

The School Library Monthly Update



NEWS

As most of you may already know, April is SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH!

School Library Month honors school libraries and librarians and the essential role they play in schools and the learning process. It was first celebrated in 1985 and is sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American Library Association. April is a great time to advocate for and show off your school library!

See more on page 2.

TO-DO

- ✓ Ensure that somebody in your district is completing the School Library Survey.
- ✓ Register for this summer's [ExCITE!](#) course.
- ✓ Use your stats for the School Library Survey to create an [Annual Report](#).

REMINDERS

- ✓ Voting for [Teen Choice](#) and [Prairie Awards](#) ends April 1.
- ✓ [School Library Survey](#) opens April 1.
- ✓ [21st Century School Library Award](#) Application window is open until May 5.
- ✓ [The SDLA Conference](#) is scheduled for September 27-29 in Rapid City. Put it on your calendar!

EVENTS

April 5

[School Library Collect + Connect](#),
3:30pm MT/4:30pm CT

June 12-23

[eResources for Teachers Course](#)
Online via Canvas

July

[ExCITE! Library Methods Course](#)
Online via Canvas (1 in-person session)

More

[SDSL Events Calendar](#)

Celebrate School Library Month!

Every April, school librarians are encouraged to host activities and events to help their school and local community celebrate the vital role that strong school library programs play in transforming learning.



- Create a "student picks" and/or "staff picks" book display.
- Host a book club or read-aloud event.
- Hold a poster contest to encourage students to creatively promote the school library.
- Invite a local author, poet, or illustrator to speak to students.
- Host a Lunch and Listen event where students are invited to the library during lunch to listen to an audiobook.
- Arrange a scavenger hunt (virtual or in-person) or trivia game that challenges students to explore the library.
- Organize a Book Fair.
- Hold a bookmark contest.
- Host a book tasting event with your ELA classes.
- Give a presentation at April's School Board meeting about the school library and all of its resources and services.
- Display student writing and artwork in the library.
- Host a maker night in your Makerspace.
- Offer a library orientation for new students or staff.
- Challenge students to write a graphic novel about the school library and all it offers.
- Host book-themed events like costume parties and movie screenings (use [Swank K-12 Streaming!](#))
- Organize a book swap for students and staff.
- Sponsor a book drive to donate books to local shelters and nursing homes.
- Invite students to create a library logo for your school library.
- Collaborate with classroom teachers to integrate library resources into their lesson plans.
- Create an annual report to deliver to your administrators.

For more information and ideas,
visit [AASL's School Library Month website.](#)