

Teen Program Ideas from
[SJRLC Webinar: EVEN MORE! Cool Teen Programs for under \\$100](#)

- Kim Strenger: I have an idea for a steampunk group, but I don't know how many kids will actually do it.
- kwinks: bottle cap charms for 10-16yos
- Jessica: for our 6th-12th grade group - project runway using only recyclable materials - newspapers, soda caps, bottles, yogurt lids, etc. etc.
- Martha Hickson 2: Book spine poetry for National Poetry Month, could be for tweens or high school, standalone event, use funds as prizes for best poems, photograph poems and post on web site
- Ellen Smith: Grades 6-8 and grades 9-12: "Book Brag"-bring a book you want to convince (brag) others to read. You have 2 minutes to sell it.
- Heather Marquette: My library is just now starting Teen Programs, so we were planning a Henna program for the summer and it should stay under \$25 and it would be for ages 13 - 17 and they would need a permission slip signed by a guardian
- Lia: I learned this summer for summer reading how to make magazine tote bags for teens. But I thought it was a little girly. So I thought I could add boys by making magazine wallets & cell phone holders. We could use recycled magazines, book covers and duct tape for laminate. Teen Magazine Tote instructions - <http://www.njsummerreading.org/images/pdf/Teen-Crafts-2010.pdf>
- kwinks: Hunger Games Party in August with games and snacks for 12-16
- Theresa Preziosa: Beat the Librarian- Ages 12-18 drop in a defeat the librarian to win a prize. Use quick board games, wii games, etc.
- Margaret: i do calligraphy, always thought it could work as a teen program for a wide age group, but might draw mostly girls
- Karyn Gost: crafts using recycled materials/found objects..picture frames, locker mirrors.. grades 7-9
- Margaret: i had a similar idea, kim, but not limited to historical figures, any book character (except captain underpants)
- Ellen Smith: Margaret, you could make that inter-generational: adults would love calligraphy. What I love about intergenerational is the adults come out and talk about how great the teens are!
- Theresa Doyle: Book Bingo: Bingo game with gently used books as prizes. Grades 6-9 Refreshments included.
- adrienne basso: "old school board" game night for tweens
- Christina Roest: bleach pen t-shirts. meetinf room with access to a sink. teens 12-18. Funds would buy the bleahc pens. teens would bring an old dark colored shirt to work on.

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- Margaret: scavenger hunt where clues are in books, could be for middle school and/or teens
- Martha Hickson 2: Here's an example of what Book Spine Poetry looks like:
<http://100scopenotes.com/2010/03/30/poetry-month-gallery-student-book-spine-poems/>
- Kim Strenger: Your city then and now. Intergenerational activity. Got CVS to donate cameras and processing.
- Sandy Hall: i was thinking about doing a "mini art show" with post its. we have really limited space right now.
- Martha Hickson 2: Re Then and Now: Also Google "Sepia Town" for then/now photos of different places around the world
- Amy Edwards: digital photo competition - different crazy categories divided by ages (10-12, 13-15, 16-18), submit online and then teens vote on favorites/winners. Money goes to snacks for results show, possible donations for prizes.
- Lia: we did mini art last year with index cards and made mini easels out of popsicle sticks.
- Susan Magennis: I'm listening to the good ideas. We are trying the magazine bags this summer. "purse party". Just had a tissue flower program. sounds old fashioned? they loved it! - Middle School
- Samantha Marker: Facebook Book Club: rather than traditional book discussion, participants create status updates for the different characters. Samantha Marker: example of Facebook book club: <http://www.slideshare.net/yolaleah/twilight-feed>
- Ruth Conrad: I saw something on the YALSA listserv about urban legends that I'd love to try someday. Use Snopes to see if the kids can tell if a story is true or not... Give them all different urban legends, they have to tell if it's true or not.
- Jessica: my Teens BEG to play charades.
- Margaret: I wonder if you could do that photo competition and incorporate books or the library somehow.
- Ruth Conrad: oh my kids LOVE apples to apples.
- Kim Strenger: I have Family Feud questions adn was trying to figure how to use them...
- Jessica: my teens will bring their copies of these games to play.
- adrienne basso: twister is another game they really like. We also do a Lego club which tweens really like too. Lia: we put our request for LEGOs online. MIT was dissolving a school and they sent us a HUGE box. So advertise online for donos. We then put pictuers of the lego creations on website - via flickr

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- Lia: we had a LEGO contest. Asked kids to bring their own but let them know that they could use ours if they didn't have any. Then we displayed them in the library for a month.
- Lia: Lincoln logs would work
- Samantha Marker: we had a tough time with lego donations, but got some fairly cheap by the pound on ebay
- Christina Roest: we had a design a bug program a few years ago using fruit and marshmallow candy
- Martha Hickson 2: Have teens design glogs on Glogster, Interactive online poster <http://www.glogster.com/>
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- Find cheap or free stuff: <http://bookmooch.com>, <http://craigslist.org>, <http://freecycle.org>, <http://www.paperbackswap.com/index.php>
- Martha Hickson: Ask staff for donations ... their own kids outgrow them
- Christina Roest: they do like planning stuff for younger kids
- Amy Edwards: teach older people how to use technology - techno buddies
- Ellen Smith: I have Senior High teens help me with the middle school summer stuff.
- adrienne basso: i've had teens "run" our video gaming night programs
- Lia: My six teens love to do crowd control. haha.
- Jessica: reading buddies.
- Ellen Smith: I'll plug the intergenerational idea again. Had a "marbelizing" paper craft idea for holiday time. Went over great. Had older teens there.
- Martha Hickson 2: How about helping "facilitate" the activity -- set up, cleanup, etc.
- Ellen Smith: How about a wii bowling tourney or any game tourney: teens v. seniors?
- Samantha Marker: a practice SAT program? It's free and great for school oriented teens
- Jessica: cpr courses are good too - sometimes local emt/fire will do for you at no charge.
- Ellen Smith: Oh: we also have a "sandwich board" that sits on the sidewalk in front of the library!