Youth Services Board Report
November 2026

The month of October is always a fun month at the library. We started the month off with a homeschool program that featured the science behind fall and then a nature walk around Bixler Lake. Bethany from Adult and Tracey from Youth lead the walk portion of this program. My walking feet were giving me some trouble that day. The rest of the month was filled with weekly crafts, storytimes, afterschool programs, anime club, teen programs, preschool outreach, play dates and a therapy dog visit.

Lindsay, the coordinator, from a group called Before 5 will be dropping in on the first Friday of the month to our Little Learners program. Before 5 focuses on helping parents and caregivers understand how their children grow and develop.

Our play area was apple themed and included a play pie baking station and an apple picking area. Library visitors have really enjoyed having themed play spaces back. Katie from marketing has been creating large, themed posters that we've added to the play area. They really help define the space. This area had 944 visitors in October alone.

I had my first session teaching Junior Achievement to a 9th grade class at the highschool in October. It's always fun to see students learn about how communication works in a workplace setting. We'll have 6 sessions in total.

The Rome City branch had a month filled with storytimes, spooky milkshakes, pumpkin crafts, yarn monsters and Halloween doorknobs. They also had a therapy dog visit. The Rome City staff also took part in a trunk or treat at the elementary school.

I was on vacation for the last two weeks of October. The youth staff did a great job keeping the youth department running while I was off. We're busy planning the final programs for 2026, working on our Winter Reading program and programs for January 2027.

Sincerely,
Mary Graber



LB: Spooky Milkshakes



Kendallville: Homeschool program-Fall Walk