

What is YSIE?

- YSIE is youth services information exchange.
- YSIE get-togethers are informal grassroots gatherings of library staff who serve youth.
- These collegial discussions are important to resource- and information-sharing as well as brainstorming, as participants are encouraged to share their own success stories as well as questions and advice.
- Learning from and sharing with our colleagues, whether virtual or in-person, can energize, inspire, and inform all who attend.
- Each get-together, 1-2 featured topics will be shared ahead of time to discuss along with a time for participants to share their own topics.
- YSIE get-togethers will be a mixture of virtual and in-person opportunities.
- In-person YSIE get-togethers will also feature a library tour.

STREAM Sharing and Brainstorming

- S.T.R.E.A.M. Team
 - Offered weekly, during the day
 - For ages 3-5
 - Very popular so pre-registration is required- this led to the same program being offered 3 times in one day (9:30a, 10:30a, 1:30p)
 - R = reading.
 - There is a short storytime followed by themed activities at several stations.
- School-Age STEAM night
 - Offered weekly, at night
 - For school-age children
 - Several tables available, each with a different hands-on activity

- Activities that are more involved (such as Ozobots) will be featured on a table each week for a month; simpler activities will be featured once
- No reading/literacy involved with this program
- Tween STEAM
 - Offered monthly
 - For ages 8-11
 - Focus on 1 STEAM activity
 - Pre-registration is required
- Kids Science Lab
 - For ages 5-7
 - No registration required
- Obstacle courses that involved math skills
- Galaxies in a Jar
- Coke and Mentos eruptions compared to Diet Coke and Mentos eruptions
- Program by UW-Madison Entomology- they brought live bugs to share
- Size charts
 - Pick an object (such as snowballs) and build upward on a pole/wall- children (and caregivers!) and measure themselves. How many snowballs tall are you?
- Additional resources referred to during this discussion
 - [California Academy of Sciences](#)
 - Madison Public Library's [Early Childhood STEM kits](#)
 - Explore nearby higher ed campuses for students/teachers to lead programs
 - [BadgerBots](#) for ideas and possible presenters

Self-Directed Programs Sharing and Brainstorming

- Origami
- DIY bookmarks
- [Cubecraft](#) characters

- Large coloring sheets
 - Tape onto table, window, or wall
 - Often see caregivers or seniors working on these
 - [Examples](#)
- Coloring table
- Scavenger hunt
 - Offer for a designated time, such as monthly
 - Receive small prize for completing
- Estimation jars (also reinforces math skills)
- [Makedo](#)
- Thank you cards (enhance by adding a mailbox for kids to place their cards in)
- Interactive bulletin boards / wall displays
 - Pose a question, then let patrons add their response to the board
 - Write (or find) a poem, then let patrons make up the last line
- Feed a Bear
 - Kids create doughnuts and then feed the bear
- Book Brackets / March Madness bracket reading challenge
- [Printable I Spy sheets](#)
- Small prize ideas
 - Snack (Goldfish, crackers, fruit snacks)
 - Book
 - Magnifying glasses
 - Handstamps
 - Tattoos
 - Bookmarks
 - Stickers
 - Small wooden toys
 - [Mini fuzzy posters](#)
 - Sticker dress-up dolls
 - [Squishy toys](#)
- Additional resources referred to during this discussion

- [Programming Librarian Interest Group](#) on Facebook
- [Craft Tape Center](#)- has been popular at art tables

Participant Topics

- Solar eclipses and solar science programming
 - [SEAL](#)
 - [DPI SEAL Kit reservation form](#)
 - Contact paper suncatchers
- Buttonmakers are popular at the library or with outreach activities.
- Generic questions to ask 8-11 year olds for book clubs
 - What character was your favorite and why?
 - What do you have in common with a character or how are they different than you?
 - [TeachingBooks](#)
- Places to hold off-site storytimes
 - Train storytime held at local museum that has a big train display
 - Fire department, then tour trucks
 - Police department, then tour squad cars
 - On a bus
 - Community gardens
 - Nursing homes/assisted living/retirement community facilities
 - At a barbershop
 - Laundry mats
 - Humane society/animal shelter
 - Clothing Closet
 - Food pantries
- Other outreach ideas
 - Food truck nights- set up a library info booth
 - Community dinners- book giveaway, library card registration, sharing conversations with others over a meal
 - Park and Rec events- large motor skill activities, buttonmaker

- Books and Bread- food distribution by a local church and the library has a table to provide information and checkouts materials; library also provides wifi access at the event
- Pond Hockey event- take n makes and facepainting
- Back To School registration nights
- Neighborhood Block Parties
- Soccer games
- After-school family events
- 4K registration
- Deliver books to nursing homes and senior apartments
- STEAM day at local school
- Chili lunch
- School garden day
- Winnie the Pooh virtual storytime
- Partnering with a domestic violence shelter to hold programs for youth on what a healthy relationship looks like; what it means to be friendly; etc.

Upcoming Dates for Youth Services Staff

- YSIE Get-togethers
 - March 21, 1-3p @ Minocqua Library
 - August 12, 1-3p @ Granton Library
- WVLS Youth Services annual workshop
 - October 2, location TBD
- Youth Meda Award (YMA) winner announcements
 - January 22, 1a
- CCBC Short: YMA Winners
 - January 31, 9a
- DPI Teen Internship info meeting
 - February 8 @ 10a or February 9 @ 1p
- [Power Up: A Leadership Conference for Youth Services Managers and Staff](#)
 - March 21-22, Madison

- Rhinelander Book Fest
 - At this time, will not be held in 2024
- CCBC Presentations
 - April 10-12 @ Brown County Library
 - May 13-14 @ Superior Public Library
 - May 15-16 @ LE Phillips Library (Eau Claire)
 - Kristie will look into if CCBC presentations will be recorded