

BOOK

Remarks



Quarterly Publication of the Sioux City Public Library

www.siouxcitylibrary.org

Spring 2008

Catch the Reading Bug

From cuddly to creepy, the Library's summer reading program for children preschool through 5th grade promises many opportunities to read about nature, animals, and bugs. Registration for *Catch the Reading Bug* begins June 2 at all Library agencies. At sign up, participants receive logs to record the number of books read and visits to the Library; three more visits by July 31 completes the program. Readers earn incentives—book bags, finger puppets and bookmarks—at each visit. The prize for completing the program is a free paperback book, courtesy of the Friends of the Sioux City Public Library.




Hissing roaches courtesy of Dr. William Heyborne, presenting *Adventures with Bugs* on June 18.



Young adults in grades 6 to 9 participate in *Metamorphosis*, the teen summer reading program. Incentive prizes for reading and visiting the Library include book bags, food coupons, and paperback books.

Events scheduled as part of the summer reading program include puppets, storytellers, popular movies (*Bee Movie*, *Enchanted*, and *National Treasure*), nature programs, and special appearances by Clifford the Big Red Dog, Curious George and The Cat in the Hat. Storytimes are held outside, weather permitting.

Make a beeline to the Library this summer where natural adventures await! The Library's summer calendar, available in May, is also on the web at www.siouxcitylibrary.org/events.htm. 

Downloadable Audio Books Are Here

Good news for readers on the go

Downloadable digital audio books are now available for checkout from the Sioux City Public Library. The latest titles from Evanovich, Grafton, Patterson, and Sparks, along with classic titles and a variety of nonfiction books, can be checked out and loaded onto personal computers or MP3 players. A full-service Sioux City Public Library card, access to the Internet, and free software for the computer or device on which to play the audio books are all it takes to use the new service. Downloaded titles are never overdue and contain no CDs or cassettes to return. Some titles are licensed so that borrowers can burn their own CDs. Some are "always available" for downloading, others may be used by only one patron at a time.

"Last summer we began researching how other Iowa libraries deliver this service," said Reference & Reader Services Manager Sara Doyle. In the fall Sioux City Public Library found a partner in eastern Iowa willing to share costs and collections. "The joint collaboration with Carnegie-Stout Public Library in Dubuque gives patrons from both libraries access to a great selection of titles. The technology is easy, assuring great customer service and a positive user experience," Doyle explained.

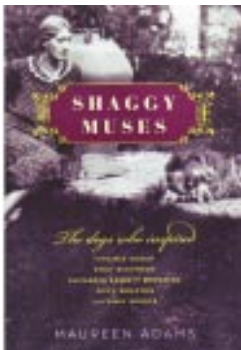
Downloadable audio books are available at the Library's Online Branch. Visit www.siouxcitylibrary.org and click on the "download audio books" graphic. 



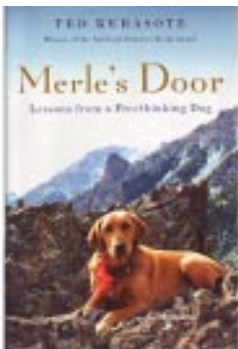
Shaggy Muses

Writers and their dogs

What is it about man's best friend that endears him to us? Experts say that dogs have perfected their ability to be attuned to people. They respond to aspects of ourselves that others do not notice—qualities that even we have trouble recognizing and accepting as being inherent in us. Also, caring for a dog connects us with the natural world, providing an anchor that improves all our relationships.



At least that is the premise for *Shaggy Muses: The Dogs Who Inspired Virginia Woolf, Emily Dickinson, Edith Wharton, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Emily Brontë* by Maureen B. Adams. Based on diaries, letters, poems and other accounts, the five miniature biographies reveal the powerful bond each woman had with her dog.



There is, perhaps, no better example of the symbiotic relationship between human and dog than the profoundly touching *Merle's Door: Lessons from a Free-thinking Dog* by Ted Kerasote. This National Outdoor Book Award winner's writing has appeared in more than 50 periodicals. Acting as Merle's translator, the author uses wolf research and life with Merle to explore the nature of "partnership" and its reward.

Dogs have inspired other writers to put pen to paper as well. In *Marley and Me*, John Grogan, a newspaper columnist and former editor of Rodale's *Organic Gardening* magazine, discovers that bonding with a wondrously neurotic, 97-pound retriever becomes a lifelong work in progress.

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Dreaming in Libro is part two of a simple memoir recalling life with a remarkable dog, as told by first-time dog owner Louise Bernikow. The author of seven



books and consulting historian for *Women's eNews* rescues an amber-eyed boxer from the backseat of a police car and takes him home to her Manhattan apartment. The 9/11 section alone is worth the read.

For more on the canine connection, SUBJECT BROWSE search the online catalog under Human-animal relationships—Anecdotes. 📖

What is Early Literacy?

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write. Research shows that children get ready to read years before they start school.

Experts have identified six pre-reading skills that children must learn in order to read. These include: vocabulary, print motivation, print awareness, narrative skills, letter knowledge, and phonological awareness. Most children who have difficulty reading have trouble with phonological awareness, or the ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words. Activities include working with rhyme, syllables and initial sounds.

What you can do to help pre-readers:

- Ask whether two words rhyme: "Do 'cat' and 'dog' rhyme?" "Do 'cat' and 'hat' rhyme?"
- Find the consonant sound: "Is 'tuh' in the beginning, middle or end of the words tub, butter, hot, toot?"
- Put two word chunks together to make a word: "What word would we have if we put 'cow' and 'boy' together?"
- Sing songs. Songs have different notes for each syllable in a word.
- Check out rhyming books from the Library. Use the online catalog's SUBJECT BROWSE search and type "Stories in rhyme."

Children learn best by doing—and they love doing things with you. Read with your children, talk about stories, sing songs, and play word games. 📖

Magical Reading Tour

Thank you to all who joined the Magical Reading Tour; and, congratulations to Mary Hettinger, Lois Bauer, and Audrey Ercolini, winners of the destination-themed gift baskets.

The "Tour" challenged armchair travelers to read three books, each set in a predetermined locale. All who finished were encouraged to enter a drawing for three grand prizes. The Florida basket contained oranges, grapefruit, a state map, seashells, sunscreen, and "beach in a box." The Mountain Vistas basket was filled with pinecones, trail mix, bottled water and assorted fruit jellies. The Chicagoland basket featured blues CDs, downtown maps, Wrigley's gum, Cubs and Bears novelties and pizza fixings.

Comments from readers indicate that we met our goal "to encourage reading, to inspire adults to try something new, and have a little fun at the same time." Watch for Tour II next winter. 📖

A Sampling of New Materials

Space limitations in this newsletter prevent listing all the latest materials added to the Library. For a complete list visit www.siouxcitylibrary.org and follow the link to view recently-added titles. From the online list you may easily access the catalog and place holds on specific titles or see if the Library owns additional works by an author.

General

- Absolution** (Mystery Ram) by Caro Ramsay. Present day crimes detour a police detective as he pursues an elusive killer into an unredeemed past.
- The Appeal** (F Gri) by John Grisham. Explores the real-life efforts of big business to replace unfriendly justices with more sympathetic ones.
- Copernicus' Secret** (520.92 Rep) by Jack Repcheck. How the scientific revolution began.
- A Daughter's Inheritance** (F Pet) by Tracie Peterson and Judith Miller. Introduces a new historical series set among the opulence and elegance of Thousand Islands, New York, 1897.
- First Class Citizenship** (796.357 Rob) by Jackie Robinson. The Civil Rights letters of Jackie Robinson.
- Is This A Phase?** (649.122 Nev) by Helen Neville. Child development and parenting strategies birth to age 6.
- The Labrador Pact** (Mystery Hai) by Matt Haig. A family in crisis and the loyal dog that holds them together, as told by the dog.
- Rowdy in Paris** (F San) by Tim Sandlin. In a comic collision of culture and personalities, a Colorado cowboy pursues two women to Paris to retrieve his championship belt buckle.
- The Serpent's Tale** (Mystery Fra) by Ariana Franklin. In 12th-Century England, one remarkable woman is trained to uncover the final secrets of the dead.
- Stranger in Paradise** (Mystery Par) by Robert B. Parker. Police Chief Jesse Stone faces his most fearsome adversary while the life of a teenage girl hangs in the balance.
- Where Did I Leave My Glasses?** (155.67 Lea) by Martha Lear. Explains the what, when, and why of normal memory loss through brain-scan studies and hilarious anecdotes.

Viewing & Listening

- Harvey** (DVD Har). Jimmy Stewart stars as Elwood Dowd who confides in a 6-foot rabbit that only he can see.
- The Leadership Challenge** (CD Spoken Word Kou) by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner. Two experts share their insights and stories about being in charge.
- Seduction in Death** (CD Spoken Word Rob) by J.D. Robb. Eve Dallas searches for a Casanova killer with a deadly appetite for seduction.
- Teaching Signs for Baby Minds** (DVD 649.122 Tea). Signs for babies too young to speak. Volume 1, Everyday Signs; volume 2, Concepts and Combinations; Volume 3, Dictionary & Alphabet
- King Tut's Final Secrets** (DVD 932 Kin). An international team of scientists use state-of-the-art technology to study Tut's life and death.

Juvenile

- The Castaways** (J Law) by Iain Lawrence. Bad luck continues to follow Tom Tin and his mates as they find themselves aboard a ship with black-hearted castaways en route to a Caribbean island. Grades 5-8
- The Chicken of the Family** (J Ama) by Mary Amato. When her older sisters tease her into believing that she actually is a chicken, Henrietta runs off to a farm to be among her own kind. PreK-2
- Henry, the Dog with No Tail** (E Fei) by Kate Feiffer. A dog finds a substitute tail and learns that he is better off without it. Grades K-2
- I Miss You Every Day** (E Tab) by Simms Taback. A little girl misses someone so much that she wraps herself up like a package and sends herself through the mail. Grades PreK-2
- Kaline Klattermaster's Tree House** (J Kim) by Haven Kimmel. A 3rd-grader's friends help him cope with his father's absence, his mother's forgetfulness, and the bullies that torment him in school. Grades 3-5
- Medusa Jones** (J Col) by Ross Collins. In Ancient Greece, Medusa Jones, a Gorgon, and her Minotaur and a Centaur friends are mocked by the Acropolis Academy children whose parents are kings and gods, until the day the "freaks" become true heroes. Grades 2-4
- Pssst!** (E Rex) by Adam Rex. The animals at the zoo have some unusual requests for a little girl who goes to visit. Grades PreK-3
- Seeing Sky-Blue Pink** (J Ran) by Candice Ransom. Fearful, 8-year-old Maddie soon begins to enjoy living in the country and getting to know her new stepfather. Grades 2-4
- Where in the Wild? Camouflaged Creatures Concealed and Revealed** (J 590 Sch) by David Schwartz. Fascinating facts about how camouflage serves hunter and hunted. Grades K-3
- Why Do Birds Sing?** (J 591.59 Pre) by June Preszler. A book about animal communication. Grades 2-4
- The Wild Girls** (YA Mur) by Pat Murphy. 13-year-old Joan meets Sarah and their imaginative play leads to winning a creative writing contest and a summer writing class. Grades 7-10
- The Willoughbys** (J Low) by Lois Lowry. In a tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, the four Willoughby children set out to become "deserving" orphans after their neglectful parents leave them with an odious nanny. Grades 3-6
- Would I Ever Lie to You?** (E Bue) by Caralyn Beuhner. A young boy is never sure if his older cousin is teasing or telling the truth. Grades K-3

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Sioux City Public Library

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Sioux City IA 51101-1203

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Book 'n' a Movie

Mini-series considers fathers & sons

Inspired by the 1950s memoir, *Rocket Boys*, the Library's summer discussion series will continue the themes of father and son relationships, parent/child aspirations and expectations, and mentoring.

What are the main characters' goals? What do they fear? How do outside influences help or hinder the accomplishment of their goals? How do the characters measure success? How would you describe the parenting styles in each story?

Reading independently, participants will convene one Saturday a month to view the film adaptation. Movies will be shown at The Wilbur Aalfs (Main) Library at 2 p.m. on Saturdays, with book discussions immediately following. All are welcome!

- June 7 *Seabiscuit* (PG13)
July 12 *Searching for Bobby Fischer* (PG)
August 16 *Big Fish: A Novel of Mythic Proportions* (PG13)



Remember the Sioux City Public Library Foundation in your estate planning.

It's Book Sale Time

The Friends of the Sioux City Public Library will hold the 2008 Book Lovers' Book Sale across from Walgreens on the corner of S. Lakeport and Morningside Ave.

Book Sale Hours

Friday, April 18	6-9 pm
preview sale (\$1 donation)	
Saturday, April 19	10 am-9 pm
Sunday, April 20	12 noon-6 pm
Mon-Thu, April 21-24	4-8 pm
Friday, April 25	4-9 pm
Saturday, April 26	10 am-9 pm
1/2 price day • in-store specials	
Sunday, April 27	12 noon-6 pm
\$1 per plastic grocery bag • \$3 per box	

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