

A Sportacular Summer begins on (date) at the ____________ Public Library. Children are invited to pre-register that day for a __ -week series of special activities. Stories, songs, and indoor games will be featured at storytimes for children who will enter kindergarten in the fall and those who have completed kindergarten, first, and second grades. Children who have completed third through fifth grades are invited to join the Lunch Bunch, a once-a-week brown-bag lunch gathering where stories about sports and recreations of many kinds will be shared. The storytimes and Lunch Bunch meetings begin the week of (date). Stop in the library at (address) or phone (number) for a complete schedule of times and places.

Children's librarian (name) reports that four free events for entire families are scheduled: (list).

Free-admission day passes to Wisconsin’s state-owned parks, forests, and recreation areas will be awarded to all children who complete the Sportacular Summer program requirements. (Describe your eligibility rules). A pass allows the child to host the whole family for a day's outing at any one of more than 50 sites. They are made available through the cooperation of the Division for Libraries and Community Learning, Department of Public Instruction, and the Department of Natural Resources. Additional incentive prizes have been contributed to the ____________ Public Library's program by (list local donors).

The statewide Summer Library Program is sponsored annually by the Department of Public Instruction to promote recreational reading and to encourage maintenance of reading and vocabulary skills. This year marks the 25th anniversary of this statewide program in which more than 80,000 young people participate each summer.

Newspaper Puzzle Series

A series of five puzzles follows; one blank puzzle pattern is provided so that you can create your own additional puzzles if you wish. Ask your local newspaper to run the series during the time your summer program is underway. If you do not use them for this purpose, they can be duplicated to serve as handouts during classroom visits.
Welcome to Wisconsin's Public Library Summer Reading Program

Who Is A...?
Match the names of these athletes with their more common description. Use a dictionary to help you.

Kegler Dog Sledder
Matador Hockey player
Iceman Boxer
Pugilist Tennis player
Musher Bowler
Netman Bullfighter

Welcome to Wisconsin's Public Library Summer Reading Program

Where in Wisconsin?
Match these cities with the sport or team associated with them. Some are summer camp locations for out-of-state teams.

La Crosse Badgers
River Falls Road America Car Races
Stevens Point Brewers
Green Bay Chicago Bears
Platteville Speed skating
Elkhart Lake New Orleans Saints
Milwaukee Jacksonville Jaguars
West Allis Kansas City Chiefs
Madison Packers

Answers: Kegler-bowler; Matador-bullfighter; Iceman-hockey player; Pugilist-boxer; Musher-dog sledder; Netman-tennis player

Prepared by the South Central Library System for the 1995 Summer Library Program

Answers: La Crosse-New Orleans Saints summer camp (SC); River Falls-Kansas City Chiefs SC; Stevens Point-Jacksonville Jaguars SC; Green Bay-Packers; Platteville-Chicago Bears SC; Elkhart Lake-Road America Car Races; Milwaukee-Brewers; West Allis-speed skating; Madison-Badgers
Welcome to Wisconsin's Public Library Summer Reading Program

What Doesn't Belong?

A mat is required for all but one of the following sports. Which sport does not belong in this list?

gymnastics, wrestling, judo, boxing, tumbling, karate, surfing

All but one of these sports are played in shoes with spikes or studs or cleats. Which sport doesn't belong on the list?
golf, football, soccer, track, mountain climbing, tennis

Only one of these sports does not require a target to aim at. Which sport is it?
archery, fencing, skydiving, darts, boating, basketball

Places Where You Win

Match these winning places with each sport.

Finish line — darts
End zone — golf
Winners' circle — baseball
Home plate — racing
Goal line — mountain climbing
Bull's eye — horse racing
18th hole — football
Summit — soccer

Answers: surfing, tennis, boating

Answers: Finish line — racing; End zone — football; Winners' circle — horse racing; Home plate — baseball; Goal line — soccer; Bull's eye — darts; 18th hole — golf; Summit — mountain climbing
Welcome to Wisconsin's Public Library Summer Reading Program

Winning Ways
Match these winning ways with their sports.

- Hat trick: boxing
- Pin: wrestling
- Par: golf
- Hit: fencing
- Home run: baseball
- Knockout: boxing
- Checkered flag: racing
- Bull's eye: archery

Prepared by the South Central Library System for the 1995 Summer Library Program

Answers: Hat trick - soccer; Pin - wrestling; Par - golf; Hit - fencing; Home run - baseball; Knockout - boxing; Checkered flag - racing; Bull's eye - archery

Librarian's own puzzle.
Follow-up Suggestions

When program events are under way, invite and encourage news reporters, television and radio announcers, and others to provide additional media coverage. Make yourself available for interviews. Use some of these strategies to catch the interest of newspaper and other media personnel.

- Point out that “photo opportunities” for television and newspapers are abundant when children are involved and that Sportacular Summer promises plenty of active activities.

- Invite coverage of any kickoff events and any special guest presenters who give Sportacular Summer programs for children and families.

- Provide information about young adult volunteers who assist with any aspects of your Sportacular Summer program, so their positive contributions to the community can be recognized.

- Volunteer to provide a bibliography of recommended Sportacular Summer books for all ages as a sidebar to a feature story in the newspaper or as a stand-alone article.

- Invite local media “personalities” to be participants in any game-playing events or reading marathons you sponsor.

- Investigate the possibility of having library contest winners announced on a local radio station.

- Be sure to send out a post-program release with statistics on participation and information about your library’s fall and winter activities for children and young adults.

Kickoff Concepts

One way to start off a Sportacular Summer full of fun is to plan a Kick Up Your Heels Kickoff Fun Run/Walk that can involve entire families. Even small children in strollers can go along for the ride to show that they enjoy books too. Begin your route at the library and locate reading stops along the way. Have books available at each stop and require participants to read for a certain number of minutes at each site. Plan a short enough route so that all can finish the course. Have your route circle back to the library and provide an opportunity for participants to sign up for the Summer Library Program as they complete the run/walk.

Or, kick off your program with a Sportacular Summer Book Fair, planned in cooperation with a local bookstore. Feature books and media about games, fitness, sports heroes, and hobbies that are written for children, their families, and other childcare providers. So that no one will feel compelled to buy items, include drawings for free books and gift certificates. Have several special guests to demonstrate such activities as martial arts, gymnastics, and aerobic exercise.

A soccer, softball, or volleyball match between library staff and a high school team could be another highly visible way to start off the summer’s events. Provide an opportunity for spectators to register for the Summer Library Program.

If you wish, plan a kickoff event with a special parents’ component to get parents involved from the very beginning of the program. You can capitalize on the sports theme by calling it a RAH, RAH event; Read At Home! Read At Home! The following suggestions for such a
program are adapted from *Plant a Reading Seed*, the South Carolina State Library's 1993 summer library program manual.

- After welcoming children and parents to the library and introducing the overall summer program, ask the audience to break into separate groups.
- In the children's segments, feature stories and games appropriate to various age groups.
- In the parents' segment, focus on the value and pleasure of reading aloud as a family. Invite a local reading specialist to give a brief, nonpedantic presentation to the group. Provide a display and a handout list of books recommended for reading aloud. Booktalk a few of the books on the list to generate a high interest level. Call attention to other resources such as *The New Read Aloud Handbook* by Jim Trelease (Penguin, 1989).
- Reassemble the entire audience for a brief read-aloud demonstration.
- Emphasize that time spent reading aloud during RAH time can be counted on the reading records of participants of all ages.
- Allow time for registering, browsing, socializing, and simple refreshments.
- You may want to send out a brief follow-up newsletter once or twice during the course of the summer program to reiterate the value of the RAH concept and to encourage the entire family to participate.
- Award family recognition certificates at the end of the summer program.

**Incentives for Participants**

The way in which you structure your summer program will determine how you utilize incentive awards for participants. Especially in times of budget constraints, you may opt to eliminate any prizes that require even minor financial outlays. You may conclude that the time and energy involved in soliciting local donations are better spent on other facets of library service. Your philosophy may be that reading brings its own pleasurable rewards, and that together you and participants' parents will stress that fact above collecting various prizes.

On the other hand, your library may have a well-established tradition of annual gifts from local businesses that creates a supply of awards and/or monetary donations and requires a minimum amount of time to maintain. Analysis of your community may have shown you that only by offering appealing, unique prizes will you be able to attract a significant portion of a new target age group. There are valid reasons for all approaches to incentive awards. No one pattern fits every community and every circumstance.

Generally speaking, everyone appreciates some type of recognition for accomplishments. This is as true of adults as it is of children. The products offered at cost by the Department of Public Instruction are examples of basic items suitable and affordable for most libraries: folders for recording participants' progress, certificates of recognition, bookmarks, and buttons.

**State Park Passes**

This year the Department of Public Instruction has worked with the state Department of Natural Resources to provide day passes to Wisconsin state parks, forests, and recreation areas as a statewide incentive award. These passes may be used for one day's free admission to any one of more than 50 state-owned sites located in all parts of the state. The names of all sites are listed on the back of each pass. The pass gives a child the opportunity to host the entire family or a carload of passengers for a day's enjoyment. It is valid July 5 through September 1, 1995.

Each library determines its own eligibility criteria for awarding the state parks pass. They can be given out for a certain number of books read and reported on or a certain number...
of minutes or pages read. Both the Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Natural Resources urge libraries to adopt a clear eligibility policy that specifies what program step(s) must be completed before a child can receive this incentive prize. Libraries may not award more than one pass to a child. But each child in a family may be given a pass as he or she completes the eligibility requirement.

Additional Incentives

A Sportacular Summer t-shirt will be available in 1995; however, design and ordering details were not available at the time this publication went to press. Wisconsin youth librarians will receive information through the youth services liaison for their public library system.

Your colleagues across the state have suggested additional incentive award ideas that you may choose to pursue. Whatever your decision, you will want to be able to talk about rewards and awards from the very beginning of your promotion efforts.

- Contact local merchants for donations of such Sportacular items as pennants, sweat bands, baseball hats, athletic shoes, tickets to sporting events, flashlights, wrist wallets, fanny packs, bicycle reflectors, sports posters, water bottles, yo-yos, sports socks, and sport drinks such as Gatorade™. It may be preferable to award gift certificates instead of awarding the actual products.

- Solicit coupons good for free or reduced-price entry at local roller or ice rinks, bowling alleys, miniature golf courses, and swimming pools. Discovery Zone play stores are located in several Wisconsin cities and may be willing to arrange special fees for library program participants.

- Solicit donations of free or reduced-price lessons in such activities as the martial arts, tennis, and golf.

- Solicit free rental coupons from video stores for such films as Field of Dreams, Angels in the Outfield, or Major League.

- Start a You’ve Read the Book, Now See the Movie program for young adults. Display books made into movies and create an accompanying bibliography. Award free video rental certificates to participants when they have read four of the books.

- Make a map of your community highlighting the locations of your library, public parks, playgrounds, and pools. Show the locations of all the businesses that are providing Sportacular Summer prizes. You can make this part of your incentive package by stamping program participants’ maps each time they have read for a certain number of minutes. Then award one of the prizes and circle the location of the prize donor.

- Plan incentive activities that involve the entire group of participants. For example, offer a giant pizza party or an evening of free skating at the roller rink if the group’s total number of pages read reaches a predetermined goal.

- Attract youngsters into the library by setting up contests. These could be incorporated into the start of program registration. Fill a large glass container with gumballs, small rubber balls, or table tennis balls. Children can write down their guess of how many balls are in the container each time they check out a book. The child whose guess comes closest to the correct number wins a prize.
A similar guessing contest can be set up using gold foil-wrapped candies that can be referred to as gold medals. Or fill a clear acrylic box with satin award ribbons.

Announce a Dewey-athlon for young adults. As a certain number of pages in each Dewey Decimal System hundreds category is read, participants can enter their names in a drawing for major prizes.

- If adults are participating in your Summer Library Program as individuals or as family members, put a somewhat more sophisticated spin on your awards by offering
- tickets for a ComedySportz performance;
- free car wash coupon for their “sports” car;
- discount coupon on ten gallons of gas for their “sports” car;
- gift subscriptions to such magazines as *Sports Illustrated*, *Tennis*, and *Golf Digest*;
- a discount coupon from a jewelry store on the purchase of a tennis bracelet; or
- discount coupons from a deli or grocery store on supplies for a tailgate party.

- Create special awards for families who sign up to spend a certain number of hours reading aloud together over the course of the summer. Give adults copies of such books as *The New Read Aloud Handbook* by Jim Trelease (Penguin, 1989), *For Reading Out Loud!* by Margaret Mary Kimmel and Elizabeth Segel (Dell, 1991), or the *Wisconsin Sports Quiz Book* by Jack Swanson (Prairie Oak, 1993). Award families four- or five-item collections of favorite paperback titles or videocassettes or games.

**Elements of Evaluation**

Youth services librarians typically count the number of children who attend programs or participate in summer activities at the library and keep track of the number of items circulated. However, these other matters must be evaluated as well if the library is to measure how well it is meeting community needs and decide whether to establish new programs and/or modify existing programs.

- The time and money that are invested in the Summer Library Program should be studied to determine whether program implementation is effective in terms of human energy and cost. Ask yourself such questions as these.
  - How many staff members are needed to plan all the details and carry out all facets of the program?
  - Can volunteers assume some program responsibilities, and how much time will it take to train them?
  - If funds outside the library's budget are needed, how much staff time will have to be invested in the fundraising effort?

- The SLP target audience should be clearly defined.
  - What ages or grade levels are targeted?
  - How many children in that targeted group reside within the library's service area?
  - How many children can the library accommodate?
  - What number of participants would indicate success for the library?
  - Wisconsin state law requires school districts to conduct local censuses to determine, by age/grade, how many children there are in the community. This is public information that you can request from the school district office to help you estimate numbers of children in your target groups.
• Library staff ought to be in contact with other community agencies and organizations that provide services and activities for children and teens so that they can be aware of potential scheduling conflicts. Competition among the library, schools, churches, scouting, 4-H, and public and private recreational activities can be avoided in large measure when all organizations view themselves as part of the overall effort to serve children. The library can lead the way as a cooperative agency. It can serve as a central source where children and their families can get available information about community activities. Ask yourself whether your library could or should
  — solicit summer activity information from other groups and publicly list programs, times, and contact names and numbers; or
  — jointly publish a summer schedule of activities with the parks and recreation departments of the community or with the school district.

**Measurable Program Elements**

These are elements of your summer library program effort that can be measured. Keeping track of some of these from year to year can help to give you a clearer picture of how effective your efforts have been and how they might be modified.

**Per capita participation.** Divide the number of program participants by the total number of children in the targeted age/grade group in the community.

Does this percentage represent a program's success? That depends upon the library's goals and expectations. Other factors to take into account are observed obstacles to participation such as transportation problems, severe weather, and scheduling conflicts. Staff time and costs for planning and implementation also ought to be considered.

**Per capita circulation of juvenile items.** Divide the number of juvenile books circulated during the program period by the average number of children in the targeted age/grade group.

Because the Division for Libraries and Community Learning requires public libraries to report circulation of juvenile items, this figure should be readily ascertainable. The figure can be compared to one for a similar block of time when programs are not offered to show the increase in library use that programs bring about. This indicator can be used to help document and justify programming expenditures.

The figure also can be compared with the library's overall circulation figures to determine what percentage of overall circulation involves juvenile items. Because circulation figures are often used to determine where book budget money is allocated, knowing this percentage can help you to document and justify expenditures for youth materials.

**Per capita books read.** Divide the number of juvenile books circulated during the program period by the number of program participants.

This average number is useful if you can safely assume that the children in the program are the most likely borrowers of juvenile materials. If children keep track of the number of books they read during the summer library program, use that data rather than circulation figures to determine the average number of books read.

**Per capita minutes or pages read.** Divide the total number of minutes or pages that all program participants read by the number of participants.

Like the per capita number of books read, this figure can be used to demonstrate the program's value to funders and educators. Both numbers can make community members more aware of library contributions to the overall effort to educate children and fight illiteracy.
**Program completion rate.** Divide the number of children who complete the program by the total number of children who signed up for it. Definitions of "completion" will vary from library to library. A low completion rate indicates that the program should be reviewed to determine why children drop out. High completion rates indicate that a library is presenting programs that have consistent appeal.

**Per capita costs.** Divide the money spent on the program by the number of children who participated.

When adding up costs, include such items as promotional materials, craft materials, prizes purchased, performer fees, and refreshments purchased. Do not include salaries, because the staff is not working solely on the Summer Library Program. The average cost per participant can be quoted to show library trustees, Friends of the Library, and the general public how the library stretches its dollars and makes wise use of taxpayer money. Include an account of donated materials and moneys.

**Turnover rate of juvenile materials.** Divide the number of items circulated in specific sections of the juvenile collection by the total number of items owned in those sections.

The impact of programming can be demonstrated by selecting a specific segment of the juvenile collection—picture books, science books, biographies, or folktales—and determining the turnover rate. This will be the average number of times books in that section are checked out during a designated period of time. A computerized circulation system may make checking this very easy, but the checking also can be done manually.

**An Exercise in Summer Library Program Evaluation**

The figures in this example come from real libraries given fictional names. To become acquainted with some data that can be collected and how it can be interpreted, study the information provided, read the analysis that follows, and examine the data from a real but anonymous Wisconsin library system.

**Example A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Juv. Circ. Summer 1994</th>
<th>Number of participants</th>
<th>Total population of community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central City</td>
<td>20,930</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>5,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunnyside</td>
<td>48,888</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>14,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasantville</td>
<td>2,888</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>1,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growtown</td>
<td>18,651</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>16,624</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Obviously, no conclusions can be drawn from this set of figures alone. Much of your analysis requires data from previous years; see examples B and C.

**Example B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central City</td>
<td>19,672</td>
<td>20,930</td>
<td>+6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunnyside</td>
<td>48,727</td>
<td>48,888</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasantville</td>
<td>1,147</td>
<td>2,888</td>
<td>+152%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growtown</td>
<td>19,363</td>
<td>18,651</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example C**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Number of Participants 1993</th>
<th>Number of Participants 1994</th>
<th>Percent of change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central City</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>+20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunnyside</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>-1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasantville</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>+48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growtown</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>+19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accumulated over a period of years, such data begin to reveal patterns and trends. Additional figures can help to create a more complete picture. Example D shows a comparison between each community's total number of children in a target age group and the number that actually participated in the program. Example E charts another measure of a program's success, the percentage of children who complete it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Per Capita Participation Rates % of target population participating</th>
<th>Example E Completion Rates % of participants completing all requirements</th>
<th>Example F Cost per Child Per capita cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central City</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>$3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunnyside</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>$.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasantville</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growtown</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One measure of a library's commitment to the summer program is the amount of money for the program included in its official budget. Example F shows the cost per participant found by dividing the budgeted amount by the number of participants.

**Analysis by a System Children's Consultant**

The largest of the communities, Growtown, actually comes in third in terms of circulation of juvenile items in 1994, and that figure is slightly down from 1993. The community does have the largest number of children enrolled, and its program has grown significantly. Compared to other libraries in the same system, Growtown spends a little more than half the average amount per child on the summer library program. The program draws in more than one-fourth of the children in the community. But while it is doing a good job of attracting children, Growtown's program has the lowest completion rate of the four. The low circulation figure may reflect this. The library may be putting its efforts into promoting the program, perhaps offering incentives for signing up. If that is the case, library personnel may want to consider spreading the incentives over the course of the program to encourage more children to complete it. This could have a positive influence on circulation statistics as well as benefiting participants.

Sunnyside is only slightly smaller than Growtown. Circulation has remained very high over the two summers. The program attracts 16 percent of the town's children and more than two-thirds of them complete it, which is a strong showing. The library is spending more per child than most and may want to examine whether reductions in expenses can be made without damaging the program's success.

Central City is about one-third the size of Sunnyside and Growtown. Circulation has gone up slightly over the two years; 20 percent more children joined the program in the second year. Only five percent of the community's children are attracted to the summer program. However, all of them complete its requirements, which indicates that they enjoy the second program. No money is budgeted for the program, which may affect the library's ability to publicize it and reach more potential participants.

The smallest community is Pleasantville. A new librarian started since the first summer and the impact is obvious. Circulation has increased by more than 150 percent and the number of participants by 46 percent. Thirteen percent of the juvenile population took part the second year and 63 percent completed the program. It would appear this library has made a wise investment in a program that now has momentum for continued growth and success.
Summary from an Anonymous Wisconsin Library System

There are 40 libraries in this anonymous Wisconsin library system. Not all of them reported in all categories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>No. of libraries reporting</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decrease or no change in circulation</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-3% to -37%</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in circulation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1% to 152%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease or no change in participation</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>-11% to -66%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in participation</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1% to 121%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional data from all reporting libraries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion rates</td>
<td>29% to 100%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation rates</td>
<td>5% to 65%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses per child</td>
<td>$0.05 to $6.53</td>
<td>$2.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thirteen of 40 system libraries did not report using money from their local library budget, but three of these 13 did report using money contributed by their Friends of the Library organization or local businesses. Many of the libraries where program funds were included in the budget indicated there was Friends or business support as well. The library system provides most of the funding for purchase of materials produced by the Department of Public Instruction, $300 per library for programming, and a variety of graphic items such as flyers and schedules.

Parental Feedback

You may find it helpful or valuable to survey the parents of your program participants. Consider adapting the sample survey on the next page to meet your needs.
Sample Survey
(on library letterhead)

1. Did your child complete the summer library program at ________________ Public Library?
   □ Yes. (If yes, go to question 2.)
   □ No. (If no, please explain in the space provided.)

2. Please check the things your family liked about the program.
   □ Weekly storytimes
   □ Prizes and awards
   □ Special performers
   □ The fact that there was no cost involved
   □ Other (please describe)

3. Please check the things you were not satisfied with.
   □ Time. What time(s) would be better? _________________________________
   □ Day of week. What days would be better? _________________________________
   □ Location. What place would be better? _________________________________
   □ Rules. Were there □ too many? □ too few?
   □ Other

4. Please check any of the following things you noticed this summer.
   □ An improvement in your child's reading ability
   □ An increase in your child's enjoyment of reading
   □ An increase in the time your family spent reading together
   □ A greater variety of material read by your child
   □ Other

5. How many years has your child participated in the summer library program?
   □ One (first year)
   □ Two
   □ Three
   □ Four
   □ Five
   □ More _____ years

6. Please add other comments or observations about the program.

Thank you for helping us to know how we can best serve you and your family.
RATING THE LIBRARY

1. Decorating & Display Ideas
2. Bulletin Board Suggestions
3. Name Tag Designs
Decorating and Display Ideas

Exercise your imagination and get your library in shape by using one or more of the practical suggestions in this chapter for creating an atmosphere with fan appeal. With a little creativity, you can create a sportacular environment in which to encourage reading.

Decorating Sampler

Adapt these ideas to meet your space and program needs. Don't overlook the possibility of including program participants' craft items in your decorating game plan.

- Echo the purple and gold colors at the bottom of Joe Heller's poster in a fabric banner you construct and hang on the outside of your building or at the entrance to your children's room. Copy his lettering style to spell out Sportacular Summer.

- Team up with school art classes to make mascots, megaphones, mitts, face masks, and other sports items to hang in your children's area.

- Several patterns for balls of various kinds are provided here. Use the enlargement/reduction feature of your photocopier to create the sizes you want. “Bounce” them from the ceiling; “roll” them along a wall; “juggle” them in your imagination to make pleasing decorations.

- Dress two or more mannequins in the uniforms of local cheerleaders and athletic teams borrowed from the local high school. Change the uniforms periodically during the summer to represent a variety of sports; make sure the mannequins are reading books and magazines. Place them in a prominent spot with a banner announcing special events and giving three cheers for reading.
- Use masking tape to outline on the floor a hopscotch pattern that can be used on a continuing basis; provide bean bags in lieu of stones for tossing.

- Hang lightweight sports gear from your ceiling—running shoes, fishing rods, snorkeling masks, badminton rackets and birdies, table tennis paddles and balls, golf clubs and tees, ski goggles and poles, swim fins, croquet mallets, and fencing masks.

- Put pennants from assorted local and professional teams on your walls, or hang them from the ceiling.

- Post photographs of junior and senior high athletes along with captions telling their favorite books and authors.

- Use a large stuffed animal as a Sportacular Summer mascot. Enter program participants’ names in a drawing to win the toy at the end of the summer. Or have a whole team of tenacious teddy bears to award.

- Hang a volleyball or badminton net above your bookcases and attach to it program announcements, photographs of local teams and individual athletes, or book jackets.

- Tuck pompons and pennants into corners.

- Create a putting green with materials borrowed from a local sporting goods shop.

- Make a cozy corner for small readers out of a large appliance carton. Paint it with bright colors, fill it with floor pillows, and festoon it with balloons.

- Use Joe Heller's poster figures as shown on the following pages to make a mobile to hang from the ceiling in your library children's room. Reproduce the patterns in quantity for a children's craft program if you like.

- Make multiple reproductions of one or more of the Joe Heller characters as they appear in the mobile illustrations and hide them in assorted books. Provide inexpensive, small prizes to the children who check out these books, or enter their names in a special drawing.
SPORTACULAR SUMMER

1995 SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM
SUMMER
Display Sampler

Use window ledges, tops of card catalogs and shelving units, ceilings, floors, walls, glass display cases, tables, and odd nooks and crannies for displays of various kinds. Adapt the ideas described here to add color and life to your Sportacular Summer at the library.

- Program participants may have been awarded trophies for sports-related activities. Invite them to lend their trophies to the library for display as a way to acquaint the community with their interests and accomplishments. Exhibit the trophies in a locked case. Middle schools and high schools also might be willing to lend contemporary or historic trophies for display.
  Collect old, no-longer-meaningful trophies from friends and relatives, resale shops, and garage sales. Remove name plates. Unscrew figurines; replace if desired with inexpensive plastic trophy cups available through novelty or school supply catalogs. Check to see if a local trophy store or engraving service might be able to provide new adhesive strips reading “Sportacular Summer 1995.” Place the trophies in various spots around your room; award them to readers of the week (selected by drawing rather than by number of books read), to special volunteers at the end of the summer, or to the school or class that had the most readers participating in the summer program.
- Fill a canoe with circulating books about recreational activities of all kinds. Or you could fill it with books donated for sale as a means of fund raising.
- Key special displays of books, periodicals, and sports-related objects to special performers and guest speakers.
- In seasonal displays, top books about winter sports with woolen caps; set books about summer activities on sandpaper alongside sunglasses and (empty) sunscreen containers, and so on.
- Intersperse star shapes and collector cards with biographies of sports heroes and fiction about athletes of all ages.
- Display books about fishing, canoeing, biking, snowmobiling, skiing, and hiking against a background of Wisconsin road maps.
- Set out books, videos, and periodicals about physical fitness and nutrition beside jump ropes, scales, weights, and pedometers.
- From a sporting goods store, borrow a variety of athletic footwear such as baseball cleats, in-line skates, golf shoes, swim fins, and ski boots; display them with related books and magazines. The same idea could be carried out with varied headgear such as football helmets, baseball caps, sunglasses, biking helmets, hard hats worn by English-style horseback riders, golf visors, straw hats for croquet, and hockey goalie face masks.
- Have a chess board and pieces, checkerboard and pieces, backgammon set, cribbage board and cards, domino set, and other table games continuously on display and available for drop-in games.
- Display books that have won Caldecott, Newbery, Coretta Scott King, Margaret A. Edwards, Batchelder, and other awards with a sign reading “Medalists.”
Bulletin Board Suggestions

Use one or more of the following slogans to accompany event announcements, posted booklists, and other program material. Some of these ideas also may work as display titles.

- Ready, Set, Read
- It’s a Hit
- Winners!
- Exercise Your Mind—Read
- Readers Are Champions
- Readers Are Winners
- Sports Splash
- Reading Regatta
- Sail into Reading
- Go for the Gold with Books
- Reading Is the Name of the Game
- A Marathon of Magazines
- Workout with Books
- Shape Up with Our Books and Videos
- Race to Read
- Score with a Good Book
- Power Up with Books
- Be a Sport—Read
- Curl Up with a Good Book
- Slam Dunks, Hat Tricks, and Home Runs
- Dive into a Good Book
- Time Out for Books
- Reading—Make a Game of It
- Hip! Hip! Hur-read!
- Read for the Roses
- Catch a Good Book
- Join the Readathon
- Just for the Fun of It, Read
- Are You Game for Books?
- Take Me Out to the Ball Game

Use bulletin boards and adjacent wall space to keep track of numbers of minutes read, books read, or pages read by program participants. Some eye-catching ways of doing this are listed here.

- Make a football goal post out of brown construction paper. Add football stickers or construction paper shapes to represent numbers of pages read or books read.
- Adapt the scoreboard illustrated here to make a scoreboard and record total books read.
• Around a white baseball diamond on a green background add bats and balls as enumerators.

• Add gold foil stickers above a gold paper cutout of a trophy.

• Put up a simple, colorful triangular pennant for each child; to it add a sticker or a stamp for each book the child reads.
Name Tag Designs

Consider using five-inch by two-inch Dennison shipping tags (available from office supply stores and catalogs) as name tags; loop a double length of craft lace through the hole and tie the two ends together to make a necklace. One-hundred-yard spools of craft lace in a variety of colors are available from craft stores and catalogs. These tags are virtually indestructible and are waterproof in case toddlers chew the laces. Older children might enjoy drawing on their tags.

Choose one of the Sportacular Summer name tag designs provided on the following pages, or adapt one or more of the ball patterns shown earlier in this chapter. Use different designs for different age groups, or use the same design on paper of different colors.
PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

introduction
special attractions
program potpourri
a host of guest possibilities
games & activities
sample programs
booklists & audiovisual recommendations
crafts
the mixed-up shoemaker: a skit
Introduction

Whether or not you are an active, avid sports fan or participant, you can plan and implement activities for Sportacular Summer that reflect a broad spectrum of interests. The theme lends itself easily to development of programs that involve entire families. Including young adults as volunteers also seems a natural tie-in with this program theme.

The ideas contributed by your Wisconsin library colleagues for this chapter clearly show the wide range of programming possibilities. Several suggest matching program content with the interest levels of participants, rather than being overly concerned with narrowly defined reading levels. Children’s listening skills are almost always more advanced than their reading skills. That is, they can usually understand and enjoy more advanced materials than they can actually read, and listening helps to enlarge vocabulary and expand comprehension.

In addition, some children learn to read at higher levels when intense interest in a subject motivates them. For example, young fans of certain sports often tackle the more difficult text of adult magazines devoted to those sports and acquire the necessary skills to understand them. On the other hand, some older children may still be best able to pursue their interests by examining books, especially nonfiction works, that emphasize pictures over text.

Many excellent sources for planning are cited in the sample programs described in this chapter. Additional planning ideas and stimulating factual material can be found in these selected works, cited in passing by contributors to this manual.

Books
Stein, Lincoln David. Family Games. Collier, 1979
Swanson, Jack. Wisconsin Sports Quiz Book. Prairie Oak, 1993
Warren, Jean. 1,2,3 Games. Totline, 1986

Periodicals
Acorn Magazine for Storytellers, Burr Oak Press, 8717 Mockingbird Road South, Platteville, WI 53818: (608) 348-8662
The September issue is always based on the Wisconsin Summer Library Program theme for the next year. Each 52 page issue includes three or four stories; flannel board patterns; bookmark, name tag, and mobile patterns; wall-decorating ideas; and clip art for various purposes. The magazine is published in September, November, January, and March; an annual subscription is $13.95. Back issues are available for $3.95. The November 1992 issue (vol. 16, no. 2) was devoted to a sports theme and included many items adaptable for Sportacular Summer. The March 1993 issue (vol. 16, no. 4) included a Hooked on Books! bookmark pattern featuring a fishhook, book, and fish.
Sports Illustrated for Kids, Box 330609, Birmingham, AL 35283; (212) 522-1212
This monthly magazine covers all kinds of professional and amateur sports; informal neighborhood activities also are featured. An annual subscription is $18.95.
Special Attractions

Get the Sportacular Summer ball rolling with these ideas from your creative colleagues. Remember to give appropriate copyright credit when you use original materials.

Sportacular Summer
© Judy Farrow Busack, Duerrwaechter Memorial Library, Germantown, WI

Once I was a little kid, but then I learned to read. I taught myself all the things that I will ever need. I found there isn’t anything you can’t find in a book. From dinosaurs to baseball or even how to cook.

I’m superintelculturcuriousdinomitesportacular
If that sounds too bookish, I’ll put it in common vernacular:

Bookedy bookedy bookedy bee,
Bookedy bookedy me!

Summer days I swim and play ball beneath the sun. I meet my friends, we run and jump, and play games that are fun. Whether on a field or diamond, or playing on a court, I read the rules and play fair, because I am a sport.

I’m superintelculturcuriousdinomitesportacular
If that sounds too bookish, I’ll put it in common vernacular:

Bookedy bookedy bookedy bee,
Bookedy bookedy me!

I’m joining the Summer Reading Club, I want to be a member Of the group that goes to school smarter in September. Practice is the secret, it’s true for any game. Being a good reader can bring me wealth and fame.

I’m superintelculturcuriousdinomitesportacular
If that sounds too bookish, I’ll put it in common vernacular:

Bookedy bookedy bookedy bee,
Bookedy bookedy me!

Sportacular Summer Song
Give copyright credit for this set of lyrics to Darlene Missall, Hutchinson Memorial Library, Randolph, WI. Sing the lyrics to the tune of “Take Me Out to the Ball Game.”

Take me out to the library. Take me out with the crowd. Check out some books here on mystery.
They have books here on history. 
Oh we'll read, read, read through the summer.
When it is o'er it's a bummer!
For it's one, two, three books we'll read
For a "Sportacular Summer!"

** Those Exercising Cousins Are a'Comin' **
Created to be sung to the tune of “She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain,” this adaptation comes from Barbara Huntington, South Central Library System, Madison, WI.

Teach children the suggested motions and movements that accompany each verse.

Those exercising cousins are a'comin’
Oh, those exercising cousins are a'comin'
And we'll all go out to meet 'em, we'll be happy
when we see 'em
They're a'comin'—they're a'comin'—pretty soon!

He'll be doing flips and flops when he comes—flip, flop!
He'll be doing flips and flops when he comes—flip, flop!
And we'll all go out to meet him, we'll be happy
when we see him
He'll be doing flips and flops when he comes—flip, flop!

She'll be bouncing a big ball when she comes—bouncy, bounce!
She'll be bouncing a big ball when she comes—bouncy, bounce!
And we'll all go out to meet her, we'll be happy
when we see her
She'll be bouncing a big ball when she comes—bouncy, bounce!

He'll be skipping a long rope when he comes—skippity, skip!
He'll be skipping a long rope when he comes—skippity, skip!
And we'll all go out to meet him, we'll be happy
when we see him
He'll be skipping a long rope when he comes—skippity, skip!

She'll be pedaling on her bike when she comes—ring, ring!
She'll be pedaling on her bike when she comes—ring, ring!
And we'll all go out to meet her, we'll be happy
when we see her
She'll be pedaling on her bike when she comes—ring, ring!
From South Central Library System.
He'll want to swim in the pond when he comes
—splash, splash!
He'll want to swim in the pond when he comes
—splash, splash!
And we'll all go out to meet him, we'll be happy
when we see him
He'll want to swim in the pond when he comes
—splash, splash!

She'll be wearing roller blades when she comes
—roll on!
She'll be wearing roller blades when she comes
—roll on!
And we'll all go out to meet her, we'll be happy
when we see her
She'll be wearing roller blades when she comes
—roll on!

We will all run out and join 'em when they come
—hurry up!
We will all run out and join 'em when they come
—hurry up!
And they'll be glad to greet us, they'll be happy
when they see us.
We will all run out and join 'em when they come
—hurry up!

If you like, use the active rabbit flannelboard characters to accompany the song. Enlarge the patterns and color them. Add flannel to the backs and put up each character as you sing the verses. When you repeat parts of the song, let children put the characters on the flannelboard.

Mail Call

These suggestions for writing to a favorite athlete or finding a pen pal who enjoys the same sports come from the Parents Playbook Supplement to Sports Illustrated for Kids (late Summer/Fall 1994) and from manual contributors.

Addresses
For addresses of sports teams and organizations, try one or more of the following books.
Levine, Michael. *The Kid's Address Book: Over 1,500 Addresses of Celebrities, Athletes, Entertainers, and More...Just for Kids!* Putnam, 1992
Pen Pals
To locate pen pals, try one or more of these organizations.
International Soccer Exchange, National Soccer Hall of Fame, 5-11 Ford Avenue, Oneonta, NY 13820
U.S. kids are matched with those in other countries where soccer is popular; no fee.
LPGA Junior Golf Pen Pal Program, 820 Thompson Avenue, Suite 3, Glendale, CA 91201
Youngsters who are interested can correspond with professional women golfers who are members of the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA); no fee.
Soccer Friends International, P. O. Box 253, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Young people get a pen pal from the country of their choice; ten countries participate. The $10/year fee includes four newsletters.
U. S. Olympic Committee, 1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Youngsters who send letters to Olympic athletes at this address can be sure the athletes will receive them; responses, however, are not guaranteed.

A Host of Guest Possibilities

The “Sportacular Summer” theme should conjure up a variety of ideas for including guest presenters in summer library programs. People can be brought into the library to talk about their activities and hobbies with children in the upper elementary grades, middle school, and high school. Consider programs geared to entire families as well.

This summer also might present excellent opportunities for working with other community members and agencies. Consider your school district’s faculty, staff from your community’s parks and recreation department, Y personnel, private instructors, local hobbyists, and young adults with special interests to share.

The list that follows outlines a number of guest/presentation possibilities suggested by your library colleagues around the state. Your community may offer others. Are you aware of persons who might do programs on different recreational pursuits—archery, snowshoeing, racquetball, figure skating, weightlifting, ice hockey, lacrosse? If you live in one of professional football’s “Cheesehead League” communities, you may be able to entertain a pro player at your library during the preseason.

Consider these ideas. Always display relevant books, periodicals, and videos when presenters come to the library, and make the materials available for check-out.

- Invite anyone in your community who has participated in the RAGBRAI (Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa) or GRABAAWR (GReat Annual Bicycle Adventure Along the Wisconsin River) to present a program on long-distance biking, conditioning, and equipment. Maps of routes, which vary annually, and pictures from the biker’s own trip can round out the presentation.

- Bring in anyone in your community who has been involved in the Special Olympics to give a presentation about the program.

- The owner of a trophy store could be asked to do a presentation on the historic traditions of awarding trophies and medals, show how trophies are made, and display various types of trophies and other awards. Inexpensive award ribbons can be given to all who attend.

- Invite an instructor of karate, judo, or tae kwon do to discuss the history of these martial arts and to present a demonstration. Young students of the martial arts may be invited to accompany their instructor and participate in the demonstration.
High school athletes could come to the library to talk about the discipline and practice required for individual sports such as swimming, wrestling, track, tennis, and golf as well as team sports such as baseball, soccer, hockey, volleyball, football, and basketball. For the same program or a separate program, invite high school coaches and physical education instructors to talk about training and sportsmanship. Depending on the sport being discussed, some demonstrations may be possible.

Ask a gymnastics instructor to discuss the popularity of the sport due to the Olympic games and elements of the skills involved. A demonstration with young students can complete the program. Some gymnastics schools operate a mobile unit, fitted with assorted equipment, that travels to childcare centers; investigate whether this kind of facility exists in your community and might be available for a demonstration at the library.

A tennis instructor could come to the library to discuss terminology and scoring, show basic serve and stroke techniques, and describe individual and doubles game strategies. Local opportunities to enter tournaments also could be discussed.

A visiting golf instructor could discuss the history of the game, show the various clubs and their uses, and teach putting basics.

Invite a member of the ski patrol at a nearby ski hill to present information on both downhill and cross-country ski equipment, getting in shape for skiing, and safety tips for cold-weather exercise.

Request high school cheerleaders and members of pompon squads to come in and talk about preparation, skills, and tryouts. Borrow pompons from the squad or make them out of shredded newspaper. Make simple megaphones out of rolled construction paper. Ask the presenters to help the audience make up cheers about reading. You can use the Chicka Chicka Boom Boom audiocassette (Simon and Schuster, 1991) to get the group started. Another starter could be the “R-E-A-D Cheer” in Read for the Fun of It by Caroline Feller Bauer (Wilson, 1992).

Here's a cheer from Minnesota's Metropolitan Library Service Agency.

Mama's got a face like a rainbow trout,
Papa's got hair like sauerkraut,
So give a little cheer, give a little shout,
Library kids, CHECK IT OUT!

And here's one from the manual editor's youth.

Ish-kiddly-ooten-booten,
Boom, boom a-deetin-dootin,
Rah-dah, dah-dah-dah;
READ!

Invite a rock climbing expert to demonstrate the equipment, techniques, and skills needed for this increasingly popular activity; slides or videos to accompany the presentation will be a bonus.

Bring in a back country or long-distance hiker to share experiences and show maps, photographs, and equipment necessary for safety and enjoyment of this activity.

Seek out a local sports card collector or shop owner to display favorite cards at the library and discuss how to begin collecting. The talk could cover costs, materials needed, sources, and so forth. Hold a mini-swap in conjunction with the program.
• A representative from a local bicycle shop could be asked to discuss various models of bikes that are designed for specific activities, as well as bicycle maintenance and safety. Investigate the possibility of having several specialty bikes on display.

• Invite a fly fishing enthusiast to demonstrate the art of tying flies; have a casting demonstration outdoors.

• Find a local hunter or two who could come and discuss training hunting dogs and even provide a demonstration with their dogs.

• Ask a scuba diver to discuss equipment and experiences and to show photographs.

• Put together a panel that includes a physician, nurse, nutritionist, sports medicine specialist, and fitness trainer who can discuss physical growth, diet, and exercise as they relate to participation in various recreations and sports.

• Request a remote-control car or plane hobbyist to give a demonstration.

• Surely there are teenagers in your community who are skateboarding experts. Bring them in to talk about and demonstrate safety tips and equipment such as helmets and pads.

• Horse owners could be asked to discuss care and training and to demonstrate riding techniques with their horses. As a follow-up, offer an opportunity for a trail ride at a local stable. You will need to investigate costs, devise a sign-up procedure, and provide a parental permission form.

• Invite a sporting goods store owner to talk about special clothing, shoes, and equipment needed for various sports.

• Locate an expert in decoy carving who is willing to demonstrate this art and talk about the history and use of decoys.

• Approach several people who are expert performers on in-line skates and request that they come to the library to do a demonstration and describe safety tips.

• Bring in several joggers and fitness walkers to discuss how they warm up and cool down, measure pulse and respiration, sustain interest, and keep track of time and distance. They might also give their ideas on the types of footwear that work best.

• Request someone from the Red Cross, Y, municipal recreation program, or another agency that promotes water safety to present a program on responsible boating practices, boating safety, and swimming lessons.

• Invite Dr. Gary Lake from the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, 1922 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53705, (608) 263-1692, to present one of the two programs listed. A native Australian, Lake brings a delightful perspective to the world of play. He is the editor of the academy's Kaleidoscope: Integrating Science and Storybooks, published monthly during the school year. Each issue is a thematic unit for elementary teachers based on science concepts that actively involve children. Lake charges $150 for each of these programs.

  — “Sports 'n' Science” is based on Lake’s educational guide to the Wisconsin Public Television program Get Real. It focuses on some of Wisconsin’s favorite sports and introduces physics concepts, such as center of gravity, friction, and aerodynamics, in a participatory way.

  — “Sports and Games around the Globe” takes a look at what youngsters in other countries are playing.
Games and Activities

The “Sportacular Summer” theme suggests numerous ways to incorporate games into preschool and primary grade storytimes and into activity-based programs for older children. You also may wish to devise a full day or evening of game-playing sessions for specific age groups. Entire families can be involved in some activities. Plan either informal drop-in events or build a well-defined structure. No matter how you choose to organize such events or include games in storytimes, take advantage of the opportunities they offer for involving young adults in the life of the library as volunteer assistants.

For information on a wide variety of games, examine standard reference sources and the 1990 Games Children Play around the World series from Marshall Cavendish publishers. The series includes Games of Strength and Skill; Ball Games; Games with Sticks, Stones and Shells; Chanting Games; Games with Rope and String; Board and Card Games; Games with Papers and Pencils; and Chasing Games. These additional specialty books and books on noncompetitive games are recommended as well.

Specialty Books

Noncompetitive Games

Backyard, Sidewalk, and Street Games

Use several of the books listed here to plan games—and, if you like, competitions—appropriate for children of various ages. Don’t overlook possibilities for intergenerational activities. For example, marbles games are not well-known among today’s youngsters, but older people can teach the skills for and enjoyment of marbles. Two poems about marbles are found in Read for the Fun of It by Caroline Feller Bauer (Wilson, 1992).

Pogs is a popular new two-player game with similarities to marbles that children can teach to adults. “Pogs” are cardboard milk bottle caps or commercially marketed heavy cardboard disks. To begin play, opponents decide how many of their pogs to risk and make stacks of these pogs on a flat surface. “Slammers” or “blasters” are heavier discs made of metal or plastic. A player balances a slammer on two fingers and tosses it at the opponent’s pogs stack. Pogs that flip upside down are kept by the tosser. Visit a local toy store to learn further details and refinements of the game.

Request the name of a contact person for the nearest Wizards Jump-Roping Group from the American Heart Association, (800) 242-9236. Set up a demonstration by the Wizards and follow up with a “snakes” session for younger participants and/or a “double dutch” jump roping session for older children.
Supply necessary marbles, pogs and slammers, jump ropes, jacks and balls, or any other equipment needed for games programs.

**Books**

Bayer, Jane. *A My Name Is Alice.* Dial, 1984 (Jump rope)


Cole, Joanna. *Miss Mary Mack and Other Children’s Street Rhymes.* Morrow, 1990 (Jump rope, counting out, and other rhymes)


*Kultz Book of Jacks.* Kultz, 1989

Mattox, Cheryl. *Shake It to the One That You Love Best.* Warren-Mattox, 1990 (Play songs from black musical traditions)

Mitchell, Cynthia. *Halloween Hecatee and Other Rhymes to Skip To.* Crowell, 1979 (Jump rope)

Nerlove, Miriam. *I Made a Mistake: Based on a Jump Rope Rhyme.* Atheneum, 1985

Oakley, Ruth. *Games with Sticks, Stones, and Shells.* Cavendish, 1989 (Jacks, marbles, hopscotch, and more)

Opie, Iona. *I Saw Esau: The Schoolchild’s Pocket Book.* Candlewick, 1992 (Playground sayings, riddles, and rhymes from 20th century Britain)

Walker, David, and James Haskins. *Double Dutch.* Enslow, 1985

Weigle, Marta. *Follow My Fancy: The Book of Jacks and Jack Games.* Dover, 1970

Westcott, Nadine. *The Lady with the Alligator Purse.* Joy Street, 1988 (Jump rope)

Westcott, Nadine. *Peanut Butter and Jelly: A Play Rhyme.* Dutton, 1987 (Jump rope; also can be basis of a relay race)

Withers, Carl. *A Rocket in My Pocket: The Rhymes and Chants of Young Americans.* Holt, 1948

Yolen, Jane, ed. *Street Rhymes around the World.* Boyds Mills, 1992 (Jump rope and counting out)

**Dynamic Disks**

Investigate the games using plastic disks (“Frisbees”) that are described in Bob Gregson’s *The Incredible Indoor Games Book* (David S. Lake, 1982). One involves spinning disks on edge; in another, players on their hands and knees pass a disk from one person’s back to another without using their hands.

Invite enthusiastic young adults to demonstrate techniques or show off talented disk-catch dogs. They might also referee and judge disk-handling contests of various sorts.

**Distance.** Each player gets five chances to try and throw the disk as far as possible.

**Accuracy.** Use a target hoop such as a hula hoop or something larger; the standard circumference is 67 inches. The bottom of the hoop should be three feet off the ground. Establish throwing stations at various angles and distances. Award one point each time the disk goes through the hoop. Each player gets four throws from each station.
Maximum Time Aloft (MTA). Each player throws the disk into the wind as one might throw a boomerang. The player must then catch the disk as it returns. Use a stop watch to measure the time from when the disk is released until it is caught. Record only completed, one-handed catches. Give each player five tries.

Self-Caught Flight (SCF) or Throw, Run, Catch (TRC). Each player gets five tries to throw the disk in an arch-shaped trajectory and then run to catch it with one hand. Measure the distance from the starting point to the point where the disk is caught. The player whose disk goes farthest from start to catch wins.

Diskathon. Four players throw their disks along a course of some distance in a race against time and each other. Each player starts with three disks and must finish with two disks in hand. Mark the course players must follow with arrows and station helpers along the way. The disks must follow the course, although players can take shortcuts to retrieve thrown disks. Players leap-frog their three disks until the course is completed. The first disk over the finish line wins.

Disk golf. Players throw their disks from a designated tee to a target, counting the number of throws just as strokes are counted in golf. A number of communities have disk courses set up, but library volunteers can create their own. The distance from tee to target is usually 50 to 150 meters and may go around or over hazards such as trees, ponds, or buildings. Distance, accuracy, and concentration are the keys to the game.

Other Possibilities. Even the youngest children can enjoy watching and can entertain others with the fingerplay “Whizzin’ Frisbee” from Ruth Dowell’s Move Over Mother Goose (Gryphon, 1987).

Introduce older children to the poem “Adventures of a Frisbee” from Shel Silverstein’s book A Light in the Attic (Harper, 1981). Use activities such as turning the poem into a play with dialogue and narration, as suggested in Poetry Galore and More with Shel Silverstein by Cheryl Potts (Alleyside, 1994).

Exercise Toys

Children can create their own stilts or tin can stompers. Ask participants to bring two empty tin cans of the same size if they want to make stompers. Supply nails for joining the component parts of stilts and for making holes in the tin cans of stompers. Invite a local lumberyard to donate wood for both toys and rope for stompers. Volunteer assistants—young adults or parents—should bring hammers and help with construction. Participants can have walking races on their stilts and stompers when their products are complete.

Food Triathlon

This triathlon consists of three events—a watermelon-seed-spitting competition, a Jello*-eating contest, and a potato relay. Its objective is to provide a silly “sports” event for kindergarten graduates through sixth graders who may not otherwise be athletically inclined. The triathlon designer is Kris Adams Wendt, Rhinelander District Library, 106 North Stevens Street, Rhinelander, WI 54501; (715) 369-4525.

She notes that the events are best held outdoors and advises library staff who do not require parents to accompany younger children to be sure and line up enough special volunteers to help nonreaders. Rhinelander’s experience indicates that approximately two and a half hours are needed to complete a triathlon in which 45 teams are participating.
Registration

Children should preregister in teams of two. Set the registration deadline for one week before the event. On the registration sheets, include a space for “grade finished” along with spaces for names of children and their phone numbers. Call teams two or three days in advance of the event to be sure they are still planning to come and to verify names and grades. For sample registration and scoring sheets from the Rhinelander District Library, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Kris Adams Wendt.

Organization

As indicated, each team should have two members. One competes in the watermelon-seed-spitting contest and the other in the Jello-eating event; both compete in the potato-relay. Arrange the teams in age order before assigning team numbers, so that younger children are grouped together. The watermelon-seed-spitting and Jello-eating events can take place at the same time, with the teams divided evenly between the two areas for round one, then switching during round two. If you have large numbers of participants and if your space allows, you can carry on all three events at one time.

Events

**Watermelon-seed spitting.** The designated spitter from each team is given a small piece of watermelon and told to save all the black seeds in a paper cup. One contestant at a time steps up to the starting line of a 15-foot course (see Supplies) and spits three seeds. The first is a practice spit and the next two spits are counted for distance. The best distance is written down on the event’s scoring sheet. You will need a volunteer to distribute melon and cups and explain instructions if necessary, at least two volunteer distance judges (and seed-sweepers-up), and one volunteer to record distances.

**Jello-eating.** The designated eater from each team competes to see how fast a premeasured amount of Jello can be eaten without using hands. Several people will be eating at the same time, so competitors should be reminded that they are racing not only against each other but against all Jello-eaters. Kindergarten, first, and second graders are judged on one square of Jello; those who have finished third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grades get two squares.

You will need a volunteer to give out Jello and explain instructions if necessary. To keep track of times, have as many volunteers as you have eaters competing simultaneously. Record times on the event’s scoring sheet.

**Potato Relay.** Both members of each team take turns carrying a potato on a large serving spoon around the library building or whatever course is determined, passing the spoon and potato between them at the half-way point. Potato carriers must walk. Anyone who messes up another contestant on purpose is disqualified. If the potato drops off the spoon, the team member picks it up, puts it back on the spoon, and continues the race. Several teams do the relay at once, and should be reminded they are not just competing against each other but against all relay teams.

Have a volunteer to give out potatoes and spoons and explain instructions if necessary. To keep track of times, you will need as many volunteers as you have teams competing simultaneously. Record times on the event’s scoring sheet.
Scoring

Scoring sheets for each event should be prepared in advance. Each sheet should list a team’s number and the names and grades of its two members. Scoring sheets also should provide columns to record times, distances, and rankings.

Recognize the person with the fastest time in the Jello-eating event, the person with the best distance in the watermelon-seed-spitting event, and the two children whose team turns in the fastest time in the potato relay. A Triathlon Champion award may be given to the team with the lowest totalled ranking scored for all three events combined. For example, a team that ranked number two in seed spitting, number 14 in Jello eating, and number six in the relay would have a combined rank of 22. It would beat a team that placed number one in seed spitting, number two in Jello eating, and number 30 in the relay, for a combined ranking of 33.

You may want to create two age group divisions and duplicate awards. You also might decide to award second, third, and fourth prizes in each category. To expedite award decisions, have someone add up the rankings from the watermelon and Jello events while the potato event is still in progress. That way you’ll know which teams to watch for top honors.

Supplies

Assemble materials and supplies well in advance. This list is based on the amounts and kinds of things used for 45 teams in Rhinelander. All food was donated.

- Registration envelope for each participant containing basic instructions for each event
- Some sort of free coupons from area merchants or fast-food restaurants to put in registration envelopes, so that all participants go home with something tangible
- Fifteen large boxes of Jello®, or other packaged gelatin dessert, and enough borrowed large flat cake pans to jell it in; cut Jello into two-inch squares
- Five large watermelons, as many as necessary to be used for seed spitting and the remainder for general refreshments at the close of the day
- Paper cups to hold seeds until it is time to spit them
- Paper plates to hold Jello squares
- Six baking potatoes or more, depending on how many teams will be participating in the relay at the same time and how many spares you want to have on hand
- Plastic aprons to protect Jello-eaters’ clothing; could perhaps be borrowed from beauty parlor
- Old bed sheet cut in half and sewn end-to-end to make a 15-foot seed-spitting course; mark six-inch intervals, stretch tight, stake into ground with very long spike nails
- Tape measure and ruler for precise measuring
- Stop watches for timing Jello-eating and potato relay
- Handiwipes® or buckets of soapy water and rinse water with paper or cloth towels
- Paper napkins
- Some sort of gift certificate, trophy, medal, or ribbon for each event, for overall best score, and for second, third, and fourth place scores if you choose
- Donated lemonade or orange drink

Guessing Games for Storytimes

Use this list as you plan activities for your youngest program participants. Make a guessing game part of every storytime.

Alborough, Jez. Clothesline. Candlewick, 1993
Aldis, Dorothy. Hiding. Viking, 1993
Hopscotch

Hopscotch is a highly adaptable game. Patterns can be scratched in dirt, outlined with tape on the floor, or drawn with chalk on cement. Hand-eye coordination, following directions, and balance are all involved.

Plan a hopscotch event based on Mary Lankford's *Hopscotch around the World* (Morrow, 1992), which illustrates the multicultural aspects of the game with 17 versions from various countries. Teen volunteers can set up stations as specific countries, show the location of their country on a map or globe, wear appropriate clothing, and teach their country's version of the game.

Additional ideas, such as playing "Multiple Hopscotch," can be gleaned from Bob Gregson's *The Incredible Indoor Games Book* (David Lake, 1982). Arrange competitions for different age groups based on the complexity of the different hopscotch games described.

Kudos to Klutz Press

The editors of Klutz Press have compiled a number of books with a lighthearted approach to competitions. The titles convey the idea that one need not be a Big Ten athlete or an athletic phenomenon to enjoy the activities and events described.

*Stop the Watch!: A Book of Everyday, Ordinary, Anybody Olympics* (Klutz Press, 1993) even comes with a stop watch. It suggests 73 challenges such as raisin tossing, channel surfing, standing-on-one-foot-with-eyes-closed, and speed sitting. Other Klutz titles of potential value are *The Book of Classic Board Games*, *The Hacky Sack Book*, *The Klutz Book of Card Games*, *The Klutz Yo-Yo Book*, and *The Official Koosh Book*. The books themselves would make excellent prizes.
Marvelous Marathons

While the word "marathon" may first have been associated with a foot race of 26 miles, 385 yards, it also can be applied to long-term contests of many kinds. Consider holding assorted marathons as part of your Sportacular Summer programming. They are excellent opportunities to actively involve young adults, well-known community figures, parents, and senior citizens with the library. Plan the event to last all day long, from the time the library opens its doors until closing. Here are some suggestions for marvelous marathons.

• In a Read-Aloud Marathon, each participant chooses a short book or excerpt to read aloud for a specified amount of time. People of any age can participate—young children with picture books, older children with beginning chapter books, young adults with favorite magazine articles, and adults reading classic or contemporary fiction and nonfiction.

• A Readers' Chair Marathon requires less organization but more publicity. Set aside a special "readers' chair" in a prominent place in the library with a clear description of the event posted nearby. In advance, publicize the marathon through library handouts and the media. Try to keep the chair continuously filled with someone reading (silently or aloud) for as many hours as possible. Post the time the event begins—it is advisable to plan for a local celebrity to start it off—then post the hours it continues as drop-in readers keep the marathon going. This can be stretched over a period of as many days as you can manage, basing the count only on the hours the library is open to the public, of course.

• A One-Volume Marathon focuses on a series of readers taking turns reading aloud from the same long work or series such as The Hobbit or The Lord of the Rings trilogy. A variation is having one reader read a whole book aloud in a day, taking breaks only for creature comforts.

• Marathons based on board games such as Scrabble, Monopoly, checkers, and backgammon can be informally organized for participants of all ages.

• Marathon video showings can attract younger and older viewers of various ages and with a wide variety of interests.

Night Games


The Official Library Pentathlon

Invite young children to preregister for an afternoon session devoted to the five events described here. Organize children into teams of four by age. All team members participate in The Relay; one person represents the team in each of the other contests.

The Javelin Throw. Measure the distance each participant throws a drinking straw.

The Shot Put. Measure the distance each participant throws a cotton ball.

The Ten-Foot Dash. Participants must race to wind ten feet of string around a clothespin.
The 20-Mark Dash. Participants must race to place a straight line of 20 overlapping Sportacular Summer bookmarks on the floor between two lines chalked, or marked with masking tape, 15 feet apart.

The Relay. Team members in turn walk a course with a book balanced on their heads.

Quite Quiet Games

- Cut out sports pictures from old magazines, glue them to tagboard, and then cut them into simple jigsaw shapes. Let young children put them together individually or in pairs; this can be a race against time if desired.

- Play Concentration with a deck of cards turned face down. Players alternate, turning cards up and trying to capture the other cards of that value by remembering their location.

- Play Kim’s game from Rudyard Kipling’s Kim. A player first studies a group of objects and then turns away so the objects can no longer be seen. An opponent removes one or more items, after which the player turns around and tries to name those missing.

- Number games are found in Caroline Feller Bauer’s This Way to Books (Wilson, 1983) and in other books. Here’s one that will amaze primary and middle graders. To find out a person’s age without asking directly, request that person to silently multiply his or her age by three, then add six to that number, then divide that answer by three. Have the person tell you the resulting number. You subtract two and you have the person’s age.

- Play and teach string games from two books by Camilla Gryski, Cat’s Cradle, Owl’s Eyes: A Book of String Games (Morrow, 1984) and Super String Games (Morrow, 1988).

- Introduce The Cat’s Elbow and Other Secret Languages by Alvin Schwartz (Farrar, Straus, 1982), so that Summer Library Program participants can learn and communicate in some of the 13 secret languages presented.

- Use Claudia Zaslavsky’s Tic Tac Toe (Crowell, 1982) to teach various three-in-a-row games, from those played in ancient Egypt to games designed for the computer.

- Invite children to create lists answering questions such as these. None of these lists of examples is comprehensive.
  - What is a winner called? Finalist, title-holder, victor, ironman, powerhouse, master, pro, all-star, champion
  - For what sports do participants wear gloves? Boxing, bicycle racing, baseball, hockey, archery, cricket, lacrosse, golf, hockey, mountain climbing, dog sledding, skateboarding
  - In what sports is a ball needed? Baseball, basketball, billiards, bowling, cricket, croquet, football, golf, handball, jai alai, lacrosse, ping pong, polo, racquetball, rugby, soccer, tennis, volleyball
  - In what sports is a ball hit with another object? Baseball, billiards, cricket, croquet, golf, jai alai, lacrosse, ping pong, polo, racquetball, squash, tennis
  - What sports involve use of a net? Badminton, tennis, volleyball, hockey, soccer, water polo, basketball, fishing
  - What sports do not require a ball? Badminton, boating, skiing, horseback riding, swimming, fishing, skydiving, track, shuffleboard, curling, archery, tobogganing
Scavenger Hunt

Each year, staff at the Plum Lake Public Library in Sayner devise a new scavenger hunt based on the statewide Summer Library Program theme. They develop a scavenger hunt packet that includes one page of various library-related and theme-related activities and four or five game sheets reproduced from the Summer Library Program manual. Multiple copies of the packet are prepared in advance by student volunteers. Children who participate work at their own speed. Parents are encouraged to become involved and to help their children complete the pages. After children finish the hunt, they turn in their sheets for checking and receive a T-shirt.

Here are some suggestions for an activities page that children might complete to carry out a Sportacular Summer scavenger hunt. Adapt them to fit your participants and the specific circumstances at your library. When you create your activities page, be sure to include lines on which children can write their answers.

- Read five books just for fun. List their titles and authors.
- Using the library’s computer catalog, find the title of a children’s book about sports. List the title you have found.
- List two Wisconsin sports teams.
- Unscramble these sports words.
  - tofblola
  - csorce
  - iskign
  - skblatae
  - nitesn
  - sblablae
  - msimwgi
  - ckehoy
- Read a fiction or nonfiction book about any sport. List its title and author.
- How many players are on teams for these sports?
  - football
  - baseball
  - hockey
  - soccer
- List two famous sports stars.
- List an interesting fact about each of the two sports stars you listed for the previous question or about two other sports stars.
- List two Olympic gold medal winners from the United States.
- Sports books are cataloged under 796. List two different sports titles you find on the shelves under this number.
- Design a pennant for your favorite sports team. A blank sheet with a pennant outline is included in your packet. We will use all pennants to help decorate the library.
- How long can you keep these items when you check them out from the library?
  - videos
  - books
  - magazines
- Name a board game for which there are worldwide competitions.
- Name two board games that are also television shows.
- Complete the game sheets included in your packet.

Small Stars

Sponsor a miniature sports tournament. Ask at a local sporting goods store or toy store about the availability of games such as mini-pool, mini-basketball, mini-table tennis, and mini-baseball. Other possible small-scale indoor activities might involve hula hoops, yo-yos, hacky sacks, and Koosh balls.

Variations on the paddle and ball/birdie games also can be found at sporting goods and toy stores. Splat is one of these; it features a birdie with a suction cup that makes a loud sound when it is caught by a disk. Bash includes two hard paddles and two rubber balls. Power Paddle uses a squish ball and a trampoline action paddle. Bong is a soft-paddle and soft-ball game. Spider Toss includes both a hard ball with spikes and a rubber spider; they are thrown at a paddle with a flexible spider-web surface. Magic Mitts and Magic Paddle involve a soft Velcro glove and Velcro paddle used to catch a Velcro ball.
Sportacular Adaptations

**Thumb Wrestling.** Players sit opposite each other, gripping their right or left hands together with thumbs pointing upward; try to match right-handed children with right-handed opponents and left-handed children with left-handed opponents. When the whistle blows, each player tries to push the opponent's thumb down. Andy Mayer and Jim Becker created a tongue-in-cheek book titled *The Official Book of Thumb Wrestling* (Workman, 1983) which is die-cut with two thumb holes. The illustrations on its sturdy pages depict four playing surfaces, mat, card table, stadium, and globe.

**Indoor Soccer.** Set up an obstacle course of water-filled milk jugs. Have players race to kick an inflated balloon through the course and back.

**Softball Throw.** Give participants beanbags with which they can practice an underhand softball pitch at a target such as a wastepaper basket or a hole cut in a piece of heavy cardboard. If you play outdoors, use water balloons.

**Nerf Basketball.** Borrow a Nerf basketball set from a library patron or a local toy store; the sets include a soft ball and a net on an adjustable frame. If you play outside, use a water balloon and a bucket.

**Volleyloon.** Put up a volleyball or badminton net indoors and substitute a balloon for the ball.

Sports Charades

On index cards, write names of sports, one per card, and keep them in a pile face down. Ask players to sit in a circle. The first player pulls out a card and acts out the activity named. The rest of the players must guess which sport it is. The child who guesses correctly can have the next turn. Activities could include swimming, diving, volleyball, baseball/softball, basketball, jogging, archery, tennis, horseback riding, biking, skating, and so on. Try to come up with some that are not very easy to act out.

Summer Games at the Library

Sonja Ackerman and other staff members at the Marathon County Public Library, Wausau, devised this summer library program finale as a tie-in with the Olympic Games. Collect discarded library and other books and globe-design beach balls to play the games. Before beginning, emphasize that library books or books owned at home should never be treated in the way they are during the library games.

As children arrive, give each a name tag and a colored dot to stick onto it. Use dots of four different colors, so that four teams of equal size are created. Children who do not wish to play should be thanked for wanting to be part of the audience. Assign one staff member and one volunteer to each team and provide them with a clipboard and whistle. Small prizes can be awarded to all who participate.

**Book Tower.** Mark four Xs, one in each of the team colors, at separated locations on the floor. Line up children on the four teams and give each one a book. Have an equal supply of additional books ready for each team if needed. When the whistle blows, the first child runs to an X marked on the floor, starts the tower, and runs to the back of the line. Then the next child does the same, then the next, and so on, piling books one atop the other. When time is called, the team with the most books in its tower has won. If a tower falls, the team must start over.
Blanket Ball with Globes. Have a blanket and a beach ball globe for each team. Team members position themselves around the edges of their blanket. Globes are then placed on the blankets. When the whistle blows, teams must try to get their globe to bounce up and down on the blanket. The adult scorekeeper for each team counts the number of bounces the globe makes without being touched by a team member or the ground. When time is called, the team with the most bounces has won. If a ball is touched or falls to the ground, the team must start over.

Book Relay. Members of each team line up and are then divided in half to create groups A and B. The groups are moved apart so that half of each team is facing the other half. A book is given to the first person in group A of each team. That person walks with the book balanced on his or her head across to the first person in group B, who places it on his or her head and walks to group A. The process continues until everyone on the team has had a turn. The team to finish first wins. If the book falls, the player picks it up and continues.

No Hands! The teams are split into two equal groups facing each other. A beach ball globe is placed between the bodies of the first two children. Together they must move it to a target point without using their hands. Then they carry the globe back to their team and the next pair repeats the process. This continues until everyone on the team has had a turn. The team to finish first wins. If the ball drops, the players pick it up and continue.

Dewey Relay. Prepare four carts of discarded books with Dewey call numbers ahead of time. Include only one book from each hundred category—one with a call number in the 400s, one with a call number in the 700s, and so on—on each book cart. Form small groups of equal numbers within each team. Each small group has a chance to do the relay; four groups compete at a time. When the whistle blows, players run to a book cart and put ten books in call-number order from 000 to 900. When they are done, they shout "Dewey Decimal!" The first small group to finish in each heat advances to a playoff. Adult volunteers check to be sure the books are in correct order, then mix them up for the next group. Any small group whose books are not arranged in proper order is disqualified.

Thinking on Your Feet

- Divide children into teams of four. Give each team identical sets of four letters written large on heavy stock paper; each team member holds one letter. Call out a word. Team members must arrange themselves in a line so their letters spell out the word. The team that spells each word first wins. This can be done with multiple teams or with just two competing at a time; a championship round can conclude the game. Older children can be divided into larger teams, given larger numbers of letters, and asked to spell longer words.

- For a sports mix-up game, use a flannelboard and cutouts of clothing and equipment that children must match. For example, mix footwear (skates, shoes, boots) with headgear (helmet, sweatband, snow goggles) and equipment (stick, racket, skis) representing respectively hockey, tennis, and skiing. Use a stopwatch to time competing pairs of children as they sort things into the three correct categories.

- Check Mind Twisters by Godfrey Hall (Random, 1992) for a variety of puzzles and tricks to provide entertainment and stimulate critical thinking. Heads Up! Puzzles for Sports Brains by Brad Herzog (Sports Illustrated for Kids/Bantam, 1994) also contains several puzzles that can be worked in a group, although most are intended for individual solving.
This is an activity suggested for third- through fifth-graders. Gather items related to a variety of sports and put them into a large box or dark pillowcase. Among them might be a tennis shoe, Ping-Pong paddle, fishing bobber, badminton birdie, hockey puck, referee's whistle, baseball cap, ski goggles, pennant, nose plugs, Frisbee, and golf ball. Children must be seated in a circle, and one of them selects an object from the box and begins to tell a story. The name of the item must be included in the story at least twice during a predetermined time period. The story will keep moving along if 30 to 45 seconds are allowed each player, although more time might be necessary at first. The next person in the circle may interrupt as soon as an item is mentioned for the second time, select a new item, and continue the story. The box or bag passes on until the last item is selected, and the last person tries to wrap up the story with a creative conclusion.

Sample Programs

Develop your Sportacular Summer game plan as you examine these program outlines. Think of them as helpful guidelines from librarian-coaches around the state. You are encouraged to substitute and reorganize ideas to match the needs and interests of the community you serve.

Notice especially the programs that provide ideas for including additional family members in one way or another. Plan to make the library's Sportacular Summer resources available, appealing, and valuable to entire families. Above all, remember that summer library programs are meant to be a pleasure for everyone involved—including library staff.

Animal Champions

Ages: Primary grades

Combine humor, traditional stories, and some factual information to create a program of delight for young children. Begin by presenting some facts about animals that are the fastest, biggest, strongest, smartest, tallest, longest, and so on. Include birds, reptiles, and amphibians as well as mammals. Show pictures and models and explain how animals' adaptations help them survive. Tell related folk tales and display a variety of nonfiction books.

Share the picture book The Great Ball Game: A Muskogee Story, retold by Joseph Bruchac (Dial, 1994). This tale from the Muskogee (Creek) people is about a game once played between the animals and the birds to settle an argument over which creatures were better. It explains why birds fly south in the winter and reveals how the bat, which has both wings and teeth, came to be accepted as an animal. Bruchac's version of this story makes stickball—a form of lacrosse for which players use two rackets, one in each hand—the game the creatures play.

Introduce The Mud Flat Olympics by James Stevenson (Greenwillow, 1994), a humorous chapter book in which a group of animal friends holds its own Olympic games. Among the competitive events described are the moles' deepest hole contest, the smelliest skunk contest, the snails' high hurdles, and the freestyle river crossing. Complement the story of these varied games with two books devoted just to baseball. In Old Turtle's Baseball Stories by Leonard Kessler (Greenwillow, 1982), a team of animals tell stories of the game, and in Fox under First Base by Jim Latimer (Scribner, 1991), Chief Inspector Porcupine investigates the disappearance of 100 baseballs.

If you see a need to deflate obsessions about being number one, try presenting these two satires designed to balance perspectives. The Bigness Contest by Florence Parry Heide (Little, Brown, 1994) features an overly competitive hippo, and in Three Cheers for Tacky by Helen Lester (Houghton Mifflin, 1994), a bumbling, nonconformist penguin cheerleader shows that perfection is not necessarily best.
Invite program participants to come to your library's Great Worm Race. Complete instructions for the race can be found on pages 100 through 103 of the 1993 Wisconsin Summer Library Program Manual: Go Wild! Read!. If you do not have a copy of the manual, request a reprint of race instructions from Jane Roeber, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, (608) 267-5077.

**Assorted Sports for Middle Readers**

**Ages:** Adaptable for third through sixth graders

*Scooter* by Vera B. Williams (Greenwillow, 1993) incorporates a number of city street activities in a story that takes Elana Rose Rosen through her new neighborhood and into new friendships. It features her own scooter, Edward's skateboard, Adrienne's jump-rope, and a Borough-Wide Field Day. Introduce *Scooter* and some of the suggested books listed here through booktalks in classrooms, read-alouds with lunch bunch groups, formal presentations to parent organizations, and informal discussions with library users. Sports are the focal point of some of the books and only an underlying current in others.

Displays of books and bibliographies for distribution can be created by using these lists as a foundation and then adding resources from your library's collection. Sports videos and reviews from readers also can be incorporated in displays.

**Basketball**
Kline, Suzy. *Orp Goes to the Hoop.* Putnam, 1991
Miles, Betty. *All It Takes Is Practice.* Knopf, 1976

**Boxing**

**Climbing**
Ashton, Steve. *Climbing.* Lerner, 1993

**Dog Sledding**
Crisman, Ruth. *Racing the Iditarod Trail.* Dillon, 1993

**Fitness**

**Football**
Christopher, Matt. *The Team That Couldn't Lose.* Little, Brown, 1967
Dygard, Thomas J. *Halfback Tough.* Morrow, 1986
Dygard, Thomas J. *The Rebounder.* Morrow, 1994
Golf
Henkes, Kevin. Two Under Par. Greenwillow, 1987
Program participants can design a miniature golf layout, or a single hole, based on scenes and/or characters from favorite books.

Hockey
Lord, Beman. Rough Ice. Walck, 1963

Horseback Riding
Haas, Jessie. Beware the Mare. Greenwillow, 1993

Ice Skating
MacLean, Norman. Ice Skating Basics. Prentice-Hall, 1984

Soccer
Arnold, Caroline. Soccer: From Neighborhood Play to the World Cup. Watts, 1991
Avi. S.O.R. Losers. Bradbury, 1984
Gilson, Jamie. Soccer Circus. Lothrop, Lee, 1993
Lord, Beman. Shrimp's Soccer Goal. Walck, 1970

Sports History

Water Sports

Wrestling
Christopher, Matt. Takedown. Little, Brown, 1990

Balloons Big and Little

Ages: Preschool and primary grades

Whether children are playing with their own balloons, watching a balloon sculptor, or imagining trips in a soaring hot-air balloon, they know there's something fascinating going on.

For a balloon-based program day, plan to play several games. The Incredible Indoor Games Book by Bob Gregson (David Lake, 1982) suggests several balloon activities, such as keeping a balloon in the air without using one's hands. Another activity involves putting a
balloon in motion by letting air escape (the jet plane principle) and targeting an object the balloon must strike. *The Great Balloon Game Book and More Balloon Activities* by Arnold Grummer (Greg Markim, 1987) is another resource full of poems, jokes, and game ideas. It includes a special section on balloon games for children with disabilities, and easy-to-follow steps and clear illustrations for making balloon sculptures. To complement the games, select books to read and display from those suggested here.

**Books**


Gray, Nigel. *A Balloon for Grandad*. Orchard, 1988


Wildsmith, Brian. *Bear's Adventure*. Pantheon, 1982

**Basketball and Football Fun**

**Ages:** Preschool and primary grades

Start with the song “My Cousin Paul Has a Basketball,” sung to the tune of “Polly Wolly Doodle” and found in *The Big Book of Songs that Tickle Your Funny Bone* by Ruth Roberts (Belwin Mills, 1991). The same book includes “Thanksgiving Football Game,” sung to the tune of “Amore,” which can easily be made less seasonal by dropping the reference to Thanksgiving.

Teach two action verses about basketball from Ruth I. Dowell’s *Move Over Mother Goose* (Gryphon, 1987)—“Barney Has a Basketball” and “I’m Rather Short...Larry Bird.”

Provide a small portable basketball hoop and ball. Establish a free throw line and let children see how many baskets they can make.


Share additional stories and some poems such as those recommended here.

**Books**

Carlson, Nancy. *Louanne Pig in Making the Team*. Puffin, 1985


Hughes, Dean. *Go to the Hoop*. Knopf, 1993

Hughes, Dean. *On the Line*. Knopf, 1993


Lord, Beman. *Quarterback's Aim*. Walck, 1960


McDonnell, Janet. *Quarterback's Adventure in Alphabetland*. Childrens, 1992


**Poems**


“Point Guard,” “My Short Story,” and “Afternoon: Four” are basketball poems. “Coach Says,” “Afternoon: One,” “Afternoon: Two,” and “My Team without Me” are football poems.
Field Trips
Consider contacting Wisconsin's professional basketball and football teams for game schedules and ticket information. The Milwaukee Bucks can be reached at the Bradley Center, 1001 North Fourth Street, Milwaukee, WI 53203; (414) 227-0500. For the Green Bay Packers, write 1265 Lombardi Avenue, Green Bay, WI, or call (414) 494-2351.
Investigate a field trip to the Green Bay Packer Hall of Fame, 855 Lombardi Avenue, P.O. Box 10567, Green Bay, WI; (414) 499-4281.

Batter Up I

Ages: Preschool and primary grades

Start your baseball program by reading from Mark Teague's *The Field beyond the Outfield* (Scholastic, 1992). It is featured in the May/June 1994 issue of *Copycat* in an article that also provides excellent directions for a puppet craft (a buggy ballplayer) and an indoor baseball game played with dice. In addition, the article offers thoughtful ideas for discussing fears both children and adults may have.

Strike another positive note by reading Leland Jacobs' poem "Success" from *Read with Me Poetry Cards* (Developmental Learning Materials, 1990). Follow up by measuring children's heights with crepe paper streamers. Have one ten-foot streamer so they can compare their own height to that of the child in the poem (reprinted here).

Success
Yesterday
I learned to bat.
Today
I hit the ball.
I am
having such success
I'm feeling
TEN FEET TALL!

Present Maryann Kovalski's *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* (Scholastic, 1992) and teach the words. Kovalski has combined them with illustrations of two young baseball-loving girls who go to a game with their fun-loving grandmother. Another book in which grandmothers play a role—as coaches—is the easy reader *Grandmas at Bat* by Emily McCully (Harper, 1993).

Share poems from Lillian Morrison's *At the Crack of the Bat: Baseball Poems* (Hyperion, 1992), and select stories from the rich variety of books suggested here.

Books
Bachaus, Ken, illus. *Casey at the Bat* Raintree, 1985
Bendis, Keith, illus. *Casey at the Bat* Workman, 1987
Blackstone, Margaret. *This Is Baseball* Holt, 1993
Buller, Jon, and Susan Schade. *20,000 Baseball Cards under the Sea* Random, 1991
Day, Alexandra. *Frank and Ernest Play Ball* Scholastic, 1990
Frame, Paul, illus. *Casey at the Bat* Prentice-Hall, 1964
Fill-in-the-Blank Story

Before you read the story “The Old Ball Game” to the group, ask the children to provide the kinds of words you need to fill in blanks. You will need four adjectives, six verbs, two nouns, and one exclamation. You also will need names for two persons, names for two baseball teams, one city name, one word describing a location, four letters of the alphabet, and two numbers. Remind children that an adjective describes something or someone (for example, heavy, silly, flat); a verb is an action word (for example, run, stop, catch, throw); a noun is the name of a person, place, or thing (for example, ball, horse, field); and an exclamation can be any sound people make (for example, ouch, uck, oh).

Two sources for many similar fill-in-the-blank games are Slam Dunk Mad Libs: World’s Greatest Word Games by Roger Price and Leonard Stern (Price Stern Sloan, 1994) and Wacky Word Games: Eye on Sports (Nichols and Nickel Press, 1994). All games these books describe can be played in a group or by an individual.

The Old Ball Game

A fill-in-the-blank story created by Barbara Huntington, South Central Library System, Madison, WI

Hello, baseball fans around the world! This is __ (person's name #1) with Station __ (four letters of the alphabet), broadcasting today from __ (city name) where the __ (baseball team #1) are __ (verb) the __ (baseball team #2).

And what a(n) __ (adjective) game it is! The score is __ (any number) to __ (any number). The __ (baseball team #1) are __ (verb) this game, folks. The crowd is __ (adjective). Now __ (person's name #2) is coming up to __ (verb) the ball. __ (Exclamation), the ball is __ (verb), it's __ (verb), it's landed in __ (location). The umpire says the play is __ (adjective). What a game this is today!

Oh no, it's starting to rain down __ (noun) and __ (noun). The umpire has __ (verb) the game. It's over for today, folks. What an __ (adjective) game it has been.
Batter Up II

Ages: Fourth grade and up

Invite older children to present the book *Baseball Brothers* by Jeff Rubin and Rick Rael (Lothrop, Lee, 1976) as a play or readers' theater piece for their own age group, for younger children, or for a family program. Its narrative form lends itself to such an adaptation. The story involves two boys who very much want to see Hank Aaron play but miss the game. However, they accidentally meet him, on television!

Three short readers' theater scripts having to do with baseball are included in *The Herbie Jones Readers' Theater* by Suzy Kline (Putnam, 1992). They are "The First Baseball," "A Talk with the Monster Ball," and "The Big Game." All can be prepared for presentation to children and/or adults.

Teach the magic trick called "Basch's Baseball Pitch." It is available with baseball cards and patter from Joyce Basch, Box 683, Cypress, CA 90630.

The books suggested in the following list have many possible uses. Give booktalks about them during school visits and at programs for parents, read them aloud to summer lunch bunch groups, and display them when guests present special programs during Sportacular Summer.

**Fiction**
Adler, David. *Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Babe Ruth Baseball*. Viking, 1982
Dodds, Bill. *My Sister Annie*. Boyds Mills, 1993
Konigsburg, E. L. *About the B'ni Bagels*. Atheneum, 1969
Lord, Bette Bao. *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*. Harper, 1984
Myers, Walter Dean. *Mop, Moondance, and Nagasaki Knights*. Dell, 1992

**Nonfiction**
Books of Special Interest

Given the awareness of the sport generated by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) documentary Baseball aired during the fall of 1994, these titles may be of interest to young readers and adults.


This is a short biography of the first African-American to play in the major leagues.


The life of this famous Jewish home run hitter is traced from the Bronx to the ballpark.


Major league baseball was closed to African-Americans from 1890 to 1947. During that time, blacks formed teams of their own. This history describes those teams, their victories on the field, and their problems off the field. It is illustrated with historic photographs.


Black-and-white photographs accompany this chronicle of the league’s history and its outstanding players.


The authors describe the experiences of an American player who joins a Japanese team.


Archival photographs and full-color illustrations complement a brief text about teammates Jackie Robinson and Pee Wee Reese. Robinson set an example by becoming the first African-American major leaguer.

Macy, Sue. *A Whole New Ball Game*. Holt, 1993

Macy recounts the story behind *A League of Their Own*, a movie about a women's baseball league.


Based on actual events, this is a story about baseball played in a Japanese internment camp during World War II and played afterwards with Caucasian children.

Norworth, Jack. *Take Me Out to the Ball Game*. Four Winds, 1992

The lyrics of the well-known song are illustrated with scenes from the 1947 World Series games between the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Yankees.

Reiser, Howard. *Jim Abbott (All-American Pitcher)*. Childrens, 1993

New York Yankee Abbott, who was a member of the California Angels when this book was written, is the only major league pitcher in history who was born with only one hand.


Eleven-year-old Jason suspects that the school custodian Mack Henry might really be the great Buck McHenry, who played in the old Negro League when blacks were excluded from the majors. This sports novel also is a mystery tale and a story of how one boy's life was touched by a legend.


Thomas, a young black boy, has an interview with a nonagenarian veteran of the Negro League in this novel for middle graders.


Sullivan profiles 27 great hitters and their achievements, starting with contemporary Jose Conseco and going back to early players.

White, Ellen Emerson. *Jim Abbott against All Odds*. Scholastic, 1992

Like the Reiser book noted above, this biography tells about the life of a pitcher who overcame a physical disability with courage and hard work.
Poems

Among poems about baseball in this anthology are "Equal Curses on Two Long Lines of Equally Short Ancestors," "One Finger along the Seam of the Ball," "Catcher," "My Left Foot Is Always Near the Bag," "I Am the Second Best Base Person," "Sometimes in Center Field on a Hot Summer Evening," "Two Outs in the Bottom of the Ninth," and "We Have Our Moments." "Last Frame" is a poem about softball.

For Milwaukee Brewers ticket and schedule information, contact Milwaukee County Stadium, Milwaukee, WI 53214; (414) 933-4114.

A Big Splash: Swimming Story Fun

Ages: Preschool and primary grades

Decorate the story area with swimming gear such as bathing suits, beach towels, suntan lotion containers, a beach chair, sunglasses, swim goggles, swim fins, and sand toys.

Start the program with a song or chant such as "She Went Wading in the Water" or "This Is the Way We Go for a Swim." Since both have multiple verses, start with one or two verses. Then repeat and add a verse after each story you read or tell.

She went wading in the water and she got her toes* all wet.
She went wading in the water and she got her toes* all wet.
She went wading in the water and she got her toes* all wet.
But she didn't get her (clap, clap) wet...yet!**

** For the last verse, substitute this final line: "But she finally got her bathing suit wet."

This is the way we go for a swim, go for a swim, go for a swim.
This is the way we go for a swim, all on a summer's day.

Accompany with appropriate movements and continue adding verses with words such as "float on our backs," "jump in the pool," "paddle our feet," "dig in the sand," and "dive off the board."

For the story part of the program, begin with *River Parade* by Alexandra Day (Viking, 1990) and follow it with Lucy Cousins' book *Maisy Goes Swimming* (Little, Brown, 1990), which has moveable parts. Read Antoinette Martin's *Famous Seaweed Soup* (Whitman, 1993). Have a pail and the props described in the story ready so children can act it out as you read. You may wish to choose additional stories from among those listed here.

Books
Alexander, Martha. *We Never Get to Do Anything.* Dial, 1970
Carlstrom, Nancy. *Swim the Silver Sea, Joshie Otter.* Philomel, 1993
Carrick, Carol. *Dark and Full of Secrets.* Clarion, 1984
Chall, Marsha. *Up North at the Cabin.* Lothrop, 1992
Dos Santos, Joyce. *Sand Dollar, Sand Dollar.* Lippincott, 1980
Stevens, Carla. *Hooray for Pig!* Seabury, 1974
**Bikes I**

**Ages:** Preschool and primary grades

Begin a storytime by showing bicycle-related items to the group and discussing the purpose of each. In addition to a helmet, include such things as a bell or horn, handlebar streamers, reflectors, spoke beads, child-carrier seat, and saddlebags.

Do the fingerplays "My Bicycle" and "My Little Tricycle" from *Finger Frolics* by Liz Cromwell (Gryphon, 1976) and "I Rode My Bike" from *Move Over Mother Goose!* by Ruth I. Dowell (Gryphon, 1987).

Use *Full Speed Ahead* by Jan Irving and Robin Currie (Libraries Unlimited, 1988) to plan a variety of activities including stories, songs, and an art project.


Wagons, too, are wheeled playtime companions for young children. *Full Speed Ahead* includes "Wagon Song" and a chant, "Come for a Ride" that could be presented as part of a program. *Pom Pom Puppets, Stories and Stages* by Marj Hartland and Walt Shelly (Fearon, 1989) includes text and patterns for a play, "Dragon in a Wagon." Riding in a Wagon is a fingerplay in *Finger Frolics* by Liz Cromwell (Gryphon, 1976) that could be used as well.

Choose one or two books from this list to share with your young program participants. Have others on display and ready for check-out.

**Books**

- Barbot, Daniel. *A Bicycle for Rosaura.* Kane/Miller, 1991
- Crews, Donald. *Bicycle Race.* Greenwillow, 1985
- Dragonwagon, Crescent. *Annie Flies the Birthday Bike.* Macmillan, 1993
- McLeod, Emily. *The Bear's Bicycle.* Joy Street, 1975
- Paterson, A. B. *Mulga Bill's Bicycle.* Parents, 1973
- Rey, Hans. *Curious George Rides a Bike.* Houghton Mifflin, 1952
- Rockwell, Anne. *Bikes.* Dutton, 1987
- Silver, Rosalie. *David's First Bicycle.* Western, 1983
- Watanabe, Shigeo. *I Can Ride It.* Philomel, 1982

**Bikes II**

**Ages:** Grade three and up

Show the book *Bike Trip* by Betsy Maestro (Harper, 1992) about a family's ride from the country into town. Ask program participants to create a map of your community and surrounding area, highlighting spots families might enjoy on a bike outing. Have them examine the *Wisconsin Biking Guide* by Gretchen Vanderboom (Affordable Adventures, 1989) and *Best Wisconsin Bike Trips* by Phil Van Valkenberg (Wisconsin Trails, 1985).
Provide informative materials such as Better Bicycling for Boys and Girls by George Sullivan (Putnam, 1984), Two Hundred Years of Bicycles by Jim Murphy (Harper, 1983), and Wheels! The Kids' Bike Book (Sports Illustrated for Kids, 1990). Introduce the nonfiction book Bicycle Rider by Mary Scioscia (Harper, 1983), which tells the story of Marshall "Major" Taylor, the first black person to participate in integrated national bike races and the world's fastest rider in his day.

Plan a bike rodeo in conjunction with your community's police department. The police can do safety checks and issue licenses.

**Does This Boat Really Float?**

**Ages:** Preschool and primary grades

Begin with the round "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" and encourage children to act it out. Next, sing "The Boat on the Waves" to the tune of "The Wheels on the Bus."

The boat on the waves goes
rock, rock, rock — rock, rock, rock — rock, rock, rock.
The boat on the waves goes
rock, rock, rock
as we start across the lake.

The wind in the sails goes
Whoo, whoo, whoo, etc.

The sails on the boat go
flap, flap, flap, etc.

The waves on the hull go
splash, splash, splash, etc.

The gulls flying over cry
squeak, squeak, squawk, etc.

The wind goes away
and we can't move, we can't move, we can't move,
The wind goes away and there we sit
in the middle of the lake.

We get out the oars and we
row, row, row — row, row, row — row, row, row
We get out the oars and we
row, row, row
our boat across the lake.

The younger program participants could enjoy doing the fingerplay "Meet the Boats" from Storytimes for Two-Year-Olds by Judy Nichols (American Library Association, 1987).

Read The Boat Book by Gail Gibbon (Holiday, 1983). Then have the children think of as many kinds of boats as they can.

As a craft project, help young participants make paper canoes (see the Crafts section of this chapter) or walnut shell boats. Or, let them create boats by decorating styrofoam meat or bakery trays with markers or sticky tape. Straws or popsicle sticks make good masts; triangle shapes of mylar make good sails.
For additional program ideas, consult nonfiction titles such as *Boats and Ships* by Jason Cooper (Rourke, 1991), *How to Have Fun Building Sailboats* (Creative Education Society, 1974), *Making Toys That Swim and Float* by Alice Gilbreath (Follett, 1978), *Personal Watercraft* by Jack Harris (Crestwood, 1988), and *Sailing* by Norman Barrett Watts, 1987.

Share stories from this list and also consider the books listed for the program in this section titled “Paddle Your Own Canoe...or Kayak.”

**Books**

Allen, Pamela. *Who Sank the Boat?* Coward-McCann, 1982  
Burningham, John. *Mr. Gumpy’s Outing.* Holt, 1970  
Locke, Thomas. *Sailing with the Wind.* Dial, 1986  
Shecter, Ben. *If I Had a Ship.* Doubleday, 1970  
Taylor, Mark. *Henry the Castaway.* Atheneum, 1972  

**Early American Pastimes and Simple Pleasures**

**Ages:** Adaptable for preschool through adult

Plan a program geared for an intergenerational gathering. Feature storytelling, toys, and games. Here are some possible program components.

- Invite a local storyteller to perform or tell your own favorite American folktales. *What’s in Fox’s Sack* by Paul Galdone (Clarion, 1982) could be one good choice. Also tell string stories such as “Grandma’s Candles” from *The Story Vine* by Anne Pellowski (Macmillan, 1984).
- Have children and adults engage in some of the activities suggested in the “Backyard, Sidewalks, and Street Games” entry in the Games section of this chapter. In addition, use *The Nonsense Book of Riddles, Rhymes, Tongue Twisters, Puzzles, and Jokes from American Folklore* by Duncan Emerich (Four Winds, 1970) as a programming resource.
- Have an apple relay race. Divide your participants into two teams; give each team an apple (or orange or lemon). The first person on the team must put the fruit between his or her knees, walk to a fruit basket, drop the fruit into the basket, pick up the fruit by hand and give it to the next teammate. The first team to have all its players complete a turn wins.
- Display and demonstrate old-fashioned toys such as a hoop and stick, a corncob doll, a buzz saw (button on a string that can be spun to make a buzzing noise), and Jacob’s ladder (tumbling set of wooden pieces). Work with a local museum, collector, or craftsperson to assemble a collection of originals and replicas. Consult such books as *American Folktoys* by Dick Schnack (Putnam, 1973) and the sixth edition of *Fox Fire* by Eliot Wigginton (Doubleday, 1980).
- Make soap bubble solution and provide wands made out of straws or other materials. Play the game “Bubbling Over,” which involves making group bubbles by holding hands. It is described in *The Incredible Indoor Games Book* by Bob Gregson (David Lake, 1982). Use the rhymes “If a Baby Blew a Bubble” and “Few Is Not So Many” from *Move Over Mother Goose!*
by Ruth Dowell (Gryphon, 1987). For additional bubble ideas, see the September/October 1994 issue of Copycat. Also see Soap Bubble Magic by Seymour Simon (Lothrop, Lee, 1985) and Bubbles: A Children’s Museum Activity Book by Bernie Zubrowski (Little, Brown, 1979).

- Make toy tops, button traps (see Crafts section of this chapter), and other simple toys.

**Fantastic Gymnastics**

**Ages:** Adapt for preschool/primary and middle grades

Young children could enjoy learning the action chant “Tumbling Tricks” from Full Speed Ahead by Jan Irving and Robin Curry (Libraries Unlimited, 1988). In addition, teach them Steven Twice, a fingerplay about a little boy who does flips on his bed, from Move Over Mother Goose by Ruth Dowell (Gryphon, 1987). Sing “Three Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed” and “Roll Over”; extended ideas for both are found in Where Is Thumbkin? by Pam Schiller and Thomas Moore (Gryphon, 1993).

Involve older children as volunteer race judges, puppeteers, and readers for this program if you try some of these jumping ideas. In “Kangaroo Relay” players hold a ball between their knees and jump from point to point; full instructions are provided in The Incredible Indoor Games Book by Bob Gregson (David Lake, 1982). Stage and puppet patterns are included with the story “The Jumping Frog” in Pom Pom Puppets, Stories and Stages by Marj Hart and Walt Shelly (Fearon, 1989). Make the Leap Frog patterns shown in the Crafts section of this chapter and play the game.

An adaptation of the traditional Plains Indians story “Jumping Mouse” is included as a readers’ theater script in Stories on Stage by Aaron Shepard (Wilson, 1993). “If I Were a Famous Gymnast” is included in Pop-Up Theater: Folder Presentations for Famous People and Inventions by Marilynn G. Barr (Fearon, 1992). A folder presentation is a mini-puppet show “housed” in a manila folder. Children color and cut out backdrops and characters and write their own narration for the presentation. In addition to the gymnast materials, Barr’s book also has backdrop and character patterns for “If I Were a Famous Athlete” and “If I Had Climbed Mount Everest.”

Books to share in storytimes for young children are suggested here. Books to recommend to middle graders also are listed.

**Storytime Books**

Hughes, Shirley. *Bouncing*. Candlewick, 1993
Oxenbury, Helen. *All Fall Down*. Aladdin, 1987

**Middle Graders Books**

Schmidt, Diane. *I Am a Jesse White Tumbler*. Whitman, 1990
Thureen, Faythe. *Jenna's Big Jump*. Atheneum, 1993
Fish Stories

Ages: Preschool and primary grades

Settle down for storytime wearing your hat bedecked with fishing flies and lures. (If you want to keep this hat for future use, cut the barbs off and sew the flies and lures onto the hat.)

Use the reproducible patterns and instructions for flannelboard figures in the January/February 1992 issue of Totline to tell the story "Why Mr. Bear Has a Short Tail," the story of a hungry bear who goes ice fishing with his tail. Another version of this Iroquois tale is found in More Tell and Draw Stories by Margaret Jean Oldfield (Creative Storytimes, 1969).

Play Sardines, a hide-and-seek-in-reverse game that is best played outdoors. All players count to 100 while the person who is "It" hides. After everyone shouts "Here we come, ready or not," players separate to search for "It." As players find "It," they hide with him or her, trying to stay silent as more and more people crowd in until the last player discovers the hiding place.

Choose several stories from the books suggested here and pack the books into a creel. Don't overlook the excellent illustrations in such nonfiction books as Let's Go Fishing by Gerald Schmidt (Rinehart, 1990); use them to call attention to the denizens of Wisconsin waters. Gerald Schmidt's Let's Go Fishing: A Book for Beginners (Rinehart, 1990) also can be introduced.

Books
Delacre, Lulu. Nathan's Fishing Trip. Scholastic, 1988
Elkin, Benjamin. Six Foolish Fishermen. Scholastic, 1968
Engel, Diana. Fishing. Macmillan, 1993
Griffith, Helen. Grandaddy's Place. Greenwillow, 1987
Hall, Bill. Fish Tale. Norton, 1967
Heller, Nicholas. Fish Stories. Greenwillow, 1987
Hertz, Ole. Tobias Catches Trout. Carolrhoda, 1984
Lapp, Eleanor. In the Morning Mist. Whitman, 1978
McKissack, Patricia. A Million Fish...More or Less. Knopf, 1992
Parker, Dorothy. Liam's Catch. Viking, 1972
Potter, Beatrix. The Tale of Mr. Jeremy Fisher. Warne, 1906
Reiser, Lynn. Tomorrow on Rocky Pond. Greenwillow, 1993
Wildsmith, Brian. Pelican. Pantheon, 1982

Introduce interested older siblings and parents to two books by Jim Arnosky. They are Flies in the Water, Fish in the Air: A Personal Introduction to Fly Fishing (Lothrop, Lee, 1986) and Fish in a Flash: A Personal Guide to Spin-Fishing (Bradbury, 1991).
Giddy-up, Gallop

**Ages:** Preschool and primary grades

In addition to reading stories, teach folk songs such as “Good-bye, Old Paint,” “The Strawberry Roan,” and “Bonnie Black Bess.” Listen to “Saddle Up Your Pony” from *Saddle Up Your Pony and Other Movement Songs for Children* by Andrew Gunsborg (Folkways Records, 1981). Have the children act out some things that horses do, such as eating hay and stamping feet. They also can act out putting a saddle and bridle on a horse and riding around in a ring.

Retell the story of Justin Morgan; condense from *Justin Morgan Had a Horse* by Marguerite Henry (Macmillan, 1945, 1989 reissue). Share stories and factual information from several of the following books.

**Books**
- Hader, Berta, and Elmer Hader. *Little Appaloosa*. Macmillan, 1949
- Young, Miriam. *If I Rode a Horse*. Lothrop, Lee, 1973

Dine on “haystacks” made by melting together a ten-ounce bag of marshmallows with one half cup margarine and six ounces of chocolate chips. Add four cups of chow mein noodles to the mixture and toss with two forks. Divide into small “haystacks” on waxed paper and allow to cool.

Have a Ball

**Ages:** Preschool and primary grades, adaptable to include older children

Gather a large assortment of balls by borrowing them from families, schools, childcare centers, and city recreation departments. Try for as much variety as possible. Look for regulation balls from such sports as volleyball, racquetball, football, baseball, softball, basketball, golf, tennis, table tennis, and pool. Look, too, for beach balls and rubber playground balls in various sizes, small bouncing balls such as superballs and balls for jacks, balls with bells inside, Koosh balls, and Velcro balls. Have children sort them by color, size, texture, squishability, and bounciness.

*Sportworks*, from the Ontario Science Centre (Addison-Wesley, 1989), is a source of many ideas for programs involving balls. Among them are activities such as having young people shoot hoops from a wheelchair to better understand children with special needs, playing games with belled balls while blindfolded, measuring how high various balls bounce, and comparing bounces on different surfaces such as wood, carpet, vinyl, cement, gravel, and grass. The book includes instructions for testing the bounce of balls that have been frozen or heated.

The October 1993 issue of *Building Blocks* suggests a variety of art and game activities with balls. One is “Ping-Pong Painting.” It involves fitting box lids with paper, dipping Ping-Pong “balls in various colors of paint, and then rolling the balls over the paper by rocking the lids.
Display books such as those listed and share several stories from them. Invite two readers to perform the poem “Ping-Pong,” alternating the words (until the last line) and moving their heads to follow the movement of the ball and words. The poem is quoted from *Bing, Bang, Boing* by Douglas Florian (Harcourt, 1994). Invite all children to create a tennis poem using a similar pattern of words, or to make a word picture or word design on the page that is evocative of a different sport. For example, they could use downward slanting words for skiing, arching words for a football pass, or horizontally alternating words for swimming strokes.

![Image of the words inside a ping pong ball]

The words
Inside
This Ping-Pong™
Bounce back and forth like a metronome.

Sportworks and *The Sports Equipment Book* by Michael Emberly (Little, Brown, 1982) are sources for general information about balls and can be used to create a ball trivia quiz for older children. *Trivia Trackdown: Sports and Space* by Sherri M. Butterfield (Learning Works, 1986) is a source of quiz material on a wide variety of sports. Have young adult volunteers do the research, devise the questions, and conduct a quiz. These are some sample questions and answers.

- How many dimples are there on a golf ball? (336)
- What is the purpose of dimples on a golf ball? (To increase the distance it will travel)
- What material is in the center of a baseball? (Cork)
- What are footballs made of? (Leather stitched over a rubber bladder)
- What effect does the lacing on a football have? (Helps quarterbacks put a spin on the ball, which increases the distance it will travel)
- Why do tennis balls stop bouncing eventually? (Hollow rubber centers are inflated at the factory, but as pressure is lost over time the bounce decreases.)
- What ball is put last into a pocket in the game of pool? (The eight-ball)

Books
Bang, Molly. *Yellow Ball*. Morrow, 1991
Chamberlain, Dee. *My Yellow Ball*. Dutton, 1993
Lindgren, Barbo. *Sam's Ball*. Morrow, 1983
Maley, Anne. *Have You Seen My Mother?*. Carolrhoda, 1969
McClintock, Mike. *Stop That Ball*. Random, 1959
Paddle Your Own Canoe... or Kayak!

Ages: Families with children ages five through 12

Introduce families to *Paddle-to-the-Sea* by Holling C. Holling (Houghton Mifflin, 1941) by reading a brief excerpt or booktalking this odyssey in which a Canadian Indian boy carves a figure in a small canoe and sends it on a journey through the Great Lakes to the sea. Follow with the 28-minute 16mm film version or the videocassette version of *Paddle-to-the-Sea*, which is available in some Wisconsin public and school libraries. If there is a woodcarver in your community, ask about making a replica of Paddle-to-the-Sea for display at the library and invite the person to give a talk about woodcarving as a hobby for older children and adults. The replica could be an incentive award offered through a drawing.

An alternative focal point for the program could be canoe building. Invite a Wisconsin Indian or knowledgeable museum docent to present information on this traditional art. In addition, a retailer of contemporary wooden and fiberglass canoes could describe construction processes. If speakers can provide an exhibit of canoes and paddles, so much the better.

If there is a canoe rental business in your community, it could be another source for display items. Work with the business to design a Read-for-Rental discount coupon good for canoe rental as a family reading award.

A family program devoted to water safety also could be offered as a complement to either of the suggested canoe programs. Another related program could focus on harvesting wild rice from canoes; invite an experienced Wisconsin Indian to describe the harvesting and processing and the equipment used.

Use materials from the following lists to round out your presentations.

**Books**

Duncanson, Michael. *Best Canoe Trails of Southern Wisconsin.* Wisconsin Trails, 1987

Note poem “Summer Night: Canoeing.”
Fox, Alan. *Kayaking.* Lerner, 1993
Stackpole, 1994
Harrison, David, and Judy Harrison. *Canoe Tripping with Kids.* Stephen Greene, 1981
Moran, Tom. *Canoeing Is for Me.* Lerner, 1984
Selin, Steve. *Best Canoe Trails of Northern Wisconsin.* Wisconsin Trails, 1984

**Videos**
The *Birch Canoe Builder*. Southern Illinois University/ACI/AIMS Media, 1972. 23 minutes
Available from the Reference and Loan Library.
*Building an Algonquin Birchbark Canoe*. Trust for Native American Cultures and Crafts, 1984. 54 minutes
Available from the Reference and Loan Library.
*Paddle to Seattle*. Mark Mascarín and the Quileute Tribal School, 1990. 45 minutes
*Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe*. Great Plains National Instructional Television Library/WNED-TV, 1983. 30 minutes
Available from the Reference and Loan Library.

**Additional Activities**
- Using *Three Days on a River in a Red Canoe*, have children keep a journal of camping, canoeing, or other outdoor trips taken during the summer. Encourage them to write poems or raps about an imaginary canoe trip down the Mississippi River.
- Using *Paddle to the Sea*, trace the canoe's route through the Great Lakes region on a large map.
- Play the Canoeing Wisconsin Rivers word search found in Chapter 4.
- Hold boat races with paper canoes (see Crafts section of this chapter). Use a small, portable plastic swimming pool for your pond and have children blow their boats across the surface.

**Playbook for Poetry**

**Ages**: Adaptable

Poems related to specific sports are cited in a number of the sample programs included in this chapter. *Sports Pages* by Arnold Adoff (Harper, 1986) is the most frequently noted source. Additional books listed in this entry will help you build a program based on poetry and find poems to fit in other programs.

Invite participants to complete the following limericks individually or as a group. From this beginning they can go on to compose their own. Remember the first, second, and fifth lines of a limerick rhyme, as do the third and fourth.

A boy who was running the ball
was confused and started to fall.
But the grass was so wet
that he soon was upset
And his ____________________.

A skater who thought she was winning
Caught her skate with one leg still a-spinning.
Her act went awry,
Through the air she did fly
The ____________________.
A swimmer by the name of Duane
Swam the backstroke all down the lane.
   The waves were a-crashing,
   And he was a-thrashing.
But _______________________

A champion of golf hit her ball
And it bounced off the city's town hall.
   So she thought she was done
   And she turned 'round to run,
Then _______________________

(Note: it can be fun to finish off the last line with a humorous, nonrhyme. For instance, in this last limerick, the fifth line could be, "Then at his window the mayor cried FORE!")

Find additional Sportacular Summer poems in these books.

**Race You for It**

*Ages*: Preschool and primary grades

Begin with the draw-and-tell story "The Great Race," in which Crow challenges everyone to a race. Or, use the cut-and-tell story "The Gingerbread Kid." Both can be found in *Full Speed Ahead* by Jan Irving and Robin Currie (Libraries Unlimited, 1988). Another story to begin with might be "The Great Race" from *Fold and Cut Stories* by Jerry Mallett and Timothy Ervin (Alleyside, 1993).

Share your favorite version of the tortoise and the hare fable and one or more of the storybooks suggested below. Teach the fingerplay The Car Ride from *Finger Frolics* by Liz Cromwell (Gryphon, 1976) and the action verse "Esther Passed Her Sister" from *Move Over Mother Goose!* by Ruth Dowell (Gryphon, 1987).

Share the book *Hand Games* by Mario Mariotti (Kane/Miller, 1992), in which painted hands and fingers represent various track and field athletic events.

Before children go home, invite them to play "Newspaper Relay" from *The Incredible Indoor Games Book* by Bob Gregson (David Lake, 1982).

An alternative way of planning this program might be to collaborate with your community's recreation program director and junior high or high school student leaders to combine outdoor activity with storytime. Begin with a simple race or two. Then while participants are gathered to rest and catch their breath, divide them into small reading circles. Have young adults assigned to each circle share some of the following books and poems. Serve lemonade or sports drinks.
Books
Delton Judy. *Bear and Duck on the Run*. Whitman, 1984
Isenberg, Barbara, and Susan Wolf. *Albert the Running Bear Gets the Jitters*. Ticknor, 1987
Watanabe, Shigeo. *Get Set! Go!* Philomel, 1981

Poems
Prelutsky, Jack. *Something Big Has Been Here*. Greenwillow, 1990

Shoe Leather Express: Stories about Walking
Ages: Preschool and primary grades

Walking is perhaps the best, and certainly the least expensive, exercise. So invite young listeners to walk or jog along with story friends. Begin with a flannelboard story called “Which Shoes,” found in the January 1991 issue of *Kidstuff Kitivities*. Teach “Step, One, Step Two,” an action verse about taking a walk from Ruth Dowell’s *Move Over Mother Goose!* (Gryphon, 1987).

Consider using favorite versions of familiar fairy tales that have a walking theme. For instance, Red Ridinghood was out for a walk when she met the wolf, and Goldilocks and the three bears all were out walking the day their lives intersected. Extended story ideas to use with the three bears tale can be found in *Where Is Thumbkin?* by Pam Schiller and Thomas Moore (Gryphon, 1993). From the books listed, choose other walking stories to read with your group.

Children can gain some understanding of how someone who is blind experiences a hike. Have them put on a blindfold and tap with a cane through a course defined by bricks laid out on the floor. Or they might allow another person to guide them with verbal directions. Additional ideas for conveying a sense of disabilities can be found in *Sportworks* from the Ontario Science Centre (Addison-Wesley, 1989).

Adapt the action story “Going on a Bear Hunt” into your own version of “Going on a Walkabout.” Have children keep the beat by clapping hands, moving feet, and doing motions as you narrate. At the end of your version, run “home” by naming places in reverse order—from the last one presented in your story to the first. A sample chorus and first verse follow; continue by naming real places you could see in your community and/or fantasy locale.
Chorus (repeat between verses)
We're going on a walkabout.
We're going on a walkabout.
Going to have a lot of fun.
Come along with me.

First we'll walk real fast
Looking at the sights we pass.
See the squirrel run up the tree.
We've come to a corner, now stop your feet,
Look both ways before we proceed.

(Chorus)

Books
Buckley, Helen. Grandfather and I. Lothrop, Lee, 1994
Daly, Niki. Not So Fast, Songolo. Atheneum, 1986
Haseley, Dennis. My Father Doesn't Know about the Woods and Me. Atheneum, 1988
Henkes, Kevin. Once around the Block. Greenwillow, 1993
Repler, Joanne. The Goodby Walk. Lodestar, 1993
Williams, Sue. I Went Walking. Harcourt, 1990
Zimelman, Nathan. Walls Are to Be Walked. Dutton, 1977

Skates and Skateboards

Ages: Children in preschool and primary grades accompanied by older siblings

Use Full Speed Ahead by Jan Irving and Robin Currie (Libraries Unlimited, 1988) to plan safety discussions and activities related to skates and skateboards. Consider, for example, "Skateboard Song" and "Roller Ring Round."


Have older brothers and sisters demonstrate techniques and offer lessons on roller skates, in-line skates, and skateboards. Set up a skateboard obstacle course using traffic cones and small ramps; young children can sit on skateboards to compete.

Books for Older Siblings
Dixon, Franklin W. The Hardy Boys Radical Moves. Minstrel, 1992
Sportacular Shoes (and Other Clothes)

Ages: Preschool and primary grades

Start your program with the call-and-response poem "The Bear in Tennis Shoes," from Crazy Gibberish and Other Story Hour Stretchers by Naomi Baltuck (Linnet, 1993).

Use Glad Rags by Jan Irving and Robin Currie (Libraries Unlimited, 1987) to plan activities such as the game Trick and Treat Treasure Tracks, in which children follow footprints from one place to another and perform a stunt with their feet at each stop. Glad Rags also includes a flannelboard story "The Centipede Buys Sneakers," the songs "T-Shirt Tops" and "My Old T-Shirt," and a fingerplay about four dirty socks called One Sock Left. Another song presented is "I Have a Big Shoe Tree." Sung to the tune of "On Top of Old Smokey," it describes a tree that grows shoelaces, socks, and tennis shoes.

Play the games Knot Me! and Shoe Stew described in The Incredible Indoor Games Book by Bob Gregson (David Lake, 1982).

Check the October 1993 issue of Building Blocks for an art idea about painting with shoelaces.

Use Sportworks from the Ontario Science Centre (Addison-Wesley, 1989) to carry out an experiment with cold shoes (freezing rubber-soled shoes changes their capacity for friction). The same book describes experiments revealing the importance of wearing a helmet when participating in many activities. In one, an egg is thrown at a sheet to demonstrate the cushioning effect of a helmet. In another, suggestions are made for letting kids design a helmet for a raw egg, something that will cushion an egg dropped to a hard surface by someone standing on a chair.

Invite older children to prepare and perform the skit, The Mixed-up Shoemaker, which is printed at the end of this chapter.

Play the song "Where Do My Sneakers Go at Night?" from Rick Charette's recording by the same name (Pine Point Records, 1987). Have children draw pictures showing the adventures their own sneakers might have at night. Older children can devise a puppet show/dance using the music and words on the recording. The puppet theater can be a curtain on a moveable coat rack allowing feet to show on the floor if shoes are worn on the performers' feet; a table top can be used if they wear shoes on their hands. Performers can wear black socks on their feet (or hands) so that their ankles (or wrists) don't show as the shoes dance, jump, and run. "Missing Socks" on the same recording offers similar opportunities for creating a show.

Offer information from The Sports Equipment Book by Michael Emberley (Little, Brown, 1982). Use Bloomers! by Rhoda Blumberg (Bradbury, 1993) to introduce fashion's relationship to the early women's rights movement. Choose several stories from these recommended books.

Books
Balian, Lorna. The Socksnatchers. Abingdon, 1988

Note the poems "Smelly Socks" and "There was a Young Woman from Boise (whose sneakers were squeaky and noisy)"

The 20-Mark Dash. Participants must race to place a straight line of 20 overlapping Sportacular Summer bookmarks on the floor between two lines chalked, or marked with masking tape, 15 feet apart.

The Relay. Team members in turn walk a course with a book balanced on their heads.

Quite Quiet Games

- Cut out sports pictures from old magazines, glue them to tagboard, and then cut them into simple jigsaw shapes. Let young children put them together individually or in pairs; this can be a race against time if desired.

- Play Concentration with a deck of cards turned face down. Players alternate, turning cards up and trying to capture the other cards of that value by remembering their location.

- Play Kim's game from Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*. A player first studies a group of objects and then turns away so the objects can no longer be seen. An opponent removes one or more items, after which the player turns around and tries to name those missing.

- Number games are found in Caroline Feller Bauer's *This Way to Books* (Wilson, 1983) and in other books. Here's one that will amaze primary and middle graders. To find out a person's age without asking directly, request that person to silently multiply his or her age by three, then add six to that number, then divide that answer by three. Have the person tell you the resulting number. You subtract two and you have the person's age.

- Play and teach string games from two books by Camilla Gryski, *Cat's Cradle, Owl's Eyes: A Book of String Games* (Morrow, 1984) and *Super String Games* (Morrow, 1988).

- Introduce *The Cat's Elbow and Other Secret Languages* by Alvin Schwartz (Farrar, Straus, 1982), so that Summer Library Program participants can learn and communicate in some of the 13 secret languages presented.

- Use Claudia Zaslavsky's *Tic Tac Toe* (Crowell, 1982) to teach various three-in-a-row games, from those played in ancient Egypt to games designed for the computer.

- Invite children to create lists answering questions such as these. None of these lists of examples is comprehensive.
  - What is a winner called? Finalist, title-holder, victor, ironman, powerhouse, master, pro, all-star, champion
  - For what sports do participants wear gloves? Boxing, bicycle racing, baseball, hockey, archery, cricket, lacrosse, golf, hockey, mountain climbing, dog sledding, skateboarding
  - In what sports is a ball needed? Baseball, basketball, billiards, bowling, cricket, croquet, football, golf, handball, jai alai, lacrosse, ping pong, polo, racquetball, rugby, soccer, tennis, volleyball
  - In what sports is a ball hit with another object? Baseball, billiards, cricket, croquet, golf, jai alai, lacrosse, ping pong, polo, racquetball, squash, tennis
  - What sports involve use of a net? Badminton, tennis, volleyball, hockey, soccer, water polo, baseball, fishing
  - What sports do not require a ball? Badminton, boating, skiing, horseback riding, swimming, fishing, skydiving, track, shuffleboard, curling, archery, tobogganing
Scavenger Hunt

Each year, staff at the Plum Lake Public Library in Sayner devise a new scavenger hunt based on the statewide Summer Library Program theme. They develop a scavenger hunt packet that includes one page of various library-related and theme-related activities and four or five game sheets reproduced from the Summer Library Program manual. Multiple copies of the packet are prepared in advance by student volunteers. Children who participate work at their own speed. Parents are encouraged to become involved and to help their children complete the pages. After children finish the hunt, they turn in their sheets for checking and receive a T-shirt.

Here are some suggestions for an activities page that children might complete to carry out a Sportacular Summer scavenger hunt. Adapt them to fit your participants and the specific circumstances at your library. When you create your activities page, be sure to include lines on which children can write their answers.

- Read five books just for fun. List their titles and authors.
- Using the library's computer catalog, find the title of a children's book about sports. List the title you have found.
- List two Wisconsin sports teams.
- Unscramble these sports words:
  - toflbola
  - csorce
  - iskign
  - skblatae
  - nitesn
  - sblalae
  - msimnwgi
  - ckehoy
- Read a fiction or nonfiction book about any sport. List its title and author.
- How many players are on teams for these sports?
  - football
  - baseball
  - hockey
  - soccer
- List two famous sports stars.
- List an interesting fact about each of the two sports stars you listed for the previous question or about two other sports stars.
- List two Olympic gold medal winners from the United States.
- Sports books are cataloged under 796. List two different sports titles you find on the shelves under this number.
- Design a pennant for your favorite sports team. A blank sheet with a pennant outline is included in your packet. We will use all pennants to help decorate the library.
- How long can you keep these items when you check them out from the library?
  - videos
  - books
  - magazines
- Name a board game for which there are worldwide competitions.
- Name two board games that are also television shows.
- Complete the game sheets included in your packet.

Small Stars

Sponsor a miniature sports tournament. Ask at a local sporting goods store or toy store about the availability of games such as mini-pool, mini-basketball, mini-table tennis, and mini-baseball. Other possible small-scale indoor activities might involve hula hoops, yo-yos, hacky sacks, and Koosh balls.

Variations on the paddle and ball/birdie games also can be found at sporting goods and toy stores. Splat is one of these; it features a birdie with a suction cup that makes a loud sound when it is caught by a disk. Bash includes two hard paddles and two rubber balls. Power Paddle uses a squish ball and a trampoline action paddle. Bong is a soft-paddle and soft-ball game. Spider Toss includes both a hard ball with spikes and a rubber spider; they are thrown with a paddle with a flexible spider-web surface. Magic Mitts and Magic Paddle involve a soft Velcro glove and Velcro paddle used to catch a Velcro ball.
Stories to Stretch To

**Ages:** Preschool and primary grades

Opportunities for active participation through music and fingerplays can be combined with stories that introduce exercise and fitness to this age group. Start off with *Albert the Running Bear's Exercise Book* (Clarion, 1994). In addition to telling a good story, it includes many descriptions, pictures, and diagrams for various exercises using Albert, his friend Violet, and other animals as instructors.

Teach the fingerplays “Step Left” and “Relax, Wiggle Now!” from volume 6, number 7 of *Kidstuff Magazine*. Play and move to the audiotape *Kids in Motion* by Greg and Steve (Youngheart Records, 1987).

Share *Calico Cat’s Exercise Book* by Donald Charles (Childrens, 1982), *Bend and Stretch* by Jan Ormerod (Lothrop, Lee, 1987), and *The Big Bug Book of Exercise* by Roberta Duyff (Millikin, 1987).


**Storytime Recreations of Many Kinds**

**Ages:** Preschool and primary grades

Explore several recreational activities in one program. Start off with the variety found in *Bunnies and Their Sports* by Nancy Carlson (Viking, 1987). Follow up with the tell-and-draw story “Fitness Frolic” from volume one of *Draw Me a Story* by Barbara Freedman (Feathered Nest, 1989), which also calls attention to several kinds of sports.

Read *Climbing Kansas Mountains* by George Shannon (Bradbury, 1993), and use the song “The Bear Went Over the Mountain” as a climbing tie-in.

Discuss the pleasures of camping and show books such as these.


Read the soccer poems “Alone in the Nets” and “Watch Me on the Wing” from *Sports Pages* by Arnold Adoff (Harper, 1986). Talk about the soccer leagues for various ages in your community. Show books such as the following.

Kessler, Leonard. *Old Turtle’s Soccer Team*. Greenwillow, 1988

Read the tennis poem “Mixed Singles” from *Sports Pages* and show the book *Jenny and the Tennis Nut* by Janet Schulman (Greenwillow, 1978). Round out the program by introducing additional books selected from other sample programs described in this chapter.
Winter Fun in Summer

Ages: Preschool through kindergarten

Decorate the story area with paper snowflakes and sleigh bells. Make snowpeople from styrofoam balls and use fabric scraps for clothing. A focal point of the decor can be a child’s sled heaped with books. Nearby, display winter playtime gear such as a snowsuit, earmuffs, mittens, stocking caps, scarves, ice skates, and skis. Display books of interest to parents such as Stride and Glide: A Guide to Wisconsin’s Best Cross-Country Ski Trails by William C. McGrath (Amherst, 1994).


In Full Speed Ahead by Jan Irving and Robin Currie (Libraries Unlimited, 1988), you will find “Sled Song” and “Skis, Please,” a story about animals on skis. The January/February 1988 issue of Totline contains songs about sledding and skating.

Tell “Grandfather’s Sled” from Thirty-three Multicultural Tales to Tell by Pleasant DeSpain (August House, 1994).

Teach the fingerplay “Chubby Little Snowman” found in Ring a Ring O’ Roses (Flint Michigan Public Library, 1992) and other fingerplay books.

Read several of the books suggested here and show the film of Ezra Jack Keats’s The Snowy Day if you like.

Books
Calhoun, Mary. Cross-Country Cat. Morrow, 1979
Freeman, Don. Ski Pup. Viking, 1963
Greene, Carol. Snow Joe. Childrens, 1982
Hutchins, Hazel. Ben’s Snow Song. Firefly, 1987
Lindman, Maj. Snipp, Snapp, Snurr and the Yellow Sled. Buccaneer, 1993
Peet, Bill. Buford, the Little Bighorn. Houghton Mifflin, 1983
Radin, Ruth Yaffe. A Winter Place. Joy Street, 1982
Waddell, Martin. Little Mo. Candlewick, 1993

For information about speed skating, hockey, and figure skating practices and public skating schedules, contact the Pettit National Ice Center/Olympic Ice Rink, 500 South 84th Street, P. O. Box 14009, West Allis, WI 53214; (414) 266-0100.
Booklists and Audiovisual Recommendations

Use these lists as you examine and enrich your library's collection, as you plan school visits and booktalks and presentations to adults, and as you create bibliographies for distribution.

Sports Books for Young Adults

Adler, C. S. *Carly's Buck*. Houghton Mifflin, 1987
Brooks, Bruce. *Boys Will Be*. Holt, 1993
Cavanna, Betty. *Banner Year*. Morrow, 1987
Crutcher, Chris. *Athletic Shorts: Six Short Stories*. Dell, 1992
Duder, Tessa. *In Lane Three, Alex Archer*. Houghton Mifflin, 1989
Hinton, S. E. *Taming the Star Runner*. Delacorte, 1988
Miklowitz, Gloria. *Anything to Win*. Dell, 1990

Audiobooks for Young Adults

These suggestions are drawn from a Young Adults Help List prepared in 1994 by the Youth Services Section of the Wisconsin Library Association and an article by Jo Carr,
“Audiobooks For the Road,” in the July/August 1994 issue of Horn Book. They are not thematically related to Sportacular Summer, but they are good possibilities for summer listening! Suggest them not only for listening in the car, but also for listening while walking or just hanging out. Unless otherwise indicated, all are available from Recorded Books.

Alcock, Vivien. Ghostly Companions. Listening Library
Avi. Something Upstairs.
Avi. The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
Bennett, James. I Can Hear the Mourning Dove
Bond, Nancy. Another Shore
Chetwin, Grace. On All Hallows Eve
Dickinson, Peter. Eva
Fox, Paula. The Slave Dancer
Lively, Penelope. The Revenge of Samuel Stokes. Chivers
McKinley, Robin. The Hero and the Crown
Mazer, Harry. The Last Mission
Morrow, Honore. On to Oregon
Paterson, Katherine. Lyddie
Paulsen, Gary. Nightjohn
Twain, Mark. Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Books in Motion
Voigt, Cynthia. The Callender Papers
Voigt, Cynthia. Homecoming

Sports Figures: A List for Readers of Various Ages and Reading Abilities

Coffey, Wayne. Wilma Rudolph. Blackbirch, 1993
Watts, 1991
Fox, Mary Virginia. The Skating Heidens. Enslow, 1981
Lewin, Ted. I Was a Teenage Professional Wrestler. Orchard, 1993
Moutoussamy- Ashe, Jeanne. Daddy and Me: A Photo Story of Arthur Ashe and His Daughter Camera. Knopf, 1993
O’Connor, Jim. Comeback! Four True Stories. (Step into Reading) Random, 1992
Puckett, Kirby, as told to Greg Brown. Be the Best You Can Be. Waldman, 1993

The Sports Great... series from Enslow Publishers provides fairly brief biographies of more than a dozen contemporary male sports figures such as Larry Bird, Michael Jordan, Joe Montana, Cal Ripken, Jr., and Nolan Ryan. Black-and-white photographs and an index are included in each volume.

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Winning Ways with Young Athletes

This list is distributed by the Wisconsin Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse. The annotations reveal the organization's commitment to helping parents and other adults deal wisely with children's participation in competitive sports. Reproduce the list or create a similar one to which you add your own recommendations. Use the books in programs for children and share the list with parents.

Storytime Books for Ages Three through Eight


The cubs decide to try out for Little League and emphasize the fact that if they don't make the team, they can try again the next year. They both make it on a team, and at the first game when Mama yells at the umpire, Sister reminds her "it's only a game" and to just enjoy it.


This book gives a clear, easy to understand message that it is better to be a friend than a bully. It distinguishes between behaviors characteristic of a bully and those of a friend.


Philip, the new kid, is in a wheelchair, and the other kids are a little afraid because he's different. Arnie teases him until he, too, falls and learns what it is like to be different. The two then become good friends.


The bunnies are portrayed doing a wide variety of athletic activities; they all do them because it "makes them feel good."


George and his friends sign up to compete in a two-mile race. His friends all begin daily training, but somehow George keeps coming up with reasons to put it off. The day of the race he just barely manages to finish last. This story promotes the idea of training and practice for participation in a sport.


This book tells the story of George, who brags about everything, gets caught in the act of stretching the truth, and is embarrassed by it.

Carlson, Nancy. *Making the Team*. Carolrhoda, 1985

Louanne signs up to try out for cheerleading and Arnie signs up for football tryouts. The two practice together every day, but each one is better at the other's sport. At tryouts, Louanne ends up on the football team and Arnie as a cheerleader and both are happy.


The book presents three lessons. The first is that if you're not good at one thing, you can still be good at other things, such as sports. The second is the one that Errol teaches by not giving up, and the third is that anyone, like Errol, can gain respect from doing well at sports.


This story is not about sports, but it does promote the message that we all have something we are good at or are good for.

Fox, Mem. *Koala Lou*. Harcourt, 1988

Fox tells a very sweet story about a little koala who enters a race in order to hear her mother say "I love you" when she wins. Even when she loses the race, her mother still says, "I do love you...and I always will."
This is a story about a bear in a zoo who gets fat on junk food. When he escapes from his cage to find more junk food, he discovers the sport of running and takes it up as a way to keep in shape.

Kevin loves to go to the playground, but Sammy is always saying he will do terrible things to him. Kevin talks it over with his dad and begins to realize that Sammy can’t really do what he says. He goes back to the playground and stands his ground (verbally) until he and Sammy end up building a sandcastle together.

Stevens, Janet. *The Tortoise and the Hare.* Holiday, 1984
This is a well-illustrated version of the classic fable in which the tortoise wins the race through hard work and perseverance and the hare loses through his own arrogance.

**Early Reader Books**

Cristaldi, Kathryn. *Baseball Ballerina.* Random, 1992
The protagonist likes to play shortstop for the baseball team, and her mom wants her to learn ballet. Eventually she learns that both activities call for teamwork, and she never lets her team down.

The feelings of Sesame Street character Grover are hurt when all his friends tease him about his difficulty batting. He feels sad and angry and takes his feelings out on Big Bird. This only makes him feel worse. So he apologizes to Big Bird, and he and Big Bird practice batting together.

Hoff, Syd. *Slugger Sal’s Slump.* Windmill, 1979
Sal is in a batting slump and allows it to affect his whole game and team. His father tells him “to keep on trying your best... and never do anything to hurt your team.” The next day he goes to the game with a smile on his face, tries his best, and has a good time despite his slump.

Sam loves to play soccer but is afraid to hit the ball with his head. The coach brings in a special player to teach this skill, but Sam still ducks when the ball comes at him. Then he accidentally hits the ball with his head during a match and realizes it isn’t that frightening. He goes on to help his team win the game by hitting several more shots with his head.

All the animals want to be in the big race, even Frog, who can only hop. They all train, eat good food, get plenty of sleep, and on the day of the big race Frog finishes last. He is proud to have been able to finish the race and plans to do it again.

Bobby always strikes out until his friend Willie teaches him how to hit the ball. Willie tells him that “only hard work will do it.” Bobby eventually goes on to hit a pop fly and then the winning run in the game.

Kessler, Leonard. *Old Turtle’s Soccer Team.* Greenwillow, 1988
Cat gets a soccer ball for a present, and all the animals want to learn how to play soccer. The book ends with the team winning a soccer game, but the emphasis is on teamwork, learning the rules, and practicing.

The animals want to have their own Olympic Games. Everyone participates in their own way except for Worm, who can only wiggle. He becomes a cheerleader until they need him, and then he gives them his all. Worm is a good sport.
Klein, Monica. *Backyard Basketball Superstar*. Pantheon, 1981
Jeremy is holding tryouts for his basketball team, the Flyers. His young sister signs up for the tryouts and he doesn’t know what to do. When she turns out to be the best player, they all vote to put her on the team.

Sachs, Marilyn. *Matt’s Mitt; Fleet-Footed Florence*. Dutton, 1989
These two stories do not contain any clear moral message, but both are fun tales about baseball that could appeal to any child who likes the game.

Melinda is worried that she won’t like her new teacher, so she wears her roller skates to school in case she decides to skate away. On the way to school she meets a “tall girl” whom she teaches to skate. Each shares her fears about the first day of school. When Melinda later discovers that the “tall girl” is their new teacher, she tells the class that the teacher is “all right.”

**Suggested Reading for Grades Three through Eight**
This book promotes sportsmanship and fair play.

Delton, Judy. *Blue Skies, French Fries*. Dell, 1988
The emphasis in this Pee Wee Scouts book is on teamwork and trying to do your best.

Hughes, Dean. *All-Stars Play-Off*. Bullseye, 1991
This Angel Park book emphasizes that team members have to work together and not pick on each other in order to be successful. It takes a whole team, not just one star player, to win the game.

This story takes place in a gymnastics gym with a gymnastics team. The lesson taught is not to be afraid of taking risks, for example, trying a difficult twist on the vault using a harness.

**Recordings Related to Various Sports**
Consider building these songs into your storytimes for young children. Older children, too, will enjoy the humor in many of them and can be encouraged to turn them into skits and puppet shows for presentation to other children and at family programs.

**Balloons**

**Baseball**
“The Baseball Kids.” *Suzy Is a Rocker* by Tom Paxton. (Sony Music Entertainment, 1992)
“Baseball on the Block.” *Family Garden* by John McCutcheon. (Rounder, 1993)

**Biking**
“Bicycle, Bicycle.” *Toddlers on Parade*. (Kimbo, 1985)
“Bicycle Song.” *Swingin’*. (Gemini Records, 1984)
“My Bicycle.” *Kid Power* by Jonathan Sprout. (Kanukatunes, 1990)
“Ride My Bike.” *Suzy Is a Rocker* by Tom Paxton. (Sony Music Entertainment, 1992)
Football
“Football Toad.” Color Me Wild by Rory Block. (Alacazam!, 1990)

Footwear
“I Lost My Shoes.” One World by Lois LaFond. (Boulder Children’s Productions, 1989)

Soccer
“Suzy Is a Rocker.” Suzy Is a Rocker by Tom Paxton. (Sony Music Entertainment, 1992)

Yo Yo
“I’ve Got a Yo Yo.” Suzy Is a Rocker by Tom Paxton. (Sony Music Entertainment, 1992

Miscellaneous

Notes on CD-ROM Sports Titles
The July/August 1994 issue of CD-ROM World Magazine is the source for these comments. If your library has begun to order programs on compact disc with read-only memory (CD-ROMs), you may want to further investigate these suggested materials to complement Sportacular Summer activities.

Baseball
Microsoft Complete Baseball (Microsoft) is described as topping “the list of the stats-to-the-max” baseball products. Included are complete batting, pitching, base-running, and fielding statistics for every player who made it to the major leagues. More than 1,000 biographies, over 7,000 photos, 15 minutes of video clips from baseball’s early days to the 1993 World Series, lists of award winners and Hall of Famers, and a baseball trivia quiz also are provided.

Tony LaRussa Baseball II (Strategic Simulations) is part arcade game, part fantasy league. Only nonactive players are in the database. Famed players’ photos appear as they bat or pitch; games include each batter’s percentage of fly balls vs. grounders.

Biking
Greg LeMond’s Bicycle Adventure (Eden Interactive) covers racing, touring, mountain bikes, environmental impacts, people, and equipment.

Football
Front Page Sports: Football (Dynamix/Sierra) is the CD-ROM World Magazine choice for football simulation discs. It includes in-depth statistical analysis, fluid graphics, and 2,000 stock plays.

Golf
Microsoft Golf (Microsoft) is described as the “best CD-ROM golf simulation you can get thus far.” It allows play with up to eight golfing partners and offers realistic views and sounds. Players choose their own clubs, stance, ball position, club face, and swing plane, and then
an animated golfer takes the shot. Instant replays are available, and tips from professional golfers are offered.

Sports Almanacs

Sports Illustrated 1994 Multimedia Sports Almanac (Educorp) is described as a "best-buy disc," although it does not cover any one sport in depth. It reviews the past 12 months with video segments, color photos, and statistics. It is easy to use and has rapid searching capability.

Video Suggestions from PBS

These videos of Public Broadcasting Service television programs are available for purchase through the Check It Out! plan of the Wisconsin Educational Communications Board, 3319 West Beltline Highway, Madison, WI 53717-4296; (608) 262-9600. All are licensed for public performance.

*Fitness I* is from the “Club Connect” magazine show for teenagers and includes workout tips and aerobic dance; it is 30 minutes long.

*Goes Wild* is from the “Books from Cover to Cover” series aimed at third and fourth graders; it is 15 minutes in length. Jamie Gilson’s whimsical book portrays fourth graders on a three-day camping trip with their teachers.

*Stone Fox* is also from the “Books from Cover to Cover” series for third and fourth graders and is 15 minutes long. John Reynolds Gardiner’s story features a boy who hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather’s farm by winning a dog sled race.

*Supermarket Fitness* comes from the “Club Connect” magazine show for teenagers. Thirty minutes long, it includes tips for keeping fit “without really trying” and a rollerblade skills segment.

*Women in Sports and Adventure* is a 45-minute program from the “Women of the World” series. Hosted by tennis great Chris Evert, it offers profiles of world class competitors, including English equestrian Lucinda Green, French fencing champion Murielle Desmaret, and Canadian highjumper Debbie Brill. Women who have undertaken jobs that are physically dangerous and demanding also are featured.
Crafts

Craft projects can be used to enhance storytimes, encourage creativity, and really get children involved in Sportacular Summer. Use the suggestions on the following pages to challenge young participants and add new dimensions to your summer programs.

Toy Top

Materials
- Four-inch circles cut from tag board (one or more for each child in the group) with the center hole marked
- Sharpened pencil stubs or golf pencils (one or more for each person in the group)
- Crayons and markers
- Tracing paper

Instructions
- Decorate the paper circles.
- Push the pencil through the center of the circle.
- Spin on tracing paper and observe the designs the top makes.

Button Trap

Materials
- Oatmeal or cornmeal box
- Tube from paper towel roll
- Pencil
- Construction paper
- Crayons and markers
- Glue
- Tape
- Button
- Yarn

Instructions
- Use the end of the paper towel tube to trace a circle in the center of the closed end of the oatmeal box.
- Cut a hole just slightly smaller than the traced circle.
- Push one end of tube into the box and glue it in place.
- Poke a hole through the tube just below the bottom of the box. (These first four steps could be done in advance.)
- Cover the oatmeal box with construction paper and decorate it with crayons or markers.
- Thread one end of a piece of yarn through the hole in the tube and tie it.
- Thread the other end of the yarn through the button and tie it.
- Hold the tube like a handle and swing the button up, trying to trap it in the box.
Make Your Own Sports Visor

Order plain visors from S&S Arts and Crafts, P. O. Box 513, Colchester, CT 06415-0513; (800) 243-9232. The cost is approximately $10 for a pack of 60 visors; elastic cord also can be purchased for about $8.25 for 12 yards. Decorate the visor with crayons, markers, “jewels,” glitter glue, or stickers.

Or, start from scratch using the pattern provided here. It is adapted from Copycat (May/June 1994). Materials you will need are construction paper sheets, 1-inch by 11-inch construction paper strips, scissors, a stapler, and glue.

Instructions
- Staple two strips together, wrap around child's head and adjust to fit; staple to form a headband.
- Staple another strip to the inside of the headband, loop it across to the opposite side and staple.
- Add several more strips in the same fashion, as illustrated.
- Reproduce or trace the visor pattern on construction paper and cut out. Decorate.
- Glue visor to the front of the headband with the tabs inside.

FINISHED VISOR

SPORTACULAR SUMMER

TABs (fold up)
Paper Canoes

These little canoes can float across a children's plastic wading pool or a galvanized tub. Think of other ways Summer Library Program participants could have fun with them.

Materials
- Heavily waxed freezer paper cut in 8-inch by 11-inch rectangles
- Tape

Instructions
- Fold a paper rectangle in half horizontally, waxed side out.
- Fold each resulting section in half horizontally toward the central fold mark.
- Fold upward at the central fold mark, making sure fold remains at the bottom.
- Fold over each end twice at a diagonal to make canoe watertight; tape securely.
- Open canoe and flatten bottom.
- Before each canoe leaves shore, place a penny or bit of clay in the bottom to stabilize it.
Doorknob Decoration

Give each child a copy of this doorknob decoration to cut out and color. It can then be hung on a door at home when a child enjoys reading alone or with other family members.

Cut out center & slash on dotted lines

SPORTACULAR SUMMER
Bookmarks

Invite each Summer Library Program participant to color and cut out these markers, which can be used to save a place in a favorite book.
You Belong in the Sportacular Summer Hall of Fame

- Color and decorate this figure to make it a picture of you. We will add it to the library’s gallery of Sportacular Readers.
- Do not cut the figure out. Return the top part of this page to the library.
- You might want to use a photograph of yourself for the face.
- You can glue on pictures of sports equipment or other things to show what you like to do. Use the little pictures on the bottom part of this page or make your own.
Leap Frog
Reprinted with permission from Nature and Science, Macmillan Early Skills Program (Macmillan Educational Company, 1984)

Materials
- Frog shapes reproduced on white paper; one for each participant (pattern provided)
- Ten lily pad shapes cut from green paper and clearly numbered zero through nine (pattern provided)
- Straight plastic straws cut in four-inch lengths; one for each participant
- Flexible plastic straws slightly larger in diameter than the straight straws; one for each participant
- Crayons or markers
- Masking tape
- Transparent tape
- 12-inch ruler

Instructions
- Ask children to color and put their names on their frogs with crayons or markers.
- Tape lily pads to the floor with masking tape so that their centers are one foot apart.
- Help each child fold down a straight straw about one inch and tape down the folded end. (See illustration #1.)
- Assist each child to tape the folded end of the straight straw to the back of his/her frog. (See illustration #2.)
- Give each child a flexible plastic straw. Tell children to insert the free end of their straight straw into the shorter section of the flexible straw. (See illustration #3.)

Game
- Each child, in turn, stands behind the lily pad numbered zero and blows through the open end of the flexible straw to launch his or her frog on a giant leap.
- Use the ruler to measure the distance each frog leaps and record the numbers to determine winners.
The Mixed-up Shoemaker: A Skit
Created by Barbara Huntington, South Central Library System, Madison, Wisconsin.

Players. A Narrator is needed to read the entire script and to perform the function of the breeze. Eight actors are also required: a Shoemaker, Substitute Shoemaker, Skater, Snorkeler, Bowler, Basketball Player, Baseball Player, and Hiker. These actors do not speak. They simply perform appropriate actions as the Narrator tells the story. In the narration, gender pronouns can be changed to fit the composition of the group.

Props. Patterns are provided for the six kinds of footwear that are the props for this story. Use the enlarging function of your photocopier to produce the size you want; make them big enough to be visible at the back of the audience. Cut the enlarged patterns out, glue them to tagboard, and color them. Then fasten each one to a stick as shown.

Other props needed are tickets and tags numbered from one to six (make the numbers big enough to be visible to the audience), paper bags, and tape. Set up one table to represent the shop counter in front of the shoemaker and another table to represent the shelf behind the shoemaker; one chair should be available for the shoemaker to sit on.

Narrator's Script and Stage Directions

(Shoemaker on stage.) Once there was a shoemaker who wanted to take a vacation. She needed someone to repair shoes while she was gone, so she ran an ad in the newspaper.

(Enter Substitute.) A man came to the shop and told her that he was a former shoemaker and that he could do excellent repair work. He told her he could handle all the work while she was gone. The shoemaker had the applicant show her how he could stitch new seams and how he could put on new heels and how he could do all the other jobs a shoemaker has to do. He did just fine, and the shoemaker hired him to run the shop while she went on vacation. (Exit Shoemaker.)

(Enter Skater.) The first day was very busy. A customer brought in a pair of roller skates that needed a new wheel. The substitute shoemaker knew how to do that work, so he took the skates and gave the customer a numbered ticket to pick them up later. (Exit Skater.) He put a tag with the same number on top of the skates, but he didn't tie it on because just then another customer came into the shop.

(Enter Snorkeler.) This customer wanted a patch put on his swim fins. The substitute shoemaker knew how to do patches, so he gave a ticket to the customer and put the fins and their numbered tag on the shelf behind him. (Exit Snorkeler; enter Bowler.) There was no time to tie their number to the fins because another customer rushed into the shop just then.

This customer needed a hole in his bowling shoes fixed. Fixing holes was no problem, so the substitute shoemaker took the bowling shoes and gave the customer a number. (Exit Bowler; enter Basketball Player.) By then another customer was waiting, so the substitute shoemaker put the ticket on top of the bowling shoes but didn't tie it on.

The new customer needed some innersoles for his hightops. That was an easy job, so the man took the shoes and gave the customer his number. He put the same number with the hightops, but he didn't tie the tag on. (Exit Basketball Player, enter Baseball Player.)

A baseball player was waiting to see if a cleat could be repaired on his shoe. So the substitute shoemaker gave him a number and took the shoes. Before he could get that number tied on, another customer came in. (Exit Baseball Player, enter Hiker.)
This hiker needed to have a leak in his boots fixed. So the man took the boots and gave the customer a number. (Exit Hiker.) The substitute shoemaker put the boots on the shelf with their number and decided he’d better tie on all those numbers before they got mixed up. But the telephone rang and he went to answer it. (Exit Substitute.) While he was gone a breeze came through the window and blew all the numbers onto the floor!

(Reenter Substitute.) When the substitute shoemaker came back, he was confused about which customer had come in first and next and next and last. So he did the best he could to sort out the numbers and put them with the shoes so they wouldn’t get mixed up again.

(Substitute puts each pair of shoes into a paper bag and tapes tag on. The bags can be marked ahead of time so this can be done quickly and so that the numbering comes out right for purposes of the skit. Put skates into bag marked number five, fins into bag number four, bowling shoes into bag number two, hightops into bag number one, baseball shoes in bag number six, hiking boots in bag number three.)

All week long he worked on the shoes and skates and fins, and every job went well.

(Enter Shoemaker.) When the owner of the shop came back, she was very happy with all the nice work the helper had done while she was on vacation. She paid him, and he went home. (Exit Substitute.)

That afternoon six customers all came in at the same time to pick up their shoes. (Enter all.) The shoemaker took all their tickets and gave them the bags of shoes that matched their numbers.

The skater looked into the bag and said, “Wait a minute, there must be a mistake! I can’t skate in these hightops.”

The basketball player said, “Hey, those are my hightops.” So the skater gave the hightops to him. He put them on and said, “Oh, these new innersoles are perfect.”

The skater said, “Well, but where are my skates?” The shoemaker took the sack away from the basketball player and pulled out a pair of fins.

“Those are my fins!” yelled the snorkeler. He put them on and said, “The patch looks fine. Thank you!”

The skater said, “I still don’t have my skates!” The shoemaker took the snorkeler’s sack and looked inside. She pulled out some bowling shoes.

“Oh, those are mine,” said the bowler. She tried them on and said, “The hole is gone and my shoes are as good as new.”

“But where are my skates? I’m getting worried,” said the skater. The shoemaker opened the bowler’s bag and took out a pair of boots.

“There are my hiking boots,” said the hiker. He admired them and said, “It looks like that leaky hole is gone for good.”

The skater was looking very impatient by that time and said, “WHERE ARE MY SKATES?” So the shoemaker took the sack away from the hiker and pulled out a pair of cleats.

The baseball player said, “Wow, my cleats are fixed. That’s great.” And he put on his shoes.

“WHERE, WHERE, WHERE ARE MY SKATES?” yelled the skater. “Why, here they are,” said the shoemaker as she opened the last sack and took out the skates. The skater happily put on the skates and all the customers left smiling and cheerful. Everyone was happy. The shoemaker sat down—because her feet were tired. (The End)
GAMES & GIVEAWAYS

sportacular summer clip art
puzzles & word games
mazes & coloring pages
answer keys
Sportacular Summer Clip Art

The clip art designs in this section may be reproduced for posters, bookmarks, announcements, and other materials created to enhance your summer library programs.
MORE TITLES
Young Adult Reading Record

This pattern can be reproduced on a single sheet folded in quarters, or cut in half horizontally and pasted up for printing back-to-back.

OUTSIDE 2 PANELS

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1995 summer library program

SPORTACULAR SUMMER
YOUNG ADULT READING RECORD

1995 summer library program

INSIDE 2 PANELS

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For each book you read, list the author and title. Then rate the book from 1 (disliked it) to 5 (highly recommended).
What can you serve but not eat?

What's the best way to hold a bat?

What kind of dog is a fighter?

What do you call a cat that hangs out at the bowling lanes?
A boxer.  A tennis ball.  By the wings!  An alley cat.
Puzzles and Word Games

Use the materials in this section as giveaways or as activities to supplement summer programs when appropriate. Materials for children of different ages and ability levels have been included. Answer keys are provided at the end of this chapter.

Puzzles and word games marked with ✶ are available in Braille format from the Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call (414) 286-3045 in Milwaukee or (800) 242-8822 from elsewhere around the state.

✶ Sports Equipment Match

Match the name of the sport with the proper piece of equipment by drawing a line connecting them.

- HOPSCOTCH
- BADMINTON
- JUMP-ROPE
- BOXING
- RACQUETBALL
- HOCKEY
- CANOEING
- DIVING
- FISHING
- TRACK
- HURDLE
- ROPE
- TACKLE
- PUCK
- AIR TANK
- CHALK
- BIRDIE
- GLOVES
- RACQUET
- PADDLE
The Ball Game

Unscramble the letters on each ball below and write on the line next to it the name of the sport for which that ball is used.

From South Central Library System
Batter Up!

Circle the hidden words from the list below, in the ball and bat. Hint: Some words may be spelled backwards.

SCOREBOARD
STADIUM
UMPIRE
PEANUT
DIAMOND
BASEBALL
STEAL
TRIPLE
DOUBLE
FLYBALL
SPIT
HOT DOGS
LEFT FIELD
SCORE
BALL
BUNT
OUT
BATTER
Here are 15 words relating to sports that you can find hidden in the puzzle. Remember that they may read forward, backward, across, up and down, or diagonally:

- football
- baseball
- mitt
- hockey
- tennis
- coach
- golf
- volleyball
- swimming
- track
- pitcher
- umpire
- skate
- rollerblades
- soccer
Canoeing Wisconsin Rivers

Can you find these rivers? Answers are horizontal or vertical.

MISSISSIPPI  PECATONICA  SHEBOYGAN
MILWAUKEE  MENOMONEE  WISCONSIN
FLAMBEAU  CHIPPEWA  LACROSSE
KICKAPOO  PESHTIGO  BUFFALO
STCROIX  BARABOO  YAHARA
PLATTE  SUGAR  BLACK
BRULE  EAGLE  PINE
ROCK  WOLF  FOX

From 1988 Wisconsin Summer Library Program
Doubles

Some of the following sports and games can be played by two-person teams, or “doubles.” All of the sports named are missing one or two pairs of double letters. Fill in the missing letters. Use a sports dictionary to help you.

TE__IS
PA__LEBALL
SK__NG
P__L
M__T__R__YL__LING
SHU__LEBOARD
RO__ERSKATING
K__Y__KING
B__I__ARDS
SWI__ING
LACRO__E
RACQUETBA__
RA__E__ING
DRE__AGE
RU__ING
TRAPSH__TING
L__GR__ING
SLE__ING
SCU__ING
Fancy Footwork Word Search

Find these words hidden above. They may run vertically, horizontally, or diagonally.

BOUND  SPRINT  LUNGE  SKI  FROLIC  STEP  PRANCE
CAPER  JUMP  DANCE  HOP  SKATE  TRACK  BOUNCE
GLIDE  RUN  STRIDE  VAULT  SLIDE  SKIP  LEAP

From South Central Library System

128
Morse of Course!

Did you know ships at sea can talk to each other using flashing signals? There is an entire alphabet made up of short flashes, or “dots,” and long dashes, or “lines.” It is called International Morse Code and was invented by Samuel Morse over 150 years ago. Ships still use it today. On the left below is the Morse Code alphabet. Fill in the lines on the right with the letters that match the codes next to them, and you will reveal a secret message. Then try spelling your own name in Morse Code!

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

Prepared by Winnefox Library System
Picture Puzzles

The names of familiar sports are hidden in the picture puzzles below. Can you identify them?

1. 🏐 + 🏐 =

2. 🧠 + 🏐 =

3. 💧 + 🚄 =

4. 🍵 + 🏐 =

5. H₂O - 2 + 🪜 =

6. 10 + n + 🤝 - k =

7. 🔔 + LF =

Prepared by Indianhead Federated Library System. 152
Racing Car Match

Not all of these racing cars and drivers are exactly the same. Find and color the ones that match.

Adapted from "Ticket to Read," the 1994 Massachusetts Summer Reading Program.
Sailing the High Seas Crossword

Some of the clues for this puzzle refer to books about the sea and seafarers, and others directly to nautical facts and phenomena.

Across
1. Famous whale hunted by Ishmael.
2. A heavy object attached to a boat by a rope. It is cast overboard to keep the boat in place.
3. A tall structure topped by a powerful beacon.
4. A distance of one nautical mile.
5. A navigational instrument used to measure the altitudes of stars.
6. A legendary sea creature.

Down
1. A float having a light or bell; used as a water marker.
2. A device used to discover direction. Example: north.
3. Intricate carvings on a whale bone.
4. Captain of the Nautilus.
5. A cord of twisted fiber.

Prepared by Winnefox Library System.
Skiing to the Finish Line

Help this skier get to the bottom of the hill by using the ski terms written in the snowbank. Write one word on each line of the ski trail. Each word you use after the first one must start with the last letter of the word used before it.

FINISH

From the South Central Library System.
**Sporting Words**

Fill in the letters on the lines provided, and then supply the letters called for in question ten to spell out your Sporting Words Award!

1. This six-letter word is used in both baseball and bowling. __________
2. In billiards, one must shoot into the __________.
3. These two terms are homophones; they sound alike but are spelled differently. One is used in baseball and one in golf. Ball __________! and __________!
4. The name of the gate in this British sport rhymes with the name of the game. The game is __________, and the gate is a __________.
5. This American Indian game is also the name of a well-known Wisconsin city.
   __________
6. The title of these famous games came from a mountain of a similar name in Greece. The __________ Games
7. This sport can be done in summer on water and in winter on snow.
   __________
8. During a bicycle race, the athletes must __________ very fast and keep both feet on the __________.
9. In these sports, the players must aim over the net, through the net, or into the net.
   Over the net: __________ __________ "" or __________
   Through the net: __________ __________
   Into the net: __________ or __________
10. Sporting Words Award
   Take the first letter in the second answer of #4
   Take the fourth letter of the answer to #1
   Take the fifth letter of the answer for #7
   Take the seventh letter of the first answer in #9
   Take the fifth letter of the answer to #2
   Take the the fourth letter of the answer in #5

   **You are a !! Congratulations!!**
Uniform Match

Draw a line from the name of the sport to the appropriate uniform/equipment.

SPEED SKATING

KARATE

FENCING

BASEBALL

HORSE RACING

FOOTBALL

CRICKET

MOTOCROSS RACING

Adapted from material provided by South Central Library System.
Sports Word Search

See if you can find these words for sports of various kinds in the puzzle above. They may run vertically, horizontally, or diagonally.

basketball  skiing  football

gymnastics  baseball  fencing

diving  judo  water polo

soccer  boxing  action kid

swimming  marathon  skating

tennis  highjump  luge

hockey  golf  long jump

Adapted with permission from Vacation Video, KQED, Inc., San Francisco, CA.
Wisconsin Sports

Unscramble the letters to spell out nine sports/teams/events that are located in Wisconsin.

From South Central Library System.
Who Is That Masked Person?

Many sports require players/participants to wear headgear for their own protection. Can you name the sport for which each of the types of face or head gear pictured is required? Choose one sport from the list at the bottom of the page to fill in each line.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

Boxing
Motocross
Ice Hockey
Fencing
Baseball
Climbing
Wisconsin Cities

Select a Wisconsin city from the list below to answer each question. Write the city's name on the line provided.

What is the only city in Wisconsin that boos? ____________________________

What city is always having a celebration? _________________________________

Where can you find a court to play a game with rackets, a net, and a ball? ______________________________

This city's name is also the term used when a canoe is carried over land. ______________________________

Which city can really move out of the way fast? _____________________________

Where should you go in Wisconsin if things haven't been going very well for you? ______________________________

Where is a good place in Wisconsin to bowl? _______________________________

What city will stand behind you no matter what happens? ____________________________

What city is named after and Ojibwa Indian game? _____________________________

Luck  Baraboo  Dodgeville
La Crosse  Tennyson  Portage
Bowler  Loyal  Pardeeville

From South Central Library System.
Mazes and Coloring Pages

Use the materials in this section as giveaways or as activities to supplement summer programs when appropriate. Materials for children of different ages and ability levels have been included. Answer keys are provided at the end of this chapter.

Help the Pitcher Throw a Curveball

Adapted from “Ticket to Read,” the 1994 Massachusetts Summer Reading Program.
Ticket Line

The game is starting, so buy your ticket and find your seat! Hurry!
A-Mazing Sports Adventure

Your friends have asked you to come and spend the day playing in the park. But first you must find your way through the maze and do the activity in each box. Good luck!

1) The Olympic Games were played in honor of the Greek god named...
2) Fill in the missing letters of these water sports...
   S _ M _ N _
   _ T _ R _ O
3) Unscramble the letters of the three team sports...
   REOCSC
   KHOCYE
   AEBLABSL

HAVE FUN & ENJOY THE DAY!

Adapted with permission from Vacation Video, KQED, Inc., San Francisco, CA.
Una aventura deportiva

Tus amigos te han invitado que pases el día jugando con ellos en el parque. Pero primero tienes que pasar por el laberinto. Completa cada actividad que encuentras en los cuadros allí. ¡Buena suerte!

1) Los juegos olímpicos empezaron hace muchos años en Grecia y se jugaron en honor de un dios griego que se llamaba...

2) Llena los espacios en blanco con las letras correspondientes para descubrir dos deportes que se juegan en el agua.

N  T  N
P_ L_ _ GU_

3) Ordena las letras para descubrir tres deportes que se juegan en equipos.

LOUTBF
YECKOH
LOSBEIB

¡Diviértete!
¡Qué disfrutes el día!

Adapted with permission from Vacation Video, KQED, Inc., San Francisco, CA.
Bike Race

Find a partner and race the two bicycles to the finish line.

Adapted from the 1994 Idaho Summer Reading Program.
Touchdown Run

Help the football player score a touchdown!

Adapted from "Ticket to Read," the 1994 Massachusetts Summer Library Program
Thirsty Runner

The runner is getting very thirsty. Can you help her find her water bottle?
Color the Soapbox Racer
Color the Wis-cow-nsin Sports Fan

From South Central Library System.
Sportacular Skateboarder Coloring Page
Decorate and Color the Sneaker
Connect and Color

Find the exercise that is good for your muscles and your lungs by connecting the dots. You can also discover a game that is fun to play. Color the picture you make.

Reprinted from Jack & Jill Magazine with the permission of the Children's Better Health Institute, Benjamin Franklin Literary and Medical Society, Indianapolis, IN.
Healthy Dots

Find out who knows that exercise is good for you and fun. Connect the dots and then color the picture you have made.
Who’s Gone Skating?

Connect the dots and color the skater.
SPORTACULAR SUMMER

Have a Whale of a Time Connecting the Dots!
Smooth Sailing Connect and Color

16. 10

17. ae
18. 
19. 
20. 5
21. 

1. 2. 3.

130
Draw Your Favorite Sportacular Activity
Answer Keys

Sports Equipment Match

Hopscotch - Chalk
Badminton - Birdie
Jump-Rope - Rope
Boxing - Gloves
Racquetball - Racquet
Hockey - Puck
Canoeing - Paddle
Diving - Air Tank
Fishing - Tackle
Track - Hurdle

The Ball Game

volleyball  billiards
bowling  basketball
baseball  football
tennis

Batter Up!

Canoeing Wisconsin Rivers

Doubles

Tennis  Lacrosse
Paddleball  Racquetball
Skiing  Rappelling
Pool  Dressage
Motorcycling  Running
Shuffleboard  Trapshooting
Rollerskating  Logrolling
Kayaking  Sledding
Billiards  Sculling
Swimming

Be a Sport! Word Find

W J F D G E V R C K A S M V D
E G Z H C G N I M M I W S K R

Canoeing Wisconsin Rivers

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

183
Fancy Footwork Word Search

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

Sailing the High Seas Crossword

Across
1. Moby Dick
2. anchor
3. lighthouse
4. knot
5. sextant
6. mermaid

Down
1. buoy
2. compass
3. scrimshaw
4. Nemo
5. rope

Skiing to the Finish Line
downhill
lift
tow
winter
runs
slalom
moguls
skiing

Sporting Words
1. strike
2. pocket
3. four/fore
4. cricket/wicket
5. lacrosse
6. Olympic
7. skiing
8. pedal/pedal
9. ping pong/tennis
10. WINNER

Sports Word Search

Morse of Course!
H S S
A P U
V O M
E R M
T E
A A R
S U L
P A R
R

Picture Puzzles
1. basketball
2. football
3. soccer
4. T-ball
5. hockey
6. tennis
7. golf

Racing Car Match
No Yes
No Yes
Yes No
No Yes
Yes No
No Yes
Uniform Match

- Speed Skating
- Karate
- Fencing
- Baseball
- Horse Racing
- Football
- Cricket
- Motocross Racing

Who Is That Masked Person?
1. boxing
2. fencing
3. climbing
4. baseball
5. motocross
6. ice hockey

Wisconsin Cities
- Baraboo
- Pardeeville
- Tennyson
- Portage
- Dodgeville
- Luck
- Bowler
- Loyal
- La Crosse

Wisconsin Sports
- Milwaukee Brewers
- Wausau Whitewater Race
- Badger State Games
- Crazy Legs Race
- Hayward Logrolling
- Portage and Paddle
- Milwaukee Bucks
- Birkebeiner
- Green Bay Packers

Help the Pitcher Throw a Curve Ball

A-Mazing Sports Adventure

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PERFORMING ARTISTS

performers’ roster
performer evaluation

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Performers' Roster

The groups and individuals listed in this chapter are arranged alphabetically by the first major word of the name of their performance or by the last name of the contact person. Cross references are provided as necessary. Information was current as of September 1994. Inclusion in this manual does not constitute an endorsement or promotion of any individual or group listed.

Librarians interested in inviting Wisconsin authors and illustrators to make presentations or appearances at their library are advised to first consult the third edition of CCBC Resource List for Appearances by Wisconsin Book Creators (Cooperative Children's Book Center, 1993). This directory has entries for more than 50 authors and illustrators of books for young people, presenting information about their published works and about the types of appearances they are willing to make. It also provides practical suggestions about all phases of arranging such programs. Wisconsin librarians may obtain a copy by sending a stamped, self-addressed, 9-inch by 12-inch envelopes with $2 in postage or a $2 check to the Cooperative Children's Book Center, 4290 Helen C. White Hall, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 600 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706.

Actors All Participation Theater
Contact Judy Weckerly, 3801 Jay Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481; (715) 341-7323
Description Actors All is participation theater. It is designed especially for children and young people, offering them the opportunity to experience the magic of performing. They act out familiar nursery rhymes, fairy tales, fables, and plays; a hat, cape, and prop help transform each actor into a character on stage. Actors All invites young people to perform spontaneously and helps them develop acting skills while the play is in progress.
Fee $75 for a 45-minute performance plus $.30 per mile from and to Stevens Point
Travel range Within two-hour drive of Stevens Point
References Charles White Library, Stevens Point; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids; Antigo, Marshfield, Merrill, Mosinee, New London, Waupaca, and Wausau public libraries; Very Special Arts Wisconsin

Rick Allen See Bingo the Magical Clown

Richard Alswager See Bingo the Magical Clown

Muriel Anderson, Guitarist
Contact Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669
Description Anderson is an award-winning professional guitarist who shares her gift of music with audiences of all ages. From the Chicago Symphony to the Grand Ol' Opry, her style and repertoire have won acclaim. Anderson's programs demonstrate many different guitars and varieties of music, showing the instrument's full range of possibilities. A sing-along and question period always end the program.
Fee $375 for one program; $500 for two
References Elmhurst (IL) Public Library

Peter Angilello See Kokopelli Puppet Theatre

Animal Encounters Presents Robert James
Contact Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669
Description Robert James is a zoologist, teacher, entertainer, and author. During his presentations, he carries live zoo animals such as a porcupine, alligator, hedgehog, bat, and snake through the audience so that all can meet and pet them as he talks. He presents a multitude of facts to dispel many animal myths and
Performing area: Indoors preferred; no auditoriums with built-in seats, please
Requirements: Electrical outlet may be needed in some venues
Fee: $300 for one program; $400 for two
Travel range: Nationwide
References: Jefferson and Whitewater public libraries, Winding Rivers Library System

Jenny Armstrong/Song Spun Stories
Contact: Jenny Armstrong, P. O. Box 6264, Evanston, IL 60204; (708) 869-4418
Description: Growing up without a television set, Armstrong had plenty of time to learn to play the bagpipe, fiddle, banjo, and guitar and to find the joy of coming together to sing, to dance, and to tell stories. She brings this love of traditional ways into play as she connects them in her programs.
Performing area: Flexible; indoors or outdoors
Requirements: Sound system with one or two microphones for audiences of more than 100; 6-foot table for instruments
Fee: $300 for one show; $400 for two; $125 to $175 per show for three or more; travel expenses additional
Travel range: Midwest
References: Arrowhead Library System; Arlington Heights, Chicago, Elgin, Glen Ellyn, Greyslake, Lincolnwood, Wilmette, and Winnetka (IL) public libraries

Art in a Suitcase
Contact: Mary Tooley, 3311 South Honey Creek Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53219; (414) 321-4313
Description: A new suitcase for the summer of 1995 is "Animal Champions," which features facts about animals that are record holders. Who in the animal world runs the fastest, jumps the highest, flies the farthest, dives the deepest? Which animals grow the largest, longest, tallest, smallest? All Art in a Suitcase programs are audience interactive, so volunteers will test their skills against the animals' records. The suitcase will be unpacked to reveal folk art animals and puppets from around the world.
Fee: $55 to $80, varies with location and size of group; price breaks for more than one performance in an area
Travel range: Statewide; points more than 150 miles from Milwaukee require coordinated bookings from neighboring libraries
References: South Central and Waukesha County libraries

The Art of Storytelling; The Art of Paper Folding
Contact: Art Beaudry, 2723 North 90th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222; (414) 453-8617
Description: A one-hour program, adaptable for all ages, combines storytelling and paper folding. Children learn to fold one model. For origami, the audience is limited to 50.
Requirements: A chair for storytelling; adult help necessary for origami programs
Fee: $75 plus mileage; $130 for two programs back-to-back
Travel range: Statewide
References: Big Bend, Greendale, Rhinelander, and Shorewood public libraries

Artist Management, Inc.
Contact: Sandra Stanfield or Lynn Burns, Artist Management, Inc., P. O. Box 346, Mount Horeb, WI 53572; (608) 437-3440, fax (608) 437-4833
Description: Artist Management, Inc., provides performers, educators, and motivational speakers to schools and libraries for special programs, assemblies, inservice teacher training, residencies, and workshops. Performers are available for summer library programs and for events throughout the school year. Many programs emphasizing cultural diversity are available. Contact Artist Management for additional information and details.
Artists of Note
Contact: Joann Murdock, P. O. Box 11, Kaneville, IL 60144; (708) 557-2742, (800) 525-4749, fax (708) 557-2753
Description: Artists of Note represents more than a dozen performers in the folk arts, storytelling, theater, children's theater, music, and dance. Contact Murdock for a descriptive brochure and further details.

Margo and Jerry Ashton, International Puppeteers
Contact: Margo and Jerry Ashton, Puppets Unlimited, 1325 Berwick Boulevard, Waukegan, IL 60085-1543; (708) 336-9247
Description: These puppeteers present 45-minute programs for children and adults using brightly colored 30- to 36-inch-high marionettes they have made themselves. In the marionette show, “Circus on Strings,” the ideas of games, recreation, and fitness are enhanced. In “Rock around the Barnyard” children make sounds to match farm animal hand puppets. In “Rock around the World” puppets visit various countries and depict special-occasion music and dances. Write for information about additional programs. One-hour workshops also are available at additional cost.
Performing area: 12 feet by 12 feet; minimum of 8-foot ceiling height
Requirements: Electrical outlet
Fee: $200 for one show; $100 for second show in same location (negotiable); $25 per 100 miles of travel
Travel range: Nationwide
References: Big Bend, Elm Grove, and Hillsboro public libraries; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids

The Atwood Players
Contact: Alan or Mary Ellen Atwood, 3141 North 79th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222; (414) 873-2281
Description: Each of the seven 35-minute plays available has a story-come-alive theme; four of them have a giant book set. “Alice in Computerland” is the adventure of a girl who has entered into a computer. “Mystery” is a choose-your-own-adventure story, in which a detective leads the children on a clue hunt. “African Fables” are Anansi the Spider Man stories. “The Fisherman and His Wife” is a comic version of the classic tale of greed and bitter reward. “Buddy’s Charm” is an allegory about self-esteem and saying no. “Harvest Festival” is the adventure of the pilgrims. “Dance of the Toys” is a winter holiday play.
Performing area: 12 feet deep by 15 feet wide
Requirements: Minimal help to unload, set up, and take down simple sets
Fee: $225 per show, $338 for two performances of the same play on the same date at the same location; travel fee outside Milwaukee County: fees definitely negotiable
Travel range: 100 miles outside of Milwaukee
References: Franklin, Greendale, Hales Corners, Shorewood, West Allis public libraries; Capitol, East, Forest Home, and Zablocki branch libraries, Milwaukee

Janice Baer
See Mama Baer

Carol Baker
Contact: Carol Baker, 1408 College Avenue, Racine, WI 53403; (414) 632-1690
Description: Baker has traveled extensively in Asia and Europe and read extensively about American Indian cultures. She loves to tell American Indian legends accompanied with an Indian drum. She also tells Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Tibetan, and Nepalese folktales and incorporates stories about music in many of them. She offers special programs on “Tricksters and Jokers” and on “Dragons, Good and Bad.”
Ken Baron Children's Music Show

Contact
Ken Baron, 6409 West Wright Street, Milwaukee, WI 53213; (414) 771-6237

Description
Baron performs a program of original music and familiar standards for children ages five through 12. He accompanies himself on guitar and banjo. Baron's entertaining and educational songs invite either vocal or physical audience participation. "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" and "I Love Playing Basketball" are included, along with "The Chicken Dance," "The Hokey Pokey," and "Hula Hoop." "It's So Easy When You Read" and other songs about thinking encourage children to exercise their brains. Baron holds a master's degree in education and a bachelor's degree in theatre and has worked as a substitute music teacher in the Milwaukee School District. He has been elected to membership in the American Society of Composers and Publishers (ASCAP), and his songs have been recorded by nationally known recording artists such as Sesame Street's Bob McGrath. Call or write for a brochure.

performing area Indoors or outdoors
requirements Electrical outlet
fee $150 plus mileage; $100 for additional shows in same area
travel range Statewide
references Wisconsin Rapids; Milwaukee Public Library; Clay School, New Berlin

Art Beaudry See The Art of Storytelling; The Art of Paper Folding

Begonia the Clown See Sue Grannan

Bingo the Magical Clown

Contact
Richard Alswager, 3711 South 86th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53228; (414) 543-7223

Description
"Flight of Hand" is a clown, comedy, and magic show with live doves and a rabbit. Bingo invites the audience to participate in a 35- to 40-minute performance suitable for preschool through middle school children. When he performs as a magical entertainer rather than a clown, Alswager uses the name Rick Allen. "The Magic of Books" is Allen's 35- to 45-minute program that uses both visual and comedy magic for fast-paced delight. Several magic effects with reading material—books that appear, disappear, and levitate,—help show children that books can indeed be fun.

performing area Minimum of 8 feet by 8 feet
requirements Electrical outlet
fee $150 plus mileage; discounted rates for several libraries in one area coordinating program plans
travel range Statewide
references W. J. Niederkorn Library, Port Washington; Capital, Tippecanoe, and Zablocki branch libraries, Milwaukee; Brookfield, Cedarburg, Greenfield, Hales Corners, and West Allis public libraries
Blomberg & Mahaffey
Contact Foyne Mahaffey, 4541 North Larkin Street, Shorewood, WI 53211; (414) 962-5089
Description Milwaukee public school teachers Conni Blomberg and Foyne Mahaffey also are performers who view library programs as providing perfect opportunities to blend the best of both their interests. As experienced teachers they are comfortable with large groups of children and are sensitive in their selection of material. Their sometimes zany 45- to 60-minute show includes vocals, percussion, keyboards, and lots of laughter. Their original music not only sends a positive lyrical message, but also introduces children to many musical styles such as rock, blues, country, gospel, R&B, and ballads. Designed to engage children in a participatory concert, each summer show is custom-made to reflect the reading program theme.
Requirements One electrical outlet; approximately 5 feet by 8 feet of set-up space
Fee $200 for one program; $300 for two
Travel range Milwaukee metropolitan area; will travel greater distances for higher fees
References

Bob Bohm, Magician
Contact Bob Bohm, 1234 Grove Avenue, Racine, WI 53405; (414) 637-2332
Description Experience the magic of reading with the entertaining magic of Bob Bohm. He takes his audience on a journey of fantasy and illusion designed to please children of all ages. His 45-minute “The Magic of Reading” show combines amazing magic and music with loads of fun. Throughout the show, audience participation and the importance of books and reading are emphasized. Bohm explains how a book is like magic, saying it can take you anywhere and transform you into anyone. The show includes the famous Sawing-a-Librarian-in-Half illusion. Bohm has a rapport with children that comes from more than 20 years of performing at recreation centers, schools, and libraries. He and his wife/assistant have been awarded two first-place trophies by the Houdini Club of Wisconsin.
Performing area 12 feet by 15 feet
Requirements Electrical outlet nearby
Fee $150 for the first show, $100 each additional show; first 50 miles round trip free, 25 cents per mile beyond that; multiple bookings available
Travel range 100-mile radius of Milwaukee
References Fort Atkinson and Kenosha public libraries; Lakeshores Library System; Waukegan (IL) Public Library

Kathy and Kevin Boyles—See KB Magical Productions

Buddy the Clown
Contact Ardan James, P. O. Box 261, Cudahy, WI 53110; (414) 481-3938
Description Buddy presents “Clown Magic,” a half-hour magic show with plenty of opportunity for assistance from the audience. Also available is his 40-minute “Mime over Matter” program featuring mime illusion, magic, and comedy. He provides his own backdrop, lighting, and sound system.
Performing area 15 feet by 10 feet
Fee $125 (negotiable) plus mileage; multiple bookings encouraged
Travel range Statewide
References Cudahy, Oak Creek, and St. Francis public libraries

Judy Farrow Busack
Contact Judy Farrow Busack, 821 Walnut Street, West Bend, WI 53095; (414) 334-7868 (home) or 251-5730 (work)
Busack offers active storytelling with plenty of audience participation. Stories to fit the Summer Library Program theme are available. A Mother Goose program for young children also is available.

Any comfortable space

Glass of water

$75 for a single program; $125 for two programs back to back

Statewide; not available daytime Tuesdays year-round or daytime Thursdays in July

Brown Deer, Butler, Greenfield, Hartford, Iron Ridge, and Tomah public libraries

Busack

Paul German, Certified Personal Trainer, 315 West Second Street, Oconomowoc, WI 53066; (414) 569-8990

As Captain Quest, Head Fitness Trainer of the LIGHT Force Star Commanders, German specializes in bringing health information to children of all ages. Using a variety of activities ranging from fitness games to riddles to storytelling, he helps children learn how to make healthy choices on their way to becoming Star Commanders of their own health. Exercise and nutrition information, movement, and music are all part of the presentation. Call or write for a brochure.

Enough space to allow free movement for all participants—approximately 3 feet by 6 feet per child

Electrical outlet

$150 for 45-minute show, $100 for each additional show, plus travel expenses

Wisconsin and northern Illinois

Kettle Moraine Middle School, Dousman

Captain Quest, Crusader for Health and Fitness

Alden R. Carter, Writer

Contact

Alden R. Carter, 1113 West Onstad Drive, Marshfield, WI 54449; (715) 389-1108

Author of six award-winning novels and 20 nonfiction books for children and young adults, this former teacher offers programs for all ages. Sample topics are "I Couldn't Be Batman, So I Took Next Best: Making Dreams Come True" (children); "Whack It With a Webster's Ninth: Improving Your Writing" (young adults); "Hooked on Reality: The Art of Young Adult Nonfiction" (young adults or adults); "Characters That Connect: Writing Fiction for Young Adults" (adults).

$400 to $600 per day plus travel expenses; negotiable

Unlimited

Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Kiel, and Neillsville school districts

Cat's-Paw Theatre

Contact

Joan McCarthy, 1501 Windfield Way, Middleton, WI 53562; (608) 231-0367

Three shows are available. "Muoma's Heart Song" is adapted from an African folk tale called "The King's Daughter Who Lost Her Hair." The puppeteers use large hand puppets, colorful sets, and folk melodies to tell the story of Muoma, a hero who dares to go in search of seeds that will grow hair on the head of a princess. "Tales to Warm the Heart" is a collection of folk stories and songs from south of the border introduced by a large frog named Snatcher. "Mummers Madness" brings together a group of humorous skits, including some related to the "Sportacular Summer" theme.

15 feet by 10 feet by 10 feet is required for Muoma; the other two are adaptable to somewhat smaller spaces.

Flexible depending on audience size, number of shows, and travel time; discounts available for multiple shows in the same area

Statewide

Oshkosh Public Library, Rhinelander District Library, Lakeshores Library System

Cat's-Paw Theatre
Tom Clark

Contact
Tom Clark, 6861 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53143; (414) 652-5194

Description
Clark is an award-winning primary school teacher whose summer story program includes traditional tales as well as participation stories and music to create a lively, moving entertainment in keeping with this summer's theme.

Performing area
4 feet by 6 feet

Requirements
Glass of water; chair

Fee
$100 first performance; $75 each additional performance in the same area on the same day

Travel range
Statewide

References
Door County Library; Appleton and Plymouth public libraries; Mead Public Library, Sheboygan; North Branch Library, Kenosha

Robbie Clement

Contact
Robbie Clement, Tomorrow River Music, P. O. Box 165, Madison, WI 53701; (608) 423-3095

Description
Journey to adventure with Clement's "Musical Sports." Explore the wide world of sports through songs, games, and activities and with guitar, banjo, and audience accompaniment. First, feel the rising tide of excitement with the preshow warm-up. Do the wave and limber up for the big event. Then join in the celebration of baseball, football, basketball, soccer, bicycling, hula-hooping, and other sports through music. Everyone's a winner and children are all stars of the show when they play with Clement's "Musical Sports." Call or write to inquire about Clement's many holiday programs or to arrange a special theme program.

Performing area
Indoor/outdoor; no special requirements

Fee
Varies

Travel range
Nationwide

References
Arrowhead, Lakeshores, Northern Waters, South Central, Winding Rivers, and Winnefox library systems

David Dall and Friends

Contact
David Dall, P. O. Box 1433, Rhinelander, WI 54501-1433; (715) 272-1331

Description
Dall and his friends Mr. Guitar, Ms. Strings, and Baby Guitar perform a variety of humorous and audience-participation songs. Skits involving the audience, storytelling, and character portrayals also are included. A kindergarten teacher in Rhinelander, Dall holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education. He has recorded his original songs on a cassette titled Music Is a Friend of Mine. In addition to his standard format, Dall has prepared a special "Sportacular Summer" performance that combines his musical talents with the expertise of professional dancer and instructor Jules O'Neal. Both programs have been designed to be dynamic, energizing, and appealing to children and adults.

Performing area
Flexible; outdoor programs possible

Requirements
May use a public address system if available, but not essential; electrical outlet if sound system is used; a small table and several chairs or stools for props

Fee
$100 plus $.20 per mile; a 15 percent discount of overall costs for multiple bookings

Travel range
Statewide

References
Arpin, Cadott, Clintonville, Hortonville, Iron Ridge, Mayville, Minoqua, Nekoosa, New London, Ogema, Park Falls, Shiocton, and Washburn public libraries, Elisha D. Smith Public Library, Menasha; T. B. Scott Library, Merrill; D R Moon Memorial Library, Stanley; Edward U. Demmer Memorial Library, Three Lakes; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids; Peter White Public Library, Marquette, MI

Doug Davis—See Doug the Jug
Mark Denning
Contact: Mark Denning, 3925 East Squire, Cudahy, WI 53110; (414) 482-4039
Description: Denning is an Oneida-Menominee Indian who presents programs focused on the history, philosophy, spirituality, or contemporary culture of American Indian nations and communities. He adapts presentations to the intended audience and can incorporate references to specific books. He often uses symbols such as feathers and fur, clothing, and dance to explain culture and to challenge stereotypes. Audience participation is invited.
Performing area: Adequate space to move freely
Requirements: Table
Fee: Negotiable
Travel range: Statewide
References: Cudahy and South Milwaukee public libraries; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids

De Young's Show of 1001 Wonders
Contact: Dick De Young, Van Treek Trail, Route 3, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085; (414) 467-8414
Description: A complete, family-style magic revue includes live animals and birds, audience participation, lights, and costumes. The colorful, fast-moving show is filled with illusions, comedy, music, and mystery. There are seven in the troupe and an eight-foot Magic Rabbit for warm-up. Free brochures and references are available on request.
Performing area: 15 feet by 20 feet, with 10 feet between performers and audience; entirely self-contained—provide own lights, scenery, speakers, and other equipment
Requirements: Three hours set-up time; scheduling as far in advance as possible
Fee: $195 to $500; price break for more than one show in the same place
Travel range: 150-mile radius; farther by special arrangement, which includes overnight accommodations for crew
References: Rhinelander District Library; Mead Public Library, Sheboygan; Eastern Shores Library System; Banning School, Waukesha; Maple Grove School, Greenfield

Department of Continuing Education in the Arts
Contact: Professor Harv Thompson, Continuing Education/Arts, 726 Lowell Hall, 610 Langdon Street, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53703-1195; (608) 263-7787
Description: Available for $5 from the above address is the 1994-95 Wisconsin Theatre Directory, which lists all Wisconsin theater organizations with contact names and telephone numbers. For theater resource information, contact Thompson.

Alex "Bruce" Dicker—See Reading Is Fun Magic Show

Peter Dignan, Folk Dancer
Contact: Peter Dignan, P. O. Box 8021, Green Bay, WI 54308; (414) 437-7373
Description: Dignan is a middle school teacher who has been enjoying and teaching folk dances from the United States and from around the world for more than ten years. His program is suitable for ages five and up.
Performing area: Enough space to form the group into a circle.
Fee: $100 plus travel expenses
Travel range: Northeast and central Wisconsin; sometimes travels further when booked in conjunction with Gerri Gribi (see also entry under her name)
References: Neville Public Museum, Green Bay; Lac Baie Girl Scout Council
Doug the Jug

Contact: Doug Davis, 967 Yuma Circle, Stoughton, WI 53589; (608) 873-4660

Description: "Doug the Jug's Wide World of Sports Juggling" is a juggling and magic extravaganza that will appeal to audiences of all ages. Whether juggling sports items from around the world or having kids join in a cooperative juggling experience, Davis aims to delight and involve the audience throughout his 45-minute presentation. Portions of the program include choreographed musical juggling and magic. The "Sportacular Summer" theme is woven throughout the program as he takes his young audiences on an athletic journey through recreational sports.

Performing area: 8 feet by 10 feet
Requirements: 30 minutes set-up time
Fee: $175 plus mileage; discount for more than one program in the same area, same day
Travel range: Statewide
References: Arrowhead, South Central, and Wisconsin Valley library systems

David HB Drake

Contact: David HB Drake, 810 South 37th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53215-1023; (414) 383-3355

Description: Drake presents a concert of engaging children's songs for "Sportacular Summer," with some about baseball and jogging, and he even provides a demonstration of "aerobic banjo!" He also includes tunes from his albums Kidstuff, winner of a Parent's Choice award; What a Wonderful World, an environmental collection; and Wisconsing, a panorama of Wisconsin music. Drake accompanies himself on guitar, concertina, handmade banjo, dulcimer, and flute. He was named 1994 Children's Music Artist of the Year by the Wisconsin Area Music Industry. His tapes are available from the address above for $11.50 each, which includes postage and handling.

Performing area: Large open space, indoors or out (weather permitting)
Requirements: Electrical outlet
Fee: $125 per show; discounts for systemwide and multiperformance tours
Travel range: Statewide
References: Barron and Middleton public libraries; Tippecanoe Branch Library, Milwaukee

Danielle Dresden—See Tap-It Dancing & Theatrical Company, Ltd.

Mark Dvorak: Old Songs and New People

Contact: Joann Murdock, Artists of Note, P. O. Box 11, Kaneville, IL 60144; (708) 557-2742 or (800) 525-4749

Description: "Old Songs and New People" can be tailored to listeners of all ages, from preschoolers to high school students to whole families. Dvorak leads the audience through a variety of traditional and contemporary folksongs, playing five-string banjo, guitar, and other simple instruments. The emphasis is on participation and historical development of American folk music and lore. Entertainment, history, and sing-alongs are rolled into one. Dvorak's compact disc recording Use It Up, Wear It Out, on the Depot Recordings label, focuses on the environment.

Performing area: Flexible
Fee: $125 to $200, depending on travel
Travel range: Throughout Wisconsin
References: Lincoln Avenue School, Milwaukee; Elmhurst and Mt. Prospect (IL) public libraries; Thomas Hughes Children's Library, Chicago

Chris Fascione, Storyteller/Actor/Mime

Contact: Chris Fascione, 3302 West Cuyler, Chicago, IL 60618; (312) 588-8717
Fascione brings contemporary and traditional children's literature to life with his high-spirited and innovative performances. Using a combination of storytelling, mime, clowning, and a touch of juggling, he acts out a multitude of characters to lead his audience into the world of books. Filled with energy, humor, imagination, and audience participation, his programs present a fun-filled look at library stories, poems, and folktales. A big hit for 1995's "Sportacular Summer" could be his rendition of Casey at the Bat. Fascione also is available for school assemblies, festivals, and workshops in mime and creative dramatics.

**Performing area** Flexible

**Fee** $200 special library rate, plus travel; block bookings as low as $150 per show

**Travel range** Central, eastern, and southern Wisconsin

**References** Arrowhead and Lakeshores library systems; Central School, Lake Geneva; Chicago Public Library System and Thomas Hughes Children's Library, Chicago; Chicago Children's Museum; artist-in-residence six years at Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago

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**Fun with Chemistry**

**Contact** Natasha Aristov, Institute for Chemical Education, Department of Chemistry, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1101 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53706; (608) 262-3033

**Description** Sponsored by the Institute for Chemical Education, "Fun with Chemistry" is a Student-Presented Interactive Chemistry Experience (SPICE) offered by teams of volunteer students, faculty, and staff. Its purpose is to demonstrate the fun of science and to teach children ways that science affects daily life and also some general principles, such as the importance of observation, of questioning surprising events, and of postulating explanations. The 45-minute program is designed to appeal to adults as well as children. To encourage further activities with parents, each young participant gets a take-home booklet describing experiments that can be done with kitchen supplies.

**Requirements** Two or three long tables, an extension cord, access to water; 45 minutes set-up time and 20 minutes after the presentation

**Fee** $150 to $175 depending on audience size

**Travel range** Southern Wisconsin

**References** Milton Public Library

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**R. Hardy Garrison—See Hardy, The Story Guy**

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**Bob Gasch, Storyteller**

**Contact** Bob Gasch, 17664 45th Street SW, Cokato, MN 55321; (612) 286-2997

**Description** Gasch's programs combine stories with audience participation and an occasional song to provide entertainment for all ages. Among the programs available are "Paul Bunyan," "Zeke the Goldminer," "Best Bike in the World," "Disappearing Dinosaurs," "Campfire Stories," "Lucky Lars' Legendary Lake Lore," "The Story of Dr. Seuss," and more. Gasch has performed for school and library audiences and at workshops and inservices for more than 20 years. Contact him for complete details of programs and scheduling.

**Fee** $100 per performance plus mileage

**Travel range** Wisconsin, Minnesota

**Reference** La Crosse County Library, Oshkosh Public Library

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**Harlynne Geisler, Tales from the Story Bag**

**Contact** Harlynne Geisler, 5361 Javier Street, San Diego, CA 92117-3215; (619) 569-9399

**Description** Geisler is a nationally recognized storyteller and workshop presenter. For a free sample of her Story Bag Storytelling Newsletter and information about her shows and schedule, call or write her.

**Performing area** Any space comfortable for the audience

**Requirements** Microphone for large groups
| **Glen Gerard** | **Contact** | Glen Gerard, N112 W17033 Vista Court, Suite E, Germantown, WI 53022; (414) 536-7990 |
| Description | Gerard is an experienced children's entertainer who integrates magic with comedy and audience participation into a program for the whole family. The originator of the "Just Say No Magic Show," he presents a health and fitness theme that could enhance "Sportacular Summer" programs. A large illusion show also is available on request. |
| Performing area | 8 feet by 8 feet |
| Fee | $150 plus mileage; discounts available for more than one performance in the same area |
| Travel range | Statewide |
| References | Caroline Bauer, Lincoln Public Library, Springfield, IL |

**Paul German—See Captain Quest, Crusader for Health and Fitness**

| **Susan Gilchrist, Stories from the Heart: Bringing the Outside Inside** | **Contact** | Susan Gilchrist, 2222 Rusk Street, Madison, WI 53704; (608) 249-3795 |
| Description | Through old-fashioned storytelling straight from the heart, Gilchrist conveys images of outdoor adventure and the world of nature. Whether she tells a tale about a voyageur, a mountain explorer, or the lost Arctic expedition; about a raccoon, rabbit, coyote, or spider trickster; or about a frog, tree, bird, flower, or star, her program will be both educational and entertaining. |
| Performing area | Small space allowing for some movement and removed from competing sounds |
| Requirements | Chair, glass of water, microphone and sound system for groups larger than 25 |
| Fee | $100 plus mileage and travel expenses; possible discount for more than one performance per day in the same area |
| Travel range | Statewide and beyond |
| References | Hawthorne and Shorewood elementary schools, Madison; Bethel Horizons Nature Center, Dodgeville; Borders Book Store, Madison; Trees for Tomorrow, Eagle River |

| **Tim Glander, Magician** | **Contact** | Tim Glander, Whitewater, WI 53190; (414) 473-8268 |
| Description | Casual enjoyment, laughter, and a relaxing atmosphere are the rewards when Glander is invited to perform. His magic and humor are designed to captivate and mystify audiences of all ages. He can adapt his magic and balloon sculpting performances to any group and can focus on any special needs or theme; he also offers classes in magic and balloon sculpting. Glander is a degreed arts educator whose teaching experience enhances his ability to communicate with both children and adults. |
| Performing area | Minimum of 8 feet by 8 feet |
| Fee | Variable depending on situation and distance; call for information |
| Travel range | Flexible |
| References | Whitewater Public Library, DeKalb (IL) Parks and Recreation Department |

| **Sue Grannan** | **Contact** | Clown Princess Productions, W1518 County Highway A, Rhinelander, WI 54501; (715) 632-7527 |

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**Fee** Negotiable, with price breaks for multiple shows

**Travel range** Nationwide

**References** Caroline Bauer, Lincoln Public Library, Springfield, IL

**Glen Gerard**

**Contact**

Glen Gerard, N112 W17033 Vista Court, Suite E, Germantown, WI 53022; (414) 536-7990

**Description**

Gerard is an experienced children's entertainer who integrates magic with comedy and audience participation into a program for the whole family. The originator of the "Just Say No Magic Show," he presents a health and fitness theme that could enhance "Sportacular Summer" programs. A large illusion show also is available on request.

- **Performing area**: 8 feet by 8 feet
- **Fee**: $150 plus mileage; discounts available for more than one performance in the same area
- **Travel range**: Statewide
- **References**: Caroline Bauer, Lincoln Public Library, Springfield, IL

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**Paul German**—See Captain Quest, Crusader for Health and Fitness

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**Susan Gilchrist, Stories from the Heart: Bringing the Outside Inside**

**Contact**

Susan Gilchrist, 2222 Rusk Street, Madison, WI 53704; (608) 249-3795

**Description**

Through old-fashioned storytelling straight from the heart, Gilchrist conveys images of outdoor adventure and the world of nature. Whether she tells a tale about a voyageur, a mountain explorer, or the lost Arctic expedition; about a raccoon, rabbit, coyote, or spider trickster; or about a frog, tree, bird, flower, or star, her program will be both educational and entertaining.

- **Performing area**: Small space allowing for some movement and removed from competing sounds
- **Requirements**: Chair, glass of water, microphone and sound system for groups larger than 25
- **Fee**: $100 plus mileage and travel expenses; possible discount for more than one performance per day in the same area
- **Travel range**: Statewide and beyond
- **References**: Hawthorne and Shorewood elementary schools, Madison; Bethel Horizons Nature Center, Dodgeville; Borders Book Store, Madison; Trees for Tomorrow, Eagle River

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**Tim Glander, Magician**

**Contact**

Tim Glander, Whitewater, WI 53190; (414) 473-8268

**Description**

Casual enjoyment, laughter, and a relaxing atmosphere are the rewards when Glander is invited to perform. His magic and humor are designed to captivate and mystify audiences of all ages. He can adapt his magic and balloon sculpting performances to any group and can focus on any special needs or theme; he also offers classes in magic and balloon sculpting. Glander is a degreed arts educator whose teaching experience enhances his ability to communicate with both children and adults.

- **Performing area**: Minimum of 8 feet by 8 feet
- **Fee**: Variable depending on situation and distance; call for information
- **Travel range**: Flexible
- **References**: Whitewater Public Library, DeKalb (IL) Parks and Recreation Department

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**Sue Grannan**

**Contact**

Clown Princess Productions, W1518 County Highway A, Rhinelander, WI 54501; (715) 632-7527
Performing area
Flexible

Fee
$40 plus mileage for program; $60 plus mileage for mini-course

Travel range
50-mile radius of the Tomahawk/Rhineland area

References
Abbotsford Public Library; Rhinelander District Library; Walter E. Olson Memorial Library, Eagle River; Plum Lake Women's Club Public Library, Sayner; Edward U. Demmer Memorial Library, Three Lakes

Rosemary Green—See Sign Language Storyteller

The Greenwood Players Children's Theater

Contact
Marion Lang, Artistic Director, P. O. Box 454, Menomonie, WI 54751; (715) 235-6650

Description
The Greenwood Players Children's Theater has a summer tour entitled Double Play coordinated with the “Sportacular Summer” theme. It features two actors performing two stories about two games from two different worlds. Both original stories about imaginative play involve music, movement, and audience participation. The group uses minimal props and scenery to create places far and near out of thin air.

Performing area
Any large open area where children and actors can move freely and safely

Fee
$175 to $225 per performance plus $.25 per mile; price breaks for multiple bookings; mileage shared by same-day, nearby bookings

Travel range
North central Wisconsin within 100-mile radius of Menomonie

References
Menomonie, Red Wing (MN), and Winona (MN) public libraries; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids

Gerri Gribi, Folk Musician

Contact
Gerri Gribi, P. O. Box 8021, Green Bay, WI 54308; (414) 437-7373

Description
Gribi is an award-winning musician who presents lively, participatory programs performed on the autoharp, mountain dulcimer, and guitar. Programs include “Eco-folk,” “Womenfolk,” “Critter Sings,” and “Mountain Music.” “Sing a Song of Celebration” is ideal for National Library Week or other special events.

Performing area
Adaptable to any space available

Fee
$150 plus travel expenses during summer; fees higher during school year; always happy to block book multiple programs at different sites

Travel range
Midwestern U.S.

References
Brown County Library, Green Bay; Manitowoc and Neenah public libraries; South Central Library System

Hardy, The Story Guy

Contact
R. Hardy Garrison, 324 North Few Street, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 256-7330

Description
For 1995 summer library programs, Garrison offers folktales from the oral traditions of many parts of the world, giving special emphasis to those featuring animal pranksters and tricksters. Employing multiple acting and vocal talents along with audience participation, he presents stories selected to delight the young at heart from ages two to 102. Program length is flexible—30 to 60 minutes—to meet varied programming needs.

Performing area
Open, comfortable space for storyteller and audience to move around a bit; prefer not to use a stage

Requirements
A stool, not a chair; pitcher of ice water; two glasses

Fee
Variable depending on program length and anticipated audience size; travel expenses may apply; reduced rates available for multiple same-day bookings in same area; call for fee quote
Hare Raisin' Music

Contact Liz Hare, 7840 North 46th Street, Brown Deer, WI 53223; (414) 355-9036

Description Hare will provide a program to fit any theme—sailing, animals, trains, folk tales, Irish culture—using old and new folk music. She encourages audience participation and demonstrates the use of inexpensive folk instruments. She plays six- and 12-string guitar, banjo, harmonica, jawharp, bodhran, nose flute, tin whistle, limberjack, bumba stick, and fiddle.

Performing area Flexible

Fee $50 per half-hour performance plus $.20 per mile

Travel range North to Green Bay, south to Racine, west to Wisconsin Dells, east to Lake Michigan

References Brookfield, Grafton, Jefferson, and Shorewood public libraries; Waukesha County Federated Library System

The Hatrack Storytellers, Inc.

Contact David and Sally Semmes, 857 North 11th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220; (414) 682-9527

Description This group of adults, and sometimes Hatrack Kids, is dedicated to the delight of reading aloud and sharing that delight with its audience. Each program is designed to stimulate listeners’ imaginations while maintaining the integrity of the literature presented. The goal is to convey to children the idea that reading is its own best reward. Each program is tailor-made for its particular sponsor, taking into account the age level of the audience, from preschoolers through those in the upper elementary grades; size of audience; the place of performance; and the purpose of the entertainment. Hatrack is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization.

Performing area Flexible, but prefer not to use a stage

Requirements Several chairs, and music stands if possible

Fee Varies according to factors such as distance, type of program, and expenses; negotiable for block bookings in one area

Travel range Midwest

References Brookfield, Elm Grove, Horicon, Kenosha, Sheboygan Falls, and Twin Lakes public libraries; Outagamie County Museum

Gloria Hays: Musical Menagerie

Contact Gloria Hays, Route 2, Box 2268, Soldiers Grove, WI 54655; (608) 536-361

Description Singable, entertaining songs for young and old are presented along with instruments from around the world. Hammer and mountain dulcimers, guitar, and drums are featured in each program, providing education and fun at the same time. Theme programs designed to local specifications are available.

Performing area Indoors or outdoors

Requirements One armless chair

Fee $150 (negotiable); discount for multiple bookings in the same area

Travel range Anywhere

References Beaver Dam, DeSoto, Germantown, and Middleton public libraries
Andy Head, Juggler Extraordinaire
Contact: Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9689
Description: Head demonstrates the art of juggling in a theatrical, vaudeville style in a show that combines audience participation, a winning attitude, and tips on eye-hand coordination. His juggling artistry is enhanced with music and lights. Programs are designed to captivate audience members of all ages.
Performing area: 10 feet by 15 feet area with a minimum 10-foot overhead clearance
Requirements: Microphone; dressing room
Fee: $325 for one performance; $500 for two
Travel range: Nationwide
References: Beloit Convention and Visitors Bureau; Gordon Community Center, Lake Forest, IL.

Anita Hecht, Storyteller and Creative Dramatist
Contact: Anita Hecht, 1044 Spaight Street, Apartment 2, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 251-8611
Description: Experience "Trails, Tracks, Treasures, and Tales!" in the library. Hecht uses her skills in theater and language teaching in a new collection of lively tales, creative drama games, narrative pantomimes, and imagination exercises. The program may be tailored to focus on developing individual creativity, memory, and observational skills and/or be a more straightforward telling of stories. Included are creation tales such as "The Creation of North America," local legends and folk stories such as "How the Snake Got Its Rattles," and exploration and adventure tales such as "Cyrus the Unsinkable Sea Serpent." Historical and animal stories, poems, and story dramatizations are offered as well. All activities are centered around the concept of discovering new and old truths about ourselves and our world.
Performing area: One chair and a comfortable space large enough for some physical participation
Fee: $75 within 50 miles of Madison; $100 plus mileage beyond 50-mile radius of Madison
Travel range: Statewide and beyond
References: South Central Library System; Dane County Bookmobile; Kids at the Crossroads, Madison Civic Center

Janet Boothroyd Hedstrom
Contact: Janet Boothroyd Hedstrom, 312 North Page Street, Stoughton, WI 53589; (608) 873-1583
Description: Hedstrom, who hails from England, has a background in preschool/elementary teaching and children's book selling. Her varied programs celebrating the world of books and all that libraries have to offer are designed to captivate children of all ages. Three special "Sp\rtacular Summer" programs are available; each explores recreational pursuits and the elements. "Hot Balloons" takes the audience flying high to look at the fascinating world of hot air ballooning and to hear about other balloons so hot to handle that they escape. "Cool Kites" soars with stories and poems about all sorts of kites and includes information about designing and building them. "Surf and Sands" explores ocean sports such as surfing and activities such as beachcombing.
Performing area: Flexible
Requirements: Chair, small table, glass of water, electrical outlet nearby, microphone (preferably one that can be worn); 15 minutes set-up time
Fee: $75 plus $.25 per mile for a 45-minute program
Travel range: Reasonable driving distance within Madison/Stoughton area
References: Middleton, New Glarus, and Stoughton public libraries; Canterbury Booksellers, Madison
**Heritage Ensemble**

**Contact**
Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669

The Heritage Ensemble presents original dramatizations incorporating songs, narration, and documentary history of the Midwest. Audiences experience history “brought to life” by costumed professional actors/singers portraying colorful historical characters. Lively renditions of traditional folk songs, humorous and dramatic anecdotes, and accurate historical facts characterize the performances. The 1994-95 repertoire includes “Song of the Inland Seas” (a musical panorama of the Great Lakes), “Daylight in the Swamp” (the lyrics, legends, and lore of logging), and “Steamboat 'round the Bend” (the Upper Mississippi in story and song).

**Performing area**
20 feet wide by 15 feet deep

**Requirements**
Dressing room

**Fee**
$400 for one performance; $550 for two

**Travel range**
Nationwide

**References**
Ripon Public Library; Bose Elementary School, Kenosha

**Bruce Hetzler**—See *The Magic of Bruce Hetzler*

**Nancy Irvine**—See *Puppet Power*

**Ardan James**—See *Buddy the Clown*

**Robert James**—See *Animal Encounters Presents Robert James*

**Jean-Andrew, Storylore**

**Contact**
Jean-Andrew, 6023 West Lincoln Avenue, West Allis, WI 53219; (414) 327-1877

This is storytelling to spark the imagination, boost interest in reading, and promote children’s literature. Jean-Andrew’s stories spring from folktales and jump full-blown from favorite books to grab listeners of all ages. Lively tellings often invite participation. Jean-Andrew is an elementary school librarian and an active member of local and regional storytelling organizations. She also is available for staff storytelling workshops.

**Performing area**
Flexible

**Requirements**
Small table or stand; microphone for large rooms, large audiences, or outdoor performances

**Fee**
Special prices for libraries: $75 per 45-minute program; $125 for assembly-size audiences of more than 150; $.25 per mile; price breaks for clustered engagements on same day and for small libraries in northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan

**Travel range**
Statewide

**References**
Whitefish Bay Public Library; Duerrwaechter Memorial Library, Germantown; Mead Public Library, Sheboygan; Dickenson County Library, Iron Mountain, MI

**Tim Jenkins**

**Contact**
Tim Jenkins, Route 2, Box 83, Gays Mills, WI 54631; (608) 872-2419

Jenkins teaches and “calls” Appalachian, contra, and play party dances for the enjoyment of both children and adults. He also encourages group participation as he sings old-time Irish and American songs and plays the fiddle, banjo, harmonica, and guitar.

**Performing area**
Space enough for group to dance

**Fee**
Negotiable

**Travel range**
Statewide

**References**
Soldiers Grove Public Library; Folklore Village, Dodgeville; La Crosse Great Rivers Folk Festival
Heather Youngquist Jerrie—See Little Moon Theater

Jim K’s Cudahy Connection

Contact
Jim Kaluzny, 2626 East Donald Avenue, Cudahy, WI 53110; (414) 769-8892

Description
Kaluzny presents a disc jockey program offering music dating from the 1940s to the present. A light show accompanies the music. This could be the perfect sock hop event to kick off or wrap up 1995 summer activities.

Performing area
Space adequate for the number of dancers in attendance

Requirements
Electrical outlet

Fee
Negotiable

Travel range
Statewide

References
Cudahy Public Library

Juggler with the Yellow Shoes—See Dan Kirk, The Juggler

Jump, Giggle, Mime, and Wiggle

Contact
Nancy Weiss-McQuide/Milwaukee Imagination Theater Company, 4634 North Woodburn Street, Whitefish Bay, WI 53211; (414) 962-7680 or 241-5096

Description
The program includes a lively series of short stories that utilize mime, speech, juggling, music, and dance. Several stories are literature-based and encourage reading. Themes of friendship, sharing, and pure fun are included in programs suitable for ages three to 13.

Performing area
Small performance space; minimum 6 feet by 6 feet; not playable “in the round”

Fee
Minimum $50

Travel range
30-mile radius

References
St. Francis and Shorewood public libraries; Capitol Branch, Milwaukee Public Library

Jim Kaluzny—See Jim K’s Cudahy Connection

Bob Kann

Contact
Bob Kann, 462 Marston Avenue, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 257-0958

Description
According to Kann, “You don’t have to be big or strong to be heroic.” His storytelling program “Heroes, Heroines, and Gyros” includes tales of sports heroes and heroines—both children and adults—whose courage, bravery, and exemplary behaviors deserve praise. Featured athletes include Olympians, a boy with crutches who was a pinch-hitter, jugglers, tongue-twister champions, and several surprises. Kann promises a fun-filled reading motivation program suitable for young people of all ages.

Performing area
Flexible

Fee
Negotiable

Travel range
Statewide

References
Madison, Racine, and Waunakee public libraries

Kanopy Dance and Theatre Project

Contact
M. Kristi Gesso or Elizabeth Mohr, 315 North Henry Street, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 255-2211 or 221-0999; fax (608) 221-8959

Description
Creative theater and contemporary modern dance are performed by young people’s dance companies and include dances as expressions of movement in sports, particularly basketball, wrestling, and track. Instructors are available for workshops with athletic teams and a: t, music, and English classes. Available 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Performing area
24 feet by 25 feet for group; 45 feet by 50 feet for classes

Requirements
Hardwood floor; sound system

Fee
Company: $300 for one show, $350 for two, $400 for three
Travel range: Dane County and 100 miles beyond. Schools may contact Kanopy for grant writing when wanting to book several schools in outlying areas; support via grant may reduce fees. Call or write for further information.

References: Hawthorne and Glendale elementary schools, West High School, Madison; Madison Civic Center; Prairie du Chien Elementary School

KB Magical Productions

Contact: Kathy or Kevin Boyles/KB Magical Productions, 1323 East 18th Street, Marshfield, WI 54449; (715) 387-6804

Description: The Boyleses perform astonishing illusions and use animals, special effects, and humorous audience participation. Their programs introduce creative thinking and are designed to increase motivation and build self-esteem. Promotional material and endorsements are available on request.

Performing area: Indoors preferred; auditorium preferred but not essential

Requirements:

- Electrical outlet
- Fee: $250 for one performance, $350 for two; mileage may charged depending on distance

Travel range: Statewide

References: Marshfield School District's Nasonville, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Madison elementary schools

Bill Kehl—See The Planetary Ranger

Kidworks Touring Theatre

Contact: Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669

Description: Kidworks Touring Theatre features four professional actors who illuminate classic literature for children. There is humor and audience participation, and the benefits of reading are stressed. Among shows available are "What's in a Book" (folk and fairytale characters) and "Other People, Other Places" (tales from African, Asian, European, South American, and American Indian traditions). Other programs offered are "Myth Mountain" (Greek myths), "Winter Wonderland" (tales and traditions from many cultures), and "Tis Shakespearish" (scenes from Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Hamlet).

Performing area: Acoustical sound stage 18 feet by 18 feet with easy accessibility for audience participation

Requirements:

- Central and southern Wisconsin
- Fee: $400 for one performance, $650 for two; negotiable for a tour of several engagements; preparatory notes furnished in advance

References: Fond du Lac Public Library

Dan Kirk, The Juggler with the Yellow Shoes

Contact: Dan Kirk, Midwest Juggling Company, P. O. Box 51, Menasha, WI 54952-0051; (414) 722-1881

Description: Kirk, a former employee of Menasha's public library, is now a nationally known performing artist. He offers either 30- or 45-minute performances of juggling fun. He makes the program lively by getting the audience involved in the action. In addition to juggling such items as a bowling ball, tennis racket, and so on, he uses music, volunteers, comedy for kids, and balloons to entertain. He includes a reading emphasis in each performance. Workshops also are available.

Performing area: Indoors preferred; 10-foot by 10-foot performing area with a ceiling height of least 8 feet

Requirements:

- Electricity, table, large glass of water; Kirk provides own sound system
- Fee: Library rates: $150 per 30-minute show or $175 per 45-minute show; additional shows at the same site for $100 and $125 respectively; travel fee for long distances

Travel range: USA
Kokopelli Puppet Theatre

Contact
Peter Angilello, 146 East Mission Road, Green Bay, WI 54301; (414) 437-9907

Description
Kokopelli performers use puppetry to bring to life a variety of tales incorporating storytelling, music, and theater. The company presently offers three shows, including a brand new, zany, high-energy interpretation of “The Princess and the Pea.” It features live actors and a patch of animated garden vegetables. Request a brochure for complete details.

Performing area
Stage preferred but not required; performing space must be 12 feet wide, 10 feet deep, and 10 feet high

Requirements
Electrical outlet near performing area; one hour set-up and 30-minute strike time needed

Fee
$300 plus mileage for one performance; $100 each additional show in the same performing space; discounts for multiple bookings

Travel range
Midwest

References
Eau Claire, Janesville, Kenosha, and Middleton public libraries; North Shore Library, Glendale; South Central Library System

Rich Krause—See Special Ks

Veronika Kropp—See Troubadour Teachers

LaBak, The Magician

Contact
LaVerne Bakkom, 3820 Wyoming Way, Racine, WI 53404; (414) 639-1607

Description
Here is a stand-up magic act featuring mystery, comedy, audience participation, fun, and wholesome entertainment for all ages. The 45-minute program is completely self-contained, including its own public-address system.

Performing area
6 feet by 8 feet minimum

Fee
$110; price break for multiple shows on the same day

Travel range
Southeastern Wisconsin

References
Greendale and South Milwaukee Public Libraries; North, Southwest, and West Branch Libraries, Kenosha; Zablocki Branch, Milwaukee Public Library

Louis “Sandy” La Claire—See The Madison Brass

Jane and Ron Lindberg—See Rondini & Company

Victoria Lindsay/Annie Sparkles the Clown

Contact
Victoria Lindsay, 1950 Strawberry Ridge Drive, Ballwin, MO 63021; (314) 225-9235

Description
“Klownsportz” includes juggling, physical comedy skits, walkarounds in the audience, a mime baseball game, magic, comedy puppetry, and a one-clown band. Audience members will have the opportunity to become honorary clowns for a day as they join in the fun. And they will be encouraged to read more about Klounsportz. A second program, “Circus! Circus!,” centers on Wisconsin circus history and photographs of Milwaukee’s Great Circus Parade (for which Annie Sparkles was chosen to be an official clown in 1995). The program is designed to inspire audiences of all ages to take pride in this part of Wisconsin’s cultural heritage. It includes story, mime, movement, music, magic, walkarounds, juggling, and comedy skits. Annie Sparkles, who has been a full-time professional clown since 1988, grew up near Baraboo, home of the Ringling Brothers Circus. She has taught clown performance skills to more than 600 adults and children. Although her home is now in Missouri, she will perform and teach in Wisconsin whenever multiple bookings can be arranged.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performing area</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Travel range</th>
<th>References</th>
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<tr>
<td>Flexible; no stage is necessary</td>
<td>$100 plus mileage from Portage or Wausau depending on date</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Manitowoc Public Library; Western Taylor County Public Library, Gilman; College for Kids at University of Wisconsin-Marathon Center, Wausau; Grand Glaize Branch, St. Louis County Library</td>
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**Little Moon Theater**

Contact: Heather Youngquist Jerrie, Route 1, Box 76, Wheeler, WI 54772; (715) 632-2237

Description: As the music begins for “Puppet Show” the audience is transported to a once-upon-a-time world of magic and mystery. Using a troupe of realistic puppet characters created over many years, Jerrie combines original music and special effects to perform both traditional and contemporary folktales conveying lessons of bravery, friendship, and the wonder of life. In another program, “A Story, A Story!,” Jerrie blends music and storytelling to share folktales from around the world and from our own backyards. Anything goes, including a mouse bride, an outwitted giant, and a house on chicken legs. In an upbeat concert called “Singalong Time,” audiences hear a washtub, a singing saw, a banjo, and a limberjack. Or, choose from other concert topics such as “Going to the Zoo,” “This Pretty Planet,” “Silly Stuff,” and “Who Was Clementine, Anyhow?”

Performing area: For “Puppet Show” 6 feet by 10 feet with 8-foot ceiling height; flexible for others

Fee: For “Puppet Show” $100 per 45-minute show, $85 for two or more shows in the same area plus mileage; for others $85 per 45-minute program plus mileage

Travel range: Western and central Wisconsin; eastern Minnesota

References: Barron, Eau Claire, and Menomonie public libraries; Menomonie School District

**Bill Litzler—See The Master of Magic and Fun, Ace Willie**

**Ken Lonnquist, Singer and Songwriter**

Contact: Ken Lonnquist, P. O. Box 3411, Madison, WI 53704; (608) 249-7714

Description: Lonnquist in concert provides a toe-tappin’, knee-slappin’, anything-can-happen good time. His original songs are thoughtful, zany, and catchy. For “Sportacular Summer,” expect to hear songs such as “One-Speed Bike,” “Morgan Menezes,” “Slam Dunk,” “Running Boy,” “Up in a Tree,” “Banana Cheer,” and “Natalie” (about a little girl who can swim and jump like no one else). Anything can become a tuneful, hilarious adventure in Lonnquist’s library performances, and improvisation is the rule! With guitar playing, singing, and storytelling, he presents an energetic program for children of all ages.

Performing area: Flexible

Fee: $200 plus mileage for single show; block bookings as low as $150 per show

Travel range: North America

References: Abbotsford, Adams County, Arpin, Brookfield, La Crosse, Madison, Marathon County, Marshfield, Medford, Neillsville, Portage County, Poynted, Racine, and Sauk City public libraries; Schreiner Memorial Library, Lancaster; T. B. Scott Free Library, Merrill; Tripp Memorial Library, Prairie du Sac; Jean M. Thomson Public Library, Stetsonville; McCann Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids; Arrowhead Library System

**Kathy Luck, Storyteller**

Contact: Kathy Luck, 4357 North 74th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53216; (414) 464-3995

Description: Luck has been performing at libraries, schools, and day-care centers for five years. She presents lively programs of folk stories from around the world and includes lots of audience participation in songs and sounds.

Performing area: Any space comfortable for the audience

Fee: $1.00 per program plus mileage; $30 for additional same-day programs

Travel range: Southeastern Wisconsin
Julie Luther, Folksinger and Storyteller
Contact  Julie Luther, 851 East Johnson Street, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 255-2254 or 241-3602
Description  Luther presents folk songs, singing games, and stories with a sense of place, from close to home, from far away, and from other times. Banjo, mountain dulcimer, guitar, spoons, and fiddle are featured instruments. Luther chooses songs and activities designed to encourage participation, and the program is adaptable to different ages and audience sizes.
Performing area  Any comfortable, informal setting; folk dancing can be included where space and group size permit
Fee  $90 for a 45- to 60-minute program, plus travel expenses; reduced cost for multiple performances in one area
Travel range  Flexible
References  Pewaukee, Richland Center, and Wilton public libraries

The Madison Brass
Contact  Louis “Sandy” La Clair, Director, 908 Birch Haven Circle, Monona, WI 53716; (608) 221-8047
Description  "The Splendor of Brass" is a fast-paced, high-energy program designed by members of the quintet to be both educational and entertaining for elementary school-aged children. How each instrument in the brass family works is explained, and each is showcased in a solo work. Sparkling arrangements of works by composers from the baroque to the present are featured, including pieces that will sound familiar to children. Audience participation is encouraged throughout. Programs for other audiences also are available.
Performing area  10 feet by 15 feet
Fee  $300 plus mileage for one program,$500 plus mileage for two
Travel range  Wisconsin and northern Illinois
References  South Central Library System; Wisconsin School Music Association, Madison

The Magic of Books—See Bingo the Magical Clown

The Magic of Bruce Hetzler
Contact  Bruce Hetzler, 43 Bellaire Court, Appleton, WI 54911; (414) 731-6438 (home) or 832-6704 (work)
Description  Hetzler’s show is designed to delight young and old alike with engaging, family-style humor. Children of all ages can have fun assisting with and watching effects with ropes that change lengths, handkerchiefs that untie themselves, wooden rabbits that change colors, and even a hand guillotine. A completely different show is available for repeat performances.
Performing area  Approximately 6 feet by 6 feet, plus audience space
Requirements  Sound system required for larger audiences
Fee  $70 for a 30- to 45-minute presentation, excluding expenses; no additional expenses within a 30-mile radius of Appleton; libraries may share travel expenses
Travel range  Eastern half of state
References  Waukesha Public Library; U.S.S. Liberty Memorial Public Library, Grafton

Magic Show
Contact  Len Radde, 10534 West Woodward Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53222; (414) 536-4915
Description  Radde offers a performance consisting of colorful visual magic set to music, with doves seeming to flutter out of thin air and other fast-paced sleight of hand to baffle young and old. The show involves comedy and audience volunteers.
Performing area: Fee $100.  
Travel range: 75-mile range from Milwaukee.  
References: Atkinson, Capitol, East, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Tippecanoe branch libraries, Milwaukee Public Library.

Foyne Mahaffey—See Blomberg & Mahaffey

Mama Baer, Storyteller

Contact: Janice Baer, S82 W32632 Paradise Lane, Mukwonago, WI 53149; (414) 363-3121
Description: Mama Baer brings folktales, fantasy, and present-day stories to life. Her energetic performances are full of good sense and nonsense. Her dramatic style brims with action, character voices, and lots of body language to make stories memorable. Audience participation, poetry, and song round out her presentations.

Performing area: Fee $95 for a 45-minute program in the greater Milwaukee area; negotiable for multiple bookings; mileage charged for greater distances.

Mama Baer brings the magic to reality. The overall theme is meant to lead readers to use that magical wonder, the public library.

References: Delafield, Elm Grove, Hartland, Mukwonago, and North Lake public libraries.

Susan Marie Manzke and Her Teddy Bear Program

Contact: Susan Marie Manzke, W2670 Gardner Road, Seymour, WI 54165; (414) 833-6535
Description: Manzke offers a 30- to 40-minute slide presentation and narration of the adventures of Wendel (Teddy) Bear. Wendel has been to the doctor, dentist, grocery store, library, and school, among other important places. Although he can't read yet, he loves books and being read to. In his own fun-loving way, Wendel teaches children about life, and he never goes anywhere without wearing his seat belt. The presentation is designed to get children and adults laughing and learning from an inquisitive and crazy, but friendly, bear. Program content adapts easily for suggested variations and topics.

Requirements: Fee $50 for first presentation; special rates for two or more performances at the same or nearby library.; $.20 cents per mile.

Susan Marie Manzke and Her Teddy Bear Program

Dave Markowitz

Contact: Dave Markowitz, 562 Laurel Heights, Delavan, WI 53115; (414) 728-5017
Description: Markowitz presents an imagination workout complete with stories, songs, pantomime, and more. He encourages audience participation, supplies plenty of laughs, and provides some ideas to think about and remember.

Performing area: Requirements $100 within 50-mile radius, greater distances possible with travel expenses paid; price breaks for multiple bookings; negotiable.

References: Lakeshores Library System.

Marilyn Price Puppets, Inc.

Contact: Marilyn Price, 2430 Prairie Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201; (708) 869-6378
Description: A “Sportacular Summer” brings baseball bats, balls, tennis rackets, basketball nets, and even a bowling pin, all fashioned into puppets for Price’s “Wonderful
Sports World of Puppets" storytelling event. Stories from around the world might include the Hungarian tale "King Bounce the First," an Israeli legend "David and the Spider," Hans Christian Andersen's "The Top and the Ball," and an original fairytale including horseshoe horses, badminton birds, and an amazing finish with a racing flag King. A nationally recognized performer for more than 20 years, Price uses imagination stretching, audience participation, music, and humor to entertain and educate. She offers many other programs, including shows designed exclusively for preschool audiences and those for adults. Programs run for approximately 45 minutes and generally are appropriate for ages four and up. Hands-on workshops for children and adults are also available.

Performing area 12 feet by 12 feet preferred
Requirements One electrical outlet; 20 minutes for setup
Fee $250 per show, expenses included; $400 for two consecutive shows (costs may be shared by libraries arranging bookings on the same day)
Travel range Coast to coast
References Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Racine public libraries; Fox Cities Children's Museum, Appleton; Wustum Art Museum, Racine; Performing Arts Center, Wausau; Chicago Public Library System; Art Institute of Chicago

The Martins
Contact Doug and Martha Martin present multicultural programs that combine original music, Broadway tunes, folk songs, and familiar melodies. Vocal artistry is coupled with violin, concertina, rhythm instruments, piano, and a magnificent set of handbells. One-hour programs are preceded by a half-hour preconcert/hands-on workshop. "Let Freedom Ring" commemorates the anniversary of the Bill of Rights. "A Celebration of Bells: Their History, Mystery, and Musical Magic" demonstrates bells as a means of signaling and celebrating important events and incorporates bell stories, legends, and traditions. Guides on history, poetry, facts, games, and puzzles are furnished in advance.

Performing area Stage 20 feet by 10 feet minimum
Requirements Piano
Fee $400 for one program including workshop, $595 for two including workshops; negotiable for a tour of several engagements
Travel range Nationwide
References Clovis Grove Elementary School, Menasha

The Master of Magic and Fun, Ace Willie
Contact Bill Litzler, 1341 McKinley Avenue, Beloit, WI 53511; (608) 362-7566
Description Litzler's presentation is a fast-paced magic show ranging from 30 to 45 minutes. Comedy and audience participation are woven throughout. Children seem especially fond of the program.

Performing area Adapts to situation
Fee Varies for group and distance
Travel range Negotiable
References Door County Library Service; Janesville and Kenosha public libraries

Joan McCarthy—See Cat's-Paw Theatre

Carol McCormick, Storyteller
Contact Carol McCormick, 625 Windemere Drive, Plymouth, MN 55445; (612) 546-4133
Description "Playful Tales and Tunes" is a program of participatory stories and songs about games, noncompetitive recreation, and fitness. Other programs available include "I Love to Read," "Walk Gently on the Earth" (ecology), "Winter Tales," and "Our Earth Family" (cultural diversity). A professional storyteller, McCormick is a former elementary school teacher who has performed for school, community,
Performing area
Requirements
Fee
Travel range
References
Mark McKillip—See The Puppet Art Troupe
Jeffrey B. McMullen, Clown/Comedy Magician
Contact Jeffrey B. McMullen, P. O. Box 339, Sherwood, WI 54169; (414) 989-2325
Description If audiences are ready to have a “Sportacular Summer,” they can fasten their magical seat belts. In McMullen’s laugh-a-minute comedy magic show, they won’t catch their breath until the show is over. Using participants from the audience and skills gained as a former Ringling Brothers Circus clown, McMullen juggles things no one ever thought possible, makes an elephant disappear (well, sort of), and performs many more magical feats to tickle the funny bone. He will do whatever it takes to make sure show content matches the audience age and size, therefore guaranteeing value for any program dollars invested. McMullen is a professional who has given more than 3,000 solo performances throughout North America and Japan. Full press kits are available to help fill the library with kids on show day.
Performing area From a small corner to full theatrical facilities
Requirements Audience members ready to use their imaginations and laugh
Fee $200 per show, $175 each for multiple shows on the same day; block booking prices available
Travel range Nationwide; above prices apply only to Wisconsin libraries
References Chilton, Eagle River, Fond du Lac, Janesville, Marathon, and Plover public libraries; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids; additional references supplied upon request
Kevin McMullin
Contact Kevin McMullin, Route 1, Box 282, Sarona, WI 54870; (715) 635-7641
Description “Hunting, Running, Dancing” is an engaging, multi-instrumental program of stories and songs, chants, and rhythm games about the outdoors and ways of working together. It is adaptable for all ages. Song writing workshops, programs on songs and stories from history, foreign language programs, and custom-made programs to fit any library’s needs also are available.
Performing area Flexible
Requirements Cookies
Fee $150 per day plus travel expenses; price breaks for multiple performances per day
Travel range Statewide
References Chippewa Valley Museum, Eau Claire; Hunt Hill Audubon Environmental Education Center, Sarona; Depot Outreach Program, Duluth, MN
Diane Michaels
Contact Diane Michaels, Green Valley Music, S-6001 County W, Rock Springs, WI 53961; (608) 522-4428
Description In her “Take Me Gat to the Ball Game” program, Michaels shares a fun-filled hour of songs and stories, encouraging audience participation. Participants won’t need HBO, cable TV, or Monday Night Football to discover the world of sports. They’ll hear tales of “sportacular” heroes past and present and see how
Music has helped pass on America's sports traditions. Another program is Michaels' 45-minute slide show "How I Spent My Sportacular Summer Vacation," in which she shares a cross-country bicycle journey. In 1976 at age 18, she celebrated the nation's Bicentennial as part of a group that biked 4,300 miles from Virginia to Oregon. Information about the topography and unique qualities of the 13 states visited and about team touring and bicycle safety are included. This program is suitable for school-aged children and adults.

Performing area: Space appropriate for audience size; enough room to display bicycle equipment for "Vacation" show.

Requirements: Electrical outlet; Michaels provides own sound system; room that can be darkened for "Vacation" show; adults should accompany preschool children for either show.

Fee: $125 plus travel fee beyond South Central Library System; price break available for multiple presentations in same performing space.

Travel range: Statewide; multiple bookings needed for travel outside 60-mile radius of Madison.

References: Black Earth, Cambria, Columbus, Marshall, Mount Horeb, Oregon, Portage, Stoughton, Verona, and Waunakee public libraries.

Scott Mickelson—See Scott the Great and Company

Midwest Children's Theatre

Contact: Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669

Description: "The Magic Library" is a theater adventure in which Terry Nowit, a know-it-all kid, learns the importance of reading and a good education. It is designed for children in kindergarten through grade six. "Regulation 14 (your school name here) Varial" is a science fiction "varial," a story that is never the same twice. Three panels of students are formed before the play begins and make decisions at three crucial points in the action. This program is recommended for children in grades four through eight.

Performing area: 20 feet by 20 feet minimum; flat floor.

Requirements: Two electrical outlets; 1-1/2 hour set-up time.

Fee: $440 for one show, $660 for two.

Travel range: Nationwide.

References: Northbrook (IL) Public Library.

Reid Miller, Humorist/Storyteller/Troubadour

Contact: Reid Miller, P. O. Box 178, Blue Mounds, WI 53517-0178; (608) 437-3388

Description: "Swing Away, Sport!" is Miller's special program for libraries this summer. The performance tells the original story of "Sport," a boy who moves into a new neighborhood. He wants to play on the local sports teams, wrestles with the process of making new friends, and learns about cooperating with the group and feeling good about himself in a new situation. Lots of audience participation, music, song, storytelling, and humor are hallmarks of Miller's shows. He is available year round for performances at celebrations throughout the community—at schools, churches, community centers, fairs, festivals, conferences, conventions, banquets, and theaters.

Performing area: 8-foot by 10-foot space in a distraction-free area with comfortable audience seating; public address system, lighting systems (where needed), and publicity materials are provided.

Requirements: Electrical outlet, local publicity by sponsor; permission to sell recordings after performance is requested. (Miller notes that revenue from sales is vital to the economy of performing artists and helps keep costs down for sponsors.)

Fee: $150 to 350, depending on nature and scope of engagement, usually includes mileage, food, and lodging expense.

Travel range: Global.
References
Brookfield, Fond du Lac, Germantown, Monona, North Fond du Lac, Reedsburg, Sun Prairie, and West Bend public libraries

Milwaukee Imagination Theater Company—See Jump, Giggle, Mime, and Wiggle

Linda Mistele, Storyteller
Contact: Linda Mistele, 1702 East Belleview Place, Milwaukee, WI 53211-3959; (414) 964-7026
Description: Mistele offers four programs for “Sportacular Summer”; many include participation stories. “July 4, 1776: American Girls Who Ran the Race for Freedom” focuses on the fun of four to six historical folktales and legends about black and white American girls who ran, rode, dared, and fought in the Revolutionary War. It is suitable for children in kindergarten through grade six. “Great Players Who Scored for Freedom” is a somewhat more serious program focused on black, white, and American Indian men and women who worked for peace and freedom at various times and in various ways; adaptable for ages five through 16. “Springtime, Summertime, Fall, and Winter Sports” is a multicultural program that begins with an African-American Halloween ghost story and includes stories for other holidays; suitable for children in kindergarten through grade 12. “Playing the Game the Wisconsin Way” presents African-American and Euro-American folktales and American Indian oral narratives from Wisconsin; appropriate for children in kindergarten through grade six.
Performing area: 10 to 20 square feet preferred to allow for movement; prefers audience seated in circle around performer
Requirements: Small table, chair (rocking chair preferred), glass of water; microphone for assemblies; easel for paper tablet if drawing stories are to be included
Fee: $65 per hour plus mileage; negotiable rate for assemblies (audiences of 100 and more) and for staff inservice programs on multicultural folktales and oral narratives
Travel range: Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, Madison, and other places accessible by bus
References: Northside Branch Library, Kenosha; Prairie Lane Elementary School, Kenosha; Fratney and 95th Street elementary schools, Milwaukee

Kathleen Mohr, One Mohr Production
Contact: Kathleen Mohr, 7819 North 64th Court, Milwaukee, WI 53223; (414) 365-0460
Description: Pocket Lady Sports® has an all-American look in her skirt adorned with pockets representing a wide variety of sports and pastimes. When children pick her pockets they find props that lead to short stories about famous sports figures, fitness, Special Olympics, sportstrivia, and more, all tied in with the “Sportacular Summer” theme. This program is appropriate for ages seven to 12. For another program, Pocket Lady® spins gaily in a circle while children ages three to six are invited to pick a pocket for traditional and original stories told with sensitivity and humor. Included will be some stories about sports and how to be a “good sport,” with the message of doing one’s best and getting along with others. Among other available characters/programs are Mother Goose (ages three to six), Betsy Ross (ages seven to 11), and Mrs. Santa (all ages); call for more information.
Performing area: A stage area on the floor with enough space for Mohr and several children
Requirements: None for Pocket Lady® and Pocket Lady Sports®; others require a small table and chair
Fee: $145 for a 40- to 45-minute, one-character show; $240 for two shows (same character) back-to-back; $280 for two different characters in back-to-back shows
Travel range: Southern and southeastern Wisconsin; south central Wisconsin and other locations considered (higher fees); flexible schedule
References: Brookfield, Hartland, and Wauwatosa public libraries; Kluge School, Milwaukee; Milwaukee Symphony Kinderfest; Elk Grove (IL) Public Library

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Mr. Taps
Contact
Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669
Description
With fancy footwork, humor, and audience participation, Mr. Taps traces the uniquely American art form of tap dance. He performs the legendary Bill "Bo Jangles" Robinson's Rap and Tap Routine and demonstrates the styles of other stars, including the contemporary hip-hop moves of rap musician Hammer. Workshops on tap dancing also are available for groups of up to 30.
Performing area
Stage or 18-foot by 18-foot area
Requirements
Dressing room, two microphones, cassette player if possible, drinking water
Fee
$375 for one performance, $150 each additional performance (up to three per day); workshops additional $75
Travel range
Midwest
References
Gifford Elementary School, Racine

Lee Murdock
Contact
Joann Murdock, Artists of Note. P. O. Box 11, Kaneville, IL 60144; (708) 557-2742 or (800) 525-4749
Description
In "Folk Songs of the Great Lakes Region," Murdock brings the history of Wisconsin and the Great Lakes to life. His musicianship and his research into history add up to an unusual repertoire. School Library Journal has said, "Lee Murdock deserves a place with other great singers of folk songs for children such as Pete Seeger, Tom Glazer, and Ella Jenkins."
Performing area
Flexible
Fee
$200 per performance, or $150 per show if two or more libraries book for same day
Travel range
Statewide
References
Wisconsin State Historical Society Museum, Madison; Rahr-West Art Museum, Manitowoc; Forest Park (IL) Public Library

David Nooe, Singer, Songwriter, and Storyteller
Contact
David Nooe, 626 West 4th Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901; (414) 725-7102 or 235-5197
Description
Nooe is a teacher who merges original and old-time folk songs for musical fun designed to delight children. Upon request he creates tailor-made songs for special occasions, including the Summer Library Program theme. Some of his original songs are "Pizza Man," "Monster Friends," "Hand-Me-Downs," and "Bedtime for Babies." He also can develop creative, funny tales.
Performing area
Flexible
Requirements
Public address system and microphone needs defined as performance arrangements are discussed
Fee
$75 within 75-mile radius of Oshkosh; fees negotiable for greater distances and for multiple shows
Travel range
This side of the Milky Way
References
Chilton and Oshkosh public libraries

Novel Ideas
Contact
Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669
Description
Novel Ideas is a children's improvisational comedy troupe dedicated to promoting creativity and writing skills through theater. Troupe members use unusual props and costumes and invite lots of audience participation. Creative thinking, imagination, and inventiveness are fostered as children construct their own unique piece of literature. Programs can highlight a theme the local librarian chooses or any fragment of the audience's imagination.
Performing area
12 feet by 12 feet
Fee
$375 for one performance, $625 for two
References
North Park Elementary School, Racine
Bruce O'Brien, Singer/Songwriter

Contact
Bruce O'Brien, 604 Newton Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701; (715) 832-0721

Description
Accompanied by guitar, banjo, and other acoustic instruments, O'Brien stimulates the audience's wild imagination and uses action-oriented songs and stories to create fun for all ages. Singer, songwriter, storyteller, and recording artist O'Brien has performed throughout the Midwest for more than 15 years. ALA Booklist has described his two recordings, Hold Your Ground and In My Family's House, as "great for encouraging family listening and sing-alongs."

Performing area
Any reading room suitable for a comfortable gathering

Fee
$125 for single performance, $200 for two, or $300 for three performances same day, same area; travel expenses additional

Travel range
Negotiable

References
Barron and Sparta public libraries; Grant Primary Center, Wausau; Natural History Museum, Cable

Melanie Panush

Contact
Melanie Panush, 10020 North Sheridan, Mequon, WI 53092; (414) 241-8460

Description
Panush's 45-minute program "Hip Hip Hurray! It's Another Summertime Day!" invites the audience to participate in songs and to move, wiggle, and explode into a celebration of summer. She brings her audiotape, a guitar, and other instruments plus an abundance of energy to explore leaping frogs, wiggly worms, baseball dances, summer mischief, and the glorious outdoors. An opening flower dance starts the event.

Performing area
Enough space so the children can move around

Requirements
30 minutes set-up time

Fee
Negotiable

Travel range
Within 45-minute travel time of Mequon/Milwaukee area

References
Whitefish Bay, Greendale, and Oostburg public libraries; F. L. Weyenberg Library, Mequon

Jo Putnam Paquette, Storyteller

Contact
Jo Putnam Paquette, Box 941, Land O'Lakes, WI 54540; (715) 547-3605

Description
Paquette brings a lifetime of experience to her vibrant performances for youngsters. She believes in the power and magic of storytelling to give both roots and wings to people of all ages. Programs can be tailored to the theme for the summer. Paquette's stories include a variety of traditional folktales, literary tales, Native American tales, environmental tales, and original stories.

Performing area
A space comfortable for the audience

Fee
$125, with special rates for double or triple programs in same area

Travel range
Statewide

References
Land O'Lakes Public Library

Dave Parker—See Skippy and Dave and Friends

Tom Pease, Songster

Contact
Tom Pease, 6580 County K, Amherst, WI 54406; (715) 824-5881

Description
Pease is a musician, storyteller, and humorist whose performances are participatory and designed to give all present "a big musical hug." His I'm Gonna Reach was named an American Library Association Notable Children's Recording for 1990; Boogie, Boogie, Boogie won the 1986 Parent's Choice Gold Seal Award. His latest recording, Wobbi-do-Wop, was issued in 1993.

Fee
$300 per performance; $200 each if more than one in same area; travel expenses as required

Travel range
Midwestern United States

References
Beloit Public Library; Brown County Library, Green Bay; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids
Donna Peckett—See Tap-It Dancing & Theatrical Company, Ltd.

Larry Penn
Contact Joann Murdock, Artists of Note, P. O. Box 11, Kaneville, IL 60144; (708) 557-2742 or (800) 525-4749
Description Penn's programs incorporate his original songs for children. Among those songs are "Grandma's Patchwork Quilt," which celebrates the ethnic diversity of the United States, and "I'm a Little Cookie," which teaches kids a new outlook about people with disabilities. His repertoire also includes songs of railroad history and of the American labor movement. A regular performer for children, parents, and teachers, Penn was the winner of the Wisconsin Area Music Industry award for 1993 Best Children's Artist.
Performing area Flexible
Fee $125 to $200
Travel range Statewide
References State Historical Society of Wisconsin Museum, Madison

Randy Peterson
Contact Randy Peterson, 2750 Daniel Court, Green Bay, WI 54311; (414) 469-9710
Description Peterson's upbeat programs include music and storytelling, audience participation, and humor. With guitar, he leads the audience in sing-alongs and motions to original and classic songs. In his storytelling, Peterson invites the audience to act out certain parts as a group or to join in on poetry with a rap rhythm. His library programs stress wordplay and the joy to be found in reading. In one segment of the program, children become members of his "band" and play Along on rhythm instruments. Another portion, just right for the "Sportacular Summer," is a "reading pep rally."
Performing area Flexible
Requirements Electricity where a sound system is required
Fee $175 for one performance, $250 for two shows in same area; additional performances negotiable; travel expenses additional beyond 100-mile radius of Green Bay
Travel range Statewide
References Appleton and Menasha public libraries; Brown County Library, Green Bay

Wayne Peterson—See Wayne the Wizard

Thuy Pham-Remmele, Stories from Southeast Asia
Contact Thuy Pham-Remmele, 5406 Denton Place, Madison, WI 53711; (608) 274-0752 (home) or 271-4301 (work)
Description As a Vietnamese refugee, Pham-Remmele is committed to preserving the rich language and heritage of her childhood. As an English as a second language teacher since 1968, she wants to help students bridge the gaps between two worlds. As a parent, she cares about tradition and acceptance as values to be passed on to children. Since 1980 she has told stories in programs for preschool through senior high school students, teacher inservices, staff-development workshops, and at many conferences throughout the country. She presents a brief historical/cultural overview of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos and follows with age-appropriate stories from these countries. Tales are from Vietnamese, Hmong, Khmer, and Lao traditions; they deal with natural phenomena, myths of creation, humor, animals, witches, and good and evil. Selection can be tailored to match program themes including, but not limited to, multicultural education, human relations, individual differences, and world peace. Among her favorites are "How Rabbit Tricked Lin, Lord of the Jungle," "Stories from the Mekong River," "The Pig Farmer and the Fortune Teller," "The Legend of the Kitchen God," and "The Fairy Princess and the Coconut Boy." She can provide extensive
The Planetary Ranger

Contact: Bill Kehl, c/o Planetary Productions, Ltd., 116 South Fulton Street, Princeton, WI 54968; (414) 295-6767

Description: The Planetary Ranger offers interactive and practical programs designed for fun and to demonstrate the importance of environmental issues for young people. Music, stories, songs, and games are used to illustrate the wonders of creation and mysteries of the living Earth. The presentations also encourage children to take an active role in promoting "Earthkeeping" practices in their families and communities. "Sportacular Summer" programs will emphasize the importance of being involved in "silent sports" such as hiking, biking, canoeing, sailing, and skiing that help develop skills for appreciating and learning about the natural world.

Fee: $125 per program plus mileage; discounts available for multiple programs

Travel range: Statewide except for the far north/northwestern parts of Wisconsin

References: Green Lake and Wild Rose public libraries; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids; Mead Public Library, Sheboygan

Diane Pogrant

Contact: Diane Pogrant, 1800 West Woodbury Lane, Milwaukee, WI 53209; (414) 351-5254

Description: Pogrant's "Snakes and Lizards" program features real reptiles plus information about reptile lives and care. She establishes quick rapport with the audience, provides handouts, and emphasizes use of library resources.

Performing area: Adaptable

Fee: Negotiable

Travel range: Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties

References: Greenfield and Hales Corners public libraries

Rick Ponzio, Story Performer

Contact: Rick Ponzio, P. O. Box 80503, Minneapolis, MN 55408; (612) 672-0494

Description: "Folk Tales from around the World" is a performance designed for libraries and elementary schools. Ponzio introduces his audience to different cultures and such places as China, Japan, Mexico, Africa, and Puerto Rico. He uses his skills as an actor, entertainer, and educator to bring traditional folk tales to life.

Performing area: 12 feet wide, 6 feet deep, 8 feet high, but can adapt

Requirements: One chair

Fee: $100 plus mileage for one 40-minute performance; price break for additional show on same day in the same area

Travel range: Western Wisconsin

References: New Prague (MN) and Westonka (MN) public libraries; Arlington Hills Branch Library, St. Paul, MN; Lind-n Hills Branch Library, Minneapolis, MN
### Bill Porter, Wildlife Photographer

**Contact**
Bill Porter, Sr., 5106 Arpin Hansen Road, Vesper, WI 54489; (715) 569-4652

**Description**
Porter is a photographer and producer of wildlife videos. His ability to handle animals and to predict, as well as observe, their behavior are indicators of his insight into the real world of animal life. At his programs he shares this knowledge and enthusiasm with audiences of all ages. Coka, a 150 pound cougar, accompanies him at some appearances.

**Performing area**
Space appropriate to audience size; must be indoors if Coka is to be part of the program

**Fee**
$125 plus travel expenses; discount for block bookings

**Travel range**
Negotiable

**References**
Nekoosa and Vesper public libraries; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids

### Marilyn Price—See Marilyn Price Puppets, Inc.

### The Puppet Art Troupe

**Contact**
Mark McKillip, 4860 South 69th Street, Greenfield, WI 53220; (414) 282-3282

**Description**
The Puppet Art Troupe offers an assortment of programs using material ranging from fables, folktales, and fairy tales to stories from classical opera. Both fully staged puppet presentations and programs combining storytelling and puppets are available. Among the shows offered during “Sportacular Summer” are “The Fisherman and His Wife” and “Scenes from Childhood,” a celebration of games children play set to the music of Robert Schumann.

**Performing area**
Flexible

**Requirements**
Two chairs, one table, and an electrical outlet

**Fee**
$100 to $400; discounts available for more than one program per day per location

**References**
Franklin, Greendale, Milwaukee, Oak Creek, and West Allis public libraries; South Central Library System

### Puppet Power

**Contact**
Nancy Irvine, 201 Williamsburg Way Court, Madison, WI 53719-1786; (608) 277-7975

**Description**
Have you ever seen a “home run?” What about a “fly ball” or a “ground ball?” See these and more in “Puppet Power’s All Star Animal Athletes” featuring large rod puppets, hand puppets, and life-sized puppets who participate in such sports as baseball, figure skating, weightlifting, volleyball, soccer, football, hockey, and more. They will ask the musical comedy question, “Is Cantor the Crocodile really the greatest sports hero of all times?” A meet-the-puppets and a question-and-answer period follow the show.

**Performing area**
25 feet wide by 20 feet deep

**Requirements**
Electrical outlet

**Fee**
$160 plus $.25 per mile; $25 off for each additional show on the same day in the same area

**Travel range**
200 miles from Madison

**References**
Brookfield, DeForest, and Sun Prairie public libraries

### Puppets Unlimited—See Margo and Jerry Ashton

### Len Radde—See Magic Show

### Reading Is Fun Magic Show

**Contact**
Alex “Bruce” Dicker, 1341 North 31st Street, Sheboygan, WI 53081; (414) 457-6154

**Description**
“Reading Is Fun Magic Show” incorporates music, audience participation, comedy magic, and illusions in a themed program that will help children get
excited about reading. Throughout the program, children can learn about the basics of reading, book etiquette, library manners, and the magical things that can be found in books. Getting children to both laugh and learn is Dicker's specialty. 

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<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Travel range</th>
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<tr>
<td>$125 to $175</td>
<td>price breaks for more than one performance in an area</td>
<td>Elm Grove, Kaukauna, Oconto Falls, and Waupun public libraries</td>
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**Reed Marionettes, “Peoples and Puppets 1, 2, & 3”**

**Contact**
Robin Reed, 700 Llambaris Pass, Wales, WI 53183; (414) 968-3277

**Description**
This series celebrates the differences and similarities among world neighbors. Each 45-minute “Peoples and Puppets” show consists of three short folk stories presented with puppets of various styles, including hand, rod, and shadow puppets; marionettes; and a giant body puppet. Each show features two performers who transport the audience to other cultures and countries with Hispanic, American Indian, Asian, Russian, and African tales enhanced by colorful theatrical lighting, special effects, custom music, and trick-transforming scenery. The shows are suitable for family and children's audiences of up to 400 and include a demonstration of the puppeteers’ art.

**Performing area**
Darkened room with stage preferred but not required; space 18 feet wide, 10 feet deep, 9 feet head room

**Requirements**
Standard electrical outlet; company furnishes quality sound and computer-controlled lighting systems; 90 minutes set-up time

**Fee**
Varies according to show and distance; half price for each additional show at the same location on the same day; call for quotes or brochures

**References**
Neenah Public Library; Rhinelander District Library; Brown County Library, Green Bay; Todd School, Beloit; Adams School, Janesville; Evergreen School, Waterford

**Reed Marionettes**

**Contact**
Tim Reed, Reed Marionettes, 2933 South Herman Street, Milwaukee WI 53207; (414) 744-4172

**Description**
In an “Erwin the Environmentalist” program, Erwin and his audience are taught the Three Rs (Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling) by puppets of all kinds—hand, shadow, rod, and remote-control robot. Focusing on simple ways kids can help the environment, the 35-minute show is geared for kindergarten through eighth grade children or families and is followed by a demonstration of the puppets. Recommended audience size is under 400. In “The Mysterious, Magnificent Magic of Books,” audiences meet zany puppet characters such as a Flugalhonker bird, a tree-munching hippopotamus, and a trouble-making magical book. This 35-minute program is suitable for kids of all ages and is followed by a demonstration. Recommended audience size is under 150.

**Performing area**
For “Erwin,” 12 feet wide by 10 feet deep by 8-1/2 feet high; for “Books,” 10 foot by 10 foot floor space

**Requirements**
For “Erwin,” 90 minutes set-up; for both shows an electrical outlet is needed, and a room that can be darkened is preferred

**Fee**
For “Erwin,” $200 for first show, $125 for second in same location, add mileage for distances beyond 40 miles of Milwaukee; for “Books,” $125 for first show, $75 for second show in same location, add mileage beyond 30-mile radius of Milwaukee

**References**
Appleton, Hartland, Park Falls, and Whitefish Bay public libraries; Rhinelander District Library; Meadowbrook Elementary School, Waukesha; Donges Bay Elementary School, Mequon
Corinne Rockow, Folk Music 'n and Storyteller

Contact  Corinne Rockow, P. O. Box 1014, Marquette, MI 49855; (906) 225-1418

Description  In “Soccer-doodle-doo! Rooster's Adventures in the World of Sports,” Rooster is off to see the world (of sports, that is!) in song and story. He meets Donkey and Frog in one of several world myths and legends involving various sports, learns about sportsmanship and fair play, and meets an underdog with a sense of humor. Rockow presents a 45- to 50-minute movin' and groovin', fun-filled program with lots of audience participation. She brings her pack of props and instruments—guitar, banjo, dulcimer, bones, and drums, among others—to produce many new timbres, tunes, and energizing rhythms to accompany her tales. Her cassette I Sing Every Day of My Life was named a 1993 ALA Notable Recording.

Performing area  When planning seating arrangements, keep in mind that audience participation and movement are encouraged; floor seating is preferred

Requirements  A people-free corner is needed for several instruments and props; electrical outlet

Fee  $100 plus negotiable travel costs, which are figured from Madison for libraries in southern Wisconsin and from Rhinelander for libraries in northern Wisconsin

Travel range  Anywhere

References  Plymouth and Ripon public libraries; Racine/Walworth Counties Storywagon Program; Wisconsin Valley Library Service

Charles Roessger—See Talk with the Animals

Rondini & Company

Contact  Ron or Jane Lindberg, N130 County Trunk N, Appleton, WI 54915; (414) 731-3553

Description  Rondini is a full-time professional magician with more than 19 years' experience performing magic for all types of groups, from small day-care centers to adult conferences with audiences of more than 2,000. He has a degree in elementary education and spends his free time as a substitute teacher. His 1995 summer show, “Sportacular Magic,” was written especially for the Department of Public Instruction's Summer Library Program. It includes a variety of tricks with a sports theme, such as a floating baseball and the magical coloring of a soccer picture. His assistant will be attired in a variety of sports-related clothing. Add to all this the magical appearance of a live bunny, a 40-inch parrot, balloon animals, and lots of audience participation.

Performing area  Minimum of 12 feet by 12 feet, but smaller areas can be considered

Fee  $90 per 30-minute magic show, $180 per hour show; balloon animal artistry available at $50 per hour; $.25 per mile; discounts available for multiple bookings for systems or bookings on the same date within 15 miles

Travel range  This solar system only

References  Dodgeville, Jefferson, Menasha, Mineral Point, Neenah, Plymouth, Shawano, Slinger, and Wauwatosa public libraries

The Rope Warrior

Contact  Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669

Description  With a repertoire of choreographed jump rope routines set to music, David Fisher, The Rope Warrior, exemplifies an alliance between fitness and art. In his high-energy performance he delivers spectacular routines with power, finesse, and break-neck speed; trick rope techniques and a light show performed with glow ropes are included. Programs demonstrate timing, rhythm, dance, and the value of physical fitness. A question-and-answer period follows the performance.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performer Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mikael Rudolph, Mime Artist</td>
<td>Mikael Rudolph, P. O. Box 17334, Minneapolis, MN 55417; (612) 722-1289</td>
<td>Rudolph offers a highly animated and hilarious performance with structured improvisational vignettes featuring classical mime technique, prop illusions, magic, puppetry, hat juggling, and plenty of volunteers from the audience. Each show is as unique as the collection of individuals who see it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbert E. Rugen, Clown/Magician</td>
<td>Herbert E. Rugen, 706 Fourth Avenue, North Onalaska, WI 54650; (608) 783-2757</td>
<td>Rugen and his wife dress as the clowns Honey and Biscuits to present either a magic show or a bubble show. The bubble show demonstrates how to make bubble solution at home and how to use common household objects for making bubbles. At all shows, the children in the audience receive free animal balloons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy SchertzWith Magic</td>
<td>Jeremy Schertz, 3519 Wilhorn Road, Nekoosa, WI 54457; (715) 886-3226</td>
<td>Schertz's 30-minute program is designed to get audience members of all ages involved in reading about the unknown. It is a motivational show with audience participation, loads of comedy, and magic tricks of the 90s. Schertz began doing shows at the age of 11 after seeing a magician perform at his local library. He also is a teacher in the art of illusion and has an instructional video available on the art of magic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jody Schneider—See Troubadour Teachers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Scott the Great and Company
Contact Edith Koch, 914 South 121 Street, West Allis, WI 53214; (414) 453-0467 or Scott Mickelson, 838 Jenifer Street, Apt. 125, Madison, WI 53703; (608) 251-2835
Description Three to six magicians provide their own lights, sound system, backdrops, and tables. Three shows are available. “Phantasmagoria” is a show of classic illusions and magic. “The Magic of Magic” is adaptable to all occasions, audiences, spaces, and budgets. “Chad’s Incredible Show” highlights Mickelson’s brother, Chad-the-Incredible.
Performing area Requirements 20 feet wide by 14 feet deep is ideal, but adaptation possible
Travel range Wisconsin and Illinois, especially the Milwaukee and Madison areas; Chad is available in La Crosse area
References Brookfield, Elm Grove, Franklin, Greenfield, and Lake Geneva public libraries

Lee Scrivner—See Time Traveler

Scubadventures from Underwauber Productions
Contact Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669
Description Underwater filmmaker David Waud shares his worldwide undersea adventures in a multimedia presentation. Sunken treasures, World War II ships, snakes, stonefish, and sharks are encountered. Waud also offers opportunities to examine the latest in diving equipment and underwater camera gear and a question-and-answer session after the program.
Performing area Requirements Room that can be darkened
Fee $275 for one program, $350 for two; negotiable for tour of several engagements
Travel range Nationwide
References Dwight Foster Public Library, Fort Atkinson; Minocqua Public Library; Rhinelander District Library

Tim Sears, Storytelling
Contact Tim Sears, 830 East Briar Ridge Drive, Brookfield, WI 53045-6057; (414) 789-7631
Description Sears has performed throughout Wisconsin with a diverse range of stories for all ages. “Sportacular Summer” will include stories about sports figures, sports stories, and stories about being a good sport. He is not available for daytime performances during the school year.
Requirements Space to move about comfortably; chair or stool; no more than 100 participants per performance
Fee $65 for a 45-minute program, $30 for each additional program in same location on same day; other arrangements negotiable; mileage charged beyond 50-mile radius of Milwaukee
References Big Bend, Iron Ridge, Random Lake, Slinger, and West Allis public libraries; Horace Mann Middle School, West Allis

David Seebach—See Wonders of Magic with David Seebach

David and Sally Semmes—See The Hatrack Storytellers, Inc.

Sign Language Storyteller
Contact Rosemary Green, 1237 Yoder Lane, Apartment A, Whitewater, WI 53190; (414) 472-1106 (work; leave message)
Description The program provides a small introduction to sign language. Green introduces the manual alphabet, describes the story she will tell, and explains how the
audience can help her. The story is told in sign language as well as verbally. Children four years old and older are preferred.

Performing area
Open space with room for children to sit on the floor and chairs for adults

Fee
$75 per hour plus mileage

Travel range
Anywhere there is interest

References
Brookfield and Muskego public libraries

Skippy and Dave and Friends
Contact
Dave Parker, P. O. Box 454, Marshfield, WI 54449; (715) 387-4257 or 479-2877

Description
Skippy and Dave’s “Sportacular Summer” show features ventriloquist-guitarist Parker and his funny wooden sidekick Skippy, appropriately attired in his trademark “little slugger” hat. With energetic music and dialog, they strike a balance between sports and the arts. (Skippy performed his own water skiing stunts in their new video, and Parker describes how he learned the art of ventriloquism from books at his local library.) The concept of teamwork is promoted when Claire DaLoon, Safe T. Dogg, and Quackenbush Duck join the performance. Fans also may jump to their feet when Bat Mann, the talking baseball bat, steps up to the plate for a rousing rendition of “Take Me Out to the Ball Game.” The group’s Sportacular game plan includes music ranging from Beach Boys songs to tunes from The Lion King, selected to keep the audience involved from the first play of the opening drive.

Performing area
8 feet by 8 feet

Requirements
Electricity and a chair

Fee
$120 per library plus $.25 per mile from Marshfield or Three Lakes; libraries are encouraged to split mileage costs

Travel range
From one end of the field to the other

References
Eleanor Ellis Public Library, Phelps; Lakeshores Library System; Wisconsin Valley Library Service

Linda Somers, Singer and Storyteller
Contact
Linda Somers, 4856 North Shoreland Avenue, Whitefish Bay, WI 53217; (414) 961-0660

Description
Somers is a classroom teacher, after-school guitar teacher, and performer in a bluegrass band. She uses interactive music to draw children into her programs. Songs from prairie days and modern times are included as kids count along to “The Ants Go Marching” and check out their colors with “Jenny Jenkins.” Somers leads the way and accompanies songs on guitar, autoharp, and Appalachian mountain dulcimer.

Fee
$50 for a 45- to 60-minute program; available evenings during the school year, days and evenings in the summer

Travel range
Milwaukee area

References
Cedar Grove, Cedarburg, Greenfield, Jefferson, and West Allis public libraries; Elm Dale School, Greenfield

J. P. Somersaulter, Filmmaker
Contact
Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI; (414) 563-9669

Description
Professional filmmaker and cartoonist Somersaulter reveals the secrets of the art of animation, taking audiences on an entertaining, animated journey using award-winning films and character voices. Viewers travel from storyboard to artwork to first frame, follow the sequencing of animation and adding of a soundtrack, and end their journey with a finished reel of cartoon film. Hands-on participation for audience members of all ages is included, and companion workshops and family programs are available.

Performing area
A room that can be darkened, with space appropriate to size of audience

Requirements
16mm projector; screen; 5- or 6-foot table; tumbling mat

Fee
$475 for two shows
**Special Ks**

**Contact**
Rich Krause, W3517 Schiller Drive, Merrill, WI 54452; (715) 536-3431

**Description**
Rich and Sharon Krause and their children Trisha (12), Carrie (10), and Pam (8) sing a variety of songs designed to get the audience singing and dancing along. Their program is aimed at three- to ten-year-olds, but can be adapted for other ages and for specific events.

**Performing area**
10 feet wide by 6 feet deep

**Requirements**
Electrical outlet

**Fee**
$90 plus $.25 per mile

**Travel range**
Unlimited

**References**
Tomahawk Public Library, T. B Scott Free Library, Merrill

**SpotLight on Kids**

**Contact**
Edie Baran P. O. Box 28, Janesville, WI 53547; (608) 758-1451

**Description**
SpotLight on Kids offers storytelling with a twist: kids telling stories to kids. The SpotLight storytellers, who range in age from ten to 50+, are trained to tell tales that are highly participatory, so audience members become many of the characters. They use the magical blend of literature, theater, and creative dramatics to stimulate the imaginations of audience members, whether they are young in age or simply young at heart.

**Performing area**
Open area of any size

**Fee**
$120 for 50- to 60-minute show; block bookings negotiable

**Travel range**
Global; $.25 per mile outside 30-mile radius of Janesville; travel to other states in the region negotiable

**References**
Arrowhead Library System; Beaver Dam, Beloit, Janesville, Milton, Osceola, and St. Croix Falls public libraries

**Mark Steidl, Dreamcrafter**

**Contact**
Mark Steidl, 435 South Hawley Road, #62, Milwaukee, WI 53214; (414) 771-7163

**Description**
Each of Steidl's 45-minute programs includes three stories that come from different cultures but share a common theme. His "Trickster Tales" program, for instance, brings together stories from the Vietnamese, the Ashanti of Ghana, and the Nez Perce. All programs are created to educate and entertain the audience while exposing them to a wider world view. When time permits, he retells one story with audience assistance to encourage the continuation of oral traditions.

**Fee**
$100 plus mileage for one program, $175 plus mileage for two

**Travel range**
Statewide

**References**
Chegwin Elementary School, Fond du Lac; Hawley Environmental School, Milwaukee; Frank Lloyd Wright Middle School, Wauwatosa

**Diane Angela Sterba**

**Contact**
Diane Angela Sterba, Box 359, Mineral Point, WI 53565; (608) 987-2224

**Description**
Sterba is a storyteller who brings fun, creativity, professionalism, and heart to all her performances. She writes original tales from the land of Willy Nilly. Her cassette tape of some of these stories is available. She specializes in multicultural tales and also creates original stories and creative dramatics involving the audience for special occasions.

**Performing area**
Any space suitable for storytelling

**Fee**
$200 for one-hour performance

**Travel range**
Unlimited

**References**
Southwest Wisconsin Library System; University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Early Childhood Conference
**Willie Sterba/Singing Toad Productions**

**Contact**
Singing Toad Productions, Box 359, Mineral Point, WI 53565; (608) 987-2224

**Description**
Sterba has produced four recordings for children including *Chickens in My Hair*, *The Dog Wants Chips*, and *Reindeer Jamboree*. His video, *Willie's Place*, was produced with WHA-TV, Madison. Sterba brings originality, a sense of fun, energy, and rapport with children to his programs, which are designed to keep young listeners coming back for more. His recordings and video are available from the address shown.

**Performing area**
10 feet by 12 feet

**Requirements**
Electrical outlet within 50 feet

**Fee**
$325; block bookings at reduced rates

**Travel range**
Unlimited

**References**
McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids; Lighthouse School, Racine

**Perfomring area**
8 feet by 4 feet

**Requirements**
Three chairs

**Fee**
$150, plus mileage if more than 100 miles round-trip from Manitowoc

**Travel range**
Statewide

**References**
Menasha’s Public Library; Louisiana Children’s Museum; New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival

**Judy Stock**

**Contact**
Judy Stock, P.O. Box 19546, New Orleans, LA 70179; (504) 486-0557

**Description**
To educate and entertain children of all ages, Stock uses storytelling and a number of folk instruments such as guitar, banjo, Cajun spoons, balalaika, limbertoys, and nose flute. Her performance includes a story about a hunter called "The Freedom Bird" and songs about many different sports. Encouraging children to read and lots of audience participation lead to the finale in which children from the audience play in a washboard band. Stock will be available in Wisconsin from July 10 to August 4, 1995.

**Performing area**
Just a small space with room for two chairs

**Requirements**
Two armless chairs; one work table

**Fee**
$150 plus mileage; discounts available for multiple bookings

**Travel range**
Statewide; available any time

**References**
L. E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, Eau Claire

**David Stoeri, Folk Musician/Storyteller**

**Contact**
David Stoeri, P.O. Box 1373, Janesville, WI 53547; (608) 757-0283

**Description**
A full-time professional children’s entertainer since 1983, Stoeri interweaves the rapture of a well-told story with the joy of a song such as his own whimsical *What Kind of Kiss Is That?* to create “sillies and sighs.” He also utilizes instruments such as musical saw, bones, spoons, nose flute, dulcimer, banjo, and harmonica to send audience members of all ages home happy with their sampling of good old-fashioned fun from the “Stoeri Bag.”

**Performing area**
Just a small space with room for two chairs

**Requirements**
Two armless chairs; one work table

**Fee**
$150 plus mileage; reduced fees for multiple bookings

**Travel range**
Statewide; available any time

**References**
L. E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, Eau Claire

**Stuart Stotts, Singing and Storytelling**

**Contact**
Stuart Stotts, 169 Ohio Avenue, Madison, WI 53704; (608) 241-9143

**Description**
Stotts offers a 50-minute program of energetic music and enchanting stories. He includes the story of “Jack and His Friends”; “Seven Nights to Read,” a rockabilly send-up of the joys of reading complete with slide guitar and Elvis imitator; and the story of Coyote, Locust, and the Stone. Stotts guarantees lots of participation, laughter, and movement, as well as a plug for summer reading programs. His goal is to present material that audience members of all ages will enjoy, whether they are dancing along, singing along, or listening along.

**Requirements**
Both indoor and outdoor performances are possible; sound system available if necessary

**Fee**
$150 plus mileage; discounts available for multiple bookings
Sundance Productions
Contact Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI; (414) 563-9669
Description This professional dance troupe combines drama, mime, song, poetry, visual arts, and music in their presentations. Dramatic dances of African, West Indian, and Caribbean cultures are brought to life through lavish costumes and live, authentic music. Dramatic reenactment of events and presentation of traditions from Africa enlighten the audience about a rich cultural heritage.
Performing area 20 feet by 20 feet
Requirements Hard-surface floor, but not concrete; one or two microphones; dressing room
Fee $450 for one performance, $650 for two
Travel range Nationwide
References

Colleen Sutherland/Lily Pad Tales
Contact Colleen Sutherland, 539 Lincoln Street, Seymour, WI 54165; (414) 833-7506
Description Singer/storyteller Sutherland spreads the message that libraries are great with her song "There are Books!" and follows up with wild and crazy stories she has collected during her world travels. Among them are "The Bogan" from Australia, "The King's Storyteller" from Scotland, and the "The Strange Visitor" from England. Her first children's book, Jason Goes to Show-and-Tell, was published in 1992 by Boyds Mills Press (distributed by St. Martin's Press).
Performing area Any space with room for a chair
Fee $100 plus mileage; reduced fees for multiple bookings
Travel range Anywhere
References Brown County Library and branches

Talk with the Animals
Contact Charles Roessger, P. O. Box 04622, Milwaukee, WI 53204; (414) 647-2894
Description "Talk with the Animals" is a live-animal presentation by a former high school biology teacher and Milwaukee Public Museum educator. Designed to be educational and entertaining, the program stars Pincushion the Porcupine and Blossom the Possum. A rat (occasionally with her babies), guinea pig, chinchilla, snake, dove, and rooster also are likely to come along. Roessger discusses the intricate designs and uses of animals as well as the marvels of life and the interdependency of most life forms. His goal is to increase the appreciation of and care for life. Roessger uses a wireless microphone as he moves freely through the audience, so young participants can get a close look at special animal features. A question-and-answer period ends the 45- to 60-minute performance.
Requirements A rectangular table with a covering of newspapers is needed. Audiences of fewer than 100 are preferred; consecutive programs are recommended for maximum effectiveness and flexibility when a larger group is anticipated.
Fee $60 plus $.20 per mile beyond Milwaukee County; additional consecutive programs discounted at $30 each
Travel range Approximately 100-mile radius; special arrangements are needed for greater distances
References Burlington, Kenosha, Manitowoc public libraries; North Milwaukee Branch, Milwaukee

Tap-It Dancing & Theatrical Company, Ltd.
Contact Donna Peckett or Danielle Dresden, 1957 Winnebago Street Madison, WI 53704; (608) 244-2938
Description Join tap-dancing detective Geraldine Hairspray and travel-loving truck driver Lula Maes as they embark on their sporty second case, "The Mystery of the Missing Lake." Encouraging young sleuths in the audience, the detecting duo
performing area
requirements
fee
travel range
references

time traveler
contact
lee scrivner, point blank productions, box 217, woodruff, wi 54568; (715) 356-5908

description
scrivner is a teacher, artist, historian, and reenactor from the heart of new france. in the role of a 1790s fur post factor, he appears authentically dressed, from his rawhide moccasin soles to his tricornered hat. he explains in detail the lives of the 18th century french in "ouisconsin," displaying an array of tools, equipment, trade goods, birch bark vessels, clothes, and other materials from both the french and american indian cultures of the period. designed to be both educational and entertaining, the text of his program is derived from stories, incidents, and diaries of the early french in new france.

fee
$200 for a 90-minute presentation and 30-minute question period; price breaks for multiple shows

travel range
ouisconsin, iowa; upper peninsula of michigan, minnesota

mary tooley—see art in a suitcase

troubadour teachers
contact
jody schneider or veronika kropp, p. o. box 340966, milwaukee, wi 53234; (414) 541-4229

description
touch your toes and pinch your nose as you get your body and mind in shape and have "fun with french" with these two energetic french-immersion teachers who also are composers, musicians, and recording artists. they lead a 45- to 60-minute interactive, "aerobic" musical program introducing simple french vocabulary and language patterns through original songs and stories. children actively participate in song and dance and with rhythm instruments. programs on various topics are available, including numbers, the calendar, colors, the alphabet, shapes, family, feelings, and more. programs are adaptable to any theme and are suitable for all ages.

fee
$125 for one program, $200 for two; add travel expenses outside milwaukee area

travel range
100-mile radius of milwaukee; chicago area

references
burlington, hartland, kenosha, milwaukee, muskego, and waukesha public libraries; maude shunk public library, menomonee falls; glenview (il) public library

truly remarkable loon comedy juggling revue
contact
truly remarkable loon, p. o. box 14052, madison, wi 53714-0052; (608) 244-0244

description
loon's show, "merry anticipation of disaster," is designed to entertain all ages as he juggles almost everything—giant bean bag chairs, clubs, diabolos, a mongoose, his mom's recycled lamps, scarves, sports equipment, a parasol, and the audience—while delivering nonstop comedy patter. he also balances an assortment of objects, including at least ten spinning, gyrating plates, telling the true story of how he learned to spin plates from a library book and encouraging
children to use their library. His policy for library shows is Lots of Fun!! No Danger!! He takes pride in his positive and upbeat humor and shares with the audience the benefits of having a positive attitude and believing in oneself. At family shows where parents accompany children, he delivers the same positive message and the appearance of more danger. The family show includes a running gag with machetes, which are eventually juggled, and a finale with fire torch juggling. Safety in this funny flaming finale is ensured by volunteer firefighters. Loon, who believes learning how to juggle builds self-confidence and self-esteem, also offers a juggling and balancing workshop for young people aged ten and older. He can work with up to three groups of children (maximum of 30 per group) for 45 to 60 minutes each. Most participants can learn the three-ball juggling pattern, scarf juggling, the "secret" to balancing objects, and the basics of diabolo manipulation. All equipment is provided.

Performing area
8 feet by 10 feet with 10 feet vertical clearance; outdoor shows also are welcome

Fee
For weekday engagements, $300 for one performance or for workshops only; $400 for two performances at the same library; $400 for one performance plus workshops at the same library; $450 for one performance at each of two libraries on the same day; $0.25 per mile is charged for all shows. Block bookings as low as $200 per show, travel included, with a minimum of six shows on three consecutive days

Travel range
Worldwide; available year round

References
Brodhead, Brookfield, Marshall, Menasha, Monroe, Sheboygan Falls, and Stoughton public libraries; Door County Library, Sturgeon Bay; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids; Arrowhead Library System

Fred Turk, Songster

Contact
Fred Turk, 10010 West Leon Terrace, Milwaukee, WI 53224; (414) 353-5763

Description
Turk performs traditional songs with banjo and guitar accompaniment and encourages lots of audience participation. He includes many of his own original compositions. In one song, children learn how to whistle; in another, they learn how to say "no" to drugs. He offers a hand-clapping, toe-tapping program appropriate for the entire family. A preview videotape is available upon request.

Performing area
Flexible

Requirements
One or two tables, electrical outlet; outdoor concerts may require a sound system (additional fee if provided by performer)

Fee
$75 per show (negotiable), plus mileage outside metropolitan Milwaukee area; overnight accommodations if necessary

Travel range
Statewide

References
Cudahy Public Library; Tippecanoe Branch, Milwaukee Public Library; Milwaukee County Zoo

Douglas G. Udell

Contact
Douglas G. Udell, P. O. Box 71027, Milwaukee, WI 53211; (414) 964-3684

Description
Udell performs children's music for three- to ten-year-olds. Audience participation in nearly every song helps add an honest sense of fun to each concert. He makes it easy for young children to join in with a series of familiar songs, new songs, fingerplays, and even a brief drama activity or two. Most programs include a story that also involves audience participation. Udell has been performing children's music for 12 years and is a former preschool teacher (14 years). Currently, he is on the full-time faculty of Milwaukee Area Technical College's Child Development Department, where he helps train future preschool teachers. Udell has two tapes available, At My House: Songs for Children and Dance around the Bullfrog.

Performing area
Large enough indoor space for children to sit on the floor; outdoor concerts possible

Requirements
An armless chair, a glass of water; outdoor concerts may require a sound system (additional fee if provided by performer)
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<tr>
<th><strong>Marsha Valance, Storyteller</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact</strong></td>
<td>Marsha Valance, 6639 West Dodge Place, Milwaukee, WI 53220-1329; (414) 543-8507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>Valance invites program participants to exercise their minds with sports stories from many ages and cultures.</td>
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<td><strong>Performing area</strong></td>
<td>Small area in which to walk about</td>
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<td><strong>Requirements</strong></td>
<td>Indoors preferred, intimate but flexible; table or bench for props; pitcher of water and glass; microphone for large groups</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fee</strong></td>
<td>$100 plus expenses for 45-minute presentation; $150 plus expenses for two programs; payable day of performance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Travel range</strong></td>
<td>Statewide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>References</strong></td>
<td>Elm Grove Public Library; Marquette University Literacy Program; Audubon Court Bookstore, Milwaukee; Irishfest, Milwaukee; Whitnall Park Domes, Milwaukee</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Pop Wagner</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contact</strong></td>
<td>Artist Management, Inc., P. O. Box 346, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572; (608) 437-3440</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>Wagner carries on the spirit of the Old West with his lariat tricks, snakeskin boots, and warbling western twang. In concert, he is a singer, guitarist, fiddler, and country humorist. He has performed on Garrison Keillor's &quot;A Prairie Home Companion&quot; and Wisconsin Public Radio's &quot;Tent Show Radio.&quot; In addition to offering concerts, Wagner conducts residencies and workshops designed for children ages five through 12, at which he teaches songwriting, folk dancing, lasso spinning, and other American arts.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Performing area</strong></td>
<td>Indoor or outdoor stage; minimum of 8 feet by 10 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Requirements</strong></td>
<td>Electricity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fee</strong></td>
<td>Negotiable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Travel range</strong></td>
<td>United States and Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>References</strong></td>
<td>Janesville Recreation Department; Duluth (MN) Public Library</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Elizabeth Was</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact</strong></td>
<td>Elizabeth Was, Route 1, Box 131, LaFarge, WI; (608) 528-4619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>&quot;Honkers, Clackers, and Squeakers&quot; introduces the vast world of sound and sound makers. Was displays, discusses, and demonstrates the making and playing of her collection of handmade, found, and international musical instruments. Her presentation focuses on the use of found, recyclable, and indigenous materials to make instruments simply and inexpensively at home. There also is an emphasis on freeing one's ears to enjoy world music and funny sounds. Depending on audience size, there may be opportunities for hands-on experimentation. Was's program &quot;When Is a Book Not a Book?&quot; features a variety of unique &quot;books&quot; made from unusual materials; call for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fee</strong></td>
<td>$75 per 45- to 60-minute program plus travel expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Travel range</strong></td>
<td>100-mile radius of Richland Center; further with a negotiable fee increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>References</strong></td>
<td>Brewer Public Library, Richland Center; Lone Rock Public Library; Viroqua Elementary Schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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| **David Waud—See Scubadventures from Underwauder Productions** |  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Wayne the Wizard</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact</strong></td>
<td>Wayne the Wizard, 4338 Lilac Lane, Madison, WI 53711; (608) 274-9411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>“Wayne the Wizard's Sportacular Summer&quot; is designed to amaze and amuse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
audiences with illusions related to the sporting theme. Magic, ventriloquism, balloon sculpturing, juggling, and “troublewit” are combined in his 45-minute show. Audience participation is encouraged, and reading books about magic is promoted. The Wizard provides his own battery-powered sound system.

Performing area
10 square feet up against a wall; stages or raised areas are ideal; outdoor shows possible in a shaded area

Requirements
Audience seating directly in front of performer, not to the sides or behind

Fee
$150 per show plus mileage; multiple bookings in an area encouraged for package rates

References
Holmen Branch Library, La Crosse County Library; South Central Library System

Judy Weckerly—See Actors All Participation Theater

Nancy Weiss-McQuide—See Jump, Giggle, Mime, and Wiggle

Brad Wendt
Contact
Brad Wendt, 149 Dunning Street, Madison, WI 53704; (608) 246-2174

Description
Wendt provides an energetic introduction to Frisbee™ flying techniques, together with history and descriptions of Frisbee games. He will organize participation games and Frisbee contests for library groups.

Performing area
15 feet by 15 feet minimum; outdoors preferred for contest

Fee
$75

Travel range
60-mile radius of Madison

References
Marquette and Lapham elementary schools, O'Keeffe Middle School, Madison

Wildlife: A Safari of Discovery/ T. Daniel Productions

Contact
Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669

Description
With images stronger than the spoken word, two actors take their audience on an artistic safari inviting discovery, inquiry, and interpretation. During this theatrical adventure participants come face to face with a lion, swim with a school of fish, fly like a bird, and visit exotic animals in an imagined landscape. Workshops and residencies are also available.

Performing area
15 feet by 15 feet minimum

Requirements
Dressing room; stage and microphone preferred

Fee
$375 for one performance, $560 for two

References
Elm Grove and Neenah public libraries

Patrick Wiley

Contact
Patrick Wiley, N12073 Breed Road, Clintonville, WI 54929; (715) 823-4770

Description
Wiley is a folk singer, songwriter, and humorist. A master at getting people involved, he has been entertaining for more than 20 years. He has developed a “Sportacular Celebration of Summer Fun” using a variety of instruments such as guitar, banjo, fiddle, accordion, and jawharp. It features songs and stories of baseball, fishing, swimming, biking, camping, and vacations. Other programs also are available, including one that combines old-time barn dancing and a jug band. His programs are suitable for children and adults alike.

Performing area
Indoors or outdoors

Fee
$200 plus mileage; special rates available for multiple performances; special considerations for small libraries with limited budgets

References
Brown County Library, Green Bay; Niagara, Seymour, Shawano, and Waupaca public libraries; Winnefox Library System
Wisconsin Arts Board

Contact: Dean Amhaus, Executive Director, or George Tzougros, Program Manager, 101 East Wilson Street, First Floor, Madison, WI 53702; (608) 266-0190

Description: The board is responsible for the support and development of the arts throughout Wisconsin. Its funding programs provide grants to individual artists, nonprofit arts organizations, schools, and other nonprofit community organizations to create and present art to the public. Its services provide the information, technical help, and networking tools to enhance the work of arts administrators and artists.

Wonders of Magic with David Seebach

Contact: Class Act, W5784 Woodlawn Drive, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538; (414) 563-9669

Description: Seebach provides a program designed to entertain, mystify, and delight children of all ages. His fast-paced show featuring illusion and sleight of hand includes music and costumes. See him levitate, watch him saw someone in half, observe as his assistant is changed into a lion or tiger. Besides comedy and audience participation, there is emphasis on values and good living habits. The 45- to 60-minute programs can be tailored to specific themes and are always age-appropriate.

Performing area: 12 feet by 16 feet minimum; raised stage preferred
Requirements: Microphone, dressing room, half-hour needed for set-up
Fee: $350 for one program, $550 for two; negotiable for tour of several engagements
Travel range: Nationwide
References: Belleville Area Cultural Foundation, Belleville

Doug “The Woz” Wozniak

Contact: “The Woz,” 1108 Dennis Street, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729; (715) 723-6331

Description: There’s never a dull moment at a performance by “The Woz.” Just when audience members think they’ve seen it all, there is something new, something now, something WOW! Wozniak’s programs are up-beat, fast-paced, positive, and have action-packed audience participation built in for young and old alike. His new cassette Hugs and Kisses is out, paid for in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board.

Performing area: 10 feet by 12 feet
Requirements: Table for props; electricity
Fee: Varies; price break for multiple shows
Travel range: Statewide
References: Cumberland Public Library

Terri Young-Whitledge

Contact: Terri Young-Whitledge, 615 Park Avenue, Beloit, WI 53511; (608) 364-1997

Description: Young is a songwriter and performer who has written and recorded two albums of children’s music. Her program includes original music geared toward preschool and kindergarten children and supplemented by guitar accompaniment, puppets, and visual aids. Audiences are invited to participate in both song and movement. Songs are about feelings, behavior, animals, vehicles, humor, and other things close to children’s hearts. While children are being entertained, adults have opportunities to observe new methods of using music as a learning tool.

Fee: $100, plus mileage, for a 45-minute performance; price breaks for more than one performance in an area
Travel range: Statewide
References: Kids Creation Funfest, Beloit; Wright Elementary School, Beloit; Fairview Early Education Program, Rockford, IL; Kids Stuff Limited Preschool, Rockford, IL
**Performer Evaluation**

This form is provided for the convenience of library systems that maintain central records of information about performers. If your system has such files, you may copy this form, fill it out, and send it to your system’s youth services liaison. While each artist or group is asked to provide references for inclusion in the manual, your reactions will help in maintaining a valid roster.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name First and Last</th>
<th>Telephone Area/No.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Performer or Group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Performance at Your Library</td>
<td>Please rate the performance Check one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ Excellent □ Good □ Unsatisfactory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMMENTS**

*Please be specific, especially in describing any problems or unsatisfactory performance.*
SOURCES & RESOURCES
resources for the hearing & visually impaired catalogs & other resources
Resources for People Who Have Hearing and Visual Disabilities

The information in this section is provided to help you serve special children in your community. Be aware of the recreational activities these children are able to take part in and of their interests. In your publicity and promotional pieces, remember to include appropriate information about wheelchair accessibility, the availability of signing for those who are deaf, and any other special services your library can provide.

Services for the Hearing Impaired

The map on the next page identifies the regional coordinators of hearing-impaired services for the Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. The person listed for each area is available for consultation on matters relating to serving persons who have hearing impairments. Note, however, that the Southeastern Wisconsin Center for Independent Living (SEWCIL) handles the scheduling for the entire state of individuals who interpret programs in sign language. Contact SEWCIL's Donna Landwehr at (800) 542-9838 or (414) 438-5628.

Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

The Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has established 20 service centers and four deposit collections in various Wisconsin public libraries in an effort to better serve its patrons and increase public awareness of the Regional Library. The centers are mobile shelving display units filled with about 250 Talking Books on a wide range of topics; materials for children and young adults are included. Borrowers registered with the Regional Library can use the cassettes and discs. Information and application forms for becoming a registered borrower are available at local public libraries or can be obtained from the Regional Library by calling (414) 286-3045 in Milwaukee or (800) 242-8822 from anywhere else in Wisconsin.

The Regional Library will take part in the 1995 statewide Summer Library Program with the “Sportacular Summer” theme. Any of its young registered borrowers may participate by visiting their local public library. Local librarians may request brailled copies of program-related activities from this manual by telephoning the Regional Library.

The Regional Library staff have prepared the following list of “sportacular” titles. They hope many of their young patrons will participate in the summer program by exploring a number of these adventurous suggestions.

Kits (Cassette & Braille Book)
Kindergarten through Grade 2

Kit 1  Allard, Harry. Miss Nelson Has a Field Day
The terrifying Miss Viola Swamp substitutes for the sick football coach. (Print/Braille)

Kit 2  Calhoun, Mary. Hot-air Henry
A brave cat goes for an unexpected balloon ride. (Print/Braille)
Cassette Books Kindergarten through Grade 2

RC 23103 Carrick, Carol. *Dark and Full of Secrets*
1 cassette In this realistic nature adventure, Christopher goes snorkeling alone in the pond to see some underwater sights. But he becomes so absorbed in marvelous discoveries that he drifts away from shore.

RC 24505 Parish, Peggy. *Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping*
1 cassette Amelia does exactly what she is instructed to do. To pitch a tent, she picks up a folded tent and tosses it. To row a boat or do anything else on the trip, Amelia literally finds a way.

RC 16494 Rockwell, Anne. *Games (And How to Play Them)*
1 cassette Instructions are given for 43 games for all kinds of occasions and all kinds of children. There are noisy games, quiet games, and games for rainy days.

Books on Disc Kindergarten through Grade 2

RD 15618 Calhoun, Mary. *Cross-country Cat*
1 disc As a joke, a boy makes a pair of tiny skis for Henry, his sassy Siamese cat who spends a lot of time on his hind legs. When Henry is left by mistake at the family’s weekend cabin, he sets out for home on his miniature skis.

RD 11113 Carrick, Carol. *Sleep Out*
1 disc Christopher receives a sleeping bag, canteen, and flashlight for his birthday. Impatient to test his new equipment, he sets off by himself and remains determined to sleep out all night despite several very real scares.

RD 18720 Van Allsburg, Chris. *Jumanji*
1 disc The game they find under a tree looks like 100 others Peter and Judy have at home. But when they unfold the seemingly ordinary game board, they are plunged into exciting and bizarre adventures.

Braille Books Kindergarten through Grade 2

BR 3239 Bonsall, Crosby. *Piggle*
1 volume After his four older sisters refuse to play with him, Homer goes looking for someone, anyone, who will. (Print/Braille)

BR 02386 Green, Phyllis. *The Fastest Quitter in Town*
1 volume Although known as the fastest quitter on the baseball team, Johnny finally proves he can stick to a job when his great-grandfather needs his help. (Print/Braille)

BR 07359 Green, Phyllis. *Gloomy Louie*
1 volume Despite his .000 batting average and his family’s impending move to Phoenix, Louie begins to develop confidence when he saves a neighbor from her burning house.

Cassette Books Grades 3 and 4

RC 12240 Christopher, Matt. *The Diamond Champs*
1 cassette An air of mystery surrounds a baseball coach obsessed with the idea of turning a bunch of inexperienced kids into champions in their first season.

RC 10282 Henry, Marguerite. *Black Gold*
1 cassette This is the story of the only Kentucky Derby winner raised by an American Indian and of the boy who loved the horse.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catalog Number</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Format</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RC 20427</td>
<td>Hurwitz, Johanna</td>
<td><em>Baseball Fever</em></td>
<td>1 cassette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC 28965</td>
<td>Isenberg, Barbara</td>
<td><em>Albert the Running Bear Gets the Jitters</em></td>
<td>1 cassette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC 23480</td>
<td>Lasky, Kathryn</td>
<td><em>Jem's Island</em></td>
<td>1 cassette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC 15072</td>
<td>Shearer, John</td>
<td><em>The Case of the Sneaker Snatcher</em></td>
<td>1 cassette</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Books on Disc Grade 3 and 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catalog Number</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RD 07666</td>
<td>Christopher, Matt</td>
<td><em>Jinx Glove</em></td>
<td>1 disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RD 08280</td>
<td>Kessler, Leonard</td>
<td><em>Here Comes the Strikeout!</em></td>
<td>1 disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RD 11009</td>
<td>Renick, Marion</td>
<td><em>Pete's Home Run</em></td>
<td>1 disc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Braille Books Grade 3 and 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catalog Number</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BR 06992</td>
<td>Adler, David</td>
<td><em>Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Babe Ruth Baseball</em></td>
<td>1 volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BR 03262</td>
<td>Christopher, Matt</td>
<td><em>Shortstop from Tokyo</em></td>
<td>1 volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BR 03206</td>
<td>Henry, Marguerite</td>
<td><em>Born to Trot</em></td>
<td>1 volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BR 05422</td>
<td>Stamm, Claus</td>
<td><em>Three Strong Women: A Tall Tale from Japan</em></td>
<td>1 volume</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cassette Books Grades 5 and 6

RC 22089 Aaseng, Nathan. Football: You are the Coach
1 cassette Aaseng puts readers in the shoes of professional coaches, inviting them to make decisions about do-or-die situations in ten National Football League championship games.

RC 24364 David, Andrew. River Thrill Sports
1 cassette The author provides a guide to the equipment, skills, and safety precautions required for rafting, canoeing, and kayaking.

RC 15979 Dyard, Thomas. Outside Shooter
1 cassette A high school basketball star's personality problems threaten not only his own career but also the success of his whole team.

RC 22153 Manes, Stephen. That Game from Outer Space: The First Strange Thing that Happened to Oscar Noodleman
1 cassette Oscar becomes obsessed with the new video game in Hughie's Pizza Parlor and finds himself involved in an unusual adventure with aliens from outer space.

RC 30425 O'Dell, Scott. Black Star, Bright Dawn
1 cassette A young Eskimo girl faces the challenge of the Iditarod, the 900-mile sled dog race across Alaska from Fairbanks to Nome.

RC 14197 Olney, Ross. Drama on the Speedway
1 cassette Exciting moments in 16 great auto races are described.

RC 16285 Olney, Ross. The Young Runner
1 cassette The book provides an introduction to the joy of running.

Books on Disc Grades 5 and 6

RD 07479 Danziger, Paula. There's a Bat in Bunk Five
2 discs As a junior counselor at summer camp, Marcy is assigned to Bunk 5, the one with a bat and the worst problem child in camp. Marcy also falls in love for the first time, to the delight of giggling campers.

RD 08129 Hodges, Margaret. The Freewheeling of Joshua Cobb
2 discs Josh Cobb and friends make careful plans for a carefree bicycle camping trip through New England, but Josh's own troubles begin before he even reaches the meeting place.

RD 06309 Jacobs, Helen. The Tennis Machine
3 discs Although Vicky is a natural athlete who loves tennis, she resists her father's attempts to manage her life and make her become a champion tennis player.

Braille Books Grades 5 and 6

BR 06317 Avi. S.O.R. Losers
1 volume Ed Sitrow and ten other "nonjock" classmates have avoided athletic teams since they have been at South Orange River Middle School. Now a special soccer team has been created just for them. Ed and the other boys make the worst team in the school's history, but they prove to themselves and to their schoolmates that there is more than one way to be a winner.

BR 07783 Cohen, Barbara. Thank You, Jackie Robinson
1 volume A fatherless boy who shares his love of baseball and Jackie Robinson with an old African-American man takes a baseball autographed by all the Dodgers, including Jackie Robinson, to his old friend's hospital bed.
BR 04735 Morrison, Lillian. *Sprints and Distances: Sports in Poetry and the Poetry in Sports*
1 volume
This collection includes a variety of poems ranging from lighthearted newspaper verse to works by such poets as Wordsworth and Yeats.

BR 0770 Phipson, Joan. *Cross Currents*
1 volume
In this psychological suspense story, 17-year-old Jim rebels against his father's authority. Accidentally confined aboard the family boat with his young cousin, he is impressed by Charlie's fundamental soundness. He learns to level with himself and with Charlie as they face emergencies together.

BR 06498 Paulson, Gary. *Tracker*
1 volume
At 13 John Borne looks forward to hunting deer for food, because that means he spends time with his grandfather. Now John's grandfather is dying and John must hunt alone.

**Catalogs and Other Resources**

These companies, organizations, and stores can be additional sources of materials and prizes to enhance your summer programs. Some offer catalogs from which to select items, and some may be located near enough for you to browse and select directly from their stock.

**American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611; (800) 545-2433**
The Fall 1994/Winter 1995 *ALA Graphics Catalog* offers “Read” posters featuring athletes Shaquille O'Neal, Kristi Yamaguchi, Bo Jackson, Isiah Thomas, and Michael Chang. A “Read/Succeed” Chicago Bulls poster and bookmarks and a “Use Your Head, Read” Andrew Shue and World Cup Soccer poster and bookmarks are also available. Gold Medal Reader stickers, “Read/Succeed” sports bottles, and an Official Reading Coach baseball cap are among other items that could tie in with the “Sportacular Summer” theme.

**Demco, P. O. Box 7488, Madison, WI 53707-7488; (800) 356-1200**
The Winter 1994 *Library and Reading Promotions! catalog* offers a static-cling door sign with the generic caption “Ask About Our Summer Reading Program.” Sports greats Satchel Paige, Jackie Robinson, and Arthur Ashe are featured in African-American poster sets, and Olympic track star Wilma Rudolph in a Great American Women poster set. Bronze, silver, and gold plastic medals are available, as are pencils with sports designs: football, basketball, soccer, baseball, and teamwork. A poster with the caption “Summer-time and the readin' is easy” features a young boy reading while he fishes. The 1994 *Full Line* catalog includes pencils with slogans such as “Blue Ribbon Award” and “Star Reader,” “bentcils”—pencils bent into different shapes—shaped like football helmets and baseball caps, and a button with the slogan “Reading is My Sport.” The 1995 *Spring* catalog presents a complete series of items with the slogan “Book Action—Check It Out.” Included are bookmarks, posters, notepad, pencils, buttons, book bags, T-shirts, and sweatshirts.

**Kidstamps, P. O. Box 18699, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118; (800) 727-5437**
The 1994 catalog includes various sports-related stamps created by children’s book illustrators/authors. One pictures a row of divers—a pig, bear, and hippo from Nicole Rubel—with the slogan “Dive into Books.” Other stamps feature James Marshall’s Coach (and don’t you forget it) Viola Swamp, H. A. Rey’s Curious George balanced on a ball, and Arnold Lobel’s Frog and Toad fishing and reading in their boat.

**Kipp, 240-242 South Meridian Street, P. O. Box 157, Indianapolis, IN 46206; (800) 428-1153**
The 1994 catalog includes dozens of very inexpensive, sports-related items suitable for use as prizes. Among them are mini foam balls, super balls, jump ropes, paddleball sets, marbles, soccer ball erasers, mini game books, and sun visors.
Learning Shops, locations in many Wisconsin communities
These and similar school supply stores stock standard award ribbons with titles such as "Participant," "Special Reader," "Special Award," "Sportsmanship," and "Champ."

M. Nowotvy & Co., 8823 Callaghan Road, San Antonio, TX 78230
Fool's gold nuggets are available inexpensively; use as "go for the gold" prizes.

Northwest Fabric Stores, locations in many Wisconsin communities
Take a look at prepackaged Sport Shapes Felt Cut-outs to use for bulletin boards and other decorating projects. Assorted balls, pennants, pompons, and letters are available.

Oriental Trading Co., P. O. Box 3407, Omaha, NE; (800) 327-9678
In addition to a variety of award ribbons and plastic trophy cups, the company carries a wide variety of inexpensive prize items.

Sally Distributors, 4100 Quebec Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55427; (800) 472-5597
Inexpensive balls, award necklaces, trophies, and checkered flags are among the sports-related items carried.

Sherman Specialty Company, P. O. Box 401, Merrick, NY 11566; (800) 645-6513
Several sports-related trinkets are available, such as packages of 72 two-inch soft plastic sports balls for $8.95 or sets of 24 notepads in three sporty designs for $8.95.

SmileMakers, P. O. Box 2543, Spartanburg, SC 29304; (800) 825-8085
Pop-up Sports Stickers are available in rolls of 75; one roll is $4.95, ten rolls are $3.95 each.

Upstart (A Division of Highsmith, Inc.), P. O. Box 800, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538-0800; (800) 448-4887
Catalog K73 for Fall 1994 shows a selection of products with the slogan "Win with Reading." Available are posters, bookmarks, buttons, book bags, medals, seals, certificates, a bulletin board decoration set, and T-shirts. Also offered are posters and bookmarks with the slogan "Ride Your Dreams"; they feature bicyclists in realistic and fantastic environments. Bookmarks with the slogan "Pick a Winner - Read" feature facts about basketball, baseball, football, and soccer and list Newbery medal winners on the reverse side. Two other bookmark sets list Olympic champions in various sports; "Winter Games" features cross-country skiing, speed skating, ice hockey, and figure skating and "Summer Games" lists champions in pole vaulting, platform diving, marathon running, and soccer.

The catalog introduces a series of Exercise Your Mind posters and bookmarks specifically created to attract young adults to books. These slogans are used: "Experience the Power of Books" (African-American male weight trainer pictured), "Real Gain No Pain" (Caucasian female step exerciser), "Tackle a Good Book" (Latino football player), "Build Your Mental Endurance" (Latina runner), "Reading: An Uplifting Experience" (Caucasian male soccer player), and "Go the Distance with Books" (African-American male bicyclist).

U. S. Toy Company, 1227 East 119th Street, Grandview, MO 64030; (800) 255-6124
The company stocks a wide variety of inexpensive prize items.