Style Your Locker

Glen Ellyn Public Library

Children

|

Tweens (10-12)

|

Young Adult

Style Your Locker

Feb 24, 2017

$101-250

$$
Byline
Christina Keasler, Middle School Librarian, Glen Ellyn Public Library, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Personalize your school locker with handcrafted bling! Middle schoolers were welcomed to join us in school-themed crafting that would add flair to their lockers while adding organizational value at the same time.

Advanced Planning

I originally got this idea from a pin on Pinterest showing emoji magnets. They looked relatively easy to make and I thought they would look cute in a middle schooler's locker. I then found more crafts and creations that would appeal to this age range and decided on a program for late summer or early fall.

Our library plans programs at least four months in advance, so I finalized these plans in June 2016 and picked early September for my date. We held the program on a Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m.

This was a simple craft program that was easy to replicate but linked to a theme and promoted positive excitement for school.

Marketing

We promoted this event in our e-newsletter and printed event guide that is mailed to residents. It was featured in the section specifically targeted to middle schoolers.

Budgeting

This program was relatively low cost and could be made less or more expensive depending on the crafts you choose. Most of my materials were already owned or purchased online. I spent a total of $130. Some of the things were supplies to keep, others were expendable.

Day-of-event Activity

I was the only staff person to run this program. The program was held in a smaller space, and I wanted to control the quality of items offered, so I set a registration limit of 10 kids.

I set up each craft and its accompanying supplies at separate tables so the kids could maneuver between stations and complete any projects they chose.

The hardest challenge for me was finding an age-appropriate way to handle the mess that is glitter in a new space. Most of the kids were great, but we did have a few that couldn't handle their glitter very well.

Program Execution

Eight of the 10 registration spots were filled and attended. We provided clothespins, magnet clips, clear plastic sheet protectors, magnetic dry erase markers, glitter, magnets and marker pens.

Students had the freedom to create from scratch or follow prompted ideas like dry erase calendars, emoji magnets and magnetic clips. Our most popular craft was a reusable calendar made from dry erase pockets with handmade calendar sheets inserted. The only problem was that it didn’t fit comfortably in their lockers, so when we repeat this program we will make them smaller.

For additional school-themed DIYs, check out these blogs: Dreaming in DIY, BLUPLA and Passion for Savings.

After the program, kids were excited to use their creations in their lockers to improve organization and productivity, as well as show off their style at school.

Advice

This program is easy to execute as-is, trimmed down or even bigger. It all depends on the crafts you choose, as well as the materials you provide. Cap your registration at the number you are comfortable working with at one time.

Overall, I try to schedule my programs for as short of a time slot as possible, both to get over-scheduled kids to squeeze this into their day and to avoid idle time.

Did you try this program at your library? Share your experience using this form.

Supporting Materials

Download this Program as a PDF

- Programming Librarian Facebook Group

More Programs

Sep 22, 2016
Young Adult (17 - 20)+ |
Image



Summer Reads at Skokie Public Library

Audiences:

Audience
Young Adult (17 - 20)
May 17, 2016
Children (9 and under)+ | $

Image



Ink Floating for Teens

Audiences:

Children (9 and under)
Young Adult (17 - 20)
Adults (21 and up)
Intergenerational
Jul 15, 2016
Children (9 and under)+ | $
Image



Nail Polish Pots

Audiences:

Children (9 and under)
Young Adult (17 - 20)
Adults (21 and up)
Intergenerational