



Flickertale

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Upcoming North Dakota State Library Webinars

Submitted by Al Peterson

October brings another batch of great continuing education opportunities for North Dakota librarians. So, let's *fall* into some great training! North Dakota State Library staff are hosting several great webinars to get your fall learning off to a great start.

[Cybersecurity for Librarians: Resources You Can Share with your Patrons](#)

October 9 (3:00 PM – 3:45 PM)

[Getting out of the Programming Rut](#)

October 28 (3:00 PM – 3:30 PM)

[School Library Collaboration](#)

October 28 (3:15 PM – 4:00 PM)

[E-rate in North Dakota: An Overview](#)

October 30 (3:00 PM – 3:45 PM)

[School Library Collaboration](#)

October 30 (4:15 PM – 5:00 PM)

To check out all the great webinar opportunities available this month, click on this link, <https://www.library.nd.gov/traininglibraries>. You can also find out about webinars and events from the Events Calendar at <https://www.library.nd.gov/events-calendar>.



Beyond Awareness: Supporting Dyslexic Patrons in Our Libraries

Imagine trying to read, but the letters are reversed. Parts of the letters are missing. Words and letters seem to jump around on the page. This is what approximately 1 in 5 individuals—20% of the population—experience when reading. These individuals have dyslexia. Even though the medical community labels it as a “learning disability”, dyslexia doesn’t mean a lack of intelligence. While many of us likely have heard of dyslexia, as librarians, we may not be aware of how to support individuals with this reading challenge.

To better understand dyslexia, let’s look at the history of this challenge and how it was first recognized.

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HOSTED BY ND STATE
LIBRARIAN MARY SOUCIE

Mole Day

Submitted by Monica Struck

Most of you have probably heard of Pi Day (3/14), but how many of you are familiar with Mole Day? On October 23rd from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m., we celebrate the mole, not the burrowing animal but the unit of measurement. In chemistry, the mole (also referred to as Avogadro's Number, 6.02×10^{23}) is the basic unit of measurement. It is used to measure large quantities of very small particles.

Mole Day was originally celebrated in a classroom in Delaware in the '80s. The teacher, Margaret Christoph, wrote about her class shenanigans in *The Science Teacher* in 1985. This article inspired the establishment of the National Mole Day Foundation in 1991, and things moved on from there. This holiday is celebrated in chemistry classrooms around the world to this day, but why should libraries celebrate Mole Day?

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Stories That Click: Books to Celebrate Digital Citizenship Week

From scrolling through TikTok to gaming online with friends, kids today spend more time connected than ever before. Digital Citizenship Week is a chance to pause and ask: how can we help them use technology in healthy, balanced, and positive ways? Digital Citizenship Week, which occurs October 20-24 this year, is led by Common Sense Media.

Books are an engaging way to spark conversations about digital use. Stories can help kids reflect on their online habits while encouraging them to unplug and connect in new ways. Common Sense Media curated a list of twenty-three titles—including fiction and nonfiction—for each grade level. For discussion questions and digital literacy lessons for each title, click the Common Sense Media link listed as this article's source.

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Little Free Libraries in Indigenous Communities

Submitted by Bethany Rants

You've probably seen a Little Free Library before—those charming small boxes or houses filled with books that anyone can borrow from or contribute to. What started in St. Paul, Minnesota, has now grown into a global movement. Their mission is simple yet powerful: *to build community, inspire readers, and expand book access for all.*

Traditionally, community members, schools, businesses, and organizations host and stock these libraries, creating easy, free access to reading materials. In recent years, Little Free Libraries have also been used for distributing food and toiletries—showing just how much these little boxes can mean to a community.

In 2018, Little Free Library launched a pilot program to increase book access on tribal lands. That same year, they partnered with the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM) to host hands-on library-building sessions at the ATALM conference. Through these efforts, nearly 100 libraries were placed in Native communities.

Building on this success, Little Free Library officially launched the **Native Library Initiative** in 2022. By June 2023, it grew into the **Indigenous Library Program**, which continues today. The program's goals are to:

- Strengthen community connections
- Inspire readers of all ages
- Expand easy book access
- Support positive literacy outcomes
- Provide libraries in high-need Indigenous communities

Research consistently shows that children with more books in or near their homes are more likely to become strong, lifelong readers. Yet access to books remains a challenge in many tribal communities. For example, some tribal colleges in North Dakota double as public libraries because no standalone public library exists nearby.

The Indigenous Library Program provides no-cost Little Free Libraries, installation materials, and starter book sets to selected grantees. To learn more—or to apply for a grant—visit <https://littlefreelibrary.org/programs/indigenous-library-program/>



Stories for Every Reader: Dyslexia-Friendly and Dyslexia-Themed Books for Children

Welcome to *Shelf Additions*, where I will share, once or twice a month, book titles that highlight various celebrations, topics, and genres. This *Flickertale* section is intended to be a helpful resource as you shape your library's collection.

In honor of Dyslexia Awareness Month, this list features titles and series in dyslexia-friendly formats, as well as books about dyslexia to support and empower young readers. For children with dyslexia, the right book can be more than a story—it can be a doorway into confidence, imagination, and a joy for reading.

To open the door for dyslexic readers, publishers have developed books with specific design features that make reading more accessible. Here are some of the most common:

1. Larger font
2. Font type
3. Weighted letters
4. Yellow or cream-colored paper
5. Larger line spacing and wider margins
6. Include illustrations
7. Provide audio support when possible

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www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

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