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Dept. The Trove - Children's Services
Subject: Monthly Activity Report - July & August 2013
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Outreach, Projects & Visits

- ◆ We had record attendance numbers this summer, with an average of 500 people coming to The Trove each day. One day we had a count of 1,300!
- ◆ Only the Bethel day camp came in for a visit this year.
- ◆ Tata Canuelas and Mariel Perez went to the Westchester County Hispanic Fair at the Kensico Dam. We bought a folding table, and will have to add a sunshade for these outdoor events.
- ◆ Tata also coordinated a cultural program on Peru for families.
- ◆ The passport system coordinated with the White Plains Public Schools was once again very successful. Children got their passports stamped when they came in to report on the books they read. Our prizes were also popular. The reading game was run almost entirely by teen volunteers, coordinated by Terry Rabideau. They signed children up for the game, listened to reports on the books and distributed the prizes. 630 children participated over 8 weeks.
- ◆ Clerks and shelvers all helped keep the eye-catching graded book displays full all summer.
- ◆ Bonnie Grant took over a blank construction wall on the first floor to display a new picture book on the 50th anniversary of Dr King's Speech and the march on Washington.

Programs

- ◆ Our newest program was run by our newest staff member, Austin Olney. Austin taught a group of older children how to make their own video games with Scratch from MIT, using the CyberPool. So many young programmers lined up for the class that we added another session. The last meeting of the six week class was an exhibition of what everyone made, families invited. This program was a huge success, and we will continue it this fall. Thanks to Austin, and kudos to volunteer Angelica, who assisted him.
- ◆ All of our programs were full, many of them on the summer theme of Dig Into Reading. We continued with our core programs, and then the librarians used their creativity for summer specials.
- ◆ We had 3 guessing games during the summer, and 2 contests on display in the Tree Trail. How many frogs did you count from our pooled personal collections? 260 children submitted their counts.
- ◆ Terry also displayed another wonderful StoryWalk and 107 people participated. All of these guessing games and contests kept children busy with fun activities while they were in the Trove.
- ◆ Deb Gaffey coordinated 8 pizza parties at Uno for the older kids who reported on 3 books online.
- ◆ Puppets To Go performed The Tortoise and the Hare as our final program for the reading game.
- ◆ This summer we had Reading Buddies with teen volunteers, read to the dogs in Who Let The Dogs In, and Reading Coach.



Staff

- ◆ We had 4 summer workers through the Youth Bureau this summer, and we couldn't have made it without them. Raquel Cavalcanti trained and scheduled them, and oversaw their work. We had a party for the summer workers and our teen volunteers to thank them all.
- ◆ Terry continued to lead the YSS conference committee, and we all attended, busy schedule permitting.
- ◆ Terry and Bonnie went to the Darien Public Library for their KidLib Camp, always valuable for new ideas. Bonnie and Tata attended a WLS youth services librarian meeting held at the Port Chester Library.
- ◆ Rosemary Rasmussen spoke on "supporting early literacy with parents" at the regional training for Children's Centers staff. She is on the advisory board for the Children's Center here at the Westchester County Courthouse.
- ◆ Bonnie, Raquel and Rosemary attended the "lone shooter" training by the police dept.
- ◆ Thanks to the Maintenance crew for those last minute calls for our trashed restrooms. All summer we had problems with patrons pouring water on the floor, stopping up sinks and toilets, toilet paper and paper towels all over the floor, people bathing even in the Castle sink, feces on the floor and changing table.