Programming, Crafts, and More… COMBINED!

YOU THINK THAT LIBRARIES ARE JUST BOOKS?
YOU MUST BE NEW HERE
Todays Presenters

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Cross Generational Programming
Program Ideas: Bingo

Can be adult, youth, and combined!

This program is super inexpensive, prizes can be bought at the dollar store, fun express, donated books, weeded books and gift cards from local businesses.

- Bingo can be done at night or during the day
- Held as a adult/kid event only
- Held as a family event
- Can be held indoors and outdoors
Program Ideas: Special Holiday

1. Mothers Day (Can be adult, youth, and combined!)
   a. Mommy and Me painting
   b. Mothers Day Tea (pre-covid)
   c. Mothers Day Spa Day (Bath Bombs, sugar scrubs, and manicures)

2. Fathers Day (Can be adult, youth, and combined!)
   a. Tool Kit Painting Class
   b. Building Bird House
   c. Video Gaming/Board Game
Mother’s Day Tea (pre-covid)

Mother’s Day Spa
(pre-covid)
Program Ideas: Special Holiday

1. Halloween (Can be adult, youth, and combined!)
   a. Pumpkin Carving/Decorate a Pumpkin
   b. Taffy Apple Decorating (Pre Covid)
   c. DIY trick or treat bags
   d. Craft

2. Christmas (Can be adult, youth, and combined!)
   a. Ornament making Class
   b. Cookie Decorating (Pre Covid)
Program Ideas: Special Holiday

1. Ramadan/Eid (Can be adult, youth, and combined!)
   a. Crafting Bags
   b. Party/Story time

2. Easter (Can be adult, youth, and combined!)
   a. Easter Egg Hunt
   b. Craft
Tie dye Event (Can be adult, youth, and combined!)

This program can be super cost effective.

1. Make your own DYE. (blueberries, turmeric, red onion)
2. Purchase DYE kits. ($16 for 18 pre filled bottle, the kit came with gloves, rubber bands, and table cloths)
3. We provided pouches for patrons to use as library card holders.
4. Bring your own shirt or whatever you want to dye.
Tulip One-Step Tie-Dye Party, 18 Pre-Filled Bottles, Creative Group Activity, All-in-1 Fashion Design Kit, 1 Pack, Rainbow

Sku: 72658012377

Color: Assorted

Item: Tie-Dye Party Kit

Price: $16.95 (in store)

You Save: $11.19 (on line)

Tie-Dye Party Kit + 40 T/t Dye, Instruction Guide

Color: Assorted

Sku: 72658012377

Material: Rayon, Wool, Cotton
Program Ideas: Movie Night

Summer Events! (all ages)

Forming relationships with community leaders can be the KEY to your programming success!

What you need:

Community Collaboration: Partner with community leaders (i.e. school district contact, community center director)

Equipment: Audio, Screen(s), and Movie

Space: School Parking lot/Community Park/School Gym

Marketing: i.e. flyers, social media, word of mouth

Promotional Materials: pencils, keychains etc.
Program Ideas: Story Walk

Partnered with our local park district

For our story walk we used the book “I Took the Moon for a Walk” by Carolyn Curtis and Alison Jay.

Purchased:

1. Large blank yard signs (Amazon)
2. Thick plastic covers for board incase rain
3. Multiple copies of the book

Provided different activities:

1. Felt moon craft
2. Telescope viewing
Effective Planning with Youth/Adult Programs

WHEN YOU BUST OUT THE COLORED POST-ITS, FLIP CHARTS, AND MARKERS

PLANNERS BE LIKE
Where to find fresh ideas and new programming for your library?

- Pinterest
- Etsy
- Local Libraries
- Programming Librarian Website
  (https://programminglibrarian.org/)
Helpful Tips

- Don’t be afraid to explore crafts for kids! Often they can be modified and adults love cute stuff.
- Try out the craft BEFORE the program
- Pre-Prepare
- Successful Organization
- Fake it till you make it
Take Home Craft Tips

- **Provide detailed instructions**
  - It is important that you do not assume any knowledge on behalf of the patron.
  - Adding photos of the process if at all possible helps your members better visualize what the end result is supposed to look like.
  - This avoids a lot of confusion and prevents your crafters from skipping crucial steps.
Take Home Craft Tips

Be creative with packaging

- Take-and-make crafts can be tricky when it comes to packaging. We’ve learned that doing the following three things streamlines the process:
  - Don’t forget to consider the amount of time packaging the craft will take. The more pieces there are, the more time you will need.
  - Be organized! Assembly lines are your friend.
  - Make sure you have enough supplies for the number of crafts you are offering.
Cost Effective Strategies For Programming

Yes, I just wanted to find out how much money I have.
Buy in Bulk When You Can

- Buying in bulk is almost always cheaper per unit
  - *Oriental Trading/Dollar Store/Fun Express
- You can always use whatever is left over for a different craft later on in the future
- You never know when you might need an extra set of those googly eyes or popsicle sticks
Use what you already have on hand at the library!

- Try to find craft ideas that utilize supplies that the library already has on hand
  - Books, Office Supplies, Cardboard
- This reduced the overall cost of the supplies and saves you money!!
- Save any items left over from crafts
  - (if someone is a no show)
Purchase materials that can be used for multiple crafts.

- A pom pom can be a nose, a polka dot, or a bookmark
- Having versatile materials on hand allows you to be better prepared to provide alternatives if something goes wrong
- It also promotes interdepartmental sharing - What to do a craft that requires popsicle sticks? I am sure YS has a ton…
Ask for donations!

- Patrons will call and say they have items they no longer need (yarn, beads, fabric, etc.)
- Ask your staff for donations. Often if you need a common household item, your coworkers are willing to save it for you.
- Partner with local businesses to ask for monetary or supply donations
  - Jewel: Pumpkins for carving and Halloween decor
  - Local Businesses: Gift cards to be used at their establishments and monetary donations
Questions?

HAVING FUN ISN'T HARD
WHEN YOU'VE GOT A LIBRARY CARD
Contact Us!

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