

## Wolf at the Water Bowl

Ever wondered what the similarities were between your furry canine at home and that of a wild wolf? Surprising answers to this question were revealed in the *Wolf at the Water Bowl* videoconference hosted by Strathmore Municipal Library in partnership with the Calgary Humane Society. According to one child participant, they “have the same faces” and “the same paws”! The Calgary Humane Society is a nonprofit organization that provides shelter for abandoned animals and advocates for animal rights. This videoconference was just one in a five-part series called *Jungle in Your Backyard*, a series that is part of this year’s *Destination Jungle* Summer Reading Club programming. The remaining sessions for *Jungle in Your Backyard* will continue to educate participants about animals and encourage safer and more humane practices with pets.

Thirty-two children at Consort, Irricana, Okotoks, Hanna, Cochrane, Airdrie, High River, Milk River, and Strathmore public libraries learned about the evolution of wolves as well as important lessons to remember when interacting with dogs, such as body language and what each posture means. For example, if a dog has his/her mouth open and is panting this means they are relaxed and easily approachable.

The coordinator of the Strathmore Library Children’s Summer Reading Program, Heather, felt good about the first presentation and is already looking forward to next week’s presentation, *Tiger in Your Kitchen* (July 22, 2010). Jamie (Calgary Humane Society) is hooked after her first videoconference and felt it was a “fantastic resource” as she was able to “talk to libraries [the Humane Society] would never [be able] to reach” without a long drive, such as Hanna.

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### Quick Fix

Some RISE libraries have reported problems seeing the entire menu on the screens of their VC units.

If you have this problem, there is an easy fix.

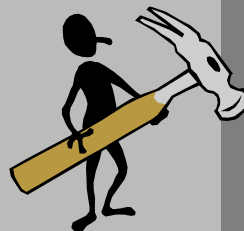
On your small, Panasonic remote, press the POS/SIZE button and use the arrows to move the display horizontally and vertically until it is centred on your screen.

It is helpful to have the menu displayed on your screen so that you can centre the image properly.

If you have any questions, please speak to your RISE consultant.



Jamie’s enthusiasm and presentation style engaged library patrons in person and at a distance, which was made evident through their excitement and participation in the videoconference. Strathmore Municipal Library and the Humane Society look forward to the rest of the *Jungle in Your Backyard* videoconference sessions over the coming weeks.



Submitted by Kayla Knopf, Marigold Summer Student

## Building bridges for rural immigrants

The Nanton, Thelma Fanning Memorial Library videoconference equipment has been put to good use lately by a group of up to six students who have been learning “English as a Second Language” through the *Building Bridges for Rural Immigrants* program. This program, which uses the videoconference equipment six hours per week for a period of nine weeks is a partnership between Project Read of the Willow Creek Community Adult Learning Society, Hanna Learning Centre and the Bow Valley College. The students have also used Skype on laptop computers in order to further communicate between groups. The Willow Creek Society also plans to use the library’s VC capability for a “Board Development” program later this year.



ESL student Lisa Kang (originally from The Republic of South Korea) talks and presents photos of her homeland to the three groups via videoconference.

Submitted by Malcolm Stick, Thelma Fanning Memorial Library

**Videoconferences can be recorded— when booking a session, ask about recording.**

## Coming this Christmas to the Taber Library—A Classic Christmas Gala

Since last year’s Christmas videoconference program was such a success, the Taber Public Library has decided to plan another event for the 2010 holiday season. This year’s main act will be the *Joshua Reuben Duo* - guitarist/vocals by Joshua Reuben and Mary Ann Boorsma. Joshua is a very talented guitarist, whose repertoire includes classical, flamenco, pop flamenco, and popular music, as well as his original music.

The evening will be filled with Joshua’s music as well as performances by the town’s own *Taber Players*. Programmes will be sent out to the participating libraries early this year so that both the live and videoconference audiences can fully enjoy the show.

The Taber Library is hoping to make this a festive event by encouraging participating libraries to provide refreshments for their patrons.

Date and Time TBA



Submitted by Debbie Haigh, Taber Public Library