

### **Wins and Fails**

#### WINS

- Iron chef competition for teens. Get help from local chefs.
- Win: Nerf “capture the flag” competition.
- Win: Fossils program for the kids.
- A raffle system instead of prizes. Everybody got a chance, could earn chances

Struggling with the issue of providing prizes. (Cost and complaints from parents)

- Community lego-building competition. Children earned lego pieces for an animal, biggest animal represented one adopted by
- Smaller prizes to ease the pain.

### **Useful/Usable/Enjoyable**

How are Summer Reading Programs Useful? Responses:

- Get people in the door
- Drive more circulation/use of services
- Prevent summer slide
- To make reading fun
- Community relationships
- Helps libraries tailor collections to what children want

What does usable mean? Responses:

- Accessible
- Uncomplicated
- Something that connects to library services
- Something that can be learned and re-used

What makes SRP enjoyable for all? Responses:

- Enthusiastic staff.
- Getting staff involved with decorating.
- Shirts for circ staff.
- Taking a Monday off.
- Having a reunion with people you haven't seen... families you only see in the summer.
- Decorating makes it fun.
- Introducing new families to the community. Eases nervousness of new children.
- Noticing the difference you are making.

What marketing materials work well?

## Summer Planning Workshop – 2018

February 1, 2018

- Bookmarks for all children
- Insert in library budget mailer
- Calendars for summer
- Facebook
- Community calendar
- Photos
- Advertise on SM in advance, not just after
- Get in posted in other groups.
- Ask outside participants to spread the news, too.

### **Teenage Kicks**

Ideas shared:

- Burnt Hills – doing bigger events for teens. Indoor laser tag with a book theme. Tournament in the dark after hours upstairs. Also did a life size game night. Did an after hours tournament for the teens.
- Importance of connecting with high school. No longer library classes in HS, but can connect with English classes. Find out what is needed during the summer.
- Go into the elementary schools and talk to fifth graders at the end of the year. They are becoming the age where they can become volunteers. Bring Frisbees for the kids. Also, a scavenger hunt to bring the teens into the library.
- Creating community service activities for teens.
- Design space for teens. Doesn't have to take up a lot of space. Make it their space. They can even help contribute their talents to the library.
- Food is a big thing. Lock-ins. Opportunities to be a bit rambunctious. Chef competitions. Larger food-based programs, perhaps partner with CCE.
- Visited teen book club at school, brought them books.
- Teen volunteers – different job duties: sign-ups, shelving, book-buddies with elementary kids, present story time during the summer. It is a lot of work to manage teen volunteers (volunteers). Weekly raffle prize to bring them back to the library. Tracking teen volunteer efforts and management is a challenge. Perhaps call it life-skills training.
- Transportation is a challenge for getting teens into the library.
- Start early with tween events. Create programs around volunteering for high school teens– community service based where teens pick a project they are passionate about. Have fun events to get the teens into the library.