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## Children's Nutrition Collection Event Suggestions:

The Children's Nutrition Collection was designed to support child nutrition events held at public libraries and to serve as a tool for libraries to collaborate with and support child nutrition events in their local communities. The following are suggestions based on events held during this pilot project.

1. Host a PJ Storytime at your library corresponding to health related issues in your community. During the pilot project we sponsored a reading of "Hamster Camp: How Harry Got Fit." The story was read by a local pediatrician in March which is National Nutrition Month. Fresh fruit from the local Farmer's Market was served as a snack, and fruit coloring pages ([www.imagination-farms.com/coloringsheets.html](http://www.imagination-farms.com/coloringsheets.html)) were provided as an activity for the children. See article about the event from the Marin IJ: [www.marinij.com/fastsearchresults/ci\\_5484641](http://www.marinij.com/fastsearchresults/ci_5484641). For information about national health observances see the Calendar of National Health Observances: [www.healthfinder.gov/library/nho/nho.asp?year=2007](http://www.healthfinder.gov/library/nho/nho.asp?year=2007)
2. Tie the event to a Summer Reading Program. Summer 2007, "Get a Clue @ Your Library", featured the book "Those Mean Nasty Dirty Downright Disgusting but...Invisible Germs." The book was read by a public health nurse who gave a hands-on demonstration of proper hand washing techniques, and with nursing students from the local University, helped children to determine how well they washed their hands using a GlitterBug germ detection kit from [www.glitterbug.com](http://www.glitterbug.com). Children were also given the opportunity to play online food safety and hand washing games on the library computers at [www.scrubclub.org](http://www.scrubclub.org).
3. The Children's Nutrition Collection PowerPoint and online database can be used for a library-based training for children's librarians, elementary school librarians, teachers and community partners to learn about how the Children's Nutrition Collection can be used in the classroom and the community. During the pilot project, the Novato Public Library held a well received CNC training in collaboration with the Marin County Office of Education for county public and school librarians.
4. Recognizing the well documented link between family meals and children's health, President Bush and governors of 35 states issued proclamations declaring the fourth Monday in September as Family Day. For information see [www.casafamilyday.org](http://www.casafamilyday.org). The Novato Unified School District has sought funds to provide a Family Dinner Night at a local elementary school to support "Family Day--A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children." The dinner would include book readings from the Children's Nutrition Collection of "Family Food Stories" by school staff and administration.