Ideas for Celebrating National Library Week

1. Visit the American Library Association website to learn about the theme for the year and download posters and promotional items.

2. Host library events in the afternoons or evenings for students and families. Tailor the events to your age group, like special story times for elementary children or a café atmosphere for the secondary level.

3. Create a display of library themed fiction and nonfiction.

4. Invite teachers to participate in contests hosted in the library that engage students. For example, take a photograph of a teacher reading behind a book with only eyes and the top of the head showing. Create a display of photos and have students guess “Who is Reading This Book?” Host a creative writing contest with library theme such as “A Night in the Library.”

5. Contact the local public library to see what special events they may be hosting that week and promote them to your students.

6. Read a brief announcement each day over the school announcements promoting National Library Week and giving a trivia fact about libraries.

7. Grant amnesty from library fines during this special week. Any students returning library books who have accumulated overdue fines do not have to pay.

8. Invite teachers to hand out a “Caught You Reading” ticket to students who are enjoying a library book for independent reading. Exchange the ticket for a small prize at the library.

9. Create small half or quarter sheet flyers on very brightly colored paper promoting the dates of National Library Week with the tagline, “Have Your Visited Your Library this Week?” and hang them everywhere around the school – on lockers, at hallway intersections, beside classroom doors. Hang fifty or more!

10. Survey teachers to ask for their favorite library book. Display these books with the teacher’s picture on a paper placard in the library. See how quickly these books are selected!