

# Harvard Public Library Children's Programs January & February 2026

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

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## 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)



# Jenny the Juggler



**Thursday, January 15 at 3:45 PM**

**All Ages**

Don't miss Jenny the Juggler's Fabulous Variety Show, including humor, juggling, bubbles, and balloon animals.

Jenny is a graduate of Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre in Blue Lake, California and has trained with several world masters of physical theatre including Marcel Marceau.

A professional juggler since 1997, she has performed from Hawaii to England, and headlined the first ever "Women of Juggling" Festival in Humboldt, California in May 2005.

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

**Register here:** <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074253>

The logo features the word "CHALLENGE!" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters with a black outline, set against a yellow starburst background. Below it, the word "TRIVIA" is in large, yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters with a black outline. At the bottom, the word "DUELS" is in even larger, yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters with a black outline. The entire logo is framed by a thick black border.

# CHALLENGE! TRIVIA DUELS

## **Challenge! Trivia Duels**

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

**Families, Ages 7+**

Trivia Master and town of Harvard favorite Brett Outchunis returns by popular demand for an awesome family-friendly trivia event!

**This is truly a team game for the WHOLE family.**

Brimming with mini-challenges, "Challenge! Trivia DUELS" is one BIG game made up of little, tiny games. Whether you're good at guessing music, drawing pictures or are just plain lucky, "CTD" has got something for everyone.

The goal is easy - Be the first team to reach 70 points.

You get points by winning "DUELS".

You earn a spot in a duel by being one of the first two teams to buzz in and answer a question correctly.

Right before each duel, a mini-game is revealed and each of the dueling teams sends their expert to go head-to-head and bring home the points.

After the duel ends, it's back to the buzzers.

Rinse and repeat. Game on!

**This game is intended for families with kids 7 years and older.**

**Put together a team of up to 6 people, and then register your whole team under one registration!**

**Register here:** <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15839322>



# Family Movie Night!



*The Bad Guys 2 (PG)*

**Friday, January 9  
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.

**Register here:**

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

# Paws and Read



**Wednesday, January 14  
Appointments at 12:30, 12:50, & 1:00 PM**

**Wednesday, January 28  
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>



# Capsters Art



**Thursday, January 22  
at 3:45 PM**

**Ages 7+**

Transform some special Klutz bottle caps into awesome art! We'll put charms, plastic jewels, punch-out art, glitter, googly eyes, and other fun things into bottle caps, then seal them with special clear glaze.

**Registration is required –**  
enrollment is limited to 12 children ages 7 and up.

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15078528>



# LEGO Club



**Saturday, January 17  
from 1:30 to 2:30 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:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15915710>

# Magic Show!

with  
**Ed Popielarczyk**



**Wednesday, February 4  
at 12:30 PM**

**Ages 3 and up**

Ed Popielarczyk is a professional magician, balloon sculptor, flea circus ringmaster, and storyteller who has been entertaining children and family audiences for over thirty years.

His magic show is a comedy show that uses lots of audience participation.

YOU are the stars of the show because you help to make the magic happen.

Ed usually has lots of trouble!

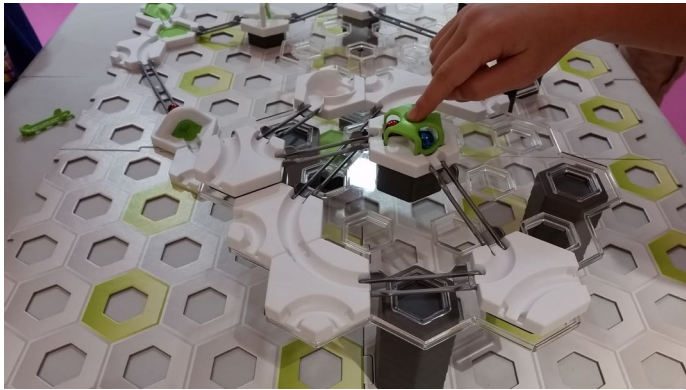
He doesn't just "do a trick," he tells a story that revolves around each trick.

It may be a short story or a longer one, but each story helps to bring the trick together.

**Register here:** <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15078077>



# GraviTrax Challenge



**Thursday, February 5  
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/15078536>



# Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



***Paddington in Peru (PG)***

**Thursday, January 8  
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/15078388>

# 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.*

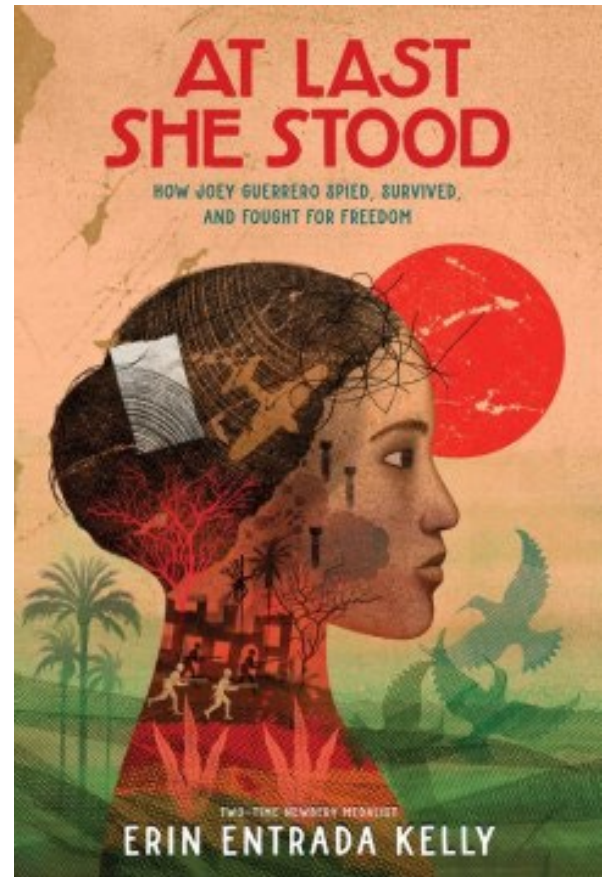
**Registration is not required** – but if you register  
you will be added to the email list for last minute  
schedule changes. This email list will cover the  
once-monthly Disco Parties through May 7.

**Register here:**

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



# Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, January 22  
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  
*At Last She Stood* by Erin Entrada Kelly.

**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+

Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM

*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 May 21.*

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

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

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

[Register here.](#)

# Saturday Toddler Storytime



**Saturday, January 24  
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/15915696>

# Edible Books Contest



**Thursday, February 19  
from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

**All Ages**

Get creative with food and literature!

Create something with food to represent a book: you could create a broccoli forest for *Where the Wild Things Are*, or bake an Elephant and Piggie cake for the Elephant and Piggie books. Or perhaps you're a fan of *Moby Dick* and decorate a whale-shaped cookie.

The only two guidelines are that your entry be made of food and related somehow to books.

Entries will be displayed in the story room for the day of February 19; drop off your entry when the library opens at 10:00, and pick your entry up when the contest ends at 6:00 (or by 8:00 at the latest, which is when the library closes).

Voting is via Google Forms; voting link will be shared on the library's website the day of the event. Online voting will stay open for a week! Voting will decide the winner for each category – winners get bragging rights and an awesome 1st place ribbon!

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15125243>

# LEGO Expo



**Saturday, March 21  
from 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM**  
(Snow date will be announced if necessary)

**All Ages**

**Don't miss the library's 16th 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!!!

The first part of the Expo will be judged age categories (kids, teen, and adult) for those who wish to have judges look at their work.

The second part of the Expo will feature a display of all LEGO models, including those who just want to display their models and not be judged.

**Adult and teen judges needed!**

Contact Abby if interested: [akingsbu@cwmar.org](mailto:akingsbu@cwmar.org)

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

For more details, and a printable version of the Construction Guidelines, [please click here](#).

**Register here:**

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074486>



# 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, January 26 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, February 2 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM***

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

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

***Monday, January 12 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM***

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

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

***Tuesday, January 13 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM***

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

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

***Tuesday, January 20 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM***

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

# Write Stuff



**Tuesday, February 3  
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>

# Puzzles

Borrow a jigsaw puzzle from the library!

Children's 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 100 children's 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).