

Youth Services at a Glance

Teacher Packs- 1

Youth Programs- 20

Youth Attendance- 1067

General Interest Programs- 10

General Interest Attendance- 1432

Program Highlights

Summer Learning Program closed at the end of the month with 693 youth participants! We offered a donation buck as one of the challenge rewards, with 3 community organizations as options. Kaukauna Pool came out as our winner with 204 total donations.

As predicted, our Pokémon Party was an absolute hit! 212 patrons stopped to collect badges, create Pokémon character crafts, and catch a few Pokémon in the scavenger hunt. Our green screen continued to draw a crowd throughout the event, with much excitement.

Our final Minecraft Madness for summer had 75 participants. Perler bead creations are a massive attraction for all ages with this program. Many of our youth attendees even brought in their own devices so they could play online together.

The Lego Challenge Party brought the fun of spatial reasoning, problem solving, and even some math concepts to life for 47 eager patrons. Several stations were available to test their skills and complete challenges!



Figure 1. One of the SLP grand prize

winners

In early August, Hagar the Comfort Dog made his debut at the library, offering cuddles and smiles for all 47 patrons.



Figure 2. A group of children meeting Hagar

Collaboration Fun

The summer group from Kids Kingdom joined the Kaukauna Public Library for a storytime field trip mid-month. They were able to enjoy the garden after a library tour, with many of the families returning in the evening to check out books. What a success!



Our annual Fairy Walk at 1000 Islands was an absolute blast with Kaukauna Utilities as our sponsor. We were able to book an inflatable obstacle course, DJ Dan, and Dot the Balloon Twister. This year, we added a costume contest, with Mayor Penterman as our guest judge! Attendees of all ages could take a turn with the pedal power bike, with 1005 taking a stroll along the boardwalk to enjoy the Storybook Walk title *Backyard Fairies* by Phoebe Wahl.

Figure 3. Mayor Penterman and Kaukauna Utilities General Manager Michael Avanzi poses with one of the costume contest winners.

Continuing Education

To kick off the month of August, I attended the DPI School and Public Libraries conference held in Marshfield. We focused on successful programming and collaborations in our own communities, and participated in several group brainstorming sessions on how to improve our specific areas of struggle. A highlight for me was the segment on brain development. The research behind neural coupling and the direct link to storytelling was a lightbulb moment. This is such important educational material that we can provide to families to encourage more library engagement.