

Check It Out Column for week of July 12-18

Tell Us What You Want

By Beth Anne Cox, Children's Assistant

Last week a boy came to my desk to ask about a title in the very popular "Hank the Cowdog" series. (We have a lot of those books—60, actually!—and he has read every one of them.) His next question? "Will you be ordering the new ones when they come out?"

There is very little that we would not do to keep a child's interest in reading going strong. If they've read every single title by a favorite author, we do our best to recommend something similar; for example, when my daughter finished "Junie B. Jones" she was ecstatic to discover "Clementine." If they don't know what they want to read, we ask them what they like to do, and go from there.

We have books about favorite animals for a horse-loving child, and there are all sorts of dragons and 'ghoulies and ghosties and long-leggity beasties', to quote James Whitcomb Riley, in our sci-fi section. And when someone comes in with a book they got from their school library, hoping we've got more, we hope so, too. If we don't have it, and it's available, then it's time to order.

It is wonderful to hear a child talk about an author or book they really enjoy. I read dozens of blogs and book reviews every week, always in search of what the children are reading and what's forthcoming. Recently I ordered a dozen historical fiction titles, based on a conversation with a girl who hoped we'd have a particular book in the series. We didn't then—I hadn't even heard of the series! but we do now, and she got to be the first one to read it.

We're preparing now to add more books to our collection—actually, this is a continually ongoing process—and we're excited about them. Did you know we have some titles in our youth fiction that are in LARGE PRINT? It makes it so nice for the times when Grandma or Grandpa are reading to a visiting little one! And we've just found a source for Braille picture books, which a patron asked about. Those will take a while to receive, but we can hardly wait.

We want to know what you like, and we want to have it for you when you return. Just ask, and we'll do all we can to have the books you seek.

Visit us online at [www.warsawlibrary.org](http://www.warsawlibrary.org). Even better, become a facebook fan at our Teen Lounge at <http://tinyurl.com/nwwfx8> or at our regular facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/nu6kx7>.