

# DYNAMIC DISPLAYS: SPICE UP YOUR SPACE

SPRING INSTITUTE | MARCH 2024

## IDEA RESOURCES

### Blogs

- [Programming Librarian](#) (check out their Facebook group too)
- These haven't been updated recently, however they still have good ideas in their archives:
  - [5 Minute Librarian: Ready to Go! book displays](#)
  - [Jbrary](#) (search "display" on their site)
  - [Ontarian Librarian](#): Library Display Ideas section

### Facebook Groups

- [Library Bulletin Boards and Displays](#)
- [Public Library Displays - Youth and Teen](#)

### Holiday & Special Event Calendars

- [ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks](http://ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks)
- [daysoftheyear.com](http://daysoftheyear.com)
- [holidayscalendar.com](http://holidayscalendar.com)
- [ideas.demco.com/tag/activity-calendar/](http://ideas.demco.com/tag/activity-calendar/)

### Pinterest

### TikTok/BookTok

### Upcoming Movies & Books

- IMDB's [Coming Soon](#) movie list
- [Amazon](#) and [Barnes & Noble](#) Coming Soon lists
- Publishers Weekly [On-Sale Calendar](#)
- Many sites & blogs feature "Most Anticipated" lists at the beginning of the year
- Vendor selection lists, newsletters, and publications such as [Baker & Taylor's Children and Teen Services \(CATS\)](#) and [Ingram's iCurate](#).

## MATERIALS

- **Better than Paper**
- **Command strips/hooks**
- **Demco:**
  - **Easels**
  - **Acrylic holders and cubes**
- **Painters tape**

## TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Recycle past displays and adapt interactive ideas with different topics.

Survey your staff!

What collections do they have?

What are they passionate about?

Spend time in retail spaces and other libraries or check out their social media. Note what you like about their displays and merchandising.

### Library Journal article:

["Merchandising Your Collection"](#) by Erica Freudenberger

### Library Display Policies:

[ALA](#), [Clearwater](#), [Highland City](#), [Clinton-Macomb](#), [Commerce](#)



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# DISPLAY IDEAS

## HIGHLIGHT COLLECTIONS AND ENHANCE READERS' ADVISORY

- Circumvent your collection organization (Who Was?, favorite characters, books by color)
- Popular requests
- Pop culture/trending (fandoms, memes, in the news, memorials, Shark Week)
- Readalikes
- Genre & format (mood reader, recent historical fiction)
- Targeting specific ages (adults read YA too)
- Hidden gems/underused collections
- Award winners
- Book bundles
- Staff & patron recommendations
- Library of Things

## PROGRAM & SERVICE PROMOTION

- Tie online services to item displays
- "Today's Program" display
- Upcoming programs
- Early Literacy services
- Promotional/giveaways

## CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

## SEASONAL THEMES

## EXHIBITS OF COLLECTIONS AND CREATIVITY

- Staff & patron collections
- Get to know the staff (match staff to socks/trinket, love your pet, fun facts)
- Creative projects & contests (Lego creations, bookmark contest, photo contest, dioramas, art show)

## COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

(Girl Scouts, Teen Advisory Group, refugee center, historical society, local plays/musicals, schools)

## SOLICIT FEEDBACK

(strategic planning, program suggestions, voting for new toy)

## INTERACTIVE/PARTICIPATION

- Guess the . . . object, silhouette, constellation, lighthouse
- Add to the display (favorite song, decorate a quilt square)
- Felt board games
- Writing prompts (creative writing post-its, who's your hero?, I love my librarian)
- Vs. displays (MSU vs. U of M, Star Wars: light vs. dark side, superhero bracket)
- Readers' Advisory flowchart
- Trivia challenges
- I Spy

## SUMMER PROGRAM 2024: ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY

- Adventure/survival books
- Could You Survive?
- Choose Your Own Adventure®
- Adventures in [theme] (crafting, the Jurassic period, etc.)
- Outdoor activities
- Imagination
- Mystery, puzzle, hunt books
- In the Dark
- Extreme sports
- Pirates
- Space
- Real-life adventures & adventurers
- Wild West
- Summer Olympics
- Guide books
- Mountain climbers: reading ladders
- **Animal Track Identification:** Include books about animal tracks/identification and have silhouettes of various animal tracks for patrons to guess
- **Bucket List**
- **Community Photo Identification:** Identify key landmarks from your community
- **Hidden Adventure:** Think blind date with a book, but adventure themed
- **I Spy/Look & Find**
- **Try Something New:** Include hobby books and pair with an opportunity for patrons to write down what they'd like to try/explore
- **Where Would You Travel:** Include map/landmarks and encourage patrons to mark where they would go or have been
- **Who Would Win?:** Display Who Would Win? books and add a voting component
- **You Choose the Adventure:** Display a new section of the story each week and give two options for the character to choose from, let people vote.