







Inside this issue you'll find lots of ideas. Get to know our amazing experiential learning team and all the ways they're staying connected and curious this season. Get acquainted with some of their favorite resources

and more that you can explore.

We've also planned events for all ages, including celebrations for Women's History Month and Earth Day, zine-making, nature explorations, and more ways for you to try new things.

> And we could never forget that special library way of learning and exploring—books and stories and talking about them.

What new things are you excited to learn this spring? Let us know: email us at mycreation@skokielibrary.info

The weather this time of year is famously unpredictable, but according to the calendar—it's spring! We think it's a great

season to thaw out, stretch, make a fresh start, and try something new.





5215 Oakton Street Skokie, IL 60077 847-673-7774 tellus@skokielibrary.info

For current hours and services, call or go to skokielibrary.info/hours Visiting the library? Go to skokielibrary.info/what-to-expect



What does an experiential learning specialist do





Michelle

My job is to be a curiosity ambassador. There are so many interesting things inside and outside of this world to learn about, and I show people fun ways to learn new things. Right now, this means delivering workshops over Zoom and putting together blog posts of educational activities to do at home.

Loves talking about crafty things, crazy science experiments, and the original *Star Wars* trilogy

Getting to Know our Experiential Learning Team

We're all about learning at the library.

Whether it's finding the right book, online resource, or piece of equipment, we'll connect you with the tools and instructions you need to try new things or take your skills to the next level. Meet the staff members who are ready to guide you on your next learning adventure.

You know how sometimes you fall down a Wikipedia rabbit hole?
That, but with more glitter. We take a topic and look at a lot of different angles you can approach it from.
We encourage patrons to follow their interests and "take chances, make mistakes, and get messy."
We make things and break things, and sometimes we play video games.

Loves talking about pets, Dungeons and Dragons, art, patrons' favorite things



Jimmy

I facilitate project-based learning experiences as our team lead. My main focus is the Studio—the makerspace the library added during the current renovation—which houses our 3D printers, sewing machines, embroidery machines, vinyl cutters, and laser engraver.

Loves talking about STEAM, 3D Printing, Panic! at the Disco, Twenty One Pilots, food, thrifting jean jackets, and pets

Fun Ways to Learn at Home

Every week, we scour resources and gather some of the best for you for the BOOMbox at Home. Here's a tiny sample of the fun facts and activities you'll find at **skokielibrary.info/blog/boombox**. Have fun exploring these and many more. There's a new topic every week.



Science

Bees: why they're important, how they communicate, how to help local bees (October 8) Gravity: how simple machines use this force, ways to explore gravity (September 17)

Technology

Animation: ways to create the illusion of movement in simple or complex ways (September 22)

Engineering

Architecture and Interior Design: try a fun furniture design challenge (May 27)

Fabrication: learn about rapid prototyping with a tower building challenge using spaghetti and marshmallows (May 6)



Storytelling: many ways you can create and share your stories (January 21)

Disguises and Masks: learn about and try face-paint disguises and animal masks (December 22)





Mathematics

Geometry and Origami: use paper folding to explore polygons and learn more about mathematical models (August 26)

using fun activities (June 30)

Lynda.com from LinkedIn

If you want to learn more about 3D printing, you can use your library card to try any of the 949(!) courses using video tutorials related to 3D printing and animation.

Whatever you want to learn in the areas of software, apps, media, marketing, business, and technology, you'll find tens of thousands of step-by-step online video tutorials.











You're More CREATIVE Than You Think

Are you looking for inspiration? Practical how-to skills? A daily creativity challenge?

Creativebug offers thousands of free video classes, taught by top designers and artists. Going to Creativebug means you know the information is going to be accurate and high-quality. Your only problem will be choosing which way you want to keep your hands busy and your mind engaged. Go to **creativebug.com/lib/skokielibrary** and enter your library card number to get started.

A few gems:

Treasure Hunt Your Artistic Style

Colored Pencil Workshop

Personal Map Making—A Daily Mixed Media Practice

How to Make an Envelope (10-minute mini)

Crocheted Watermelon Slice

Weaving for Beginners

Make an Herbal Infused Body Oil (8-minute mini)

How to Mend Clothing



Not only are we passionate about learning new things, our experiential learning staff also love to share what they learn. Here are some things you can learn to make with our videos at

skokielibrary.info/science-lab-videos:

SPACE-THEMED ICE CREAM

A RAIN GAUGE ROCK CANDY

A GRABBER



What have you learned in the last year or what are you planning to learn this year



I've been using one of our sewing machines at home, so I've been enjoying working on new sewing skills.



Frannie

Loves talking about making podcasts, animations, vlogs, and swapping tips and tools with other creators I learned how to move a family of four during a pandemic.



Veena

Loves talking about young adult and children's books focused on making, connecting social justice and STEAM, and jigsaw puzzles How to use a laser engraver. We just got one and I am excited to learn all the cool things I can do with it.



Erica

Loves talking to patrons about upcoming games they're excited to play



What's your favorite learning tool

As a former elementary technology teacher, I love using online resources that enhance hands-on experiences. Kids and adults can have a real sense of independence and keep moving with their project without waiting for instructions. If I can find guidance online—like watch a how-to video—I'm taking charge of my learning.



Pam

Loves talking about pets, movies, sci-fi, dragons, design, technology and education, and cartoon characters Social media—I learn so much from Twitter and TikTok that I never would have known otherwise.

Just the other day, I learned how to make Gigi Hadid's famous pasta recipe—
I can't wait to try it!



Mahnoor

Loves comparing notes about different cultures and recommending binge-worthy Netflix shows This sounds sappy, but I view the world as my favorite learning tool.
I get ideas by being engaged in other learning environments like museums, the outdoors (especially the Chicago Botanic Garden), an assortment of art and civic engagement workshops, my kitchen, and just walking around my neighborhood.



Amy

Loves hearing what patrons are learning, recipes, nonfiction books, and her cat

KIDS & FAMILIES

All events are held online except Exploring Nature with iNaturalist. Sign up for all events to get the link to attend at events.skokielibrary.info. Check the deadlines to sign up, and we'll let you know how to pick up supplies if needed.



Family Game Night

Fridays, March 12, 26, April 9, 23, 6:30–7:15 pm

Fun with Rainbow Therapy Dogs

Children with disabilities and their families

Sundays, March 21 and April 18, 11:30 am–12:30 pm





Be the Artist

Mondays, March 15 (for Women's History Month) and April 19, 5:30-6 pm



Adventure Club
Tuesdays, 3:30–4:15 pm
Ireland

March 16

Syria April 13

Family Art Party in a Bag: Reserve Your Kit

Sign up by Friday, March 26 or April 30

Exploring Nature with iNaturalist: A Seek Scavenger Hunt

Monday, March 29, Wednesday, March 31, or Friday, April 2, 4–5 pm





Digital Story Creation Project: Three-Part Workshop

Develop and produce an electronic story with the library's staff videographer, artist, and youth librarian in this three-part workshop. For grades 3–5.

Tuesday, March 30, Wednesday, March 31, and Friday, April 2, 1:30–2:30 pm

School-Age Kids

Show and Tell

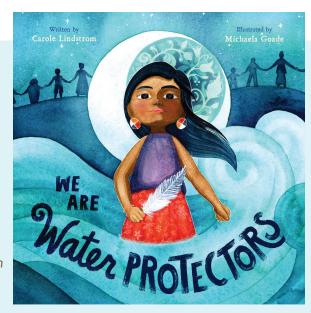
Fridays, March 5, 19, April 2, 16, 30, 4:30–5:30 pm, Ages 6–9

Mythical Creature Crafts

Saturday, March 13, 2:30–3:15 pm OR 3:30–4:15 pm, Age 6+

Write Stuff Writing Club

Tuesdays, March 23 and April 20, 4–4:45 pm, Grades 4–5



Just a Drop of Water: Earth Day Exploration

Thursday, April 22, 4:30–5:30 pm, Grades K–3

Face-to-Face Time

Mondays, 1:30-2:30 pm

Library Dance Party

Tuesdays, 10:30–11 am

Preschool Puppet Playtime

Wednesdays, March 3, 10, April 7, 14 10:30–11 am

Storytime

Thursdays, 1:30-2 pm



Family Fun Storytime

Fridays, 10:30-11 am

Weekend Storytime Saturdays, 10:30–11 am



FOR ADULTS

All events are held online. Sign up for all events at events.skokielibrary.info.

Zine-Making Workshop

Mondays, 7:30-8:30 pm

March 1: A day in the life of, or a legacy to unroll

March 8: Tools and technology

March 15: Muses, heroes, and villains

March 22: (Re)birth, bloom, nature, nurture

ESL Café

Wednesdays, 12:30–2 pm

Job Talk

Thursdays, 3–4 pm

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesdays, March 9 and April 13, 1:30–2:30 pm

WHM

How Hollywood Portrays Women

Tuesday, March 9, 7:30–8:30 pm



Introduction to Equity

Led by La Wanna Wells, District 219 Chief Equity Officer

Thursdays, 6-8 pm Cosponsored by Skokie Cares

March 11: Understanding Origins of Inequity

March 18: Self-Paced Action Steps

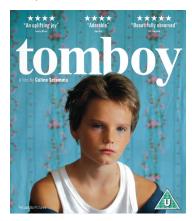
Zoom into the Movies

Wednesdays, 8-9 pm



Tomboy March 17

Weathering with You April 21





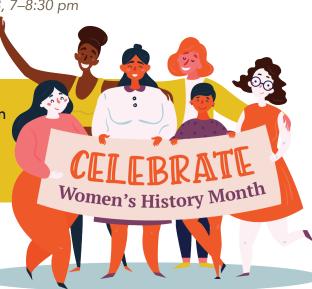
Introduction to Yoga

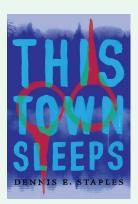
Fridays, March 19 and April 16, 1–2 pm

Understanding Credit Scores and Credit Reports

Tuesday, March 23, 7–8:30 pm







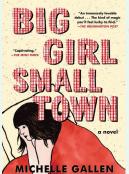
LitLounge

7:30-9 pm

This Town Sleeps

by Dennis E. Staples
Wednesday, March 10,
7:30–9 pm

Big Girl, Small Town by Michelle Gallen Wednesday, April 14,



Adult Book Discussion

WHM The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

Goodreads: Thursday, March 18, 8–9 pm

Instagram Live: Tuesday, March 23, 7:30–8 pm



Goodreads: Thursday, April 22, 8–9 pm

Instagram Live: Tuesday, April 27, 7:30–8 pm



Talking Books

The Island of Sea Women

by Lisa See

Wednesday, March 24, 1:30–2:30 pm



by Dave Eggers Wednesday, April 28, 1:30–2:30 pm





Advanced Modeling with Blender 3D Design Workshop

Learn how to use Blender, free 3D modeling and animation software.

Wednesdays, March 24 and 31, 6:30-7:30 pm



Food Science for the Win

blender

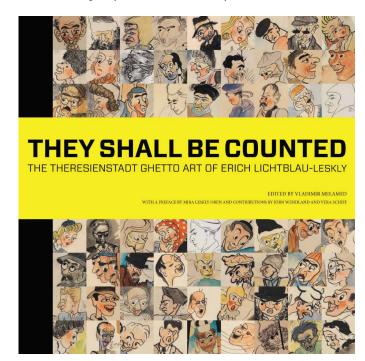
Thursdays, 11-11:30 am

Udon Soup March 25

Roast Chicken April 22

Who's Gonna Win the Oscar?

Wednesday, April 7, 7:30-8:30 pm



They Shall Be Counted: Theresienstadt Ghetto Art of Erich Lichtblau-Leskly

Meghan Gieseker of the Illinois Holocaust Museum will share an online tour of Erich Lichtblau-Leskly's gallery of original paintings and drawings depicting the daily lives of the people who lived in the Theresienstadt Ghetto.

Monday, April 26, 7:30-8:30 pm

Learning about Nature with iNaturalist

Wednesday, April 28, 7-8:30 pm









PHASE TWO: The West Side



Find audited financial information here: skokielibrary.info/about/policies/ records-we-maintain



RENOVATION2020

PHASE THREE: The East Side











We're finishing the major renovation project with work in the youth area and east entrance. For updates and more details, go to:

skokielibrary.info/renovation



Our construction manager, Mike Glover, has been amazing at keeping our renovation project moving through all the unexpected challenges of the pandemic. We're now doing his favorite part of the project, and here's what he had to say: "For me, I'm most excited about the children's area. I have two girls myself, and it will be awesome to see their faces light up when the new space is done. Even for library projects that just have minor changes, to kids, it's a whole new area. So the children's area is the area for me."



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Friend Squad

Wednesdays, March 3, 17, April 7, 21, 6–6:30 pm

Teen Library Council

Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 pm

Connect, Transform, Act: Teens Take Action and Take Care

Fridays, 3:30-4:30 pm

Teen Theater Club

Saturdays, 10–11 am

Birding Workshop

Saturday, March 6, 2-3:30 pm

Learn more about summer volunteering opportunities at skokielibrary.info/about/volunteering