

SUPPORTING LEARNING THIS SCHOOL YEAR

What does “back-to-school” look like for your family this year? And how might it change as the school year goes on? It’s hard to predict anything with certainty right now, and whether your kids are in the classroom all the time, part of the time, doing remote learning, or homeschooling, the library is here to support all of our kids (and hardworking parents) throughout the year.

Online Resources

We asked Lorrie Hansen, our school services librarian, to share three of her favorite online learning resources for families. They’ll help families in any learning situation.



LORRIE HANSEN
School Services Librarian

Teachables

This site has a bunch of fun activities that are also educational. You can search by keyword, grade, subject, theme, and more. Try “fun flaps” or “seek-and-find” for a couple of my favorites. Pages are designed for printing, but you can also view them on screen and use a piece of paper to write or draw your responses.

TumbleMath

Animated and narrated books help kids learn and enjoy basic math concepts, and this collection is just a click away. Search by topic, browse the covers, or use an index. You can also store your favorites to find them quickly next time. I really enjoy the Math is CATEGORICAL series.

Live Homework Help from Tutor.com

This service safely connects students with a live tutor for about 20 minutes per online session and up to 5 times a week. Stuck on a math problem? The tutor will walk you through the steps. Science have you stumped? Ask for help to find a solution. They can also help with social studies and language arts, and are available from 10 am to midnight every day.

Find these resources and more: skokielibrary.info/resources/research/kids

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KIDS & FAMILIES

All events are held online (except Weather Painting). For certain events, we'll let you know in advance how to pick up supplies when you sign up. Sign up for all events and get the link to attend at events.skokiellibrary.info.

Parents & Families with Kids of All Ages

Library Dance Party
Tuesdays, 10:30–11 am

Homeschooling 101
Wednesday,
September 2,
6–7:30 pm

**Adventure Club:
Panama**
Tuesday, September 29, 4–4:45 pm

**Drawing with Blue Rose
Art Studio**
Sunday, October 11, 2–3 pm

**Understanding Adverse
Childhood Experiences**
Saturday, October 17, 10–11:30 am
for parents and other adults

**Watercolor with
Blue Rose Art Studio**
Sunday, October 18, 2–3 pm

Adventure Club: Denmark
Tuesday, October 27, 4–4:45 pm

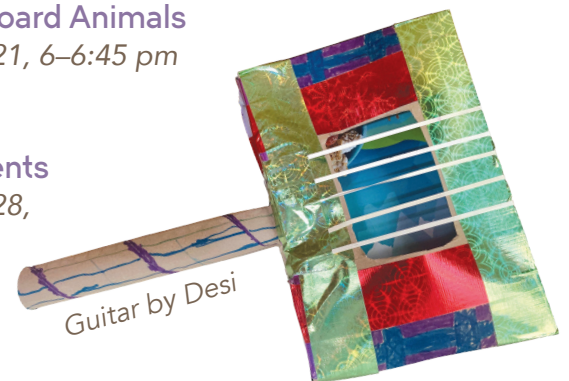


Chat and draw along with Chad Sell, graphic novelist and author of *The Cardboard Kingdom* and *Doodleville*. Kids come together in Doodleville to solve a monstrous problem of their own making. The book is an exploration of creativity and collaboration set in Chad's own Chicago neighborhood. There's lots of drawing, an emotional adventure, and an epic battle of good and evil. Books available at The Book Stall.

To get ready for our event with Chad, Ms. Caitlin and Ms. Sue are excited to lead hands-on workshops.

Be the Artist: Cardboard Animals
Monday, September 21, 6–6:45 pm

**Make Your Own
Cardboard Instruments**
Monday, September 28,
4–4:45 pm



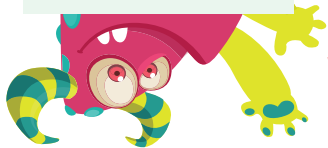


Little Kids

Storytime
Thursdays, 1:30–2 pm

Family Fun Storytime
Fridays, 10:30–11 am

Weekend Storytime
Saturdays, 10:30–11 am



Face-to-Face Time
Mondays (except September 7),
1:30–2:30 pm

Slightly Spooky Stories
Saturday, October 31,
1:30–2 pm, Ages 4–7



School-Age Kids

Weather Painting
Ages 8–12 on the Village Green. Limited to eight kids per session. Masks and adherence to physical distancing required, health safety recommendations and weather permitting.
Sunday, September 13, 2–3 pm OR 4–5 pm

Dance Class for Kids
Sundays, September 20 and 27,
1:30–2:30 pm, Ages 8–12

Write Stuff
Tuesdays, September 22 and
October 20,
4–4:45 pm, Grades 4–5



Introduction to 3D Design and Printing with Tinkercad
Fridays, September 25 or October 2,
4–5 pm, Ages 8–12

Poetry Adventure
Wednesday, October 7,
4–4:45 pm, Ages 8–12

Unicorn Crafts
Saturday, October 17,
2–2:45 pm, Ages 6+



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Finding Books Your Kids Will Love

Our staff is happiest when connecting kids to great books! If you'd like some ideas, try one of these, then reserve your choices and use curbside pickup at one of 12 locations in Skokie to get your books.



Bookmatch for Kids
Our youth team recently developed this service, which provides custom recommendations for kids in grades 3–8.
skokieliibrary.info/bookmatch-kids

Themed Lists for Kids

Try the themed lists our staff create, in which they include personal notes about why they selected particular books.
skokieliibrary.info/lists/#/kids

Hands-on Learning Activities

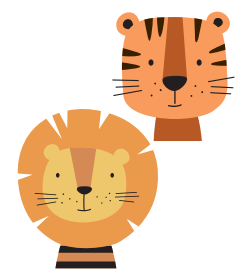
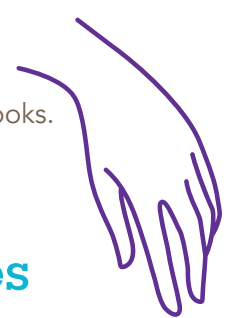
Our staff are also passionate about helping kids learn through doing things, and here are just two of the ways we're helping you keep your kids active and engaged in learning while having fun, too.

BOOMbox at Home

Every week, staff put together a new set of activities for hands-on learning (and fun!) on a particular STEAM topic. Want to know more about fungus? architecture? myths? textiles?
skokieliibrary.info/blog/boombox

Science for Kids

We have a growing collection of short videos for kids on things like lions and tigers, soap, and axolotls.
skokieliibrary.info/kidsciencevideos



As the school year continues, we will keep working to provide all manner of materials, events, and answers for you and your family! Check the website, call us, or use the chat box on the lower right corner of the website any time you have questions.





RENOVATION 2020



For updates and more details,
go to skokie.library.info/renovation

PHASE TWO
The West Side



FOR ADULTS

Recurring Events

ESL Café
Wednesdays,
12:30–2 pm

Chat about
Books, Movies,
and More
Wednesdays,
1–3 pm

Job Talk
Thursdays,
3–4 pm

Low Vision
Support Group
Tuesdays,
September 8
and
October 13,
1:30–2:30 pm

Introduction
to Yoga
Fridays,
September 18
and October 16,
1–2 pm

Homeschooling 101
Wednesday,
September 2,
6–7:30 pm

Summer Reading:
Fun Times and
Great Titles
Tuesday,
September 8,
7–8 pm



LitLounge
The Poet X
by Elizabeth Acevedo
Wednesday,
September 9,
7:30–9 pm

I'll Be Gone in the Dark
by Michelle McNamara
Wednesday,
October 14,
7:30–9 pm

Go Figure: The 2020 Presidential Campaign Trail

Join numeracy expert and writer Matt Baron for tips on separating fact from fiction when it comes to understanding the 2020 presidential election. Learn how to understand data released by candidates and empower yourself before going to the polls.

Thursday, September 10, 7:30–8:30 pm

Zoom into the Movies: *Rafiki*
Wednesday, September 16, 8–9 pm

Ask a Librarian: The News Cycle
and Current Events
Tuesday, September 22, 2–3 pm

Great Authors, Great Articles
Bad Feminist

by Roxanne Gay
Tuesday, September 22,
6:30–7:30 pm

**The Nuclear Family
Was a Mistake**
by David Brooks

Tuesday, October 20,
6:30–7:30 pm



Library Events Any Time, Any Place

Subscribe to our Events channel on YouTube. You'll be notified when we post new cooking classes, science experiments, book discussions, storytimes, and more.

skokielibrary.info/videoevents

All events are held online.
Sign up for all events and
get the link to attend at
events.skokiellibrary.info.

Talking Books Discussion Group

The House of Broken Angels

by Luis Alberto Urrea

Wednesday, September 23,
1:30–2:30 pm

The Library Book

by Susan Orlean

Wednesday, October 28,
1:30–2:30 pm

Secret Chicago: A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful, and Obscure

Wednesday,
September 23,
7:30–8:30 pm



Food Science for the Win: Simple Vegetable Soup

Thursday, September 24,
11 am–11:30 am

Adult Book Discussion

Titles TBD

Goodreads: Thursdays,
September 24 and October 22,
8–9 pm

Instagram Live: Tuesdays,
September 29 and October 27,
7:30–8:30 pm

What You Need to Know about College Loans

Tuesday, October 6,
6:30–7:45 pm



Pickles and Cleavers

Molly Higgins provides a primer on making Chinese-style cucumber pickles that are ready to eat in 30 minutes. These quick pickles are crunchy, tangy, and cool. They require no special equipment and can be customized in countless ways. This simple recipe is suitable for all ages. Supervision is recommended for children, because making the pickles uses a knife.

Wednesday, October 7,
6:30–7:30 pm

Introduction to 3D Printing and 3D Model Creation

Monday, October 12, 7–8:30 pm

Gentle Yoga

Thursday, October 15, 11 am–noon

The Whys and Whens of Car Maintenance

Thursday, October 15, 7–8 pm

Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences: Building a Resilient Community

Saturday, October 17, 10–11:30 am

Zoom into the Movies: *Boy*

Wednesday, October 21, 8–9 pm



Food Science for the Win: Grilled Cheese

Thursday, October 22,
11 am–11:30 am

Understanding Medicare

Thursday, October 22, 7–8 pm

Ask a Librarian: Apps for Entertainment

Tuesday, October 27, 2–3 pm

TEENS

All events are held online. Sign up for all events and get the link to attend at events.skokieilibrary.info.

Teen Library Council

Thursdays, 4:30–5:30 pm

Young Adult Book Club

Thursdays, September 4 and 18, 4:30–5:30 pm

An Evening with Francisco X. Stork

Please join us for a special evening of conversation with celebrated young adult author Francisco X. Stork. Francisco will discuss his new novel, *Illegal*, along with all of his writing for teens.

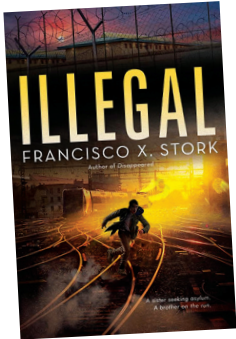
Thursday, September 24, 7–8 pm

Friend Squad

Tuesdays, September 29 and October 27, 6–6:30 pm

Introduction to 3D Design and Printing with Tinkercad

Friday, October 2, 4–5 pm



An Evening with Kelly Yang and Jessie Ann Foley

Honored young adult authors Kelly Yang and Jessie Ann Foley will discuss their new books, rape culture, and the importance of consent.

Thursday, October 15, 7-8 pm

Books for both author events available at [Booked](https://www.booked.com).

#MiniBookmatch

&

#MiniScreenmatch



We offer personalized reading and watching suggestions on social media each month. Tell us your preferences—serious or lighthearted, bingeable or short, and more—and we send back recommendations along with why we think they're a great fit for you. We've already offered more than 200 #Mini matches.

#MiniScreenmatch

Tuesday, September 15

Tuesday, October 13

#MiniBookmatch

Wednesday, September 30

Wednesday, October 28



#MiniBookmatch

To a reader looking for modern romances with lots of tension and male and female perspective

The Right Swipe
by Alisha Rai

Cynical dating app creator must decide whether to give a former pro football player a second chance—he who wooed her during one magical night and then disappeared. Covers a lot of territory and keeps you wanting to read more. Available as eBook and audiobook on Overdrive/Libby—Sharon

The Worst Best Man
by Mia Sosa

A wedding planner left at the altar? Yes, and now she's offered an opportunity that could change her life, but she has to collaborate with the best (make that worst) man from her own failed nuptials. Alternating female/male chapters, really fun, and steamy! Available as eBook and audiobook on Overdrive/Libby—Allyson

Year One by Nora Roberts

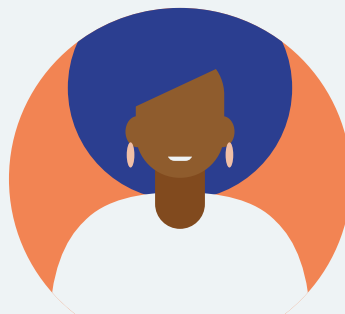
No zombies, but postapocalyptic and has magic in it. With the world in chaos and survivors heading west, those immune to the sickness that decimated half the world's population and the gifted are targeted by the authorities. Available as an eBook on Overdrive/Libby—Penny

Girls Save the World in This One
by Ash Parsons

When ZombieCon comes to their small town, June and her best friends battle long lines for photo ops, meet their favorite actors, and save the world from actual zombies when things get real. Available as an eBook on Overdrive/Libby—Allyson

Feedback by Mira Grant

The year was 2014. We had cured cancer. We had beaten the common cold. But in doing so we created something new, something terrible that no one could stop. Available on Hoopla as a downloadable audiobook—Megan



#MiniBookmatch

To a reader who loves zombie and postapocalyptic fiction



#MiniScreenmatch

For a mother and 16-year-old daughter who enjoy *Stranger Things*, *Jane the Virgin*, *This Is Us*, *The Good Place*, *Kimmy Schmidt*, *Gilmore Girls*, and *All American*

Never Have I Ever Netflix

Mindy Kaling is the main writer, basing some of the themes on her own life. The series has many funny and heartwarming moments. But also a lot of thoughtful themes that hit home. The actors are excellent—Sharon

Derry Girls
Netflix

It will seem like historical fiction to the daughter (set in the 1990s), but both mom and daughter will enjoy the humor and the universal challenges of being a teen. Set in Northern Ireland, this is legitimately the funniest show to be released in recent years. It'll both distract you from the chaos of the world and remind you that it's okay to find joy. —Chris and Lynnanne



STAFF PROFILE

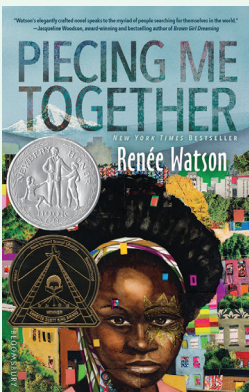
Laurel Johnson

Young Adult Services Supervisor

Laurel focuses on our junior high and high school students, planning and facilitating events and services for teens. Her favorite thing about working here is the people. She says, "I love my colleagues, and I love my teens. I'm a people-person and relationships are really important to me."

The idea of becoming a librarian didn't even cross Laurel's mind until after she finished college. She says, "I've always been a chatty person, so I surprised a lot of family and friends. There's an outdated stereotype that librarians shush everyone and don't like too much excitement. In reality, public libraries are full of life and excitement. It's really the perfect field for me."

In addition to working with our teens since September 2015, Laurel was recently named chairperson of the library's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee for the next year. This group supports our staff in promoting a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive workplace. Libraries are about access and belonging, and to uphold our core values as a profession, we must commit to dismantling systems of racism and oppression, which are at odds with our purpose. As part of the library's Civic Lab team, Laurel helps research topics and facilitate activities and discussions on those topics. She likes that Civic Labs are each different, depending on who attends and the perspectives they share.



Laurel's favorite book to recommend is *Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson. She says, "We were lucky enough to have Renée visit our library, and she is so kind, funny, and cool. This book is a gorgeously written story of the complexity of Black girlhood."

Her main hobby now, because she is working on her first house, is learning to fix and build things. She is also doing genealogy research, and she finds the library's subscription to Ancestry.com a huge help.



Illinois Library Association 2020 Young Adult Librarian of the Year



Laurel was recently honored with this award, which is given to a young adult librarian in Illinois who is making an outstanding contribution in library services for young adults in their community.

Laurel says, "I'm so honored to have received this award. I'm most proud of the relationships my team has built with young people in our community. I really believe in the power of positive mentorship, and whether we're helping with homework, chatting casually, or organizing teen volunteers, that's really at the forefront of our minds. Each week we meet with teens on Zoom as our Teen Library Council and get their input. Having regular communication with our teen patrons allows us to prioritize services based on what teens want, not necessarily what we think they want. It's also a place for teens to learn about service opportunities and talk about current events. Civic participation is a priority right now."

Making Positive Change in Our Community

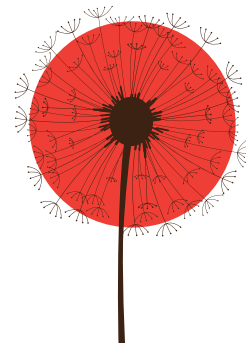


Are you interested in meaningful discussion about issues that separate us from others in our community, including race, gender, and cultural differences? Do you want to take a stand against prejudice and oppression? Are you ready to do the reflective work necessary to create a more inclusive community?

The library is a member of Skokie Cares, a community group that is sponsoring SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) equity training during the 2020–21 school year, for people who live, work, or have children who currently attend school in Skokie. During online monthly sessions, you will learn about systems of oppression, power, and privilege that operate within our society. You will take part in thought-provoking exercises and discuss video clips and readings. You will be challenged, enlightened, and changed.



Learn more and complete an online application at skokiecares.org. We welcome everyone, and strongly encourage people of color, people who identify as LGBTQ+, people of all ages, and people with disabilities to apply. Spaces are limited.



RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

CURBSIDE PICKUP
skokielibrary.info/curbside



**BY THE
NUMBERS**

DATA FROM JUNE 8–JULY 31

Curbside pickup will continue, even if the details change with the weather and other factors. You can always find the most current information here:

skokielibrary.info/curbside

For details on all current services, go to skokielibrary.info.



**ONE
DAY**

On July 26, the parking lot was at its hottest

Temperature: 94 degrees



**BIG
DAYS**

On June 26, we averaged one item every 39 seconds

Items checked out: 550

On June 24, we helped one patron every other minute

People served: 172

**EVERY
DAY**

We hand out a stack of books almost six cars tall

Items checked out: 331

People served: 107



TOTALS

If you stacked of all the items checked out so far, your pile would be as tall as 327 cars

Items checked out: 18,547

People served: 5,924

