



## Promoting Graphic Novels to Build Readers

Submitted by Kathy Cline

"You should not only stop worrying about your kids' obsession with graphic novels, you should actively encourage it!" This powerful statement from TheBookMommy in her blog *What to Read to Your Kids* provides strong support for reading graphic novels. As we continue celebrating this reading format throughout July, this article offers flyers along with reasons to promote and encourage graphic novel reading.

NDSL has created promotional flyers to raise awareness and support the reading of this increasingly popular format. Use this [link](#) to explore the newest collection of promotional flyers on graphic novels and post them today!

At times, graphic novels are caught in the debate over whether the format represents "real" or beneficial reading. In her blog, TheBookMommy lists several common questions or concerns aimed at graphic novels:

- *Do graphic novels count as reading?*
- *Are graphic novels too easy for my child?*
- *Why should I invest in books that my child ends up finishing in one sitting?*
- *I wish my child would read "real books" like I did when I was their age.*
- *How can I get them to broaden their reading?*

[Continue Reading](#)



*Beanstack by the Numbers* highlights how many minutes or books have been read for Beanstack challenges through North Dakota State Library. It also lists next month's challenge(s). Have fun reading and earning badges!

### June 2026 Monthly Reading Challenge

CSLP Summer Reading Challenges: *Unearth a Story!* is June's Beanstack Challenge. In the month of June, North Dakotans read 58,706 combined minutes!



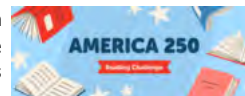
### 2026 Yearly Challenge

During the month of June, 798 books have been read for the *40 Books Reading Challenge*. Since January 1st, 2,632 books have been logged for this activity.



### America 250 Beanstack Challenge

Celebrate our nation's 250th birthday by reading to earn monument and pastime badges! This 300-minute challenge runs July 1st through July 31st. This challenge counts towards our statewide community goal.



### Statewide Reading Goal

Just two months into Summer Reading, North Dakota readers have surpassed the statewide goal of 100,000 with 118,690 minutes read! Can we double our goal by the end of August?

[Beanstack](#)



## New Library Science Books at NDSL

April – June 2026

It doesn't seem possible that we are already halfway through 2026. While June brings the middle of the calendar year, it also marks the end of a fiscal year. This quarter's short list of new library science books reflects the fiscal year wind-down.

Even though the list is brief, these titles are great additions to the NDSL library science collection. Explore the books below and request your copy today!

### [The Weeding Handbook: A Shelf-by-Shelf Guide, Second Edition](#)



Whether you are thinking about weeding your library and don't know where to start, or you are an experienced weeder looking for a refresher, this title is for you. If you need to write or update a collection policy, this book is also for you. In this updated and expanded second edition, author Rebecca Vnuk presents practical, easy-to-read guidance on how to weed collections and keep the library healthy and engaging for users.

### [Request or Place a Hold](#)

### [Intellectual Freedom Manual, Eleventh Edition](#)



This comprehensive manual offers practical advice in easy-to-understand language for every library worker, from volunteers to the directors. It explains the core values of intellectual freedom, provides policy guidance and templates, shares stories from individuals affected by intellectual freedom issues, and much more.

### [Request or Place a Hold](#)

### [Thinking Critically About What Matters: A Punk Rock Guide](#)



In six chapters, this book presents a philosophical framework for critical thinking called the values-based decision-making process. The authors explore the mindset of *thinking for yourself* and the punk ethos of *doing things for yourself*, offering actionable approaches to critical thinking.

### [Request or Place a Hold](#)



## Books for (Mostly) Kids About Eating Various Foods

"Pull up a chair. Take a taste. Come join us. Life is so endlessly delicious." — Ruth Reichl, *Gourmet's* editor in chief and food critic.

Food is a necessity of life. Some people are more adventurous in their culinary choices, while others much prefer to stick with what they know they like. For children, pickiness with food can be very common from the toddler years through early elementary. I want to note that food aversions and pickiness are not the same thing. Food aversions involve negative bodily responses to certain foods, such as nausea or gagging. Food pickiness is more of an attitude that some foods are "gross" even if that eater has not tried those foods before. This list of books is far more about food pickiness than food aversion. If you have a topic request for *Top Picks*, please email me at [tkruger@nd.gov](mailto:tkruger@nd.gov).

*I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato* by Lauren Child

**Publish Date:** 2003

**Publisher:** Candlewick

**Summary:** Lola is a VERY selective eater...until her big sister, Charlie, makes an out-of-this-world game out of trying new foods!

**Best For:** Preschool through First Grade



[Continue Reading](#)

# Digital Delight

## Diedrich-Johnson Motors advertising poster, Dickinson, N.D., 1938

This advertising poster for vehicles at Diedrich-Johnson Motor Company in Dickinson, North Dakota, is particularly directed at farmers. Sale prices for cars and trucks are listed. The exact date of this poster is unknown, but it may date to 1938.

Courtesy of Digital Horizons (North Dakota Memories Collection, ND State Library)



Digital Horizons

## Library Tidbits

[McVie Community Library](#) is hosting a Bring Your Own Book Club series where participants can talk about their current and favorite books and authors the 2nd Tuesday of each month

Local Egyptologist Daniel Johnsen provided an engaging presentation with a soil layer archeology dig at the [Enderlin Municipal Library](#)

The Friends of the [Griggs County Public Library](#) are hosting an Ice Cream Float Social on July 11. All funds will be used to support the library's future

The [James River Valley Library](#) has partnered with North American Bison Discovery Center for Scavenger Hunt Saturdays. Children of all ages can present a library card at the Bison Center to receive a free pass to the museum on July 11, 18, & 25. Look carefully at the exhibits to complete the scavenger hunt and win a prize

[Fargo Public Library](#) is hosting a Toddler/Preschool Yoga (ages 2-6) event

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To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at [ndsipa@nd.gov](mailto:ndsipa@nd.gov).

Times referenced are Central Time.

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