

New Learning Tools to be added to Library's Resources

The Friends of the Carl and Mary Welhausen Library are a recent recipient of an \$8,100 grant for the purchase of Launchpads and Wonderbooks for the Library. A Launchpad is a tablet with preloaded high quality, ad-free learning material grouped by age, grade level, and subject area. They do not require internet access, are 100% secure, and are proven to increase one's math efficiency by 66%, reading by 40%, and science test scores by 29%. They are ideal for sharpening fine motor skills, expanding vocabulary, and decreasing high school drop-out rates. English Second Language pads will help those wishing to learn English. They teach words, phrases, pronunciation, writing, grammar, and spelling through effective tutorials, flash cards, and quizzes. One is even loaded with specific material to teach lessons on obtaining US citizenship. Six of the pads will assist high school students in preparation for the ACT and SAT exams, which is proven to help them achieve higher test scores for college admission and/or scholarship applications. Subjects addressed include Math, English, and Reading.

Wonderbooks are an in-print book with a pre-loaded audiobook player permanently bound to the inside cover. These unique books increase reading fluency, comprehension, and inspire reluctant readers. They also include an exclusive learning mode which is a narrator-led question and answer session that promotes reading comprehension and shows parents how to engage in deeper dialogues with their children about books.

This grant will allow the Library to purchase 35-40 of each of these learning tools. They will be available for checkout at some point over the next four to six weeks, once ordering and cataloging has taken place.

The Friends of the Library, City of Yoakum, and Library staff wish to thank the Kluck Foundation for their generosity and supporting the educational needs of Yoakum and the surrounding area that the Library serves.

The Carl and Mary Welhausen Library is located at 810 Front St., in Yoakum. For questions, please call the Library at (361) 293-5001.