

# Harvard Public Library Children's Programs January 2024

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 Eventkeeper, an online calendar.**

**Individual program descriptions also have  
registration information and links.**

*Eventkeeper registration link address:*

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD>





# Family Movie Night!



***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles:  
Mutant Mayhem (PG)***

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

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.

*Note that the library will not be providing snacks, but  
you are welcome to bring your own snacks.*

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432137>

# Paws and Read



**Wednesdays, January 17 and 31**

**Appointments at 3:45, 4:00,  
4:15, & 4:30 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 15 minute appointment to read  
to one of these wonderful therapy dogs;  
on each date, eight children total will get a chance  
to have either Rhia or Chase's  
undivided canine attention.

Registration is required – please choose one fifteen  
minute slot when you register.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432138>



# Dinosaurs with the Dinoman!



**Wednesday, January 24  
at 12:30 PM**

**Grades K through 6**

*(but preschoolers may attend with their older siblings)*

Dinosaur tracks lead right to our library!

Have no fear, Dinoman is here!

With magic, merry mayhem, and magnificent props, you will be taken on a trip throughout the Mesozoic era. How do we know dinosaurs were here?

What is a fossil? How are they made?

This program is fun and informative for all ages: we will learn about the age of the earth, how it is divided into eras, how fossils are formed, dinosaur behavior, and the newest finds.

And did we mention that there will be life-size inflatable dinosaurs on stage???

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432147>



# Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, January 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 January we will be discussing *Leeva at Last* by Sara Pennypacker.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432152>

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



# LEGO Club



**Saturday, January 27  
from 1:30 to 3:00 PM**

**Grades K – 6**

Come have fun building LEGO creations  
with other Harvard LEGO fans!

Participants can use the library-owned LEGO bricks  
to build creative models. Creative building is  
encouraged, and the library will have various LEGO  
books available for inspiration.

LEGO Club is supervised by the children's librarian –  
parents are also encouraged to stay and help supervise.

**Registration is required** – enrollment is  
limited to 12 children in grades K through 6.

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432150>

# LEGO Expo



**Saturday, March 9  
from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM**  
(Snow date is Saturday, March 30)

**All Ages**

Don't miss the library's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual LEGO Expo!  
Participants bring a LEGO construction of their own  
design to the Expo to be displayed in Volunteers Hall.

Models can be dropped off a few days prior to the  
event or displayed on the day of the Expo.

We want to see how creative you are, so build a LEGO  
model from your own imagination.

In other words, create your own cool design – don't  
build a LEGO model exactly as it appears in the picture  
on the box. The more creative, the better!!!

***Please pre-register so that we can create a guest book  
and attendance certificate for you!***

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432151>

# Circle of Songs with Hugh Hanley



**Friday, January 26  
at 10:30 AM**

**Ages 0 – 6+**

Hugh Hanley has been singing with young children for over twenty years in his work as an early childhood educator, music specialist, and entertainer.

His work has helped him gain an understanding of young children as developing music makers and a familiarity with the environments in which they play and learn.

He draws from a wide and varied repertoire of songs, fingerplays, and music activities that are appropriate, accessible, and highly engaging. Hugh has learned all of the material he uses in his work from folk traditions, children, and their teachers and parents.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432149>



# Book Buddies



**Thursday, January 25  
from 3:45 to 4:45**

**Grades 1 to 4**

Book Buddies is a once-monthly one hour program that pairs teen volunteers with children in grades 1 to 4 for shared reading, word games, and snacks.

Though the goal of Book Buddies is to help children become more confident readers, this is not a tutoring service, but rather a buddy and mentoring program.

**Registration is required –  
enrollment is limited to 4 children.**

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432148>





# Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



**Elemental (PG)**

**Tuesday, January 23  
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 to attend.

Please register – enrollment is limited.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432146>

# Stuffed Animal Sleepover



**Wednesday, February 21**

*(see below for drop off and pick up times)*

Would your stuffed animal like to have an adventure at the library with stuffed animals that belong to other Harvard kids during the February school vacation week?

Choose one of your stuffed animals (preferably one you can spare for one night!) to drop off at the library, and on the Wednesday night of February school vacation week the stuffed animals will get to party together and explore the library.

Photos of the stuffed animals having fun at the library will be posted on the Children's Room social media pages!

Drop off your stuffed animals on  
**Wednesday, February 21**  
before the library closes at 5:00.

Pick up your stuffed friends on  
Thursday, February 22 between 10:00 and 8:00.

When you drop off your animal, make sure to fill in the Stuffed Animal Registration Form so that we can keep track of everyone's cuddly friends and also make sure all the stuffed animals have a great time and are happy at the sleepover!

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7451769>

# Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime on Saturday



**Saturday, January 27  
at 10:30 AM**

**Ages 0 to 2+**

**A once-monthly Saturday meeting of the  
Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime!**

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 (older siblings also welcome).

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

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7432136>

# STORYTIMES

**Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime**

**Ages 0 – 2+**

**Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM**

***Storytimes resume on Thursday, January 25***

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.*

**[Register here.](#)**

**Storytime for 2's & 3's ~ Ages 2 & 3  
Wednesdays at 10:30 AM**

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 some consonant sounds, reviewing the short vowel sounds, and learning to put sounds together to make simple words.

**Registration is required** for the winter/spring 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**

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 some consonant sounds, reviewing the short vowel sounds, and learning to put sounds together to make simple words.

**Registration is required** for the winter/spring session.  
*Enrollment is limited to 12 children.*

**[Register here.](#)**



# 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)!

**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, January 29 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

In this read-aloud book discussion group, Abby reads a story aloud to the group, then we discuss the book together.

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359135>

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

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

The 3rd Grade Book is:

*School Ship Tobermory* by Alexander McCall Smith

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7358801>

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

**Monday, January 22 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 4th Grade Book is:

*Poppy* by Avi

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7358813>

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

**Tuesday, January 16 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 5th Grade Book is:

*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*  
by Chris Grabenstein

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359034>

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

**Tuesday, January 30 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM**

The 6th Grade Book is:

*The Ruins of Gorlan* by John Flanagan

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359046>

# Write Stuff



**Tuesday, January 9  
from 4:00 to 4:45 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:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359158>

# Puzzles

[Borrow a jigsaw puzzle from the library!](#)

Puzzles are on display in the children's room, and can be checked out at the circulation desk.

Loan period is three weeks plus one renewal. Puzzles are available on a walk-in basis (not holdable).

# Board Games

Thanks to the generous support of the *Friends of the Harvard Public Library*, we have a [fantastic collection of over 80 board games](#) that can be borrowed.

We have games that are good for families, competitive games, strategy games, cooperative games, math games, and games focused on reading and storytelling.

Loan period is two weeks, no renewals. Games are available on a walk-in basis (not holdable).