

SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY WEEK 2013

15 March 2013

One of the strategic objectives of the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) is the celebration of days of national significance. South Africa Library Week is an initiative of LIASA (the Library and Information Association of South Africa). Each year a new theme is determined on a national level by LIASA. The 2013 theme is 'educate yourself at your library'.

A total of 171 public libraries and depots will take part in this week-long celebration from 16 to 23 March 2013. Each day, another activity is presented at the library and a specific group invited to take part. The department aims to reach out to 10 200 community members during Library Week 2013.

Thirty adults per library have the opportunity to take part in five activities, empowering them to learn how to educate themselves at the library. Stickers are pasted on a specially designed attendance chart produced for each participant. "Smiley stickers" indicate the progress of each person. "Bonus stickers" can be earned by those who put in an extra effort.

Each library can enroll the one Attendance Chart with the most bonus stickers on it for a competition. This is to motivate adults to give their best during the week.

Activities include: building a 48 piece puzzle of a world map in less than 20 minutes, mental acrobatics during which new words and definitions are learned and a memory game that jogs the mind, as well as two activities in which education is received in the participant's general attitude towards life and an in-depth identification of strengths and weaknesses within the self.

It is hoped that adults will enjoy this programme to such an extent that they would want to return to the library to educate themselves.

Children can look forward to six (6) interesting activities. The librarians are sensitised not to "educate", but rather be a "fun-brarian" whilst presenting the activities.

Children can take part in activities such as:

- learning the alphabet through face-painting for Grades R, 1 and 2
- spell check: "fun-brarian" can spell, can you? for Grades 3 5
- eager to learn new words! for Grades 3 7
- making a number worm everybody helps to make a permanent work of art to put up against the notice board in the library
- paper weaving for Grades 6 8
- learn the art of origami for Grades 6 8

Library week will be hosted as follows:

Date: 16 - 23 March 2013

Time: Morning programmes for adults and afternoon programmes for school children

Venue: Every public library in the Free State province affiliated to the DSACR.

Your media house is invited to cover the event.



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