

ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™



SUMMER READING

June 1-July 29, 2024

Your adventure begins at Johnson County Library this summer! Check out our **EVENTS** (and more!) listed in this Guide and stop by any Library location to pick up your **READING LOG** and a **FREE BOOK** starting June 3. You can also get a **PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE** to discover more adventures to be had at the Library, at home and across the metro area this summer! *(Free books while supplies last. Downloadable reading logs and even more details can be found at jocolibrary.org/summerreading.)*

ADVENTURE BEGINS Summer Reading Launch Party

Saturday, June 1 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m. @ **Central Resource Library**

Kids, families, teens and adults can launch their next adventure with a day of fun and discovery featuring local presenters, activities and community groups.

10 a.m.

Author and award-winning musician **Mr. Stinky Feet** kicks us off with a rockin' high-energy, interactive musical adventure for the whole family.

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

- Discover your next adventure at our second annual **Community Connections Fair**. Explore, learn and connect with local groups. Wherever adventure takes you, you'll find a community group to help you begin.

- Head outside for a **wildlife adventure** with a guide who will teach you to use binoculars, spot birds and identify them. Presented in partnership with Audubon of Kansas, Johnson County Master Naturalists and Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City.
- Explore neighboring planets, moons and beyond on a **solar system sojourn** in the Ad Astra inflatable planetarium. Shows every half hour from noon to 2 p.m.



jocolibrary.org/summerreading

KIDS & FAMILY

Catholic Charities Kids Summer Food Program

Monday-Friday, May 28-Aug. 4 • 11 a.m.-Noon

@ Central Resource Library

All children up to 18 years of age can receive a free nutritious meal at the Library. Catholic Charities operates the Kids Summer Food Program in partnership with the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) and the Kansas Dept. of Education. *Please note: the Library will be closed June 19 and July 4 and the food program will not be available on those days.*

Reading to a Rooster

Wednesdays, June 5-July 31 • 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Shawnee Town 1929 Museum

11501 W. 57th St., Shawnee, KS 66203

Kids can kick off their Summer Reading and practice their skills with the very best audience . . . chickens! Drop in and visit our fine feathered friends at Shawnee Town 1929 Museum on Wednesdays in June and July, where kids can pull up a chair and show off their reading skills to help entertain the flock. They absolutely love meeting children! Shawnee Town will even have a selection of farm-themed books to read. Special thanks to the Museum for co-hosting this weekly event.

Animal Movements with Temple Made Fitness

Tuesdays, June 11 & 25; July 23 • 10-11 a.m.

@ Monticello Library

Thursdays, June 13-27 • 10-11 a.m. @ Shawnee Library

In this three-session program, the Library transforms into a wild adventure to the animal kingdom. Kids will learn about movement, healthy eating and mindfulness while meeting Becco the Bear, GiGi the Giraffe and more. This interactive wellness experience is geared for preschool to elementary-aged kids. Signing up for the first program allows for participation at all three sessions.

Science Heroes: Adventures of the Lost Treasure

Tuesday, June 11 • 2 p.m. @ Central Resource Library

Wednesday, June 12 • 6 p.m. @ Lenexa Public Market

Thursday, July 11 • 2 p.m. @ Blue Valley Library

Thursday, July 18 • 11 a.m. @ Shawnee Library

Join us on a treasure-hunting adventure deep within the jungle!

The audience helps the performer act out the tale, as Talewise uses the events in the story to explore several exciting science concepts: air pressure, energy transfer, physical vs. chemical changes, and more. Volunteers help conduct each experiment and the whole audience gets involved in changing variables, making predictions and comparing results. There will even be some experiments brought into the crowd for all to see.



The Toy Museum Art of the Imagination Summer Drop-Ins

Wednesdays, June 12 & 19 • 1-4 p.m.

The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures

5235 Oak St., Kansas City, MO 64112

Visit the Toy Museum and show your Library card to attend their free MakerSpace program. Create objects inspired by the Toy Museum's collection of historically significant toys and fine-scale miniatures. Experiences will include opportunities to make shoebox dollhouses, upcycled cars and superheroes, puppets and puppet theaters, miniature food and more.

MakerSpace Presents: Maker Adventures

Monday, June 17 • 1-3 p.m. @ Monticello Library

Monday, June 24 • 1-3 p.m. @ Corinth Library

Monday, July 8 • 1-3 p.m. @ Central Resource Library

Monday, July 15 • 1-3 p.m. @ Gardner Library

Flex those STEAM muscles, learn new maker skills and have fun with this project presented by the Library's Black & Veatch MakerSpace team. Supplies will be provided for participants to take home a finished project. This drop-in program is open to all ages while supplies last. Due to space capacity limits, you may have to wait in line. Participants will complete the same project each week, so join us the location and date that works for you.

Read to a Dog with Pets for Life

Monday, June 17 • 2-3:30 p.m. @ Gardner Library

Thursdays, June 20 & July 25 • 3:30-5 p.m.

@ Blue Valley Library

Saturday, June 22 • 10-11:30 a.m. @ Shawnee Library

Wednesday, June 26 • 4-5:30 p.m. @ Oak Park Library

Thursday, June 27 • 3-4:30 p.m. @ Merriam Plaza Library

Monday, July 1 • 3-4:30 p.m. @ Leawood Pioneer Library

The Reading Education Assistance Dogs (R.E.A.D.) program improves children's reading and communication skills by employing a powerful method: reading to a registered therapy dog or cat. These animals volunteer with their owner/handlers as a team. Please note: registration is required; kids will get a ticket at arrival and wait their turn to read to one of several animals.

KIDS & FAMILY CONT.

Operation Wildlife Presents: Deluxe Raptor Program

Tuesday, June 18 • 10 a.m. @ [Leawood Pioneer Library](#)

Tuesday, June 18 • 1 p.m. @ [Oak Park Library](#)

Monday, July 15 • 2 p.m. @ [Lenexa City Center Library](#)

Tuesday, July 16 • 2 p.m. @ [Merriam Plaza Library](#)

Wednesday, July 17 • 10 a.m. @ [Corinth Library](#)

Meet hawks, falcons, owls and other raptors as you learn about these fascinating birds' hunting habits and adaptive characteristics.

Ringo's Sing-Along Adventure

Tuesday, June 18 • 10:30 a.m. @ [Cedar Roe Library](#)

Thursday, June 20 • 10 a.m. @ [Lenexa City Center Library](#)

Thursday, June 25 • 3 p.m. @ [Oak Park Library](#)

Thursday, July 25 • 10 a.m. @ [Merriam Plaza Library](#)

Intrepid explorers Ringo the Dog and Mister Mike are on an epic quest to find the greatest sing-along song EVER! Join Ringo and Mike on their adventure as they discover musical favorites like "Wheels on the Bus", "If You're Happy and You Know It" and "B-I-N-G-O."

Audience participation, a cast of curious critters and engaging puppetry styles will delight audiences of all ages.



Campfire Adventures for Adventurous Listeners

Thursday, June 20 • 2 p.m. @ [Central Resource Library](#)

Tuesday, July 23 • 10 a.m. @ [Blue Valley Library](#)

Wednesday, July 24 • 10 a.m. @ [Lenexa City Center Library](#)



Storyteller Priscilla Howe brings out her best funny campfire stories and songs for all ages, with the help of a handful of silly puppets. Plenty of audience participation, plenty of fun for kids of all ages.

Dino O'Dell Adventures in Outer Space

Monday, June 24 • 10 a.m. @ [Gardner Library](#)

Tuesday, July 2 • 2 p.m. @ [Central Resource Library](#)

Whether visiting other planets, viewing meteor showers or fixing alien spaceships, this interactive science program teaches us about stars, moons, the planets of our solar system, and the differences between meteors, meteoroids and meteorites. Learn about the importance of constellations, gravity, friction, the greenhouse effect and NASA. This program is best for preschool and elementary-aged kids and their families.



Author Panel

Thursday, June 20 • 6-8 p.m.

[Central Resource Library](#)

Join us in conversation with acclaimed authors

Angela Cervantes

Sarah Henning

Adib Khorram

Britney S. Lewis

Amanda Sellet

Natalie C. Parker

As part of the Summer Reading Program theme, Adventure Begins at Your Library, we invite you to listen to a discussion on tales of daring escapades and courage, and the power of stories to transform. Copies of the authors' newest titles will be available for purchase. Q&A and book signing to follow.

Register for programs at jocolibrary.org/events or call 913-826-4600. Program details are subject to change and additional programs may be added throughout the summer.

Adventures in Art

Monday, June 24 • 2 p.m. @ **Lenexa City Center Library**

Wednesday, July 10 • 3 p.m. @ **Oak Park Library**

Read it, craft it! Listen to a read-aloud and bring the story to life through a guided art project. Art therapist Liz Schmidt will help you create a unique masterpiece based on the book.

Breakdancing Workshop with SugEasy

Tuesday, July 9 • 10 a.m. @ **Leawood Pioneer Library**

Tuesday, July 9 • 1 p.m. @ **Monticello Library**

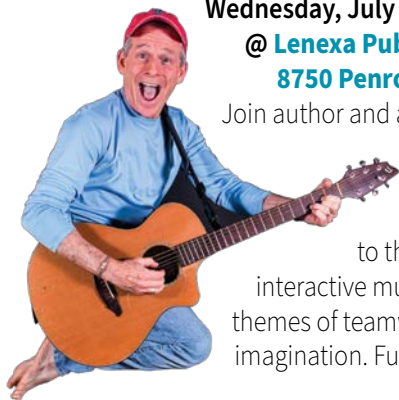
James “SugEasy” Singleton is an authentic advocate for the original missions of hip hop: peace, love, unity and having fun. Kids and tweens will learn basics of hip hop and breakdancing at this workshop, with the goal of enriching lives and helping people discover their own expressive selves. Make sure to wear closed-toed shoes to be able to dance safely!

Mr. Stinky Feet’s Rock & Roll Adventure

Tuesday, July 9 • 2-3 p.m. @ **Central Resource Library**

Wednesday, July 10 • 6-7 p.m.

@ **Lenexa Public Market,**
8750 Penrose Ln., Lenexa, KS 66219



Join author and award-winning musician Mr. Stinky Feet on a rockin’ expedition from the Library, through the jungle and up to the stars. It’s a high-energy, interactive musical adventure exploring themes of teamwork and the power of imagination. Fun for the whole family.

STEMusic Concert Live

Thursday, July 18 • 2-3 p.m.

Central Resource Library

The STEMusic Concert is a high-energy concert full of songs and lessons all about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). Students will have a chance to watch live experiments, practice solving math problems, dance to a coding activity, and learn STEM vocabulary, all while being entertained with incredible music. Roy Moye III, also known as “The Singing Engineer,” puts on a thoroughly engaging show with live singing and student participation moments. Students will be transported to a STEM universe by the rhythms and harmonies of songs that will begin to change the narrative on how they view and learn about STEM. This program is a great fit for preschool to 2nd grade kids.

Summer Reading Online Author Talks

Register for any or all of these children’s and teen author talks at jocolibrary.org/events. Each online author talk will be followed by an interactive Q&A session. Presented in partnership with Library Speakers Consortium; see page 25 for more details on our LSC author talk series.

A Visit to Deckawoo Drive with Mercy Watson and Kate DiCamillo

Tuesday, July 9 • 1 p.m.

Online

Join us for an online-only discussion with Kate DiCamillo, author of children’s classics like “The Tale of Despereaux”, “The Puppets of Spelhorst” and the Mercy Watson series, among many others.



Surviving the Summer with the Last Kids on Earth and Max Brallier

Tuesday, July 16 • 1 p.m.

Online

Join us for an online-only discussion with Max Brallier, author of children’s bestselling book series “The Last Kids on Earth” and more.



Learning the Power of Poetry with Bestselling Author Elizabeth Acevedo

Tuesday, July 23 • 1 p.m.

Online

Join us for an online-only discussion with award-winning author and poet Elizabeth Acevedo, writer of works for teens such as “With the Fire on High” and “The Poet X.”



Graphic Novels Are Life! Telling Your Own Story in a Graphic Novel with Dan Santat

Wednesday, July 31 • 1 p.m.

Online

Join us for an online-only discussion with children’s author and illustrator Dan Santat, creator of award-winning “The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend” and “A First Time for Everything”, and more.

