

FOR THE *love* OF READING

Books get us through tough times, show us new worlds and new ideas, and most of all—books bring us joy!



We're reconnecting with reading and invite you to join us, whether you like to listen, scroll, or turn paper pages.



Get expert tips from our staff on how to pull yourself out of a reading slump: pages 2–5

Learn how to get even the youngest people in your life excited about books with Grow a Reader: pages 6–7

Hear from friends and neighbors we spotted in the library as they share reading memories and more: pages 8–9

Select from a packed schedule of exciting events for adults (pages 10–12), teens (page 13), and kids (page 14–15)

For more events, including those in honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Juneteenth, and Pride, go to: calendar.skokieliibrary.info

Get ready for Summer Reading, which starts June 1: page 16

Recovering from a **READING SLUMP**

We have a staff full of avid readers. Yet everyone has times it can be tough getting started reading or maintaining focus (or keeping one's eyes open) while reading. We've collected some great tips to share. May one of them be just the thing that helps the next time you encounter your own reading slump.





Leslie

Patron Engagement

Coffee enthusiast who goes the extra mile and roasts her own beans for café de olla
Workplace hazard no one seems to talk about—the humility of noticing that seemingly superhuman coworkers have currently checked out items well into the triple digits!
Watching *Abbott Elementary*

“One way to shock my reading habits back to life is to switch up genres or formats. So when I feel like dystopian fiction is getting me too down, I’ll lighten it up with a cute romance novel. Or I’ll try a book in audiobook format with a popular narrator or go with a graphic novel. I find switching the format helps to engage other senses and allows me to connect back to the literature.”

Volunteers as a mentor with RefugeeOne helping refugees resettle in Chicago and prepare for citizenship

Wishes everyone knew how much he enjoys tracking down books and media and gets satisfaction from helping people

Reading *The Last Cuentista* by Donna Barba Higuera and watching *Encanto*



John

Patron Engagement

“I was in a reading slump heading into the pandemic, and two things made a big difference for me. First, I started reading to my family at night. We started with *Harry Potter*, and rewarded ourselves with watching the corresponding movie after each book. We liked making predictions and discussing favorite characters at different points in the stories.

The second big help was the library’s Bookmatch. I received a wonderful list that opened doors to authors and books I hadn’t known. I then started exploring other books by the authors I really enjoyed, and diving into book series. I am still looking forward to new experiences from just the one Bookmatch.”



Jane

Communications
and Multimedia
Engagement

Musician who has had a side gig as a teaching artist for almost a decade
Having a toddler who loves books means a huge job perk is daily access to all of our picture books (and expert librarians!)
Reading *Seeing Sideways* by Kristin Hersh and watching *Somebody Somewhere* on HBO

“I get out of reading slumps by picking up graphic novels. Many are short and fast-paced, so you can get the ‘I finished a book!’ feeling sometimes in one sitting. And if it’s part of a series, it’s even better, because you can stack up finished books quickly and still be hungry for more.”



Amber

Communications
and Multimedia
Engagement

Can be found listening to soccer podcasts, going to Chicago Fire matches, and yelling about soccer in general

Work includes dabbling in some graphic design and videography, writing blog posts, and providing exemplary library services

Reading *A Million Quiet Revolutions* by Robin Gow

Watching *90 Day Fiance* and *Married at First Sight*

"I usually give in to the slump, and I stop reading. I do things like watch terrible reality TV or play video games that I've neglected. It's also a good idea to read outside of the usual types of books you choose. This usually allows you to get a fresh perspective and a story you normally wouldn't seek out."

In college, trained under FBI investigators and forensic pathologists with the aim to go into crime scene investigations or investigative reporting—life took a different path!

Loves connecting people to other staff, professionals, parents, and friends, and seeing some connections blossom into awesome relationships

Became good friends during the pandemic with a children's librarian in Abu Dhabi, UAE



Mandy

Youth Services

"When I've been caught in a reading slump or am coming off a very intense read, I find that switching it up with a nonfiction book that is more anecdotal or fact-based is great because I can read it in bits and pieces and completely on my own terms, rather than a more linear fiction book. There's nothing like random ephemera or short essays to reinvigorate my brain."



Bill

Access

Finds great satisfaction in helping and directing patrons to our resources and materials

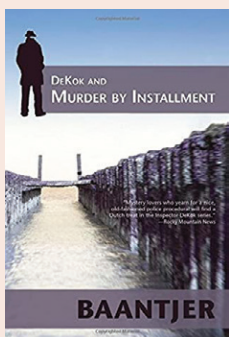
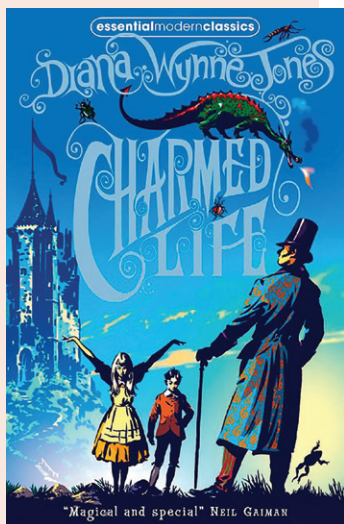
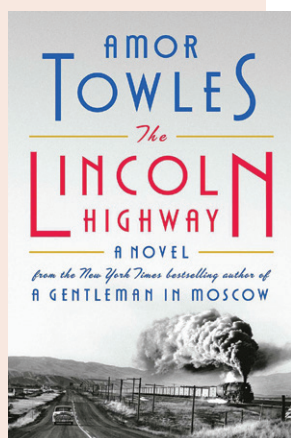
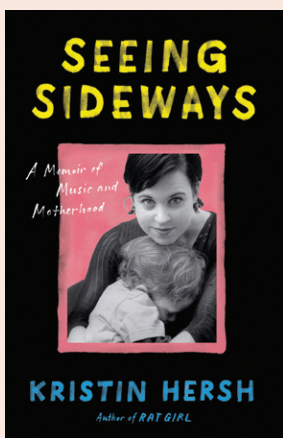
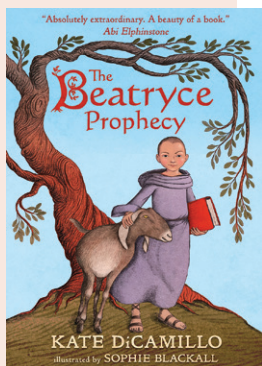
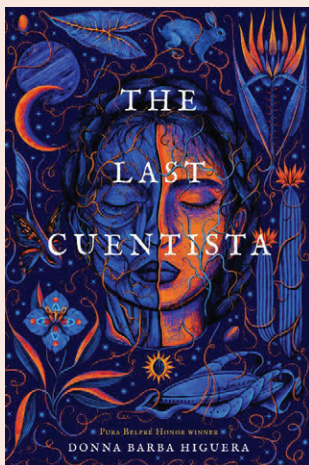
Reading *DeKok and Murder by Installment* by Albert Cornelius Baantjer

Watching Agatha Christie's *Miss Marple* TV series

"I can often stimulate a desire to read by doing something physical—a walk, a chore, even grocery shopping. I relax the reading synapses for a while, and as I complete the most mundane activity, I look forward to a good book waiting at home.

Think of reading the book a great movie was based on—you may discover details and plotlines in the book that were too complicated to put in the movie. An example is *Harry Potter & The Deathly Hallows*.

Try browsing the youth nonfiction displays (adults, too!). I found a new book, *Out of the Shadows: How Lotte Reiniger Made the First Animated Fairytale Movie*, and remembered that we have the DVD of one of Lotte Reiniger's 1926 works, *The Adventures of Prince Achmed*. Time for more exploration!"



Shelley
Youth Services

Had never worked in a library before deciding to be a librarian, but loved spending time in libraries, and now loves seeing kids excited about all the books we have!

Has two big fluffy dogs: Sadie and Pepper
Reading *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles and *The Beatryce Prophecy* by Kate DiCamillo

"Pandemic reading slump. Ugh. The worst. Tips: Remember what you used to love—was it mysteries? Find a new series. When I talk to others about reading slumps, I find I'm not alone, and that helps. Rereading some old favorites sometimes works. What are you currently excited about—crafts? TV? Something else? Finding books related to that interest can spark reading."

Moved here from Australia three years ago and enjoys exploring American sights, food, and culture

It's surprisingly easy to learn how to use our sewing machines, and watching patrons use their creativity to come up with amazing designs using all of our equipment is super fun.

Currently reading fanfiction—there's no shame in it!

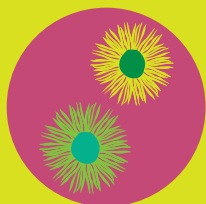


Michelle
Learning Experiences

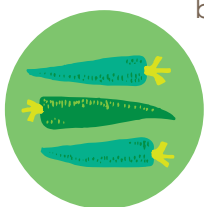
"It's okay to not read sometimes! Our brains are allowed to take a break. When I want to get back into reading, yet I'm finding it difficult to overcome inertia, I re-read some of my favorite children's books. They're easy to read and the familiarity of the story makes it feel comforting. There's no shame in liking children's books, especially since they contain so much high-quality writing and storytelling packaged into smaller, more digestible forms. One comfort book is *Charmed Life* by Diana Wynne Jones."



Grow a Reader



We all want the children in our lives to love learning and reading. Lots of research shows that children who have had 1,000 books read to them by the time they start kindergarten are in the best position to be great readers for life, and to do well in school. You don't need an official program to accomplish this—just read to your little one every day. Join Grow a Reader, and we'll help you make it even more fun.

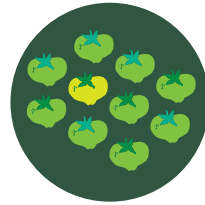


Sign up at the Kids desk. You'll get a set of sturdy activity cards on a ring—it fits nicely on a diaper bag—and a "seed packet" booklet. Color a seed in the booklet for each book you read. If you'd rather join online, sign up and track your progress using Beanstack: skokielibrary.info/growareader.



For every 100 books read, you can put your child's first name on a wall at the library. You'll also get a fresh seed packet and a new activity card. There's an extra special prize at 1,000 books.

Reading 1,000 books sounds like a lot, but if you read a book a day, it will take less than three years. Three books a day? Less than a year! All books count. Little ones sometimes want to hear you read the same book over and over, and that's fine. You choose whether you want to count the total number of books read or total number of titles. It's completely up to you. And it is not a competition. Just getting



into the habit of reading every day will set your child up for a lifetime of loving books. We have thousands of board books and picture books to choose from, and an expert staff happy to help find the books your child will love.

Grow a Reader runs all year long. Join Summer Reading as well, and reading to your child during June and July counts for both! More reading—more fun—more prizes!



Reading for Fun and Inspiration



We spotted some of your Skokie neighbors in the stacks and asked them to tell us more about what, why, and how they read. Read more at skokieliibrary.info/skokiereads



Lyn and Ian

What do you read for fun?

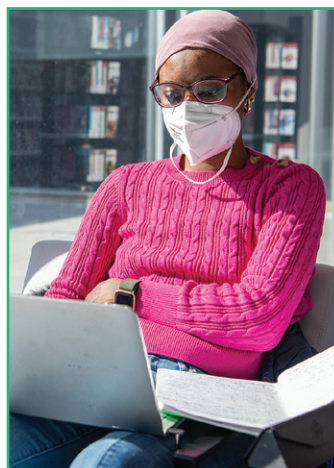
Ian's taste is eclectic, but he loves history. "It might be how buildings get constructed or it might be a mystery. I'm starting *Powers and Thrones: A New History of the Middle Ages* by Dan Jones."

Lyn: "I like mysteries, family stories. I love detective novels, anything that catches my eye really."

How do you make time to read regularly?

Lyn: "I try to read before I go to bed, and if I have a free afternoon. I say I'm going to read for half an hour. Two hours later, I'm still reading!"

Ian reads books on his phone, allowing him to take them anywhere. "I've got about 200 books on here."



Abidemi

What inspires you to keep reading?

"I keep reading to achieve my goals in life."

What do you read for fun?

"One book that helps me relax, because it is familiar, is *The Beggars' Strike* by Aminata Sow Fall."

Dianne

How do you make time to read regularly?

"I read every day. I get up in the morning and read the news. It's really not a question of making time, it's about not having enough time."

What inspires you to read?

"To know more. I love to read different styles of writing. Last fall, I read all of Colson Whitehead's books. Now that I'm out of school, I can just read what I want to read."

What is the best part of picking up a new book?

"Reading a first paragraph. I want to know: 'Okay, can they pull me in right away?' I can kind of tell by the beginning. The best part is opening the book and seeing whether I can believe I'm there in that time and place."

What was your favorite book growing up?

"I won the book *Alice in Wonderland* as a prize, and I loved that book. The poetry in it and the whimsical nature of it. But I loved so many books."





Sarah

What do you read for fun?

"Mystery books and science fiction."

How do you make time to read regularly?

"I usually have a book on me, so I am usually reading during my free period or when I'm done with my assignment in class."

What is the best part of picking up a new book?

"Being drawn into the storyline, finding new characters I resonate with, finding a new perspective on something I've read about or seen before."

What was your favorite book growing up?

The Harry Potter books



Payal

What do you read for fun?

"Fantasy and romance novels. I just finished *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*. It was not my normal read, but I really enjoyed it."

How do you make time to read regularly?

I wake up early in the morning to read or I'll get all my work done by 7 pm and I'll read late into the night."

What is the best part of picking up a new book?

"When they introduce the male lead, I'm like, okay, yes, it's picking up the pace."

What was your favorite book growing up?

"The *Hush, Hush* series. I still reread it to this day. I love it."



Nichole

What do you read for fun?

"Fantasy, romance, and mystery"

How do you make time to read regularly?

"I usually just make time. I don't watch as much TV as I used to. It came to a point where my mom was like, put down the book and go watch TV. I was going to the library and getting three books a week."

What inspires you to read?

"Seeing other people read. I always say that the book's better than the movie. The books really give you everything and the movie doesn't."

What was your favorite book growing up?

"The *Selection* series. It's literally *The Bachelor*, but in a book. It's my comfort book."



FOR ADULTS

In-Person Events

Check for event details and sign up at calendar.skokiellibrary.info. Registration opens May 1, except for events during the first week of May, which are open now.

Knit and Crochet with Fiber Friends
Tuesdays, 4–6 pm (drop in)

Practice Citizenship Interviews with HIAS

Tuesdays,
May 3, June 7,
6:30–8 pm
(drop in)

ESL Café

Wednesdays,
12:30–2 pm

In person:
May 4, 18,
June 1, 15, 29
(drop in)

Online: May 11, 25,
June 8, 22

Technology Classes

Beginning Word 2021

Tuesday, May 3,
noon–1:30 pm

Introduction to Slides

Monday, May 9, 5–6:30 pm

A Free Alternative to Microsoft Office: LibreOffice

Monday, May 23, 3–4:30 pm

Windows Computer Basics

Friday, June 10, 5–6 pm

American Compositions for Saxophone and Piano

Sunday, May 1, 3 pm (drop in)

Mend or Alter Your Clothes

Thursday, May 5, 6–7 or 7–8 pm

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesdays, May 10, June 14,
1:30–2:30 pm

Exploring Art:

Vincent van Gogh—

His Life, His Sunflowers

Wednesday, May 11, 3–4 pm

Friday Film (drop in)

Driveways

Friday, May 13, 1:30 pm

King Richard

Friday, June 10, 1:30 pm

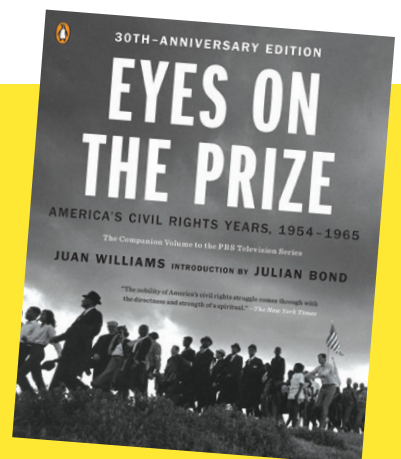
Eyes on the Prize Talking Circle

Awakenings (1954–56)

Sunday, May 15, 1–3 pm

Fighting Back (1957–62)

Sunday, June 19, 1–3 pm



Scholarship Winners Concert

Tuesday, May 17, 1 pm (drop in)





Movie Night (drop in)

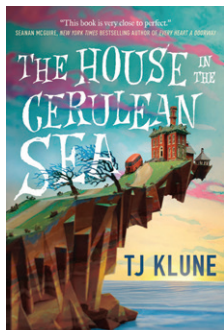
Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom

May 17

I Carry You with Me

June 21



Talking Books

Wednesdays, 1:30–2:30 pm

The Color of Air

May 18

The House in the Cerulean Sea

June 15

Exercise Your Brain

Wednesday, May 18, 3–4 pm

Simple Auto Repair and Maintenance

Thursday, May 19, 7:30–9 pm

Introduction to Yoga

Fridays, May 20, June 17, 1–2 pm

Laser Engrave a Wood or Slate Board

Friday, May 20, 4–5 pm

Health and Fitness Exercises for Older Adults

Mondays, May 23, June 13, 3–4 pm

Pages through History

Cuba: An American History

Wednesday, May 25, 7–9 pm

Exploring Art: Renoir's Luncheon of the Boating Party

Wednesday, June 15, 3–4 pm



Embroider a Beach Towel

Wednesday, June 15, 7–8:30 pm

Juneteenth 2022: Pathways to Liberation

Friday, June 17, 5:30 pm

Cellist Alexei Romanenko: Selections from J.S. Bach's Cello Suites

Sunday, June 19, 3 pm (drop in)



Keep Your Brain Healthy: The Six Pillars

Wednesday, June 22, 3–4 pm

Introduction to Geocaching

Sunday, June 26, 1–2 pm

Spring Foraging: Eat the Neighborhood

Sunday, May 22, 4–5:30 pm



Online Events

You will receive your link to attend in the email that confirms your registration, except for the Goodreads and Instagram discussions. Registration opens May 1 at calendar.skokielibrary.info.

Help Grow Your Business with Alternative Funding

Thursday, May 5, 10–11 am

Maker May

Thursdays, 7–8 pm

May 5: Meet The Kao

May 12: Meet Craftivist Shannon Downey

May 19: Meet PaisleyandGlue

LitLounge

Wednesdays, 7:30–9 pm

Convenience Store Woman	Lawn Boy
May 11	June 8

Adult Graphic Novel Discussion

Ballad for Sophie

Tuesday, May 24, 7–8 pm

Adult Book Discussions

Days of Distraction

Goodreads: Thursday, May 26, 8–9 pm

Instagram Live: Tuesday, May 31, 7:30–8 pm

Devil's Chew Toy

Goodreads: Thursday, June 23, 8–9 pm

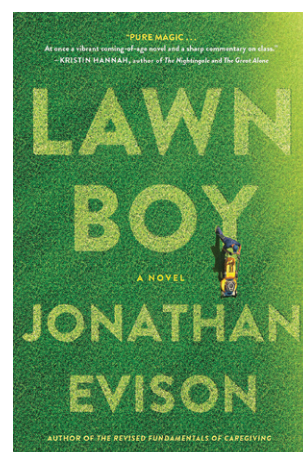
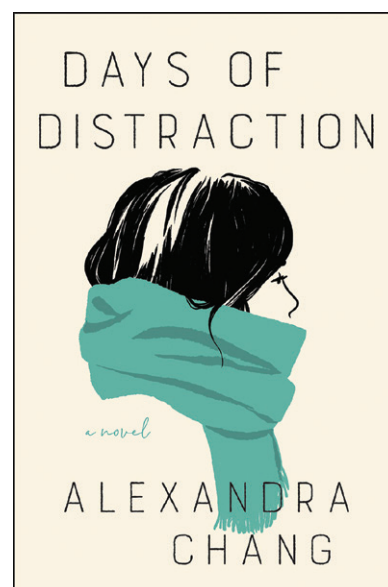
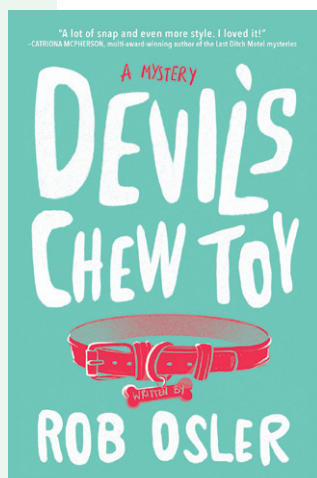
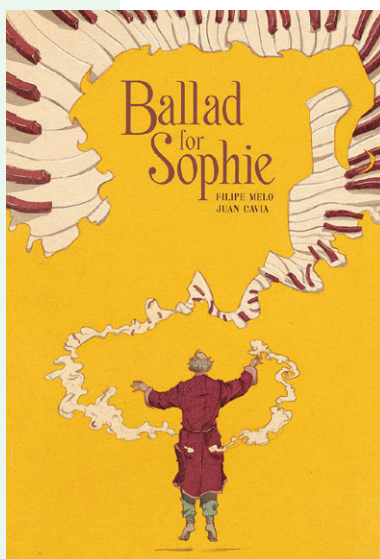
Instagram Live: Tuesday, June 28, 7:30–8 pm

The Future of Work Is Here and It Is Remote

Thursday, June 9, 6:30–7:30 pm



Thursday, June 16, 6:30–7:30 pm



TEENS

Check the online calendar for added events or events that can include teens, along with other ages. Sign up at events.skokiellibrary.info.

Friend Squad

Ages 11–16

Wednesdays, May 4, June 1, 6–7:30 pm

Teen Library Collaborative

Grades 6–12

Thursdays, 5:30–6:30 pm

In Person, May 26, June 23

Online, May 12, June 9

Anime and Manga Appreciation Club

Wednesdays, May 25, June 29, 6–7:30 pm

From Space Gladiators to Magical Boys: Meet Hannah Templer and The Kao

Online, Thursday, May 19, 7–8 pm



Teen Summer Service

Service opportunities begin the week of June 13. Find more at skokiellibrary.info/volunteer.



Tie Dye with Teen Library Collaborative

Friday, June 17, 4–4:30 or 4:30–5 pm



KIDS & FAMILIES

Check the online calendar for added events, and sign up at events.skokiellibrary.info. Capacity for individual events is limited.

Family Yoga

Mondays, May 2, 9, 23, 10:30–11 am

Library Dance Party

Tuesdays, 10:30–11 am

Crafternoon Fun

Tuesday, May 3, 2–4 pm

Wednesday, May 25, 4–4:30 pm

Adventure Club: Hawaii

Grades K–2

Tuesday, May 3, 4:30–5:30 pm

Book Babies Storytime

Babies to 11 months who are not yet walking

Wednesdays, 10–10:30 am

Wonderful Ones Storytime

Age 1

Wednesdays, 10:30–11 am

Preschool Puppet Playtime

Wednesdays, May 4, June 1, 10:30–11 am (online)



Star Wars Crafts

Grades 1–5

Wednesday, May 4, 2–4 pm

Terrific Twos

Age 2

Thursdays in May, 10:30–11 am or 11:15 am–11:45 am

Storytime

Ages 3–5

Thursdays, 1:30–2 pm

Family Fun Storytime

Fridays through June 10, 10:30–11 am (online)

STEAM Saturdays

For kids younger than 6

Saturdays, May 7, 21, June 4, 18, 10:30–11 am

What's YOUR Story?

Grades 2 and 3

Saturday, May 7, 2–3 pm

Be the Scientist

Grades 3–5

Tuesdays, 4:30–5:15 pm

May 10: Gardens

June 7: Bugs





Where in the World: Asia

Ages 8–11

Wednesday, May 11, 4–4:45 pm

Friday, May 13, 4–4:45 pm

Weekend Storytime

Saturdays, May 14, 28, June 11, 25,
10:30–11 am

Family Movie

Fridays at 2 pm

May 14: My Neighbor Totoro

May 21: Spirited Away

June 11: Encanto

June 25: Raya and the Last Dragon

Fun with Rainbow Therapy Dogs

Sunday, May 15,
11:15 am–noon



Exploring Takashi Murakami: An Art Experience

Age 8 and older

Sunday, May 15, 2–3 pm

Be the Artist

Grades 3–5

Monday, May 16, 5:30–6:30 pm

Family Book Club

Grades 2–3

Wednesdays, 5:45–6:30 pm

May 18: If You Come to Earth

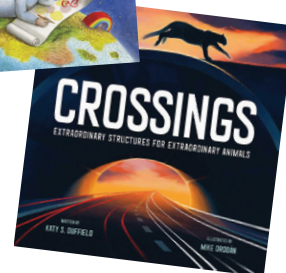
June 22: Crossings



Puppet-Making Workshop

Grades 1–5

Friday, May 28, 2–3 pm



Mythical Creature Crafts: Mermaids

Age 6 and older

Wednesday, June 1, 4:30–5:15 pm

Saturday, June 18, 2–2:45 pm



Rainbow Crafts

Wednesday, June 8, 2–3 pm

Wednesday, June 15, 4–5 pm

Lego Challenge

Age 8 and older

Thursday, June 16, 3–4 pm

Weather Painting

Friday, June 17,
2:30–3:30 pm



Booking with a Buddy

Kids entering grades 1–3 in the fall can take part in this series that promotes reading during the summer. Registration begins June 1 for events held during July.

skoki.library.info/booking

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER



It's almost time for Summer Reading!
Come to the library or bookmobile
starting June 1 to pick up your summer
reading materials, or sign up online at
skokiellibrary.info/summerreading
Read books, have fun, and earn prizes
(yes, t-shirts are back!) all season long.

Summer Reading 2022

