BIG Ideas for Small Libraries

Things We’ve Tried, Things That Worked, Epic Fails, & Things We’ve Learned
STEAM: How We Did It

- 1x/month
  - Thursday, 4:00 – 5:00
  - 8 & up

- Pre-registration Required
  - 1st of the month
  - Online only - Eventbrite
  - Limit class size

- Repurpose library materials

What We Learned Along the Way

- Post expectations/rules
- Teach one concept
- Listen/watch/do format
  - YouTube
  - Experiential Learning
- Individual involvement – teams are great but make sure that each team member gets an opportunity to contribute/has a task
- Have fun!!
Nailed It/Failed It

Nailed It!
- Cup Stacking
- Microwaves
- Egg Drop

Failed It!
- Crash Test Dummies
- String Art
- Wilderness Survivor Challenge
Cup Stacking

String Art

NAILED IT! (Not!)
Family Night: How We Did It

- 1x/month
  - 2nd Monday, 7:00 – 8:00 (depending on activity)
  - All ages
- Again…repurpose library materials
What We Learned Along the Way

- Pumped-Up Passive Programming
  - Multiple stations/activities
  - Pop Culture!!

- Make sure you book your community room

- Have fun!!
Nailed It/Failed It

Nailed It!

- Pokémon
- Elf on the Bookshelf
- Harry Potter
- Trick or Read

Failed It!

- International Board Game Night
- Pete’s Dragon
- Llama Llama Red Pajama
Sensory Play: How We Did It

- Seasonal/Quarterly
  - Wednesday, 10:00 – 12:00
  - Children 5 & under w/Caregiver
- Again…repurpose library materials
What We Learned Along the Way

- **Water Beads**
  - Non-toxic (Considered edible by ALL children)
  - Bounce
  - Invisible on carpet

- **Cloud Dough**
  - Containers with deep sides even when placed on tarps DO NOT contain
  - Clogs vacuum

- Two hours is one hour too long
Nailed It/Failed It

Nailed It!

- Scarecrow/Snowman bin
- Turkey pluck/Pompom Push
- Cookie making
- Candy cane rice

Failed It!

- Squish bags
- Cloud dough
- Water beads
- Kitchen band
Advertising

- Website
- Newsletter
- Social Media
- LED Sign
- In-house flyers/tv’s
- Word of Mouth
Elf on the Bookshelf
Family Night at the Library
Fun activities for everyone!
Storytime with Elf @ 6:30

Winter Wonderland
Sensory Play Activity
December 14th, 10 am - 12 noon
American Fork Library Community Room
Children 0-5 and their caregivers are invited to explore a frozen wonderland

DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!
March 8 @ 10:30
For toddlers, preschoolers, & their caregivers
A morning of creative movement & pretend play

Mind Sprint Madness
Monday, December 13
Players move through several mini challenges, earning points, and learning STEAM concepts in a fun way.
March 16th
4:00 PM
American Fork Library

Family night @ the library
March 13, 7:00pm
Wear your RED pajamas (or any other color) & join Llama Llama for a fun night of stories, games, & crafts
Questions & Discussion

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American Fork Library

https://tinyurl.com/af-library-big-ideas