

July 1 to September 30, 2016

Written by Holly Davis



HAINES BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Youth Fall Newsletter

Summer Finale Brings Together Readers to Celebrate



Photo by Matt Davis

Local bookstore owner and musician Tom Heywood wows the crowd at the 2016 Summer Reading Program Finale in August

There was plenty to celebrate at the Summer Reading Program Finale this year. Last year 195 children read 18,949 books and chapters. This year, 205 kids read 19,385 books and chapters! Over a hundred peo-

ple came to celebrate the Finale. One thousand dollars went to feed hungry children this summer because so many children read and chose to have a donation go to Samaritan's Purse instead of choosing a toy

for themselves from the treasure chest. Tom Heywood played guitar and fiddle, leading the children and their families in song. Holly Davis read *Polar Bear, Polar Bear* and then narrated the fairytale "The Gingerbread Boy" in song as children acted it out in costumes. Kids enjoyed being in the puppet show and playing rhythm instruments as everyone sang "This Land is Your Land." On the patio Peter Dwyer cooked up hot dogs for all. Many volunteers made the program a success, including Kim, Alyx, Michaela, and Jack Habra, Margaret Plucker, Matt Davis, Kir Amann, Pacific Ricke, Shannon McPhetres, Bill Broste, Nelle Jurgeleit-Green, and Jacque Horn. Every child in the program won an official Summer Reading Program certificate and collected prizes and books to take home to keep reading!

Studying Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies



Photo by Noele Weemes

Summer readers with biographies they chose as people who made a difference.

Inspired by the three national themes this summer, a new weekly summer program was added: "Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies." The kids had "On Your Mark, Get Set, Read" as their summer theme. Teens had "Get in the Game: Read!" The adult theme was "Exercise Your Mind." Kids enjoyed seeing books about what's inside the body, finding out how to read food labels, taking a look at different books on sports, and discussing how to make and break habits. Kids saw that good health often starts with the brain and making good choices. It was empowering for kids to look at biographies of people who used their brains to change the world and discuss how their choices made all the difference.

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Photo by Holly Davis

Randa Szymanski and her certified reading dog with dedicated readers Debi Knight-Kennedy and her granddaughter, Willa Bryant at the Read-to-a-Dog day at the library.

Kids learn to make healthy and simple snacks



Photo by Holly Davis

Afterschool Snack Attack is Back! Kids walk across the track and soccer field straight to the picnic table at the library after school.

In August after the kids head back to school, they are hungry to learn how to make and sample simple snacks in the

afternoons as soon as they are done with their school day. This August, kids learned how to make raspberry smoothies, green lemonade, home-made salsa and guacamole, and amazing Thai peanut dipping sauce, which was peanut-free and **doesn't require** a trip to Thailand. Kids agreed that the best seasoning is hunger.

The other key to getting kids to try unusual and delicious new foods is letting them be their own chefs. They love their own cooking.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING in July, August, and September for kids and families at the library?

- 11 Mother Goose story times for 0-3 year olds
- 13 Friday story times for 2-5 year olds
- 11 Class visits (Headstart, Chilkat Valley Pre-school, Kindergarten, Third Grade)
- 9 Daycare story time visits
- 16 Afterschool programs and homework help sessions with kids
- 40 Summer Reading Program events

Total: 100 library events for kids



Summer readersate friends and family at the library.

Salmon Series Culminates with a real fish



Photo by Holly Davis

Master teacher and educational-materials creator Julie Folta dissects a salmon at story time as families and children watch, fascinated.

When master teacher Julie Folta came to story time, she read salmon stories, brought songs about fish, and showed the children how to go fishing with a magnet at the end of their fishing pole and paper clips on the construction paper fish. The kids learned about the inside of the salmon as Folta showed them her original design fabric salmon with the eggs, air sac, intestines, heart, kidney, and gallbladder, all sewn inside the fish. Everyone enjoyed painting the 3-D paper salmon which were then hung from the ceiling. The favorite activity of all was the story time when Folta dissected the real fish.



Photo by Holly Davis

What fun to go fishing at the library on salmon day! Fishing is an important part of the summer for many families in Haines.

spanish fun gives kids Academic boost and more

In the summer, kids meet once a week to learn Spanish through songs, skits, games, and stories at the library. What are the five top reasons your child will benefit from learning a foreign language? According to Frontiers Academy, here are the five top reasons:

1. **Better linguistics:** it is easier to speak a language when a child starts learning it young
2. **Cognitive benefits:** better memory, more creativity, and better problem-solving skills

3. **Higher academic achievement:** bilingual children tend to have higher math skills and better SAT scores
4. **Cultural enrichment:** learning a foreign language helps children develop an appreciation for another culture as well as opening doors to resources, people, and other places
5. **Societal contributions:** people can reach out and help others when they know a foreign language. Teachers, doctors, lawyers, and media correspondents can all benefit from another language.



Photo by Holly Davis

Au pair visiting from Mexico reads kids Spanish story.

Fall outdoor explorations teach science

During September, kids met three times a week to explore the outdoors. They started **with a walk to the museum's** apple tree where volunteer Jackie St. Clair shared the history and science behind apples in Haines, Alaska. St. Clair told us about the Johnny Appleseed of Haines, a pioneer named Charlie Anway, who developed his own breed of strawberries that grew as big as chicken eggs. Anway was the one who planted the **museum's apple tree almost one** hundred years ago.

The kids also enjoyed a wide variety of other explorations: plant identification on the nature trail across from the

school, a low-tide beach walk where we found a variety of rocks to classify, an outdoor scavenger hunt for a number of autumn-related treasures of nature, a tree-counting experiment that pitted the deciduous team against the evergreen team in a trunk-touching, tally-marking contest, and a garden investigation of the local community **gardens at Starvin' Marvin**, where children have planted, watered, fertilized, and harvested a variety of delicious vegetables, using soil that they made from the compost of the school lunches. Kids enjoyed getting out in the fall air and learning more the science of the area where we live.



Photo by Holly Davis

Jackie St. Clair explains apple trees in Haines have many obstacles to overcome, including weather, birds, and bears, like the one whose claw marks on the trunk are still visible from an attack years ago.

Third graders get new year off to great start



Photo by Holly Davis

Kruze, Andrew, James, and Sealerra all work on remembering how to say the numbers from one to thirteen in Spanish using the Rummikub game tiles. This turns the task of reviewing Spanish numbers into a game with friends.

Why do third graders in Haines, Alaska get to have thirty minutes of Spanish every week as part of their public school education? At the beginning of **each school year, children's librarian** Holly Davis offers help to the teachers according to what they need. Kindergarten comes to the library every other week for story time and books. First and second graders come to the library for special programs in December and May. Middle school classes sometimes need a stack of books to complement a topic they are studying in history. Davis finds the books and delivers them to the school. Kristin White, who teaches third grade, requested a weekly Spanish class.

How is the children's librarian qualified

to teach Spanish? As a certified elementary school teacher who studied Spanish, Davis started her teaching career with a year in South Korea. There she taught English as a foreign language in an immersion program to Korean children. Seeing the benefits of games, songs, and skits in language-learning, and knowing the more the whole person is involved, the easier it is to acquire a language, Davis designed a year-long curriculum of the most essential Spanish words and phrases that can be mastered in a once-a-week Spanish lesson for third graders. Kids understand that learning something new can be exciting and fun. They sometimes surprise themselves with how much they know.

New superintendent Tony Habra reads to kids

What better place to start his career as the new superintendent than with the youngest pre-readers at a library story time? Babies, children, and their families are enjoyed **Tony Habra's deep reading voice and fun choice of** books, including two Robert Munsch books that were new to everyone.

Why is reading to young children so important? According to the Reach Out and Read Foundation, reading aloud is widely recognized as the single most important activity leading to language development.

Reading aloud helps children develop positive associations with books and reading. It helps children build a stronger foundation for school success. It is especially significant that the new leader of the Haines Borough School system recognized how important reading aloud to children is, and he made time to visit the library and read to the youngest book-lovers in our community.



Photo by Holly Davis

Habra draws children in with Robert Munsch books.



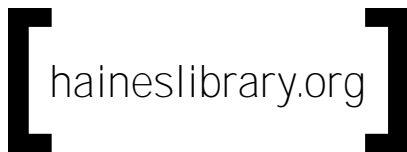
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These programs are cooperatively supported by the Chilkoot Indian Association Tribal Government, the Haines Borough Public Library, Friends of the Haines Borough Public Library, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership and lifelong learning.

Communities thrive @ your library.



Summer reading Program Last day



Photo by Matt Davis

Children's librarian Holly Davis gathered children at the end of the show at the Summer Reading Program Finale so each child could receive an official Summer Reading Program certificate. After they had their certificates, they went to the treasure chest area and prize book collection, celebrating in advance all the books they are going to read this fall. Then it was time for refreshments, including hot dogs, lemonade, and baked goods. It has been a wonderful Summer Reading Program!

Library Stats at a Glance: July through September



Photo by Holly Davis

One of the most exciting days of the year is the day the kindergarteners receive their new library cards. They can check out books for themselves for the first time. Many thanks to the new kindergarten teacher, Sarah Vosz, for making kindergarten library visits a priority. They come to the library every other Monday morning this school year. The children love to gather in the story corner and listen to books being read. Parent helpers from school and library volunteers Crystal Badgley and Elena Saunders help make kindergarten library time successful and fun for the children.

22 volunteers working with youth and educational library programs, contributing 74 hours worth \$1,060.00

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who helped and gave at the library!

In-kind loans and donations: \$1,550.00

Total matching funds (volunteers plus in-kind): \$2,610.00



Photo by Matt Davis

Kids at the Summer Reading Program Finale enjoy the show. Behind the children are the photos of summer readers. At the end of the celebration each reader gets to take his or her photo home.