Family Programs

Take and Make Crafts
Every Monday the Children’s Room will have a new craft ready for pickup! Send a picture of your completed craft to vckids@rcls.org to have it posted on our social media. No registration. (Available while supplies last.)

Monthly Scavenger Hunt
Ages 12 and under. Win a prize each month for finding the shape of the month hidden around the Children’s Room! No registration.

Community Adventure Game
July 1-31
Find our friend Elmo’s selfies around the Children’s Room, taken around Valley Cottage. Get a ball to guess where each picture was taken, then submit it in our ballot box. At the end of the month, we’ll pick one winner from the correct ballots to win a prize! No registration.

Music with Mr. Kurt
Monday, July 15 at 6pm
All ages. Join Mr. Kurt’ Gallagher in making music with his guitar and other fun instruments; moving, stomping and singing some silly tunes.

Kindness Crafts
July 15 – August 15
Ages 3 and up with adult(s). There is a NEW children’s room at the Rockland County Department of Social Services building and they need help decorating their walls! Drop in the Children’s Room and together let’s create a paper chain of kindness that will put a smile on the children’s faces!!! No registration.

Family Carnival
Saturday, July 20 from 10am-1pm
All ages. It’s the summer, let’s have a Carnival!!! We will have mini golf, ring toss, bowling, darts, a GIANT Connect 4™ and many more fun activities.

Science Heroes: Adventure of the Lost Treasure
Monday, July 22 at 6:30pm
Entering Grades K-5. Science and stories collide in this all new, interactive STEM show from our entertaining friends at Talewise. Join us on a treasure-hunting adventure deep within the jungle! The audience will help the performer act out the adventure, using events in the story to explore several exciting science concepts including air pressure, energy transfer, physical vs. chemical changes, and more!

Programs for Age 5 and Younger

Open Playtime
Mondays from 10am-1pm
June 17 – September 9 (Closed on September 2)
Ages 5 and under. It’s playtime in the Storytime Room, no matter what the weather brings! A great chance to meet other local families while you enjoy books, games, toys and puzzles with your little one(s). No registration.

Bouncing Babies
Fridays at 10:30am
June 21 – August 16
(no program June 28, July 5, July 19)
Ages 2 mos.-17 mos. w/adult. Weekly movement, rhymes, & music. Please make alternate arrangements for other children. Register separately for each week.

Toddler Trails & Tales
Tuesdays at 10:30am
June 25 – August 6 (no program July 16)
Ages 18-35 mos. w/adult. Weekly Storytime with books and beyond! Please make alternate arrangements for other children. Register separately for each week.

PreK Pirates - Weekly storytimes for ages 3-5
Wednesdays, June 26 – August 14 at 4:30pm
(no program July 3, July 10)
OR Thursdays, June 27 – August 8 at 10:30am
(no program July 4)
Please choose Wednesdays OR Thursdays.
Great books, games, songs and crafts! Parents & siblings are welcome to enter for the craft at the end of storytime. Register separately for each week.

Bach to Rock
Mondays, June 24, July 1 and July 8 at 10:30am
Ages 3-5 years with adult. Children will enjoy developing musical skills in this stimulating and dynamic music and movement class, ending with an exploratory “instrument petting zoo” experience. Register separately for each week.

Spanish Together
Wednesdays, July 17, 24, 31 at 11am
Ages 3-5 years with adult. Join Señora Joyce for fun and family-friendly programs, utilizing an interactive approach to teach conversational Spanish and basic vocabulary through a variety of songs and hands-on activities. Register separately for each week.

Family BINGO
Wednesday, July 31 at 6:30pm
Ages 5 and up with adult(s). Bring your family to a night of BINGO and win some prizes!

Family Adventure Scavenger Hunt
August 1-31
Ages 3 and up with adult(s). Enjoy a family adventure by doing a scavenger hunt together throughout the library and when it’s completed come to the Children’s Room to choose a superhero sticker! No registration.

Mr. & Mrs. Potato Head™
August 1-31
Ages 2 and up with adult(s). Come and play with our Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head™ felt board! No registration.

Fun Family Adventure Tales
Monday, August 5 at 6:30pm
Ages 2 and up with adult(s). Wear your PJs and bring your favorite snuggly friend for this fun Family Storytime.

LEGO™ Challenge, Family Style
Monday, August 12 at 6:30pm
Entering Grades K-5. Build with LEGO™ bricks with your family on a group project, all together now! Share your creation with the group and it will be displayed temporarily in the Children’s Room.

Early Literacy Adventure: We’re Going on a Bear Hunt
Friday, July 26 at 11:30am
Ages 2-5 years. Parents and children will go on a station-based, fun-filled bear hunt, aimed at nurturing your child’s early literacy skills.

Play-Doh™ Math Club
Monday, July 29 at 10:30am
Ages 3-5 years. Let’s have fun using Play-Doh™ to make some favorite Summer things, then we’ll share them with the group. We’ll also use Play-Doh™ to make patterns and pieces to do some simple math.

Frog Olympics
Monday, August 5 at 10:30am
Ages 3-5 years. We’ll read The Frog Olympics by Brian Moses and Amy Husband, play some Olympic games, and do a craft.

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The goal is to have read 1000 books before your child starts Kindergarten. Stop by the Children’s Room any time to sign up, get more information, and your first reading record.
S.T.E.A.M. PROGRAMS (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH)

ADVENTURE BAGS
Tuesday, June 25 at 4pm
Grades 1-4. Decorate a cloth bag with fun designs using Sharpie™ markers! What summer adventures can you go on with your new bag? [Note: we will get a bit messy so please wear old clothes or bring a smock.]

BOTLEY® THE CODING ROBOT
Entering Grades 3-5: Thursday, June 27 at 4:15pm
Entering Grades K-2: Thursday, August 8 at 4:15pm
Let’s have fun with Botley® by learning screen-free simple coding and play a game or two!

SNACKS AROUND THE WORLD
Tuesday, July 2 at 5pm
Entering Grades 2-6. Let’s go on a snack adventure! Join Michelle Barry, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist at ShopRite, to make (and eat) snacks from different cultures around the world. [Please inform the library of any food allergies when registering.]

LEGO™ CHALLENGE
Monday, July 8 at 5pm
Entering Grades K-5. Come and build with LEGO™ bricks! Share your creation with the group and then LEGO™ will be displayed temporarily in the library.

LET’S BE DRAMATIC: THE WIZARD OF OZ
Thursday, July 11 at 5:30pm
Entering Grades 3-6. Try your hand at acting in this play based on the children’s book! We’ll choose parts and simple costumes, and read the play together in a fun performance for our adults. Please register each child separately.

PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE
Tuesday, July 16 at 4:30pm
Entering Grades 1-4. We’ll create our own passport, then we’ll look through books to choose places we want to visit. We’ll create fun pages about these places, and then share our passports and special places with the group.

OLYMPIC GAME FUN
Saturday, July 27 at 10:30am
Entering Grades K-3. Make, play and take away silly games from everyday objects. Go for the Gold as teams prepare for the Paris Olympics this month!

ADVENTURES IN BREAKING
Monday, July 29 at 5:30pm
Entering Grades 3-6. Did you know that breaking, aka breakdancing, will be an Olympic sport for the first time at the Summer 2024 Olympic Games? You be the judge: We’ll watch and score some top-level breakdancers from around the world as they compete to breakdance in Paris!

HULA HOOPING FUN
Tuesday, July 30 at 5:30pm
Entering Grades 1-6. Come have a blast hula hooping! We’ll learn tricks, play games, build strength, coordination and balance. Hoops will be provided.

MONSTER HUNT
Tuesday, August 6 at 5:30PM
Entering Grades 2-7. Junior Monster Hunters will follow mysterious trails, uncover hidden clues, solve baffling riddles, decode secret messages, and overcome obstacles as they track down a Monster lurking in the Children’s Room, using library research skills to guide them!

SUMMER READING CLUB KICKOFF: DINOSAURS ROCK®
Fossil Adventure
Thursday, June 20 at 6:30pm
Ages 3-10
Join us for a Jurassic journey to celebrate the start of our Summer Reading Club! See and touch life-size and genuine museum exhibit pieces up-close while learning from a DINOSSAURS ROCK expert. Hands-on too - take home a real fossil! It’s sure to be an interactive, fun and educational experience.

SUMMER READING CLUB: ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY: LA AVENTURA COMIENZA EN TU BIBLIOTECA
June 17-August 15
Join the Valley Cottage Library’s Summer Reading Club! Registration starts JUNE 17. Pick up Reading Logs at the library or print from online. The Club is open to all children from infants to children entering 5th grade.

Keep track of reading in your reading log. Younger non-readers can log books read to them or Early Literacy Activities that they do together with an adult. For every 10 days of reading or Early Literacy Activities, children earn their choice of one prize to collect at the Children’s Desk.

For more details go to valleycottagelibrary.org/kids, or visit the Children’s Room.

PROGRAMS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN
Books will be available at the Children’s Room Desk one month prior to the program.

Picture Book Worms: Book Clubs for Children Entering Grades 1-3
Select Thursdays at 4:15pm
July 25: Mapping Sam by Joyce Hesselberth. Maps are amazing because they are everywhere! We’ll read about how maps can help us in our everyday lives and then we will create our own map collage.

August 15: What Can You Do With a Rock? by Zietlow Miller and illustrated by Katie Kath. We can do so many cool things with rocks. Let’s read, discuss this book and decorate rocks!

Fun Fiction Book Club for Children Entering Grades 3-5
Thursday, July 18 at 4:15pm
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. We will discuss the classic novel, do some fun activity sheets AND invent our very own Sweet.

Graphic Novel Book Club with a Creation for Children Entering Grades 3-5
Thursday, August 1 at 4:15pm
Magic Tree House: Dinosaurs Before Dark, The Graphic Novel by Mary Pope Osborne and illustrated by Kelly and Nichole Matthews. Let’s dive into the adventure of the Magic Tree House series and create our own magic tree house!

Registration for our Fall Programs, September 16 - December 31, will start on September 6. Registration for out-of-district patrons begins September 13.