



Why did the caterpillar go to the library? Because he wanted to be a bookworm! If your children haven't already joined our summer reading program, *Catch the Reading Bug*, it's not too late. The program continues until August 16 and is designed to keep children, from birth through fifth grade, interested in books and visiting the library all summer long. Literature-based programs, creative activities, and special events are all free.

Start your fun with books and bugs at any Deschutes Public Library or the Bookmobile. Pick up a red ladybug reading BugMark for each child age 0-5, or a yellow bumblebee reading BugMark for each child age 6-11. When the child has completed three hours of reading or listening to books, turn in the BugMark at your library to receive a free book, a Bug Juice coupon from Goody's, a pass to a Trailblazers game, and a chance at the weekly prize drawing for puppets and books. All summer long continue tracking additional reading/listening minutes on the green BugBucks. Each week trade BugBucks in at the library's Flea Market for fun toys, games, and books.

The Buzz Patrol is a weekly program for ages 6-11 that features stories, crafts, games, and other creative activities:

Bend Public Library, Thursdays @ 2 pm
 La Pine Public Library, Wednesdays @ 10:30 am
 Redmond Public Library, Tuesdays @ 2 pm
 Sisters Public Library, Tuesdays @ 10:30 am
 Sunriver Area Public Library, Wednesdays @ 2 pm

Bugapalooza is a series of free performances by children's entertainers. Portland-based Dragon Theater Puppets present *Little Bug's Big World*, a puppet show about a sneaky spider, a little ladybug, and a world filled with adventures. The puppets are amazing!

Bend, July 21 @ 9:30 am at Highland Elementary School
 La Pine, July 21 @ 3:30 pm at LaPine Elementary School
 Redmond, July 22 @ 1 pm at Evergreen Elementary School
 Sisters, July 22 @ 9:30 am at Sisters Elementary School
 Sunriver, July 21 @ 1 pm at Three Rivers Elementary School

Slightly Illusional performer Curt Nelson uses puppets, magic, storytelling, and illusion to entertain children ages 6-11. His program, *Go Wild! A Scientific Look at the Magic In Our Own Backyard*, has a madcap group of furry and feathered friends who teach young readers about using the Scientific Process to answer questions about their environment:

Bend Public Library, August 7 @ 3:30 pm
 La Pine Public Library, August 7 @ 1 pm
 Redmond Public Library, August 6 @ 1 pm
 Sisters Public Library, August 6 @ 10:15 am
 Sunriver Area Public Library, August 7 @ 10:15 am

See you at the library!

Heather McNeil, Bend Public Library

StoryStars! Success

Approximately 200 children and adults were enchanted by author and illustrator Todd Parr at StoryStars! 2008. Todd had all ages giggling as he read from several of his books and drew pictures of favorite characters. Everyone enjoyed his warm and friendly personality, and couldn't wait to have him autograph books after his presentation. Later that afternoon he spoke with adults who are interested in publishing a book for children. Todd Parr is definitely a StoryStar!

Todd (pictured below) has partnered with Target, Reach Out and Read, People Magazine, and other organizations to promote early literacy and reading. Todd describes his books as, "...simple reading about acceptance, differences and empowerment for kids to feel better about themselves in a simple, fun way." Others describe his books as, "offbeat, punchy, funny, quirky." Favorite titles include *It's Okay To Be Different*, *This Is My Hair*, *Reading Makes You Feel Good*, *Underwear Do's and Don'ts*, and *The Best Friends Book*.

The program, StoryStars!: Celebrating Children's Authors and Illustrators, is an annual event.

