

# Harvard Public Library Children's Programs November 2023

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!



***Elemental (PG)***

**Friday, December 1  
at 6:30 PM**

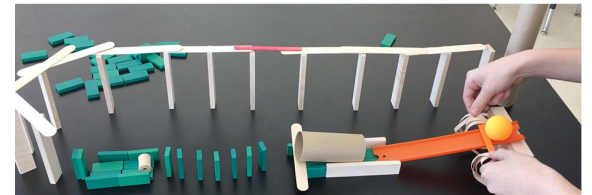
Come watch a movie on the big screen at the library!

*Please 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#7400332>

# Playful Engineers presents: Maker Space Build-Along: Chain Reactions!



**Wednesday, November 29  
at 12:30 PM**

**Best for Grades K through 6**

*(younger siblings can attend with adult supervision)*

Playful Engineers Teaching Artist Jay Mankita presents an in-person, hands-on event in which participants design, build, test, and play with Rube Goldberg “Machines” – complicated chain reactions accomplishing simple tasks. Participants learn through demonstration, and then through self-directed play, to make kinetic ‘machine’ parts, exploring force and motion, scale, and cause and effect, including catapults, zip-lines, domino towers, and gravity-powered carousels. Jay brings his chain reactions kit from his Traveling Makerspace, with tracks, balls, blocks, cars, action figures, rubberbands, string, tinkertoys, k'nex, and literally thousands of dominoes. Trial & error-focused activities generate multiple opportunities for participants to learn from their success and their failures. We'll hear groans and cheers, as the machines run their course!

Registration is required – limited to 100 attendees.

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7390780>



# Circle of Songs with Hugh Hanley



**Tuesday, November 28  
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#7395668>



# Paws and Read



**Wednesdays, November 8 & 15**

**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#7395564>

# Nutcracker Storytime



**Saturday, November 18  
at 10:30 AM**

**Ages Pre-K through 5th Grade**

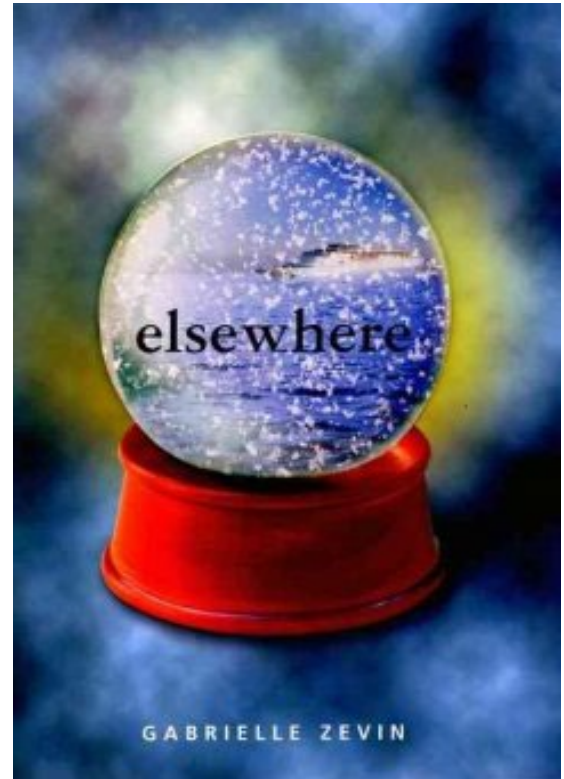
Dancers from the North Central Youth Ballet will come in costume to the library and read aloud *The Nutcracker*.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7394339>



# Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, November 16  
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 November we will be discussing *Elsewhere* by Gabrielle Zevin.

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7392320>

This book group meets in a hybrid model: attend in person in Volunteers Hall, or attend virtually via Zoom.



# LEGO Club



**Saturday, November 25  
from 1:30 to 3:30 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:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7395607>

# GraviTrax Challenge



**Thursday, November 16  
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:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7395599>





# Origami



**Thursday, November 9  
at 3:45 PM**

**Ages 8 and up**

Learn how to make some origami models!  
We'll have fun folding a variety of  
beautiful origami papers to create  
some simple origami projects.

Registration is required.

Attendance is limited to 12 children,  
and children must be 8+  
due to the complexity of the craft.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7395594>

# Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



***The Little Mermaid 2023 (PG)***

**Monday, November 20  
at 12:30 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.

**Registration is required – enrollment is limited.**

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7395602>



# Book Buddies



**Thursday, November 30  
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#7395670>



# Saturday Storytime

## Fall Stories



**Saturday, November 4  
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.

November theme is *Fall Stories*

Drop-in – no registration required.



# Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime on Saturday



**Saturday, November 25  
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#7394333>

# STORYTIMES

**Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime ~ Ages 0 – 2+  
Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM**

**No storytime on 11/2, 11/20, and 11/23**

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). For the second 5 week session our phonemic awareness activities will focus on learning and practicing some consonant sounds and reviewing the short vowel sounds.

In order for instruction on the phonemes to develop in a logical sequence for the group,  
**registration is required** for the 5 week session.

**Registration is required: 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!  
For the second 3 week session our phonemic awareness activities will focus on learning and practicing some consonant sounds and reviewing the short vowel sounds. In order for instruction on the phonemes to develop in a logical sequence for the group,

**registration is required** for the 3 week session.

**Registration for the second three week session  
begins on November 13.**

**Registration is required: 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, November 27 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, November 6 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 3rd Grade Book is:  
*Toys Go Out* by Emily Jenkins

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

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

**Monday, November 13 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 4th Grade Book is:  
*The Bolds* by Julian Clary

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

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

**Tuesday, November 14 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 5th Grade Book is:  
*The Island of Dr. Libris* by Chris Grabenstein

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

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

**Tuesday, November 28 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM**

The 6th Grade Book is:  
*Belly Up* by Stuart Gibbs

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

# Write Stuff



**Tuesday, November 21  
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).