

Harvard Public Library Children's Programs September & October 2024

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



You Tube

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](http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD)



The Caterpillar Lab



**Wednesday, September 18
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: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7601878>



Paws and Read



Wednesdays, September 25 and October 23

**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!

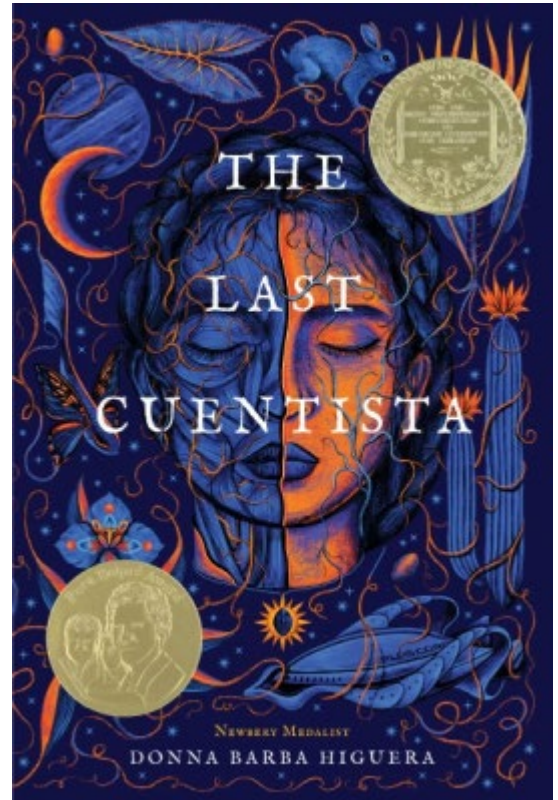
Children who are independent readers can make a 15 minute appointment to read to one of these wonderful therapy dogs; on each date, eight children total will get a chance to have either Rhia or Chase's undivided canine attention.

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

Register here:

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

Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, September 19
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 September we will be discussing *The Last Cuentista* by Donna Barba Higuera.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7601873>

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

Lindsay & Her Puppet Pals



**Saturday, September 21
at 10:30 AM**

Ages 3 – 8

Lindsay's highly interactive, comedic performances delight the young and the young at heart! These larger than life, hand crafted puppets charm even the most timid audience members and provide memorable characters for positive short stories and skits.

Kids chatter about their favorite puppets and funny moments long after a show! Kids will meet several puppets throughout the performance. Perhaps a goofy penguin or moose, a heroic tiger, or a lovable bear.

Oh my! Maybe a dancing robot or flamingo, an adorable mouse, a stubborn goat, a shy dragon, or a singing dinosaur! Come find out who's making an appearance this time!

Lindsay's comedic animation and timing, high energy, and uncanny knack for silly voices electrifies young crowds (and mastery of gentle crowd control will bring them back!).

This program will be outdoors in the pavilion. In case of inclement weather, the program will be postponed to a rain date.

This program is sponsored by a grant.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7601882>

Family Movie Night!



Inside Out 2 (PG)

**Friday, October 4
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:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7621178>

Jenny the Juggler



**Wednesday, October 9
at 12:30 PM**

All Ages

Don't miss Jenny the Juggler's Fabulous Variety Show, including humor, juggling, bubbles, and balloon animals. Jenny is a graduate of Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre in Blue Lake, California and has trained with several world masters of physical theatre including Marcel Marceau.

A professional juggler since 1997, she has performed from Hawaii to England, and headlined the first ever "Women of Juggling" Festival in Humboldt, California in May 2005.

This program will be outdoors in the pavilion unless weather prohibits.

In case of thunderstorms or temperatures below 50 degrees, the program will move indoors to Volunteers Hall; indoor seats are limited to 120 attendees, with seats allocated to people who have pre-registered for the event.

Register here: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7621147>

Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime on Saturday



**Saturday, September 28
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#7602357>

LEGO Club



**Saturday, September 28
from 1:30 to 3:00 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#7602344>

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, October 28 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

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

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7620908>

3rd Grade Book Group

Monday, October 7 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

The 3rd Grade Book is:

Too Small Tola by Atinuke

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7620873>

4th Grade Book Group

Monday, October 21 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM

The 4th Grade Book is:

Maya and the Robot by Eve L. Ewing

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7620925>

Bagels n' Books Group for 5th Graders

Tuesday, October 15 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#7620953>

Bagels n' Books Group for 6th Graders

Tuesday, October 29 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#7620968>

Write Stuff



**Tuesday, October 8
from 3:45 to 4:30 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#7620981>

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 Toddler Storytime



**Saturday, October 12
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.

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:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7625731>

STORYTIMES

Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime

Ages 0 – 2+

Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM

No storytime on 9/23 and 10/14

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 12/12.*

[Register here.](#)

Storytime for 2's & 3's ~ Ages 2 & 3

Wednesdays at 10:30 AM

Fall/winter session begins October 9

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 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

Fall/winter session begins October 7

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.

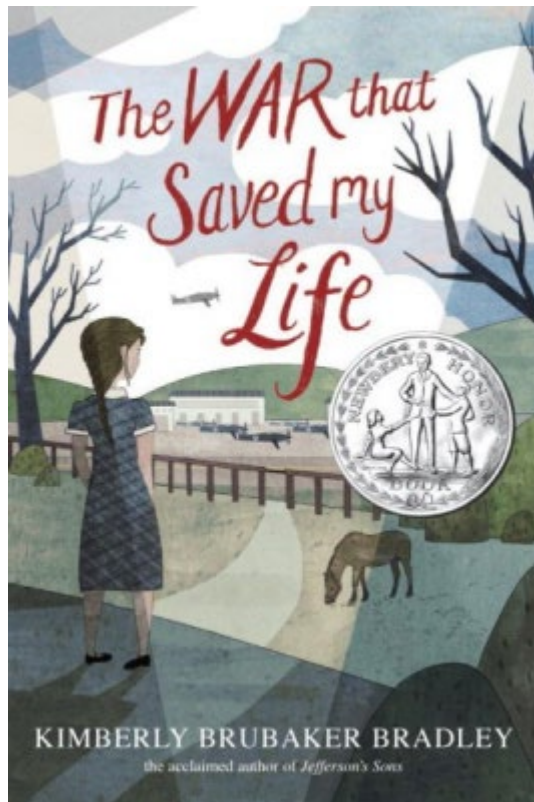
Make sure to wear clothes that can get messy!

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 spring session.
Enrollment is limited to 12 children.

[Register here.](#)

Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, October 24
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 September we will be discussing *The Last Cuentista* by Donna Barba Higuera.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7625561>

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



***Kung Fu Panda 4* (PG)**

**Thursday, October 10
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.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7625779>

Circle of Songs with Hugh Hanley



**Saturday, October 19
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.

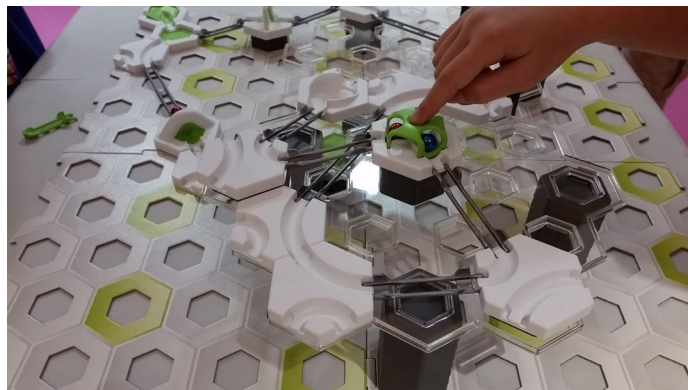
This program will be outdoors in the pavilion unless weather prohibits. In case of thunderstorms or temperatures below 50 degrees, the program will move indoors to Volunteers Hall; indoor seats are limited to 80 attendees, with seats allocated to people who have pre-registered for the event.

This program is sponsored by a grant.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7621162>

GraviTrax Challenge



**Thursday, October 17
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#7625784>



Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime on Saturday



**Saturday, October 26
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#7625728](http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7625728)

Twisted Critters



**Thursday, October 24
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:

[http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=
=HARVARD#7625795](http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7625795)

