

# Easy, Low-Cost Ideas to Celebrate

We ask every institutions to do one thing in their community to celebrate Preservation Week, even if the action or activity is small. Each of the items in this list is expanded upon later in this document.



- Do just one thing—it doesn't need to be big.
- Invite a speaker to talk about a preservation topic.
- Show book repair or conservation treatment in public for a day.
- Invite a local collector's or community organization to create a small temporary exhibit of materials they want to preserve, showing how to store them.
- Provide handouts with preservation tips and information.
- Host a story hour or family workshop highlighting preservation.
- Create a small temporary exhibit with conserved items from your collections.
- Invite users or visitors to share a personal story about a memento or collectible that has had significance in their lives.
- Host a film screening or a book group to discuss a title with preservation themes.

## DO JUST ONE THING—IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE BIG

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Put a Preservation Week banner on your home page celebrating collectors and collections. Individual, family, and community collections, and library, archive, and museum collections all contribute to our cultural heritage.

## INVITE A SPEAKER TO TALK ABOUT A PRESERVATION TOPIC

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Select a topic that will interest one or more of your communities (preserving family documents and photos; preserving personal digital files; care and handling of costumes, textiles, and linens...). Contact your state library (or archive or historical society) for a preservation speaker or suggestion, ask your regional conservation center for a speaker or see the Preservation Week Speakers Bureau in March. Create a "save the date" to schedule.

## SHOW BOOK REPAIR OR CONSERVATION TREATMENT AT A PUBLIC TABLE FOR A DAY

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An excellent idea if there is a suitable task, project, and person. If your institution has a repair technician, or if you are having an item treated by someone geographically close consider this possibility. A near-by university library or larger museum might also be willing to make a conservator available for this purpose.

## INVITE A LOCAL COLLECTOR OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION IN TO EXHIBIT

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Have them create a small temporary exhibit of collectibles they'd like to preserve, along with examples of good preservation storage ideas in a space or display cabinet you make available. Display preservation and conservation information resources, and provide a preservation information sheet as an exhibit handout.

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## PROVIDE HANDOUTS

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Place handouts with preservation tips and information at your reference, check-out, or visitor information area.

## HOST A STORY HOUR OR FAMILY WORKSHOP

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Highlight preservation, and include simple tips on caring for books (return them to the library on time, handle gently with clean hands, etc.). Preservation Week Web site resources include a list of preservation titles for young readers.

## CREATE A SMALL TEMPORARY EXHIBIT

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Use items from your collection that have been conserved, with before and after photographs (if you have them), and damaged items that still need conservation.

## INVITE USERS OR VISITORS TO SHARE A PERSONAL STORY

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Request stories about a memento or collectible that has been significant to visitors. If a special webpage isn't practical, print copies of these stories and share them in a prominently displayed notebook, or mount them on a wall for others to read (and share the story at [www.ala.org/preservationweek!](http://www.ala.org/preservationweek!)).

## HOST A FILM SCREENING OR A BOOK GROUP

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Discuss a title with preservation themes. Lists of these titles are available online.

### ABOUT PRESERVATION WEEK

Memories and treasures should last a lifetime and be passed on to future generations. Sponsored by the ALA's Association of Library Collections and Services and partner organizations, Preservation Week inspires actions to preserve personal, family, and community collections, in addition to library, museum and archive collections. It also raises awareness of the role libraries and other cultural institutions can play in providing ongoing preservation information.

Note: This document was developed courtesy of the Library of Congress ([www.loc.gov/preserv](http://www.loc.gov/preserv)) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services ([www.ims.gov/collections](http://www.ims.gov/collections)). It may be reproduced without limitation. Updated April 2015.