

LESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER 2026

Read. Discover. Connect. Enrich. • www.lesterlibrary.org • 920.793.8888 • Program begins Monday, June 8!

READING CHALLENGES

Run Monday, June 8-Saturday, Aug 29

READY to READ?! And yes, *audiobooks count!* Use **Beanstack** to easily maintain your reading records. Access it online via our website, or download the app. Log books you read to earn digital badges and prizes along the way.

Parents: If you read one book to all your kids, just scan the barcode (or enter the title) ONCE—no maintaining multiple paper reading logs!

Stop at the Help Desk for assistance getting started with anything Beanstack! Don't want to go digital? Paper reading logs are available—just ask!

The challenges:

Read to Me (Ages 0-5)

Earn a reading badge and PRIZE for every five books. Read 50 to complete the challenge.

Read on My Own (Ages 6-11)

Earn a reading badge and PRIZE for every two books. Read 20 to complete the challenge.

Teens (Ages 12-17)

Earn reading badges and PRIZES like books and free mini-golf @ Village Inn on the Lake & RV Park! Read six books to complete the challenge.

Adults (Ages 18+)

Track days spent reading and log books read to earn earthy rewards and up to seven entries into the drawing for \$100 in Chamber Bucks—the more you read, the more chances you have to strike it rich!

NEW DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER

Opens Monday, June 8

The ground hides secrets—DIG 'EM UP! Become a paleontologist at a busy archaeological site, uncovering bones buried deep in rocky layers. Use tools to excavate, then head to the mobile lab to examine your finds. Share discovery tales around the campfire. Piece together **dino** skeletons, match fossils to their **dino** counterparts, and study mysterious x-rays. Follow clues on a scavenger hunt to solve a new dino-sized mystery every week. Stomp, roar, and become a dinosaur—let your imagination run wild as you **UNEARTH A STORY!**



TO-GO PACKS

Pick up while supplies last!

Families with STEAM

New packs June 1, July 1 & Aug 1

Families with school-age kids can tackle projects that incorporate science, technology, engineering, art and math. No library card required.

Sponsored by NextEra Energy.

Story Time To Go

New packs June 1, July 1 & Aug 1

Packs contain books, music suggestions, finger plays, art, and math and science activities that bolster those five vital early literacy practices: read, sing, talk, play and write! For ages 0-6. Library card required to check out accompanying books.

Youth Art To Go (Ages 6ish-11ish)

New packs out Mondays, June 15-Aug 17

Supplies to create art like watercolor dinosaur sunsets, shadow flowers, watermelon mosaics and printed garden banners.

Teen Art To Go (Ages 12-18)

New packs out Mondays, June 15-Aug. 17

Terrific art projects like pet rock cacti, watercolor pinwheels and pom-pom keychains.

TREASURE QUEST

Monday, June 15-Saturday, Aug 29 • All Ages

A brand-new summer conundrum is stirring beneath your feet. **Clues** lie scattered. **Puzzles** wait to be cracked. If you and your crew have what it takes, **secrets** won't stay buried for long. Receive a series of six puzzle packets sending you out to hidden corners and familiar haunts across Our Fair City. Start your dig at the library's front desk. *The citizens are counting on you.*

STORYWALKS®

All summer long!

Outdoor storybooks! Read *Have You Seen My Invisible Dinosaur* by Helen Yoon along the lovely library path (then hunt for invisible Digby the Dino!) and revel in *The Collectors* by Alice Feagan at Zander Park (1406 Parkway Blvd).



FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Mondays, 6:00-7:30 PM

We have all your favorite board and card games. Free popcorn!

STORY TIME

Tuesdays, June 16–Aug 18* - 10:15 AM

Stories, movement and learning! Geared for preschoolers but children of all ages welcome. Afterward, stay for process art and other hands-on activities. *No Story Time June 30.

BABYGARTEN

Wednesdays, June 10–July 15* - 6:15 PM or
Thursdays, June 11–July 16* - 10:15 AM

For babies 0-18 months and caregivers. Share nursery rhymes, songs and books. Plus, free time for play! *Call to register.* *No classes July 1 & 2.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Wednesdays, July 22–Sept 2* - 10:15 AM or 6:15 PM

For children 18 months-3 years and caregivers. Toddlers need to MOVE to learn! Active storytelling, engaging play and music. *Call to register.*
*No evening class July 29 and no classes Aug. 12.

POKÉMON CLUB

Fridays, June 26, July 24 & Aug 28 - 2:00-4:00 PM

Get ready to level up your skills! Trainers—whether seasoned battlers or just getting started—are invited to join our monthly Pokémon Club. Play the card game, meet fellow fans, and dive into fun themed activities. Come catch the excitement!
For ages 8-12.

SERIAL CEREAL CLUB

Saturdays, July 11 & Aug 1 - 10:30 AM

Grab a bowl of cereal and dive into great series all summer long—swap favorites, discover new reads, and get creative with a fun hands-on project at each session.

Parents are welcome to join the fun or explore the library during the meeting. Grades 4-6.



TEEN EVENTS

For teens in grades 6-12!

ANIME CLUB

Tuesdays, June 2 & 16; July 7 & 21; Aug 4 & 18
5:30-7:30 PM

Anime and manga fans: Watch anime, talk about favorite series, do creative projects—and SNACK of course! Action, romance, slice-of-life...there's something for everyone. Grades 6-12.

TEEN LATE NIGHTS

Thursdays, June 18, July 30 & Aug 13

Call 920.793.8888 to register! Grades 6-12.

- **Wire Rock Jewelry - June 18 - 7:00-9:00 PM**
Choose a beautiful rock from our collection or bring your own and turn it into a unique piece of jewelry. All supplies provided. Snacks and a rousing game of *Capture the Flag* after the library closes.
- **Wander Squad - July 30 - 7:00-9:00 PM**
Design a water bottle—we've got the supplies, you bring the style. Then head out for a short walk, swing by McDonald's for ice cream, and stroll back to the library as the light fades. We'll wrap up the night with a high-energy game of *Ghost in the Graveyard*—because what's better than a little chaos after dark?
- **Color Foam Fest - Aug 13 - 6:00-8:00 PM**
Wear a white t-shirt and get colorfully foam-bombed! Snack and hang out on the library lawn. We are **NOT** going in the library after. Bring a towel and prepare to be stained!

LPL PAGES

Teen Book Subscription - Grades 8-12

Get books picked just for you!
Scan the QR code, answer a few questions, and pick up your box. Each includes two great reads and fun surprises. Sign up by June 15 to receive June's box! Library card required.



SPECIAL EVENTS

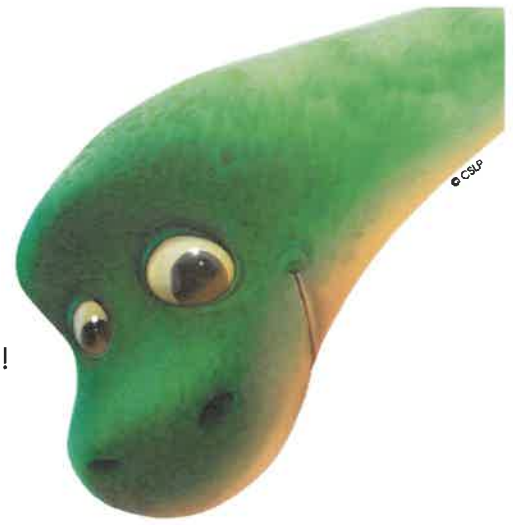
Geared for school-age children; younger children need a grownup sidekick!

DIGGIN' IN w/ Wisconsin 4-H AmeriCorps
Wednesdays, June 17, July 22 & Aug 5 - 2:00 PM

Prepare to get your hands dirty with hands-on exploration, art and more!

19TH CENTURY GAMES w/ Manitowoc County Historical Society
Monday, June 22 - 6:00 PM

The MCHS brings the museum to the library: hands-on play with rolling hoops, cup-and-ball, whimmy-diddles, graces, and more! Along the way dig into the strategies behind each game and the physics hiding in the toys.



TOM PEASE

Wednesday, June 24 - 2:00 PM

Gather on the library lawn for a rip-roarin' good time with Tom Pease. His high-energy show gets the whole crowd moving—singing, dancing, clapping, and LAUGHING. You can bring chairs and blankets but you probably won't be sitting still for long. Bring your belly button, too.



A BIG OL' JOYFUL DAY OUTSIDE

Wednesday, Aug 12 - Starts at noon!

Brat Fry - 12:00-3:00 PM

Brats, burgers, 'dogs & drinks. We deliver to Two Rivers businesses and city departments, too! Proceeds help build community health and early literacy.

Art Splash - 1:00-3:00 PM

The MESSIEST, most COLORFUL fun of summer: BIG painting and FOAM! Bring towels. Swimsuits and goggles? A-OK. Fuel up before the frenzy at the BRAT FRY. Art Splashes can't go inside the library once the MESSY begins—so plan accordingly.

STEAM ON THE LAKESHORE

@ Lakeshore Robotics Education Center
Wednesday, July 8 - 5:30-8:00 PM

Interactive STEAM activities for families, brought to you by local robotics teams and community organizations like the Lester Public Library. Free! The center is located at 2814 Wollmer St. in Manitowoc.

LET'S DIG @ ZANDER PARK!

Wednesday, July 15 - 2:00 PM

Head outside for a hands-on nature adventure! Explore the wetland, squish some mud pies, paint rocks, and dig into sandy fun. It's the perfect mix of creativity, curiosity, and getting a little messy.

CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

w/ Manitowoc County Historical Society
Wednesday, July 29 - 2:30 PM

Step into the 19th century—no time machine required—to become history detectives. Examine a collection of curious and everyday objects to uncover how people solved problems and invented tools to fit their world. Compare past and present to discover just how far tech has come—and how creativity has always led the way.

STEAM IN ACTION

Saturday, Aug 8 - TBD

Hands-on exploration with the award-winning TRHS STEAMPunk First Robotics Team #4531.

FOR ADULTS

DUGOUT STORIES: SHORELAND BASEBALL LEAGUE & THE POLAR BEARS

Thursday, June 11 • 6:00 PM

Step up to the plate for a lively look at the northeastern Wisconsin amateur baseball league that includes Two Rivers' hometown team. League Co-president Kevin Konkol and Polar Bears General Manager AJ Lorrigan talk great players, big moments, and stories from seasons past to today. *Stop in to see the SBL Hall of Fame plaques on display through the end of June!*

THE SCHMITT BROTHERS

Thursday, July 16 • 6:00 PM

Author PT Rivers brings to life the story of the four hometown brothers who went from singing in church to national stardom. Hear inspiring tales of their unlikely rise, enduring success, and deep local pride—plus get a preview of the Diamond Jubilee at Central Park West July 18 celebrating their legendary 1951 win at the International Barbershop Quartet Championship.

SUPERNATURAL LAKE MICHIGAN

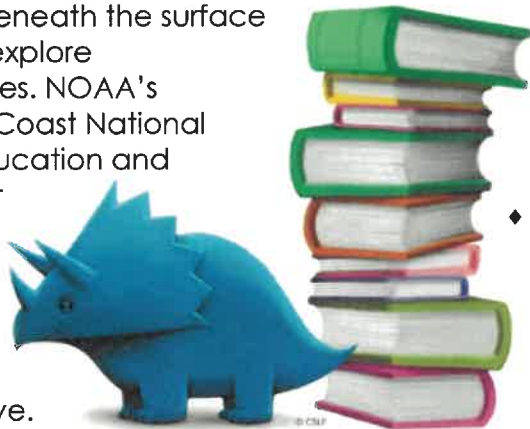
Thursday, July 23 • 6:00 PM

Researcher and author Chad Lewis unveils eerie, unexplained tales lurking beneath—and beyond—the waters of this vast inland ocean we call home. He previews his new book on these mysteries that emerges this August.

EXPLORE OUR SHIPWRECK COAST

Thursday, July 30 • 6:00 PM

Take a thrilling dive beneath the surface of Lake Michigan to explore archeological treasures. NOAA's Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary education and outreach coordinator Alyssa Saldivar shares a fascinating look at ongoing projects—and the maritime mysteries researchers are still working to solve.



STURGEON PROTECTORS: STEWARDS OF A LIVING LEGACY

Thursday, Aug 20 • 6:00 PM

Mark Denning (Nodaway Benaise) shares the story of a Native-led movement devoted to safeguarding these ancient, essential fish. Through education, awareness and care, this effort works to prevent poaching and accidental harvest while honoring the sturgeon's deep cultural and ecological significance.

Discover how these remarkable beings reflect the health of our waters—and how you can be part of protecting them. For all ages!

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Saturday, Aug 22 • 10:30 AM

Meet new friends: We're gonna speed-chat! Spend a total of 20 minutes moving from person to person. We'll provide questions and topics to break the ice and start conversations. Afterwards, linger, chat, have coffee and donuts. Whether a longtime local or a new arrival, come connect in a welcoming place!

SUMMER CRAFT CLASSES

Call to register or stop by the Help Desk. Ages 18+

◆ **NEEDLE-FELTED STRAWBERRIES**

Saturday, June 20 • 10:30 AM or noon

Use roving wool and a barbed needle to felt fibers into a strawberry you can sweetly display all year long.

◆ **FAUX BATIK BANDANAS PARTS 1 & 2**

Part 1: Design & Resist • Thu, July 16 • 5:00 PM

Part 2: Dye & Reveal • Sat, July 18 • 10:30 AM

Use glue to create intentional designs on your bandana, forming resist patterns that will emerge during dyeing. Then, complete the process: dye your bandana and reveal the patterns created. *Attendance at both sessions required.*

◆ **BLOOM BOOM: BOTANICAL IMPRINT BAGS**

Saturday, Aug 15 • 10:30 AM-12:30 PM

Turn petals into pigment and leaves into art. Pound fresh botanicals into a small cloth drawstring bag and watch nature leave its wild, beautiful mark.

MEDITATION MONDAYS

Mondays • 5:15–5:30 PM

Gather by the fireplace for a 15- to 20-minute guided meditation session. *If the weather is nice, we'll move outdoors!*

LPL FLIX

Fridays, June 5, July 10 & Aug 7 • 1:00 PM

A recently released movie on our big screen! Bring a beverage. Free popcorn.

INTERNATIONAL FILMS

Tuesdays, June 23, July 28 & Aug 25 • 6:00 PM

Award-winning films from other lands. Free popcorn. Bring your beverage.

STRICTLY FICTION BOOK CLUB

Mondays, June 1, July 6 & Aug 3 • 6:30 PM

Read books of different genres (like mystery, romance, historical fiction and fantasy) and meet to share thoughts, insights, and lively discussion.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays, June 3, July 1 & Aug 5 • 4:00 PM

Read works both fiction and nonfiction. Together we'll dive into memorable characters, powerful themes, and thoughtful, engaging (and sometimes boisterous) conversation.

BOOK TO ART CLUB

Saturdays, June 27 & Aug 22 • 11:00 AM

Read a book & create art it inspires. Meet to share impressions of the book and show your art. Ages 18+

BILINGUAL LANGUAGE CLASSES

Wednesdays through July 29 • 6–7:30 PM

Spanish and English speakers: learn or improve skills in the other language! Instruction based on the sandwich technique of pronunciation, conversation & grammar. No registration. Presented by Woods Outreach.

YARNED & DANGEROUS

Thursdays • 5:00–7:00 PM

Knitters and crocheters: Convene weekly for convivial crafting! Adults (and teens) can bring their own projects, supplies and beverages and spend an evening together at the fireplace.

SIT'N'STITCH

Saturdays, June 13, July 11 & Aug 8 • 10 AM–2 PM

A companionable meetup for cross stitch aficionados. Bring a current project and enjoy your craft the second Saturday of each month near the library's fireplace. Folks are welcome to bring beverages and snacks.

CRAFTING CALM

- ◆ Monday, June 29 • 6:00–7:30 PM
- ◆ Saturday, July 25 • 10:15 AM–noon
- ◆ Monday, Aug 17 • 6:00–7:30 PM

For ages 16+. Press “pause” and pamper yourself with a little peace. Gather, enjoy music, and indulge in a simple activity—coloring, painting, dot-to-dot drawing, sticker mosaics or diamond painting. We'll furnish all the supplies for these calming crafts; just bring yourself and a beverage.

BOOK IT!

Personalized monthly book subscription

Find your next great read! We'll handpick 2-3 books each month based on your favorite genres or authors, or whatever vibe you're feeling. Pick up a request form at the front desk and fill out by the 15th to receive your customized bundle at the start of the next month.

Sign up monthly or as you like. Library card required. For adults 18+.

LIBRARY HOURS

MON-THU • 10 AM-8 PM

FRI • 10 AM-5:30 PM

SAT • 10 AM-2 PM

SUN • Closed



FIND ALL THE DETAILS @ LESTERLIBRARY.ORG!