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DULUTH --- Children in the primary grades at the UMD Laboratory School are all excited about National Library Week, April 21-27. They're anxious to show off their new library room.

Mrs. Lorraine Bissonett, the school librarian, has scheduled an open house all day Thursday (April 25) and her kindergarten, first, second and third graders are busily preparing book and picture displays for the occasion.

Now that separate primary and intermediate (fourth, fifth and sixth grades) library rooms are available, Mrs. Bissonett feels she has an ideal elementary library situation. "And the new primary room has doubled our library space," she explained.

"In the primary room everything is geared to promoting interest in reading," she said. "Two regular library periods are scheduled each week plus a story-telling period."

The primary room consists of a story-telling area, a reference and research section, a periodical section and a reading area where children are given certain books to read according to their ability.

Intermediate grade students are allowed more freedom in choosing reading materials. They are permitted to go to the shelves, seek out books of their own choice and, in the process, learn how to use the library.

The intermediate students will share their reading experiences with the primary grades during National Library Week through recitations in special story-telling periods.

(more)

Other National Library Week events scheduled at UMD include:

Dr. Ralph Ross, a professor of humanities on the University's Minneapolis campus, speaking on "Books and Reading" at a 10:30 a.m. convocation Friday (April 26) in Kirby Student Center ballroom.

Library listening hours at 3:30 p.m. daily (April 22-26) in Kirby Student Center Hi-Fi Lounge for "Poetry on Recordings" co-sponsored by the Fine Arts Committee and the UMD Library.