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### **For Immediate Release**

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## **Library Celebrates Summer Reading Achievements**

RAPID CITY (August 12, 2008) – Getting a reward for something that’s fun to do anyway: life doesn’t get any better than that.

All summer long, hundreds of kids in Rapid City have been reading daily and tracking their progress in reading logs provided by the Rapid City Public Library. On Sunday, August 24th, the library will reward their efforts by hosting a Summer Reading celebration at both library locations. At the North library, 10 Van Buren St. (within General Beadle Elementary School), the party takes place from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. At the Downtown library, 610 Quincy Street, it’s from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

These parties conclude RCPL’s “Catch the Reading Bug” summer reading program, part of a national initiative involving libraries from coast to coast. There will be treats from Schwan’s and prizes. Kids who have read all 90 days this summer, and are turning in their third reading log, get a special prize. 90-day readers are also eligible for entry into a drawing for bigger prizes such as a new mp3 player, a remote controlled tarantula, or a bug vacuum with magnifier.

Children who couldn’t or didn’t participate in the Summer Reading Program are still welcome to join the party. There will be a special activity that these children can do to earn a prize. They can also enjoy the library’s “Animals as Architects” exhibit, on display at both library locations courtesy of H.O.P. (the Hands-On-Partnership for Science, Literature and Art in South Dakota) sponsored by the SD State Library, SD Discovery Center, Dahl Arts Center, Rawlins Municipal Library, the SD School of Mines & Technology, and grant funding provided by The Institute of Museum & Library Services. This exhibit is featured at the libraries until the end of August.

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Studies show that children who read during the summer do better when the school year starts. There are a lot of Rapid City kids ready to kick it into high gear this fall, thanks to their commitment to reading during the library's Summer Reading Program.

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*The Rapid City Public Library has served the Rapid City area since 1879, and now has two locations, the downtown library at 610 Quincy Street and the north library within General Beadle Elementary School at 10 Van Buren St. Both offer print and electronic resources for adults, young adults and children as well as computers and Internet access and a variety of programs and events. In March 2008, USA Today named the Rapid City Public Library's downtown library as one of the nation's 10 greatest places to "Find a Nook and Read a Book."*

*Find video footage of RCPL events at:*

*<http://www.youtube.com/user/rapidcitylibrary>*

*Find photos of RCPL events at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rcpl/>*