

Youth Services Librarian Report Emily McCabe

End of December

Silly Scientists: 10 children attended the 12/20 *Silly Scientists*. We used cups and craft sticks to see who could build the tallest tower. The tallest was 33", and tied in second were two 30.5" towers.



Winter Solstice Stroll: Myself, Dale, Jess and Kate tabled during the 'Winter Solstice Stroll' along Catskill's Main Street. We handed out about a hundred cups of hot cocoa and gave away a few books. The community seemed glad to see us, and it was great seeing our youth population outside the library.

January

Our regular program attendance (*Story Time!*, *Game Club*, and *Lego Club*) remains overall steady, with some minor dips in *Game Club* and *Lego Club* attendance depending on the weather.

We were happy to host Rebecca Pisciotta from Family of Woodstock Inc's 'Child Care Connections' at *Story Time!* on Friday the 5th. Our caregivers were interested in the information she was able to provide, and I hope to reconnect with her for future visits and/or programming. The Youth Clubhouse and volunteers from the Beattie-Powers Place have also reached out to us with programming opportunities.

The YS Department continues to grow the Spanish-language materials collection. We will have to slow down our purchases since we are no longer working from the grant, but I believe it is well worth continuing the growth.

As a side note, in January and February of 2023 we had a notable slow-down of daily patron visits. So far in 2024, it feels as though daily visits remain steady (and, in fact, we are still seeing new families!).

Upcoming

End of January: We have our *Books & Breakfast* visit, *Silly Scientists*, and our gaming-related programming.

February: Along with our regular programming, we also have *Library Lover's Month*. This will be the second year we try out a raffle and 'mystery book' challenge in the YS department.