



ODL YOUTH SERVICES

SUMMER READING AND SUMMER LEARNING

In our monthly Community of Practice meeting, we started a Padlet with strengths and needs for the "reading challenge" portion of our summer programs. We would love to have input on this from each library! You can visit that Padlet [here](#) and add your thoughts. You can respond to others' entries too! This is a great way for us to engage with each other, even though we might not be close in distance.

February



MONTHLY COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEETINGS

Monthly Youth Services Communities of Practice are still happening the first Monday of the month at 2:00. This month's topic: Summer Reading/Learning Challenges. We met yesterday and had good discussion and brainstorming! The recording will be coming soon, if you weren't able to attend. Or if you had so much fun you want to watch it again! Meeting information is [here](#).



UPCOMING TRAININGS FROM ODL

ODL's Continuing Education is offering several great trainings in the next few weeks! Learn more about grant writing, Brainfuse, and EBSCO--all valuable and practical resources! Look for an e-mail with this news, or contact Paige Harkins for any questions.

(paige.harkins@libraries.ok.gov)

CSLP MATERIALS

CSLP materials for Summer 2026 are in the process of being ordered. This took quite a bit longer than usual--it was just "one of those years!" But don't worry; you will have your materials in plenty of time for summer. 😊



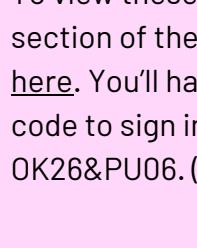
RYAN DOWD TRAININGS

Don't forget: Oklahoma has a statewide subscription to Ryan Dowd Homeless trainings. These are so much more than just about homelessness and libraries' services!

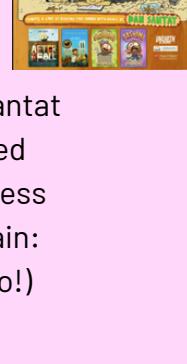


FROM DAN SANTAT, CSLP'S SUMMER READING CHAMPION FOR 2026

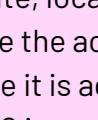
Kids will enjoy this downloadable graphic "how to draw" --a dinosaur!



And "Discover the FUN of Reading!" --a downloadable poster for your library!



To view these, go to the Dan Santat section of the CSLP site, located [here](#). You'll have to use the access code to sign in, so here it is again: OK26&PU06. (second 0 is a zero!)



SHOUT OUTS

Big thank you to these librarians who served on the CSLP Manual Committee or contributed to the manual this year:

- Shannon Grice
- Rachele Horney
- Sheila Barnard
- Lily McCully
- Shannon Pirus
- Vivian Sloan



I WOULD DO THAT PROGRAM!

From the Fresh Dirt chapter of the manual this year, this caught my eye!

Pages 82-85: Dinosaur Gardens

It's basically like a fairy garden, but with a dino-twist. Nestled among the plants are, of course, dinosaurs! Suggested ages are tweens and up.

You can use either real or artificial plants.

Think of the extensions that could go along with this...plant characteristics, discussions about size and scale, elements of soil, what plants need to survive (if they're real!) and more! Lots of learning opportunities hiding in this program.

MULTIGEN **ADULTS** **TEENS** **TWEENS**

DINOSAUR GARDENS

TIP: If using real plants, invite a local Master Gardener, gardening club, or local gardening center to speak about plant care.

TIP: Be as creative as you would like with your containers! Smaller planters, containers bought at thrift stores, large bowls, recycled jars can all be used if needed.

TIP: Consider the needs of the plants you choose to use. If using rocks, use the sandier soil if using rocks; use the sandier soil.

PROGRAM TYPE: Arts & crafts, Outdoors, Outreach, STEM

Image source: Bettina Welsh of Baltimore County Public Library

