

Harvard Public Library Children's Programs March 2025



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

Programs Sponsored by the Friends of the Harvard Public Library*

** Unless otherwise noted*

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>

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>



Children's Room Contact Information

Email:
childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org

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

Phone:
(978) 456 - 2381



Stacey Peasley

Concert for Young Children



**Saturday, March 1
at 10:30 AM**

All Ages

Stacey Peasley has entertained and engaged families for fifteen years. She delights and rivets audiences with her contagious energy and creativity while performing, writing and teaching! After the birth of her first child, Stacey began to write songs focused on the amazing things she observed as a new mom. Little did she know, this would develop into a brand new career combining both of her passions – music and working with children. Stacey Peasley has since written and recorded six critically acclaimed albums with awards from Creative Child Magazine, Parents' Choice Foundation, NAPPA, International Songwriting Competition, and the John Lennon Songwriting Competition. She has also appeared on NBC 10 Boston's the Hub!

This program is sponsored by a grant.

Register here: <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13622261>

Artful Mechanisms

with Playful Engineers



Wednesday, March 5 at 12:30 PM

Grades K - 6

Don't miss this hands-on building workshop presented by teaching artist Jay Mankita of Playful Engineers! Participate in extraordinary maker activities using materials like paperclips, cardboard, dowels, paper cups, craft sticks, and other ordinary stuff.

Kids build basic structures for their own artful mechanisms that send messages, tell stories, or accomplish tasks. As they build according to instructions, they are also beginning to conceive and create their own designs to overlay those structures. That process in turn may lead to modifications of the structures. Engineering informs design, and vice versa.

Registration is limited to 50 attendees in grades K through 6.

Register here: <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/14042715>

Family Movie Night!

JASON SUDEIKIS LILLY SINGH ANITTA RuPaul
HANNAH GADSBY FLAVOR FLAV and RAINN WILSON

HITPIG!

The C.O.A.T. of finding lost animals is a PIG!



Hitpig! (PG)

**Friday, March 7
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. (But please limit snacks to things like popcorn, chips, etc. - i.e., no pizza...☺)

Register here:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13622255>

Paws and Read



Wednesdays, March 12 & 26

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>

LEGO Expo



Saturday, March 15
from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
(Snow date is Saturday, March 29)

All Ages

Don't miss the library's 15th 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.

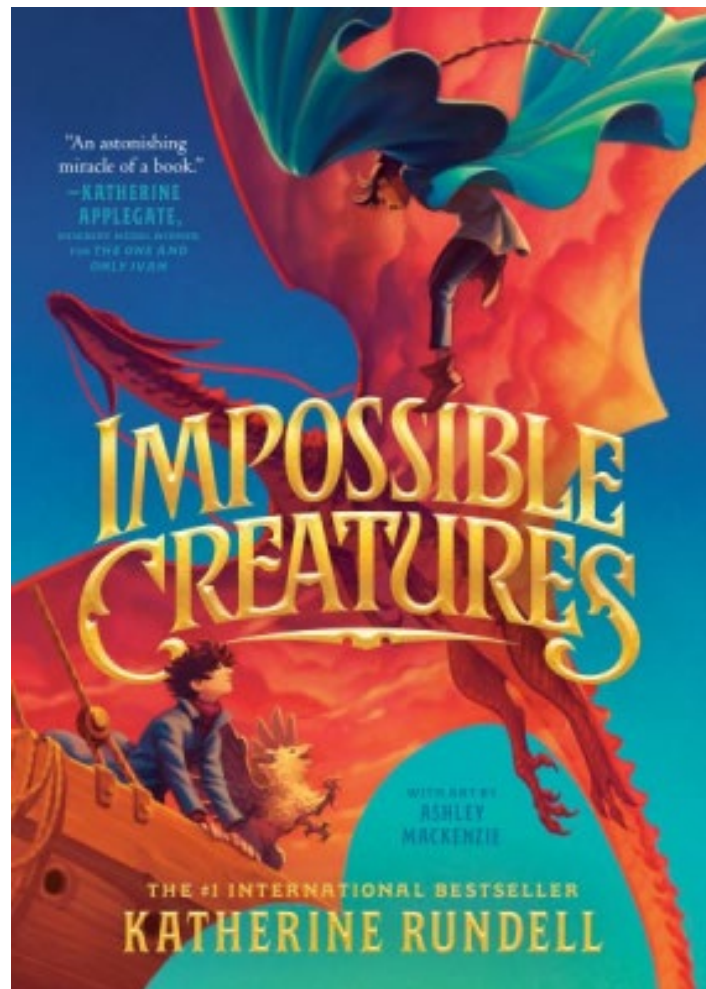
The second part of the Expo will feature a display of all LEGO models, including those who just want to display their models and not be judged.

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

Register here:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13551937>

Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



Thursday, March 20
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.

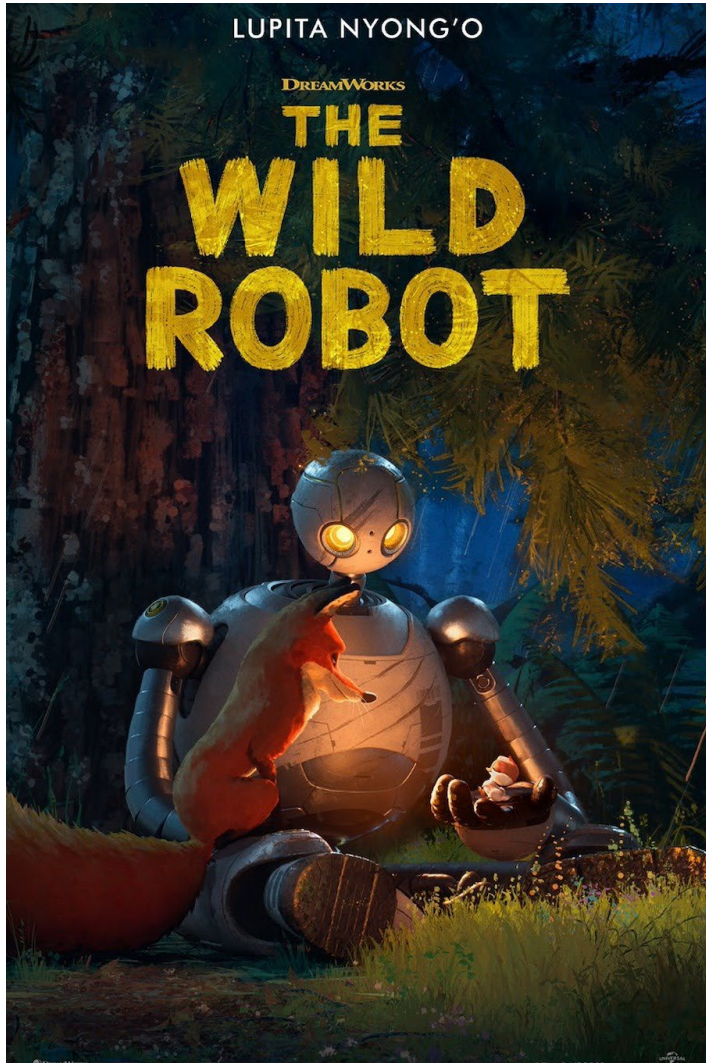
We usually read and discuss recently published novels for elementary and middle school aged readers, and we always have terrific, broad-ranging discussions. We'd love to have you join us!

In March we will be discussing *Impossible Creatures* by Katherine Rundell.

Register here:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13541480>

Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



The Wild Robot (PG)

**Thursday, March 13
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/14177191>

Twisted Critters



**Thursday, March 20
at 3:45 PM**

Ages 8 and up

Learn how to make some animal figures using fancy pipe cleaners!

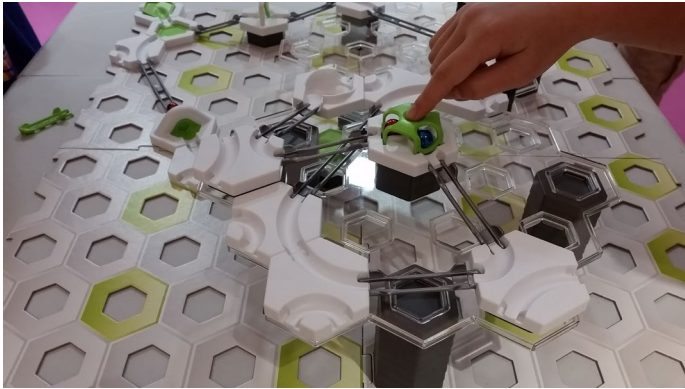
Registration is required – enrollment is limited to 12 children **ages 8 and up**.

Register here:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/14177521>



GraviTrax Challenge



**Thursday, March 27
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/14177541>



Saturday Toddler Storytime



**Saturday, March 29
at 10:30 AM**

Ages 1 to 3

Please note: if the LEGO Expo is moved to its snow date of March 29, then this storytime will be cancelled!

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/13689198>

Native American Artifacts and Birds of Prey



**Wednesday, April 2
at 12:30 PM**

Ages 7 through Adult

Jim Parks and Julie Ann Collier of Wingmasters will bring a variety of live birds of prey and Native American artifacts to the library for this terrific presentation.

Please note, per the presenter's request, this is not a program for children under 7.

Native Americans revered birds of prey for their majestic appearance as well as for their hunting prowess. To invoke the spirit of these powerful predators, Native peoples followed the ancient tradition of wearing or carrying bird of prey feathers. They also admired the subtle beauty of raptor feathers, from the black-and-white tail feathers of juvenile golden eagles to the wily hawks and falcons, patterned with arrowhead-shaped markings. The strong connection between raptors and Native Americans suggested this program. It combines 5 live birds of prey with authentic artifacts, many of museum quality, and both explains and shows how different Native American cultures transformed natural materials into objects of beauty and drama. Crafts displayed at this program range from shields and headdresses to clothing and jewelry.

*This program is supported in part by a grant
from the Harvard Cultural Council,
a local agency which is supported by the
Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.*



Register here: <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/14042576>

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 5th and 6th grade book groups.

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

Book Gobblers Book Group for 1st & 2nd Graders

Monday, April 28 from 4:00 to 4:45

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

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13541406>

3rd Grade Book Group

Monday, March 17 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

The 3rd Grade Book is:

Appleblossom the Possum by Holly Goldberg Sloan

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13541962>

4th Grade Book Group

Monday, March 10 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

The 4th Grade Book is:

The Apprentice Witch by James Nicol

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13541316>

Bagels & Books Group for 5th Graders

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

The 5th Grade Book is:

Endling by Katherine Applegate

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13541382>

Bagels & Books Group for 6th Graders

Tuesday, March 25 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM

The 6th Grade Book is:

The Creepening of Dogwood House by Eden Royce

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13541428>

Write Stuff



**Tuesday, March 4
from 3:35 to 4:20 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:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13541332>

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 100 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).

Saturday Storytime: Flower & Garden Stories



**Saturday, March 22
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 Flower & Garden Stories!

Drop-in – no registration required.



STORYTIMES

Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime

Ages 0 – 2+

Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM

No storytime on 3/3 and 3/20

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 22.

[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

No storytime on 3/3

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.](#)