



North Vancouver District
Public Library

Inspiring Stories

February 2015

Family Day

Family Day took place Monday, February 9. While all three NVDPL locations normally close for stat holidays, this year we did something different for Family Day: Lynn Valley Library remained open from noon to 5pm, while Capilano and Parkgate Libraries closed.

A party at the library

The day was a huge success! The library was filled with families and students enjoying all the Library had to offer on a rainy Monday.

On the second floor, library staff worked hard to meet the information needs of wall-to-wall students. One word to describe what was happening in the children’s area – party! From 12:30pm onward we never dipped below 100 attendees. At around 2:30pm, we had almost 220 – it was amazing!

We had crafts, drop-in Lego, spontaneous storytimes, a very popular scavenger hunt, refreshments and reader’s advisory opportunities galore.

What we heard and saw from patrons

- The father and son who ran (yes, ran) in and shouted (yes, shouted), “cool, where’s the Lego party?!”.
- An elderly gentleman, helping himself to coffee and cookies, pointed towards the children’s area and said, “this is good work you girls are doing for the community.”
- The many parents and caregivers who told us that this was the best thing going on for Family Day.
- The family who recently moved here from the province of Quangdong and spent over three hours with us being welcomed into their new home community. When they were leaving (with new library cards!), they kept thanking us for including them in their “special day”.
- The four students who had been upstairs working on projects all afternoon, and when leaving at closing said, “hey librarian lady, we liked being here today.”

Outcomes from the day

Without having the exact numbers, or knowing for certain about long-term outcomes, given what we heard and observed, we can look for the following outcomes:

- A story told among community members about us being available and welcoming for families.
- An increased awareness about library services (the newsletter was popular).
- Staff learning about how popular the library is on a rainy February stat holiday, and about what we will do in preparation for next time.



One of the many spontaneous storytimes



Lego party in the program room