

Innovative and Engaging Teen Programming Resources

by Dolly Goyal and Jack Baur

Places to Find Ideas for Great Teen Programs

- VOYA: *Voice of Youth Advocates*
- MAKE: *Magazine*, Maker Shed (<http://www.makershed.com/>), MAKE: Blog (<http://makezine.com/blog/>)
- YALSA-Book and YA-YAAC listservs (<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/professionaltools/onlineresources/emaillists>)
- Calendar of Teen Programming Ideas - (http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Calendar_of_Teen_Programming_Ideas)
- SLJTeen Newsletter (subscribe here: <https://shop.mediasourceinc.com/smenewsslj.aspx>)
- Teen Librarian Toolbox Blog (<http://www.teenlibrariantoolbox.com/>)
- YouMedia Network (<http://youmedia.org/>)
- National Science Teachers Association (<http://www.nsta.org/>)
- Pinterests -- don't know where to start? Try here! <http://www.pinterest.com/explore/library-programs/>
- HowToons -- Comic strips that show how to make simple crafts from common materials (<http://www.howtoons.com/>)
- Librarian blogs
- Talking to staff and teachers
- Pop culture
- Your own interests
- Ask your teens!!

Things to Consider in Teen Services

- Teen Spaces: <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/guidelines/teenspaces>
- 40 Developmental Assets: <http://www.search-institute.org/content/40-developmental-assets-adolescents-ages-12-18>
 - Asset #41 for Silicon Valley: <http://www.projectcornerstone.org/html/developmentalassets.html>
- HoMaGo Model: <http://youmedia.org/node/120/research/homago-essentials>
- "Teen Behavior in the Library" Presentatio by Tracy Logan: https://michigan.gov/documents/mde/lm_2011_BegWrkshp_LoganTeenBehaviorint heLibrary_353789_7.pdf

A Few Fun Ideas

- Teen PlayReaders -- try *The Haunting of Hill House*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, or *The Importance of Being Earnest* to start. Or, if you have older teens, dive right in to David Mamet!
- Graphic Novel Book Club (The California Center for the Book has an EXCELLENT Book-Club-in-a-Box kit to loan -- <http://www.calbook.org/bcb/comix.html>)
- Basic computer programming activities through code.org, including a programmable version of Flappy Bird! -- <http://learn.code.org/>
- Teen Take-Out Kits: Create fun programs in a box - ex: duct tape, soldering, MakeyMakey - to have on hand for outreach but also for other teen librarians in your library to borrow!
- Comic Book Remix -- get a bunch of discarded comics and graphic novels and have kids cut out panels and rearrange and mix and match them to make new stories.
- Votive decoupage -- buy some plain glass votive candle holders and have teens decorate them with decoupage and torn up tissue paper. Give them an LED votive candle to light up their creation!
- Comics Exquisite Corpse -- Give each person in the group a piece of paper. Come up with a genre (Western, sci-fi, whatever) and have each person write a description of a scene on the piece of paper. Then have everyone trade sheets of paper and each person draws a short, FAST comic based on that prompt! Display the results.
- Zoetrope from HowToons -- Print out the comic here and make a zoetrope using a CD and a tube of chapstick: http://www.howtoons.com/?page_id=64

Some Excellent GAMES for Teens

- Pandemic
- Forbidden Island
- Qwirkle
- Apples to Apples
- Quelf
- Loaded Questions
- Rory's Story Cubes
- The Resistance
- Bang!
- UNO
- Minecraft
- Super Smash Bros. (for Wii)
- Boom Blox (for Wii)
- Kirby's Return to Dreamland (for Wii)