

# Harvard Public Library Children's Programs December 2025

**Children's Room direct line: (978) 456 - 2381**  
**[childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org](mailto:childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org)**

## **All Programs Sponsored by the Friends of the Harvard Public Library**

95% of children's programs  
at the HPL are supported by the  
**Friends of the Harvard Public Library!**  
Consider joining the Friends with a tax deductible  
membership! Membership information  
is on the library's website:  
<https://www.harvardpubliclibrary.org/about/friends-library>

## **Children's Room Contact Information**

**Email:**  
**[childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org](mailto:childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org)**

**Website:**  
**<https://www.harvardpubliclibrary.org/children>**

**Phone:**  
**(978) 456 - 2381**



## **Registration Information**

**Register for children's programs  
by using the QR code or link below  
to access our  
online event calendar!**

**Individual program descriptions  
also have registration information  
and direct links for each event.**

***Link to online event calendar:***  
**[https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/calendar  
?cid=21089](https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/calendar?cid=21089)**



# Wildlife Encounters

## Junior Zookeeper Program



**Thursday, December 11  
at 3:45 PM**

**Grades K through 6**

We invite you to join us for an exciting and interactive live animal presentation from the Wildlife Encounters Ecology Center!

Presenting their “Junior Zookeeper Encounter” program, this hour will feature a diverse selection of friendly and interesting Ambassador Animals that will captivate both kids and adults.

Learn the science, hear their stories and even get a chance to touch a few of them!

*This program is primarily geared towards elementary school aged children, but younger siblings ages 3 and up are also welcome to attend.*

**Seats are limited! Please pre-register to reserve your seat!**

**Register here:** <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/14140090>



# Family Movie Night!



***The Bad Guys 2 (PG)***

**Friday, December 5  
at 6:30 PM**

***Please register for this movie night  
if you are interested in attending!***

***If there are no registrations by 4:00 PM  
on Wednesday, December 3,  
then this movie night will be cancelled.***

Come watch a movie on the big screen at the library!  
Please register so that we can inform you of weather  
cancellations or other last minute schedule changes.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/14140084>

# Paws and Read



**Wednesdays, December 3 and 17**

**Appointments at 3:45, 4:05 & 4:25 PM**

**Grades K through 6**

Reading to Rhia or Chase, the library's  
Therapy Dogs, is a fantastic way to bolster  
a child's reading confidence!

Children who are independent readers can  
make a 20 minute appointment to read  
to one of these wonderful therapy dogs;  
on each date, six children total will get a chance  
to have either Rhia or Chase's  
undivided canine attention.

Registration for an appointment will guarantee your  
reservation to read to one of the dogs.

Drop-ins are also welcome on a first-come,  
first-served basis for unreserved appointments.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/calendar?cid=21089>



# Sensory Playtime



**Saturday, December 20  
from 10:30 to 11:30 AM**

**All Ages**

We will have several sensory stations with things to smell, touch, see, and hear in this interactive program that is designed to encourage sensory exploration for young children and their caregivers.

Caregivers visit each sensory station with their children; we will have caregiver prompts at each station to help guide exploration and conversation between child and adult.

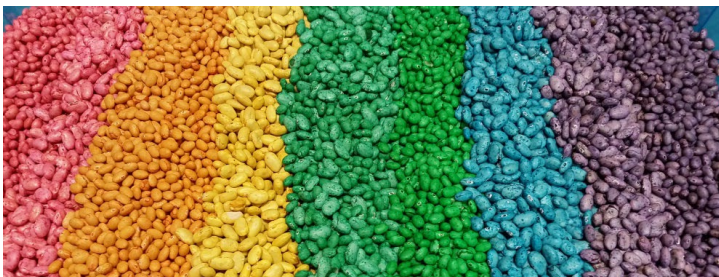
Sensory play sometimes gets a bit messy – it's a good idea to wear old clothes to this playtime!

***Adult accompaniment required.***

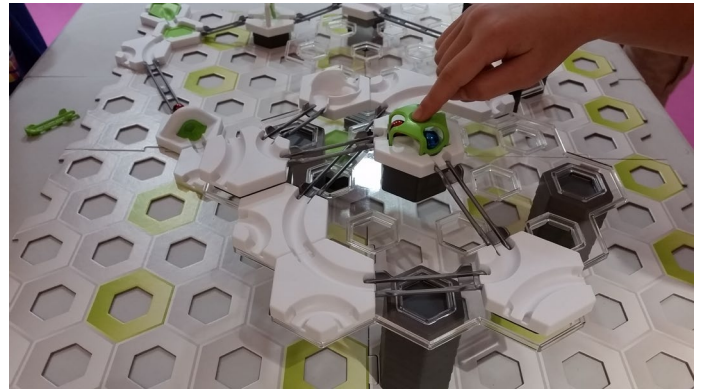
Registration is not required, but if you register you will be added to the email list for last minute changes.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074223>



# GraviTrax Challenge



**Thursday, December 4  
at 3:45 PM**

**Ages 8 and up**

The challenge is to work as a team to build a marble raceway using the awesome Ravensburger GraviTrax interactive track building set.

Can you design a system that gets the marble from the start all the way to the finish?

Registration is required –  
Enrollment is limited to 10 children **ages 8 and up**.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074435>



# 3-D Paper Snowflakes



**Wednesday, December 10  
at 3:45 PM**

**Ages 8+**

Learn how to make colorful and beautiful three dimensional paper snowflakes!

**Registration is required –**  
enrollment is limited to 10 children ages 8 and up.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15622667>

# Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



***How To Train Your Dragon (PG)***

**Thursday, December 18  
at 3:45 PM**

Join us for an afterschool movie for elementary age kids in the Story Room! Afterschool movies are supervised by teen volunteers; no refreshments are served (but it is ok to bring your own snack).

Parents are also welcome (and encouraged) to attend.

Registration is appreciated!

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074438>



# Baby & Toddler Disco Party!

**First Thursday of each month  
from 10:30 to 11:15 AM**

**Ages 0 – 3+  
and their grownups**

Babies and toddlers are ready to groove  
with this kid-friendly disco party!

Bring your tiny dancer and we'll supply  
the music, lights, and a photo booth.

Drop in anytime during the 45 minute party  
to dance and have fun with your child.

Bonus points for dressing disco style!

*Please note that there will be  
flashing lights and noise.*

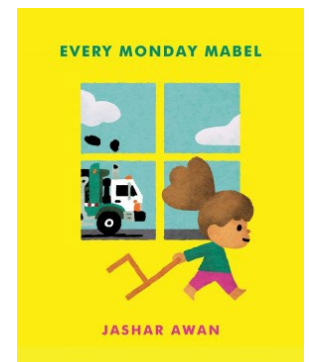
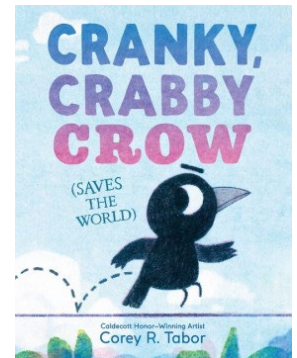
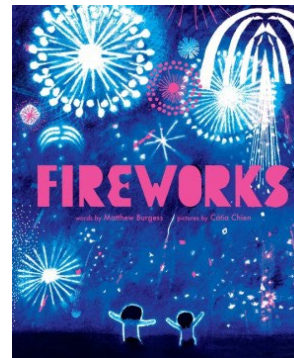
**Registration is not required** – but if you register  
you will be added to the email list for last minute  
schedule changes. This email list will cover the  
once-monthly Disco Parties through May 7.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15073890>



# Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, December 18  
at 7:00 PM**

Are you a grownup who loves to read  
children's books? You're not alone!

Join this monthly book group for grownups  
and discuss children's literature with  
an awesome group of like-minded readers.

We usually read and discuss recently published novels  
for elementary and middle school aged readers,  
and we always have terrific, broad-ranging  
discussions. We'd love to have you join us!

In December we will be discussing  
a variety of picturebooks.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074183>

This book group meets in a hybrid model:  
attend in person in the story room,  
or attend virtually via Google Meet.

# STORYTIMES

## Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime

Ages 0 – 2+

Mon. & Thurs. at 10:30 AM through 12/11

*No MGOL on the first Thursday of each month –  
please join us for the Baby & Toddler Disco Party on those days!*

Mother Goose on the Loose is an early literacy program that uses rhymes and songs to help pre-reading children get ready for reading. It incorporates music, movement, ritual, repetition, positive reinforcement, developmental tips, nursery rhymes, puppets, musical instruments, colored scarves, and book reading into a fun-filled 30 minute session for infants to 2-year-olds and caregivers.

**Registration is not required** –

*but if you register you will be added to the email list  
for last minute schedule changes through December 11.*

[Register here.](#)

## Storytime for 2's & 3's ~ Ages 2 & 3 Wednesdays at 10:30 AM through 12/10

This 20 to 30 minute storytime includes songs and fingerplays, simple stories, feltboard stories, and phonemic awareness activities appropriate for children aged 2 & 3 years old and their caregivers (older siblings are also welcome). Our phonemic awareness activities will focus on learning and practicing the short vowel sounds and then some consonant sounds, and learning to put sounds together to make simple words.

**Registration is required** for the fall session.

*Enrollment is limited to 10 children and their caregivers.*

[Register here.](#)

## Art & Stories for 4's & 5's Ages 4 & 5 and up Mondays at 1:30 PM through 12/8

This 30 to 45 minute program, appropriate for children ages 4 to 7, begins with a few longer picturebook stories and phonemic awareness activities, then ends with a process art project that encourages preschoolers to explore art materials in an open-ended, creative manner.

Make sure to wear clothes that can get messy!

Our phonemic awareness activities will focus on learning and practicing the short vowel sounds and then some consonant sounds, and learning to put sounds together to make simple words.

**Registration is required** for the fall session.

*Limit of 12 (minimum of 6) children.*

[Register here.](#)

# Saturday Toddler Storytime



**Saturday, December 6  
at 10:30 AM**

**Ages 1 to 3**

Drop-in for fun stories and songs  
that promote early literacy.

Parents, caregivers, and children  
ages 12 months to 3 years are invited to  
this special story time with Miss Kathleen.

To encourage the development of early literacy  
skills through singing, rhyming, reading, and  
movement, children will enjoy musical instruments,  
puppets, and fingerplays.

This interactive program is perfect for wiggly toddlers  
and their caregivers.

**Registration is not required** –

*but if you register you will be added to the email list  
for last minute schedule changes.*

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074222>

# BOOK GROUPS!

Want to join a book group? We'd love to have you – new members are always welcome!

Book group membership is limited to children who are Harvard/Devens residents/HES students, in order to keep the book groups small.

**Maximum group size per grade is 12 children.**

We will request for you a copy of the book we will be discussing. We can get you a copy of the book in print format and/or in audiobook format (either on CD, Playaway, or in e-audio format)!

Packaged snacks will be served at the younger book groups, and bagels and cream cheese will be served at the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade book groups.

Book Gobblers: Children do not need to read a book ahead of time for this group.

Book titles for grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> are TBA!

**Registration links for each book group are listed below that book group's description.**

## **Book Gobblers Book Group for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders**

***Monday, December 15 from 4:00 to 4:45***

In this read-aloud book discussion group, Lindsay reads a story to the group, then we discuss the book and do an activity together.

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074129>

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Book Group**

***Monday, January 5 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM***

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074027>

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Group**

***Monday, December 8 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM***

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074044>

## **Bagels & Books Group for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders**

***Tuesday, December 9 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM***

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074055>

## **Bagels & Books Group for 6<sup>th</sup> Graders**

***Tuesday, December 16 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM***

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074076>

# Write Stuff



**Tuesday, January 6  
from 3:35 to 4:20 PM**

**4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

This low-key, supportive, once-monthly writing group is for kids in grades 4 through 6 who love to write.

We talk books and writing, do some fun writing exercises, and share as much (or as little!) of our writing with each other as time allows. Writing group membership is limited to 12 children who are Harvard/Devens residents/HES students to keep the group size small.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15687708>



**Saturday, January 31 at 1:00 PM**

**Families, Ages 7+**

**For more information, and to register your team:**  
<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15839322>