

Harvard Public Library Children's Programs October 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>

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 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)



The Caterpillar Lab



**Wednesday, October 8
from 12:30 to 3:30 PM**

All Ages

Come meet some little-known native critters!

The Caterpillar Lab will feature a huge variety of New England caterpillar species munching on their food plants right in front of you. There will be plenty to see and touch. Educators from The Caterpillar Lab will teach you all about metamorphosis and tell incredible but true stories about the creatures' strange and surprising adaptations. Some caterpillars may be camouflaged to look like twigs or snakes. Some may have stinging spines or brightly colored baubles. Some may be as big as hot dogs! You're sure to see something new!

This drop-in program is well suited for the curious family and seasoned naturalist alike.

Learn more about The Caterpillar Lab at www.thecaterpillarlab.org

This is a drop-in browsing-style program: arrive any time between 12:30 and 3:15 PM to attend.

Register to receive an email reminder!

Register here: <https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/14139906>



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 yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters with a black outline. At the bottom, the word "DUELS" is in large, yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters with a black outline. The entire logo is framed by a red border.

CHALLENGE! TRIVIA DUELS

Challenge! Trivia Duels

Saturday, November 15 at 1:00 PM

Families, Ages 7+

Trivia Master and town of Harvard favorite Brett Outchcunis 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/14580790>

Family Movie Night!



Lilo & Stitch (PG)

**Friday, October 3
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/14140056>

Paws and Read



Wednesdays, October 8 and 22

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>

Sensory Playtime



**Saturday, October 18
from 10:30 to 11:30 AM**

All Ages

We will have several sensory stations with things to smell, touch, see, and hear in this interactive program that is designed to encourage sensory exploration for young children and their caregivers.

Caregivers visit each sensory station with their children; we will have caregiver prompts at each station to help guide exploration and conversation between child and adult.

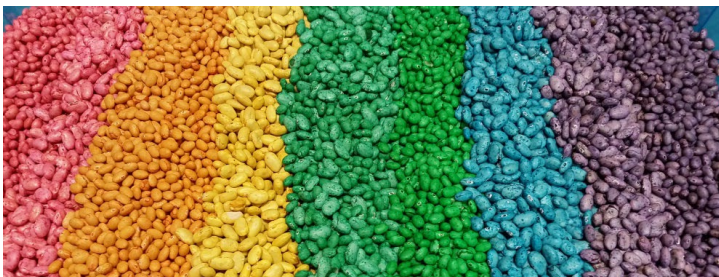
Sensory play sometimes gets a bit messy – it's a good idea to wear old clothes to this playtime!

Adult accompaniment required.

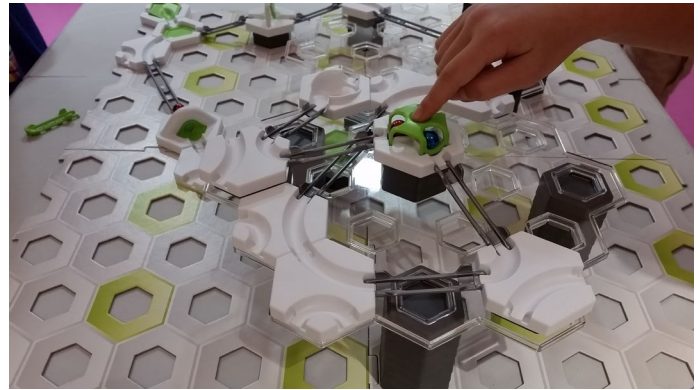
Registration is not required, but if you register you will be added to the email list for last minute changes.

Register here:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074209>



GraviTrax Challenge



**Thursday, October 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:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15074425>



Capsters Art



**Thursday, October 23
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/1507443>

1



LEGO Club



**Saturday, October 25
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/1506248>

2

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.*

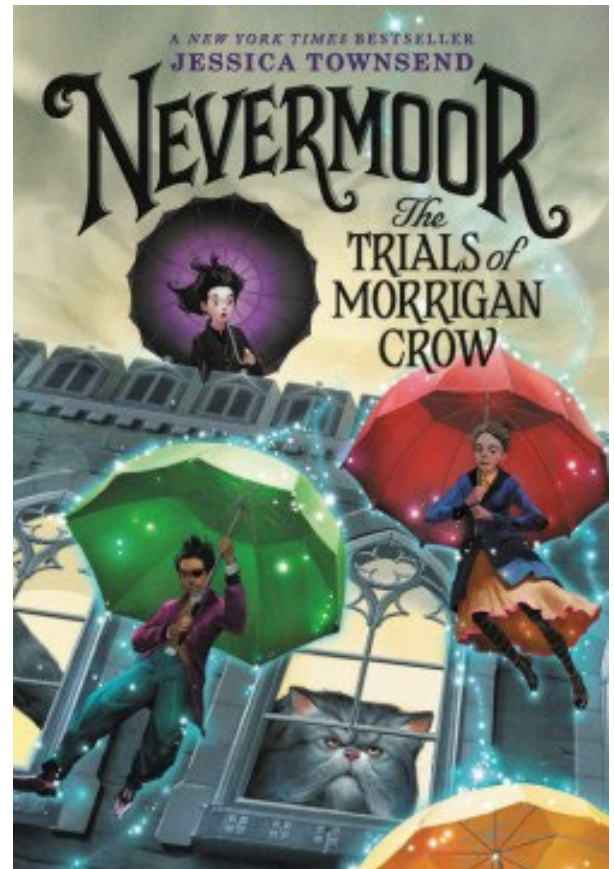
Registration is not required – but if you register
you will be added to the email list for last minute
schedule changes. This email list will cover the
once-monthly Disco Parties through May 7.

Register here:

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



Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, October 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 October we will be discussing *Nevermoor: The
Trials of Morrigan Crow* by Jessica Townsend.

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.

Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



Dog Man (PG)

**Thursday, October 9
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/15074424>

Snapology: Mining and Building Basic



**Wednesday, October 29
at 3:45 PM**

Ages 5 – 12

Hey gamers, are you ready to travel all the way to The End with Snapology? Join us as we bring the game of Minecraft® out of the computer and into the real-world using LEGO® bricks.

In this program, you will go on adventures using your imagination and even design your own worlds, full of mobs, animals, buildings, and your very own LEGO® Minecraft® character.

Registration is required – enrollment is limited to 12 children ages 5 to 12.

Register here:

<https://harvardpubliclibrary.libcal.com/event/15129803>

This program is donated by Snapology of Harvard



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 December 11.*

[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 fall 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 fall session.

Limit of 12 (minimum of 6) children.

[Register here.](#)

Saturday Toddler Storytime



**Saturday, October 4
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/15074193>

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.

Book Gobblers: Children do not need to read a book ahead of time for this group.

Book titles for grades 3rd through 6th are TBA!

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

Book Gobblers Book Group for 1st & 2nd Graders

Monday, October 27 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>

3rd Grade Book Group

Monday, October 6 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

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

4th Grade Book Group

Monday, October 20 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

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

Bagels & Books Group for 5th Graders

Tuesday, October 14 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

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

Bagels & Books Group for 6th Graders

Tuesday, October 21 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM

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

Write Stuff



**Tuesday, October 7
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/14609974>

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).