

Harvard Public Library Children's Programs March 2024

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

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at the HPL are supported by the

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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

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>



Animals in Spring



Wednesday, March 6
Two shows: 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM

Grades K through 6

Spring is a time of change! Some animals are emerging from hibernation while some have been active all winter. Others might be singing, or even look like they are dancing, to show off. Learn up close and personal about animals in the spring here in New England, and beyond, and learn more about their wild relatives.

Joy Marzolf of The Joys of Nature will bring live reptiles and amphibians as well as artifacts. Joy has a BA in Biology and prior to starting The Joys of Nature she was a Naturalist and Educator at Mass Audubon's Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary.

*Note that this program is designed for children in grades K through 6,
but preschoolers may attend with their older siblings.*

Registration is required: attendance is limited to 75 adults and children at each show.

Register here: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7480877>

Mike the Bubble Man



**Wednesday, March 20
at 12:30 PM**

All Ages

Mike the Bubble Man brings magic and science to the stage
with this interactive 45-minute indoor show about BUBBLES!

Through music, choreography, and comedy, bubbles – in all different shapes and sizes –
come alive, sparking imagination and wonder.

Exploring science through bubbles creates an entertaining learning environment
that introduces shapes, color, and chemistry.

A love for bubbles is never outgrown – especially when there's a chance
to see the world from inside of one!

Register here: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7484363>

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 14th 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>

Paws and Read



Wednesdays, March 13 and 27

**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!

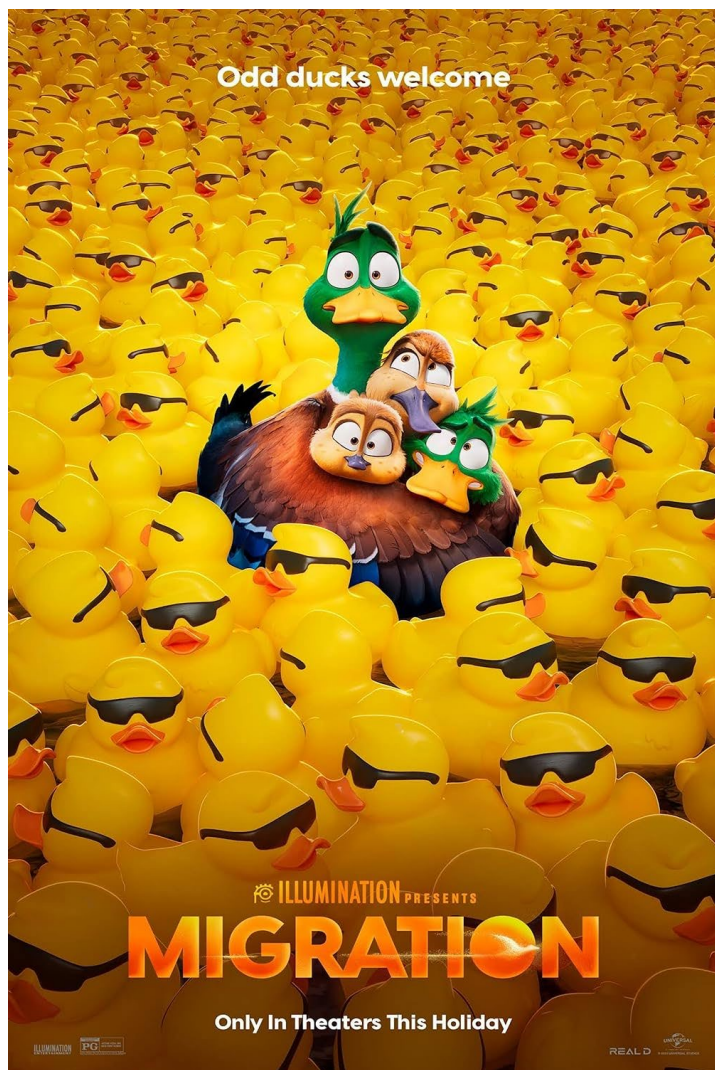
Children who are independent readers can make a 15 minute appointment to read to one of these wonderful therapy dogs; on each date, eight children total will get a chance to have either Rhia or Chase's undivided canine attention.

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

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7484238>

Family Movie Night!



***Migration* (PG)**

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

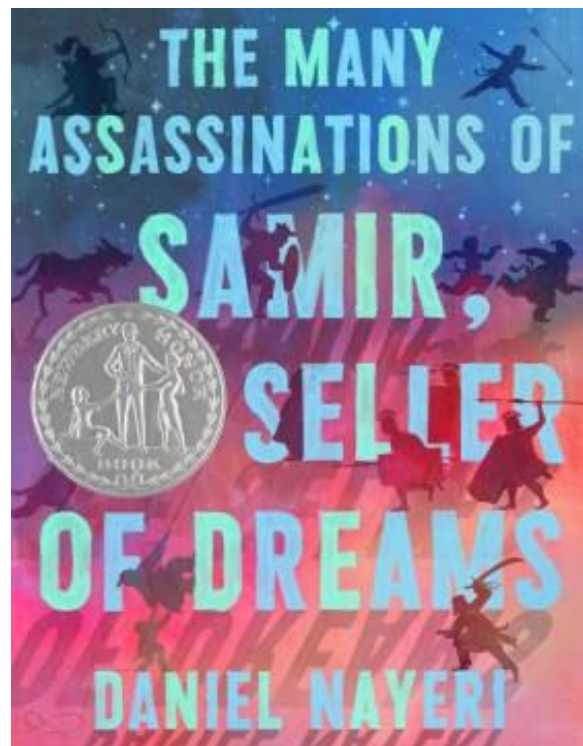
Come watch a movie on the big screen at the library!
Please register so that we can inform you of weather
cancellations or other last minute schedule changes.

*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#7495346>

Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, March 21
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 March we will be discussing
*The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of
Dreams* by Daniel Nayeri.

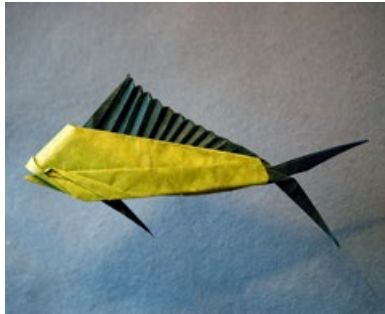
Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7484235>

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

Origami

with Michael LaFosse



Wednesday, April 3

Ages 6 to 12 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM

and

Grades 6 through Adult from 3:15 to 4:15 PM

Don't miss this wonderful program on origami!

Author and artist Michael LaFosse is one of the most seasoned and respected presenters of the paper arts.

He and Richard Alexander have authored 32 books on origami, and produced over a dozen DVDs.

They have also built major origami exhibits for the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA; the Louvre, Paris; the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson, and the Morikami Japanese Museum, Delray Beach, FL.

For more information on Michael and the Origamido Studio, visit their website:

www.origamido.com

Michael will teach two separate sessions at the Harvard Public Library on April 3, the first for ages 6 to 12, the second for grades 6 through adult.

Please register for the session that best meets your family's needs.

Register here: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7495640>

Circle of Songs with Hugh Hanley



**Tuesday, April 2
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#7495307>



Book Buddies



**Thursday, March 28
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 5 children.**

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7484519>



Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken (PG)

**Thursday, March 21
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#7484330>

Playaway and Wonderbook

**Did you know that we have
Playaways and Wonderbooks
available for circulation
in the children's room?**

Playaway is the pre-loaded audiobook that gives kids the portability and freedom to take audiobooks everywhere. No connectivity or downloads needed — ever.

Playaway is easy to use:
simply plug in headphones, speakers,
or a car adapter and start listening!



Wonderbooks: Audio + print bound together for literacy and fun!

Wonderbooks are changing the way kids read along. Every Wonderbook is a print book with a ready-to-play audiobook inside.

Kids press play to read along with their favorite books and then switch to learning mode for literacy learning and fun.



We have Wonderbooks at the JE (easy reader) reading level, and Playaways at the J reading level (grades 2 to 5+) and the Tween reading level (grades 5 to 8+).

Saturday Storytime

Silly Stories



**Saturday, March 23
at 10:30 AM**

Ages 3 to 7

Teen volunteers lead these fun drop-in,
half-hour Saturday Storytimes
for children ages 3 to 7 and their caregivers
in the story room.

March's theme is Silly Stories.

Drop-in – no registration required.

STORYTIMES

Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime

Ages 0 – 2+

Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM

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 1st & 2nd Graders

Monday, March 25 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>

3rd Grade Book Group

Monday, March 4 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

The 3rd Grade Book is:

The Sands of Shark Island by Alexander McCall Smith

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

4th Grade Book Group

Monday, March 18 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

The 4th Grade Book is:

The Wishtree by Katherine Applegate

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

5th Grade Book Group

Tuesday, March 12 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

The 5th Grade Book is:

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin

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

6th Grade Book Group

Tuesday, March 26 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM

The 6th Grade Book is:

Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz

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

Write Stuff



**Tuesday, March 5
from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

4th through 6th 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).