

# Harvard Public Library Children's Programs May & June 2025

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

## Registration Information

Register for children's programs  
by using the link below to access  
the library's online event calendar:

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

Individual program descriptions also have  
registration information and links.

## Children's Room Contact Information

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

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

Phone:  
(978) 456 - 2381



## Friends of the Harvard Public Library Annual Book Sale

The Friends of the Harvard Public Library will be  
holding their Annual Book Sale this year **May 9 – 11!**

This is the main fundraising event for the Friends.  
Did you know that 80% of children's programs  
at the HPL are supported by the  
**Friends of the Harvard Public Library?**

Support the Friends of the HPL  
and support children's programming at the library –  
and come home with some great books!

### Book Sale Dates

**Friday, May 9 from 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

Preview Sale *for Friends of the Library only*  
(but Harvard residents may join the Friends at the door)

**Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**Sunday, May 11 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

For more information about the Friends Book Sale:  
<https://www.harvardpubliclibrary.org/about/programs/friends-book-sale>

# Outdoor Games Spectacular

## and Ribbon Dancer Craft



**Thursday, May 15  
from 3:45 to 5:15 PM**

**All Ages**

Trevor “The Games Man” delights young and old from the moment he arrives, stiltwalking in at over 9' tall! Then comes the Aerial Delights Show, an up-in-the-air extravaganza of tricks and skills featuring wind whistlers, ribbon dancers, the color-changing Chameleon Stick, and other fun stuff, in a 100% participatory show. Next are active games for everyone, either parachute games or running games. And, for the last half hour, Trevor leads participants in making Ribbon Dancers, that classic loooong ribbon-on-a-stick toy; every child gets to make a Ribbon Dancer to take home!

Trevor is a trained and certified New Games Leader & Cooperative Play Specialist, a professional stiltwalker, and all around fun guy!

This program will take place outdoors to a crowd of unlimited size. In case of inclement weather, this program will be rescheduled to a future rain date.

Please register so that we can notify you in case of rain and rescheduling!

**Register here:** <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13782451>

# Ice Cream Social



2025 will be the **FIRST**  
Ice Cream Social by the Pavilion!



Ice Cream Social 2023

## *Save the date!*

**Tuesday, June 24 at 4:00 PM**

**All Ages**

Come make your own yummy sundaes with ice cream from West Side Creamery, socialize with friends, have fun playing lawn games, and enjoy classic rock songs performed by the talented local band The Speed Bumps! The Ice Cream Social takes place outdoors on the library lawn by the pavilion.

**Let's try to go Low Waste this year!!!**

Ice Cream Social attendees are encouraged to bring their own non-disposable bowls, cups, & spoons.  
*(The library will also provide disposable bowls, cups & spoons as needed.)*

**Pre-registration is greatly appreciated** so that we can provide enough sweet treats for all, and also so that we can notify you if we need to use a rain date.

*Rain dates are Wed. June 25 and Thurs. June 26 at 4:00 PM.*

*This program is sponsored by The Friends of the Harvard Public Library  
with support from West Side Creamery and Roche Bros.*

Register here: <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/13581213>

# Family Movie Night!



***Dog Man (PG)***

**Friday, June 20  
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/13636781>

# Paws and Read



**Wednesdays, May 7 and 21**

**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>

# Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



***Moana 2 (PG)***

**Thursday, May 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).

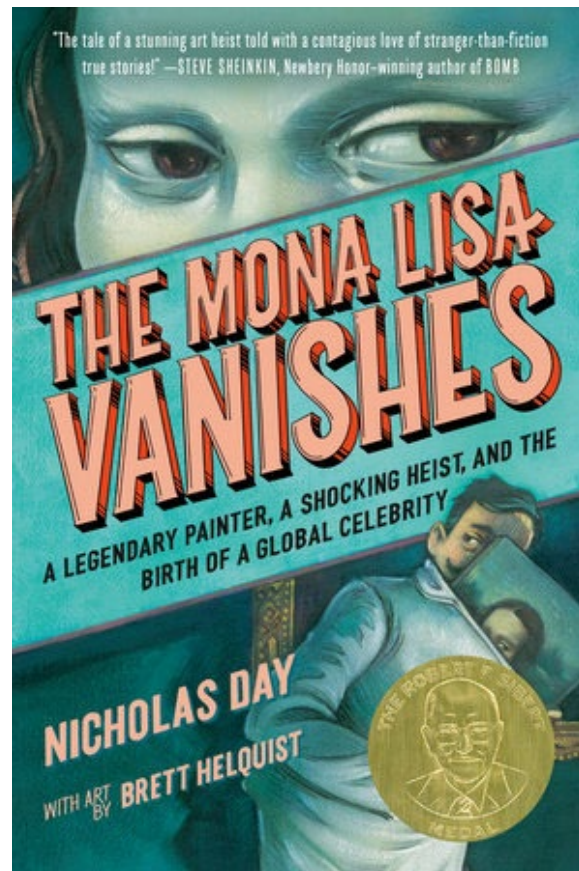
Parents are also welcome (and encouraged) to attend.

Registration is appreciated!

Register here:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/14475027>

# Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, May 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 May we will be discussing *The Mona Lisa Vanishes* by Nicholas Day.

**Register here:**

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

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 storytime on 5/19 ~ Session ends on 5/22*

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

*Spring session ends on May 21*

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

*Spring session ends on May 12*

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, June 14  
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/14598740>

# 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.

**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, May 19 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>

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

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

The 3rd Grade Book is:

*The King of Kazoo* by Norm Feuti

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

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

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

The 4th Grade Book is:

*The Candymakers* by Wendy Mass

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

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

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

The 5th Grade Book is:

*Aru Shah and the Song of Death* by Roshani Chokshi

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

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

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

The 6th Grade Book is:

*Dragon Pearl* by Yoon Ha Le

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

# Write Stuff



**Tuesday, May 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/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).