

Children's Department Report
June 2017

The 2016-2017 school year went by quickly and we were so glad to get the opportunity to work with so many students and teachers in a variety of ways. Highlights included: STEM lessons, fairy tale and other maker lessons, taking our 3D printer to the schools to learn about how it works, book clubs and discussion groups, Kleiman writing groups, and of course our Character Costumes. Overall a great year with a lot learned to improve upon for next year.

The collection at Rome City is currently being relabeled and making the move to our Topic Driven category headings and we are so excited! This process was huge and at times overwhelming, but has truly allowed us to view our materials in a new way and I believe better serve our patrons. I can't wait to see the changes at the branch.

Mr. Killian is in the process of building a new activity wall for the School Age corner in the children's department. This wall will be made to work kind of like a Light Bright, only instead of lights, you use golf tees.

A giant Lego wall with shelves has been built to separate the Teen and Children's departments a bit. It is crazy big and fun!

The children's department was invited again this year to take part in the MYAC International Festival and it was another great success. We love being a part of offering a wide variety of cultural experiences to our community. ---Along these same lines we had an African Drumming and Dance group here the first week of June that was amazing! The three gentleman from Nigeria shared the history of drum use in their country to communicate and also taught attendees a few dance steps and phrases. It was a wonderful program.

South Side Elementary teachers worked with area colleges to put together a STEM Fair at South Side Elementary for teachers and aspiring teachers and the children's department was invited to present and share what the library has to offer. It was a great way for us to touch base with teachers, reminding them about what we have available for them to use in the classroom and also make lists of things they would love for us to look into purchasing.

Believe it or not, I've began to weed again. It has been a year since portions of our collection were weeded and it's showing that they need attention. This obviously won't be to the scale of last year's overhaul, but continuing to prune will ensure hearty collection.

Rambling Rocks is out of control and our 10 year Birthday Golden Rocks helped! We've jumped to over 430 members very quickly and our rocks seem to be the "talk of the town." I love that we're involved in this positive, feel good, community building activity.