2019 LSE Reads Program

Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library By Chris Grabenstein

Imagine being one of twelve students to win a chance to stay overnight in the new town library designed by a famous game maker! Mr. Luigi Lemoncello is an eccentric game designer who has just funded a very special new library in his hometown. In honor of the grand opening, Mr. Lemoncello has selected a dozen 12 year olds to participate in an overnight lock-in event at the library. Kyle is one of the lucky winners! After a night of fun, food, and games, the 12 students find out that the real game has just begun. Now they each will have to use their resources in the library to find a way out of the library! Kyle realizes he must work with his friends to solve puzzles in order to discover the hidden escape!

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Parents/Guardians,

Our LSE Reads Program is starting today! Your student received this packet and a paper back copy of Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library while at school. Please look through the following pages and familiarize yourself with the contents. The packet contains a reading calendar, discussion questions and website links to use while reading the book.

The calendar designates which chapters should be read each week. Students are encouraged to read the chapters with their family members and review the discussion questions and website links for that chapter as a family.

The list of discussion questions and website links are given to help spark conversation between you and your child, as well as give our school reading community common conversation items to talk about and discuss. Please do not feel that you are limited to talking only about these items. Stories come alive when we share them with others by making text-to-text, text-to-self, and text-to-world connections. Our hope is that this event will be a very powerful experience for all LSE families.

In addition, the CCPL - Eldersburg Branch will be sponsoring a concluding event for all families where students are invited to participate in a library puzzle game similar to the one in Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library. Further information will be coming home at the end of our program.

Any questions can be directed to Mrs. Myers at tcmyers@carrollk12.org, Mrs. Cross at rmcross@carrollk12.org or reach us at school at 410-751-3280.

Thank you for participating in this event.

Happy Reading!
Reading Schedule

January 7th
Chapter 1-3: Meet Kyle Keeley and his two brothers as they race to finish Mr. Lemoncello’s Indoor-Outdoor Scavenger Hunt. It looks as if Kyle will try anything to beat his brothers. He and his family love to play board games. Do you and your family have a favorite game? Ask Mom and Dad to think back to one of their favorite board games and why they liked it. Check out the National Museum of Play including the National Toy Hall of Fame at http://www.museumofplay.org/about/toy-hall-fame! Play a favorite board game! Why do you think the library’s construction was kept a secret?

January 10th
Chapter 4-6: Students interested in winning a ticket to see the new library first must write an essay about why they want to win. Kyle does not recall hearing about this opportunity and at the last minute quickly scribbles a sentence to hand in for his essay entry. Kyle realizes he blew his chance, but by lunch time he has devised a plan. Do you think Kyle has a chance at winning the contest? Explain. Explain what you think Charles means when he says, “Knowledge is power.”

January 14th
Chapter 7-10: Gathered together in the auditorium, the students await the arrival of the famous Mr. Lemoncello. When he walks on stage, he is an amazing site to see! After asking the students to describe what they think they will see in the new library, Mr. Lemoncello hands out the first 12 library cards. Finally, the evening of the library lock-in arrives. The event gets kicked off with families gathered in the ballroom of the hotel just across the street from the new library. Describe Mr. Lemoncello. Would you like to meet him? Why?

January 17th
Chapter 11-14: As the twelve winners enter the new library, they are awestruck by what they see! The fountain and life size statue of Mr. Lemoncello as well as the video dome featuring a trip through space catches everyone’s attention. It’s not long before the first game begins and the competition is on! The children receive floor plans of the library and discover that their library card will grant them access to all the wonders in their new library. Kyle and Akimi soon realize how working together pays off. What’s for dessert?

Try a quick library shelf game! Go to http://www.mrs-lodges-library.com/shelver Choose New Game and Dewey. Can you put the nonfiction books in the correct order according to their call number? Look at the titles on each book you place in order to understand how the Dewey Decimal shelving system works. This is the key to Mr Lemoncello’s escape from the library game!
January 21st
Chapter 15-17: Mr. Lemoncello explains the game, *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library*, to the parents and kids – find your way out of the library using what is in the library. Look up the words **auspicious** and **traipsed** online or in a dictionary to find out what they mean. Annie helps Moby understand more about the library on BrainPOP Jr! Go to https://jr.brainpop.com/ (Username: lintonsprings Password: missymiss) and type in *library* for your keyword search. What is the shelf labeled where Annie and Moby find the book he is looking for?

January 24th
Chapter 18-20: Yasmeen makes a mistake that sends her out of the game. Kyle, Akimi and Sierra “team up” and create a plan that doesn’t get the results they were hoping for. Charles is on to something! In what section of the library can you find Dr. Seuss books? Look up the words **Ipso Facto**, **improvise** and **annotation** online or in a dictionary to find out what they mean. What happens to Yasmeen? Do you think Charles is playing fairly?

January 28th
Chapter 21-24: Kyle, Akimi and Sierra help Haley out of an unsafe situation, which earns the trio a bonus clue. This eventually leads them to discover a game Kyle played with his brother. Haley also receives a bonus that she hopes will come in handy later. Bridgette gets sent home after failing her Extreme Challenge. Check out Britannica; http://school.eb.com/levels (Username: linton Password: springs) and find some interesting information about Charles Dickens. What are the Stacks? In chapter 24, what is the name of the game Kyle played with his brother Curtis? Why is this memory important? What silhouette is on Haley’s card?

January 31st
Chapter 25-27: Kyle, Akimi and Sierra go to the Young Adult room to get Mr. Lemoncello’s Bewilderingly Baffling Bibliomania game. The increasingly desperate Andrew seeks out Miguel. When he finds Miguel in the Art and Artifacts Room, Andrew ends up getting chased out by two Egyptian Holograms. Charles continues working his way through the Staff Picks. He eventually teams up with another kid and they venture to the 400s room to find a book on picture languages. Kyle, Akimi, and Sierra debate whether or not to play a game to win the discarded library cards. They add a new member to their team. Go to the **Catalog** on the homepage of our **Destiny** website and look up **Red Pyramid**. Do we have the book in our library? What is the call number? Look up the words **turban**, **hieroglyphics** and **rumpus room** online or in a dictionary to find out what they mean. What does Sierra reveal at the end of chapter 25? Who teams up in chapter 26?
February 4th
Chapter 28-30: Team Kyle plays a famous quotes game to try and win the library cards of everyone no longer in the game. The quote was said by Groucho Marx. Check out World Book; http://www.worldbookonline.com (Username: linton Password: springs) and search for Marx Brothers to find out what they were famous for. Haley joins Team Charles and they continue to look for clues using the Staff Picks. Team Kyle plays Bibliomania in search of more clues. Look up the word plagiarism online or in a dictionary to find out what it means. (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders might remember learning about this in media 😊) Do you think playing Bibliomania is a good idea? Explain. Do you think the rebus will help Charles’ team win?

February 7th
Chapter 31-34: Team Kyle visits the Arts and Artifacts room and speculates if the library has a glass elevator. They continue to play Bibliomania and find a clue that leads to a commandment. Team Charles continues to look for picture cards from the Staff Picks books. Charles figures out more of the puzzle than he lets on to his teammates. Haley finds a clue on her own. What commandment does Kyle’s team discover? What could it mean? What does Haley do with the Bandits clue? Do you think Haley should have done that? Explain.

February 11th
Chapter 35-37: Team Kyle attempts to organize their clues and visits the 500’s room for their strangest clue yet. Team Charles plays Let’s Do a Deal with Mr. Lemoncello and gets everyone locked out of the Dewey Decimal rooms. Charles tries to get Andrew to steal something and Mr. Lemoncello encourages the students to do some fiction reading. Look up the words reek and juggernaut online or in a dictionary to find out what they mean. What do you think Charles is going to do to Sierra Russell? Why does Charles lie to Andrew about Haley?

February 14th
Chapter 38-40: Charles and Andrew decide to play video games while Team Kyle starts a book club. Haley finds another picture clue card and keeps it from her team. Kyle uses his expert consultation to call his brother. Team Kyle hits a dead end looking for clues in the Bibliomania game. Were you surprised when Kyle tells Charles and Andrew that they should grab some books and read? Explain. How does Charles try to tempt Kyle?

February 18th
Chapter 41-44: Using an idea that Kyle’s brother provided, Sierra discovers the next set of clues projected on the ceiling of the Wonder Dome. The team now has call numbers for every Dewey decimal section, except the three hundreds. Andrew Peckleman is asked to leave the game because he steals and uses Sierra’s library card to break into Team Kyle’s meeting room, even though Charles is really the one behind the idea. Haley doesn’t like how Charles is behaving so she asks to switch teams. How does Andrew get Sierra’s library card? When does Sierra think they will get their last big clue?
February 21st
*Chapter 45-47:* Mr. Lemmoncello lets Haley switch teams, but gives Charles a few extra clues to make up for losing Haley from his team. Now Charles only needs one more book and he will have all of the clues. Team Kyle has collected many clues, but is still working on figuring out what they mean. Both teams have clues that point to bandits using an unknown entrance to crawl into the building when it was a bank. Who is the only person who knows where the exit is? Were you surprised? Based on chapter 46, do you think Charles will win? Explain.

February 25th
*Chapter 48-50:* Kyle agrees to accept an “Extreme Challenge” in the hope that it will help his team. After 15 hair raising minutes of looking for a memory box in the stacks in the basement of the library, Kyle brings the box back to his team. Kyle returns just in time to win his Extreme Challenge. Charles uses his “Ask an Expert” lifeline to call his Uncle Jimmy (the head librarian for the Library of Congress). How does Kyle complete his Extreme Challenge? What does he find?

February 28th
*Chapter 51-56:* The Dewey Decimal rooms open after being closed for 14 hours, because of Team Charles “Let’s Do a Deal” Clunker Card. Over the last 14 hours Team Kyle has been working hard to make all of their clues make sense. Now that they have the game “Presenting First Letters”, a secret code game, they seem to be making headway. Team Kyle uses the first letters from the titles of the books, found on their library cards, to crack the code. The team now knows that “IN 1968, THE WAY OUT WAS A WAY IN”. They realize that 1968 is the year that the old bank was robbed and the 300’s call number that they waited for is the book that will tell them how the bandits broke into the bank. Team Kyle and Team Charles discover the 300’s call number that they need at nearly the same time. Kyle and Charles are able to locate and grab for the same book at the same time. Kyle eases his grip on the book because he doesn’t want to hurt it. Charles snatches the book and it looks as though he will win. However, Charles is asked to leave the competition after Dr. Z finds proof that Charles was part of the plot to steal Sierra’s library card. The team discovers that the bandits, of 1968, entered the library by tunneling from the clothing store next to the bank. They find the tunnel in the basement and they have to complete a challenge to be able to get to it. The team works together to climb through the tunnel into the basement of “The Fitting Factory” next door to the library. The team makes it out of the basement with less than 2 minutes to spare. Team Kyle wins! Why doesn’t *True Crime Ohio* move on the belt? What does Kyle’s team have to do with the letters of Luigi L. Lemoncello? What happens to the “secret square” in chapter 55?
Final Thoughts!
What did you learn? Do you know anything new about how a library is organized? What did you like about this book? Would you want to have an opportunity like Kyle and his friends? If you enjoyed this story, you may want to read some of the following books by Chris Grabenstein:

The Haunted Mysteries
- *The Hanging Hill* (2009) which is now "The Demons Door" (2017)
- *The Smoky Corridor* (2010) which is now "The Zombie Awakening" (2017)
- *The Black Heart Crypt* (2011)

Riley Mack
- *Riley Mack and the Other Known Troublemakers* (2012)

Others
- *The Island of Dr. Libris* (2015)
- *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* (2016)
- *Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race* (2017)

Co-authored with James Patterson
- *Max Einstein: The Genius Experiment*
- *Jacky Ha-Ha*
- *Jacky Ha-Ha: My Life Is a Joke*
- *House of Robots*
- *House of Robots: Robots Go Wild*
- *House of Robots: Robot Revolution*
- *I Funny*
- *I Even Funnier*
- *I Totally Funniest*
- *I Funny TV*
- *I Funny: School of Laughs*
- *Nerdiest, Wimpiest, Dorkiest I Funny Ever*

See more at: http://www.chrisgrabenstein.com/
Check out the wondrous new *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library movie* from Nickelodeon!
Watch the movie trailer!
http://www.nick.com/escape-from-mr-lemoncellos-library/