



CATTAILS



FROM THE OUACHITA PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY

JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST 2026



Plant a seed,
read



SIGN UP FOR OUR 2026
SUMMER READING CHALLENGE!





IN THIS ISSUE

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

All Library branches close at 5 p.m. the day before a holiday closure.

JUNETEENTH - Fri., June 19th
4TH OF JULY - Fri., July 3rd & Sat., July 4th

FIND BILLIE THE BOOKWORM!

Our Bookworm, Billie, is hidden eight times throughout these pages. See if you can find all eight!

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JOIN US FOR JUNE & JULY STORY TIMES

MAIN
 0-24 mo.... Tues. | 9:45 a.m.
 18-36 mo... Thurs. | 10:30 a.m.
 3-5 yrs..... Tues. | 10:30 a.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.
 Family..... Second Sat. of each month | 10:30 a.m.

ANNA MEYER
 0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10:30 a.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Wed. | 4 p.m.

CARVER-MCDONALD
 0-5 yrs..... Mondays | 4 p.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.

LOUISE WILLIAMS
 0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10 a.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.

OLLIE BURNS
 0-5 yrs..... Tues. | 10 a.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Tues. | 4 p.m.

OUACHITA VALLEY
 0-36 mo.... Tues. | 10:30 a.m.
 3-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10:30 a.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Thurs. | 4 p.m.

SEARCY MEMORIAL
 0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10 a.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Wed. | 3:45 p.m.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL
 0-5 yrs..... Wed. | 10 a.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Thurs. | 4 p.m.
 (STEM Storytime)

WEST MONROE
 0-24 mo.... Tues. | 10 a.m.
 3-5 yrs..... Tues. | 3:45 p.m.
 6-12 yrs..... Wed. | 10:45 a.m.

WEST OUACHITA
 No storytimes are currently scheduled due to West Ouachita's current closure.

For more information on August story times, please visit our website at oplib.org/storytime

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Want to lend a hand and support your library while our West Ouachita branch undergoes repairs? Become a member of our Friends of the Library!



SCAN TO BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY!



The Friends of the Ouachita Parish Library is a nonprofit organization that fundraises to support the activities and programs of the library.

All proceeds from the book sale and other fundraisers are used to provide endowments for our Homeschool Express field trips, the Summer Reading Challenge and Winter Reading Challenge prize incentives, and so much more of the wonderful programming we offer to the public at each of our 10 branches!

For information on how to become a member, please scan our code above. For more information, or to make direct donations to the Friends, contact agreer@oplib.org.



SEED LIBRARY

Looking to start your summer garden but not sure where to begin? Ouachita Parish Public Library has you covered with our new seed library! We have a variety of vegetable, flower, and herb seeds for you to choose from to get your green thumb growing this summer!



Seed libraries will be located at the Main, Carver McDonald, West Monroe, Ouachita Valley, Ollie Burns and Searcy Memorial branches.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE SPONSORS

Thank you to our Summer Reading Challenge Sponsors!



GROWING YOU AND YOURS IN THE LIBRARY

RALPH CALHOUN
Executive Director/CEO
Biedenharn Museum and Gardens

Join Ralph Calhoun for Biedenharn Museum Talks: Plants Of The Bible on Wednesday, July 1st from 2-3:30 p.m. at Sterlington Memorial Library.



The Ouachita Parish Public Library's summer theme is "Plant a Seed, Read." As I prepared my library experience paragraph for Cattails, I recalled many "library seeds" that were planted and matured in my life.

I did not grow up here, but I remember going to the Main branch in my hometown and checking out armfuls of books as a young child. Later, I attended Fundays where the library had crafts and movies, of course, I left with armfuls of books. In fifth and sixth grade, I was one of the few kids selected to help the librarian reshelve books at the end of the school year; for some reason, it was a big deal!

During the summer between my freshman and sophomore years in college, while perusing the shelves at the hometown main branch, I encountered a large book about the Smithsonian Museum. Within those pages, I realized I wanted to

"play with old stuff" and work in a museum (which I have been doing since 1982). When I took a year off between undergraduate and graduate school, I worked in the information department of the previously mentioned main branch.

“ Within those pages, I realized I wanted to ‘play with old stuff’ and work in a museum. ”

On Monday nights, I manned the circulation desk adjacent to the children's books and checked out many a kid with their armfuls of wonderful books. Fast forward to family life with four daughters who got their armfuls of books here in Ouachita Parish.

As adults, they are all readers, and my oldest daughter, Clair, is the manager of the Sterlington Memorial Branch Library. You might say my wife is addicted to the library, averaging a book or two a week. I tend to read older books, which I have to get through interlibrary loan. And I guess, the fact that I work in a Bible Museum has to have some connection to a life with lots of library exposure.

Plant a seed, read



0-5 YEARS

SIGN UP!

6 color crayon wheel, plastic tote bag, and bookmark



250 PAGES
OPPL straw cup and slide whistle

500 PAGES
Noise maker, rubber duck character, restaurant coupon



750 PAGES
Coloring book with crayons, OPPL drawstring bag, stuffed toy, and certificate of completion



6-12 YEARS

SIGN UP!

Flashlight, brag tag, plastic tote bag, and bookmark



250 PAGES
Pencil with character eraser and OPPL straw cup

500 PAGES
Mini gnome, paratroopers, scratch 'n reveal ornaments, and restaurant coupon



750 PAGES
Coloring book with crayons, OPPL drawstring bag, garden pot craft, and certificate of completion

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



What is the summer reading challenge?

Since 1948, the Ouachita Parish Public Library has encouraged our patrons to challenge themselves during the summer to reach new goal posts in their reading.

What started as a reading club for children expanded to a months-long themed celebration for all ages. Children, teens, and adults alike can participate in our summer reading challenge to earn reading incentives, attend summer workshops, and be entered into our grand prize drawing by reading and completing community challenges!

How do I sign up?

1. You can sign up in our online portal called Beanstack, OR download the Beanstack app on your smartphone to get started.
2. Log your reading and activities in Beanstack on the web or the app.
3. If you have a question or need assistance, reach out to us by visiting any of our 10 branches in person, by calling any branch, or by sending an email to help@oplib.org.



TEENS

SIGN UP!

Fruit rubber duck and fruit slime



500 PAGES

Color changing cup and stickers



750 PAGES
Drawstring backpack and cow stress reliever

1,000 PAGES

Building blocks plant kit, restaurant voucher, and entry into the end-of summer grand prize drawings



ADULTS

SIGN UP!

OPPL key chain



500 PAGES
OPPL notebook



1,000 PAGES
Library tote bag



1,500 PAGES

Entry into the end-of-summer grand prize drawings





GRAND PRIZES!

Get ready to read and win this summer!

By completing the summer reading challenge, ten lucky children will have the opportunity to win a brand-new bike through the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ouachita's "Bikes for Books" program.

Those who complete the summer reading challenge in the adult and teens category will be entered into the end-of-summer grand prize drawings provided by the Friends of the Library with four prize bundles to choose from.

TEEN



Turnip the Fun: Gamer Bundle

Level up your summer and let your gaming skills take root! This bundle pairs a Nintendo Switch with Turnip Boy Commits Tax Evasion for a harvest of fun with a mischievous twist.



Sow the Show: Cinema Bundle

Sow the seeds of storyline and watch them grow on the big screen! This outdoor movie bundle has everything you need for the ultimate backyard movie night. Just add friends, snacks, and your favorite film.



Steep the Story: Reader Bundle

Leaf your worries behind and settle in! With a tablet, case, snack support, and tea at your side, you'll have everything you need to grow your next favorite story.



Plant the Pieces: Builder Bundle

Build your garden and watch it grow brick by brick! This bundle features plant-themed LEGO sets perfect for builders ready to bring their own garden to life.

ADULTS



Berry & Hatchet: Night Out Bundle

Get ready for a night on the town in high NELA style with this bundle. Savor dinner at Parish Restaurant & Bar before trying your hand at burying the hatchet- in the target of course - at Savage Axe & More.



Bliss in Bloom: Artist Bundle

Let your creativity grow wild and take root with all of the artsy goodness at your fingertips on offer with this bundle. The nature inspired artist can color nature every shade of imagination with beautiful coloring books and tools including artist grade-colored pencils and alcohol markers. If a green thumb evades you, you can even "grow" vibrant flowers—brick by brick—with a LEGO bouquet guaranteed to stay bright year-round—no watering required.



Dig-it-all Reading: Reader Bundle

Dig right into the library's digital collections with this bundle. The lucky reader who receives this bundle will enjoy a Kindle Fire HD Tablet, Bluetooth wireless earbuds, and a beautiful case.



Homegrown: Gardner Bundle

Grow where you're planted with this bundle perfect for folks who love spending time in the garden. Your green space gets a glow-up with a vertical planter, Fiskars tools, and a generous gift from Sammy's Plant World—everything you need to grow food and flowers, until your heart is full and your thumb is green!

SPECIAL EVENTS

ANNA MEYER

- LADYCHOPS Fri., June 12 | 1-2 p.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Thurs., June 25 | 2-3 p.m.
- OUACHITA GREEN Wed., July 15 | 2-3 p.m.
- LSU AGCENTER Fri., July 24 | 3-4 p.m.

CARVER-MCDONALD

- LSU AGCENTER Tues., June 9 | 4-5 p.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Mon., June 22 | 4-5 p.m.
- OUACHITA GREEN Tues., July 14 | 4-5 p.m.

LOUISE WILLIAMS

- HARVEY RABBIT & FRIENDS Tues., June 16 | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- LSU AGCENTER Thurs., June 18 | 2-3 p.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Wed., June 24 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.

MAIN

- LADYCHOPS Thurs., June 11 | 2-3 p.m.
- HARVEY RABBIT & FRIENDS Tues., June 16 | 3-4 p.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Thurs., June 25 | 6:1-7:15 p.m.
- LSU AGCENTER Wed., July 29 | 2-3 p.m.

OLLIE BURNS

- LADYCHOPS Tues., June 9 | 2-3 p.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Thurs., June 25 | 4-5 p.m.
- LSU AGCENTER Thurs., July 23 | 4-5 p.m.

OUACHITA VALLEY

- BOOK CLUB OPEN HOUSE Mon., June 8 | 5:30-7 p.m.
- LADYCHOPS Thurs., June 11 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- LSU AGCENTER Tues., June 16 | 4-5 p.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Tues., June 23 | 5-6 p.m.
- OUACHITA GREEN Thurs., July 16 | 4-5 p.m.

SEARCY MEMORIAL

- LADYCHOPS Tues., June 9 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Mon., June 15 | 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- LSU AGCENTER Mon., June 22 | 2-3 p.m.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

- LADYCHOPS Fri., June 12 | 3-4 p.m.
- OUACHITA GREEN Mon., June 20 | 3-4 p.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Mon., June 22 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- LSU AGCENTER Mon., June 29 | 3-4 p.m.

WEST MONROE

- LSU AGCENTER Thurs., June 11 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- MARGARET CLAUDER Tues., June 23 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- OUACHITA GREEN Mon., July 20 | 3-4 p.m.

LSU AGCENTER

"Grown Up and Me: Planting the Seeds of Better Health" is a program where children and their grownups will focus on seeds that can be incorporated as part of a healthy diet for a crunch that packs a nutritional punch! Come try small seed recipes and make "seed tape" you can plant at home with family and friends. **For ages 5-12 with an adult.**

LADYCHOPS

Elizabeth Vidos, also known as LadyChops, is a one-woman drumming sensation who has wowed audiences across the country—including performances with the hit show STOMP! With a dazzling mix of rhythm, energy, and creativity, LadyChops brings drumming to life using buckets, body percussion, and more. This high-energy event will have everyone tapping along to the beat. **For all ages.**

MARGARET CLAUDER

Margaret Clauder will be performing her show, "The Colorful World of Mother Nature." Known as an international performer with her uniquely costumed ventriloquism, Margaret's programs incorporate fabulous puppets for kid friendly magic along with clownish slapstick comedy. **Her show will delight audiences of all ages, but especially the elementary age crowd.**

OUACHITA GREEN

Ouachita Green will present on the importance of keeping our community litter free through intentional story time sessions to educate families that anyone can make a positive impact on our society. We will hand out takeaways car trash bags, workbooks, crayons, and native wildlife seeds for planting together. **This will be a fun, interactive time for all ages.**

BOOK CLUB OPEN HOUSE

Looking to connect with new book genres to laugh, cry, rage, and kick your feet under the covers to? Join us for our 4th annual Book Club Open House! Come get to know our Adult and YA book club leads, sign up for the door prize, and more! **For teens and adults.**

HARVEY RABBIT & FRIENDS

Join Harvey Rabbit, Cecil the Orangutan, and T-Boy the Alligator with Mr. Tim and Ms. Laura in a fun-filled, energetic and interactive show of puppetry, music, comedy, magic, and ventriloquism. **For all ages.**

AMERICA 250 PLANTING THE SEEDS OF FREEDOM

This summer, America will celebrate 250 years of independence! The Declaration of Independence was adopted July 4, 1776. John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, was the first of 56 delegates to sign this founding document of our country. The Declaration of Independence and 2 other documents make up what are known collectively as the Charters of Freedom. The other documents are the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The U. S. Constitution was signed Sept. 17, 1787 by 39 of 42 delegates. It was ratified in 1788 and has been in operation since 1789. The Bill of Rights was ratified in 1791 by three-fourths of the states. Below are links to the Charters of Freedom documents:



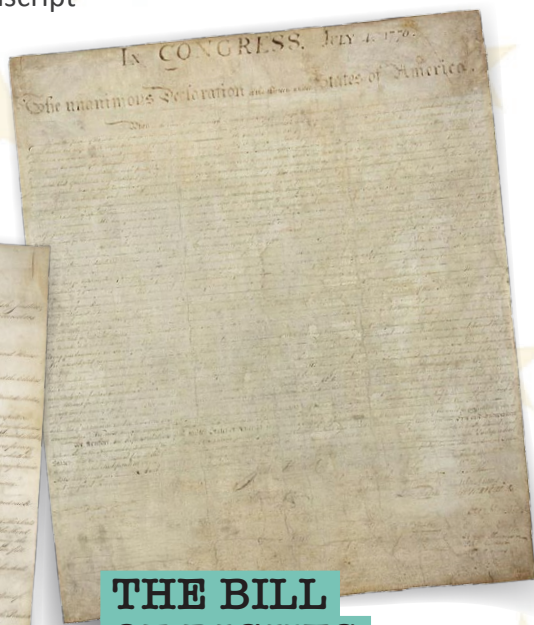
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

[archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript](https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript)



THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

[archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution](https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution)



THE BILL OF RIGHTS

[archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights](https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights)



THE FEDERALIST PAPERS



In addition to the Charters of Freedom, there are a series of 85 essays known as the Federalist Papers. These essays were written by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison between October 1787 and May 1788. They were published to encourage the ratifying of the United States Constitution over the Articles of Confederation. The Federalist Papers are used today to help interpret the intentions of those drafting the Constitution.

guides.loc.gov/federalist-papers/full-text

BOOKS ABOUT THE FOUNDING

Listed below are a few of the many books about the founding of America available at the Ouachita Parish Public Library.

Understanding the Declaration of Independence

by Sally Senzell Isaacs

Available at Searcy Memorial Branch

The Declaration of Independence: Introducing Primary Sources

by Kathryn Clay

Available at Sterlington Memorial Branch

The Signers: the Fifty-Six Stories Behind the Declaration of Independence

by Dennis Brindell Fradin

Available at Ouachita Valley Branch

The Declaration of Independence

by Melissa McDaniel

Available at Ollie Burns Branch

The Journey of the One and Only Declaration of Independence

by Judith St. George

Available at Main Branch

Signers of the Declaration

by John Edwin Bakeless

Available at West Monroe Branch

What Makes America America

by Eric Schwartz

Available at Louise Williams Branch

King George III: America's Enemy

by Philip Brooks

Available at Anna Meyer

The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America

Available at Main Branch

Causes and Consequences of the American Revolution

by Esmond Wright

Available at Carver-McDonald Branch

John Hancock: First to Sign, First to Invest in America's Independence

by Willard Stern Randall

Available at Ollie Burns and West Monroe Branches

The Constitution of the United States with Explanations

by Taylor W. O'Hearn

Available at Special Collections Main Branch

8 volumes of Journals of the Continental Congress 1774-1789, Edited from the Original Records in the Library of Congress

by Worthington Chauncey Ford

Available at Special Collections Main Branch

STORYTIME SPOTLIGHT

Hey there, I'm Ms. Dana!

My favorite colors are yellow and teal. I like baked goods like cookies and muffins! You can find my story time at Ouachita Valley branch.



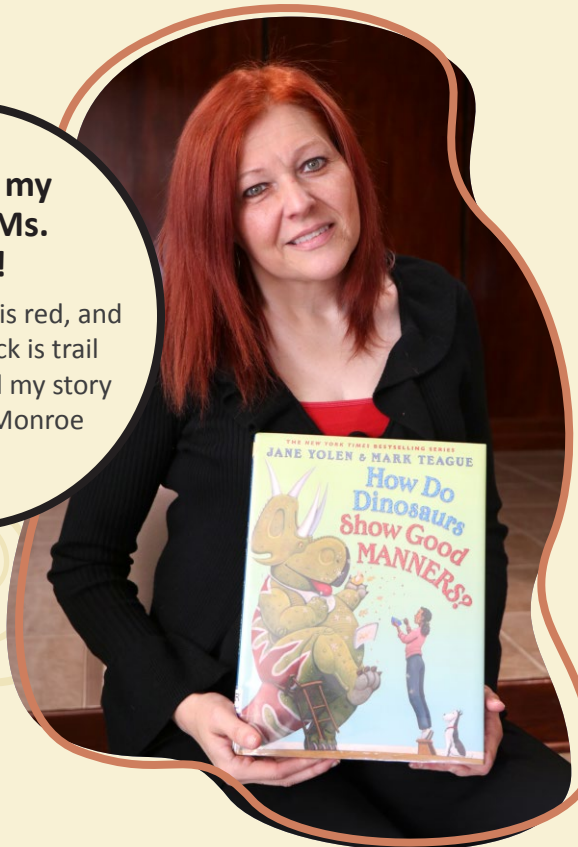
Hi, I'm Ms. Vee!

Yellow is my favorite color because it's so bright and happy and I love, love, love strawberry cheesecake! You can find my story time at Anna Meyer branch.



Hi there, my name is Ms. Grace!

My favorite color is red, and my favorite snack is trail mix! You can find my story time at West Monroe branch.



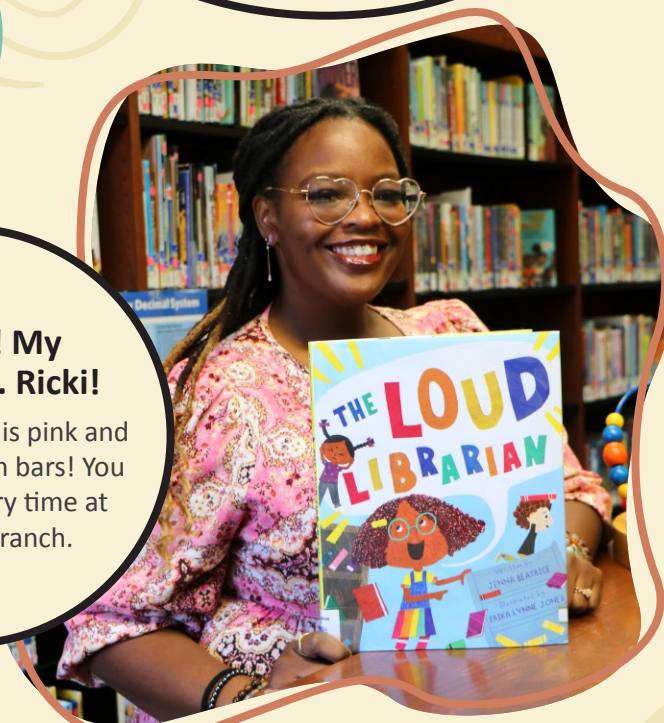
Well, hello there, my name is Ms. Amy!

My favorite color is every shade of purple you can think of and my favorite snacks are cheese and crackers and pizza! You can find my story time at Searcy Memorial branch.



Hey y'all! My name is Ms. Ricki!

My favorite color is pink and I just adore Heath bars! You can find my story time at Ollie Burns branch.



Hello, I'm Ms. Katie!

My favorite color is blue, and my absolute favorite snack in the world is popcorn! You can find my story time at Sterlington Memorial branch.



Hello there! My name is Ms. Angela!

My favorite color is blue and my absolute favorite of favorite snacks is french fries because to me, there's no better way to eat a potato. You can find my story time at Main branch.

PICTURE BOOKS

KIDS TOP 6 BOOK PICKS



The Bad Seed
by Jory John

This is a book about a bad seed. A baaaaaaaaaad seed. How bad? Do you really want to know? He has a bad temper, bad manners, and a bad attitude. He's been bad since he can remember! With Jory John's charming and endearing text and bold expressive illustrations by Pete Oswald, here is *The Bad Seed*: a funny yet touching tale that reminds us of the remarkably transformative power of will, acceptance, and just being you.

Potato Pants! By Laurie Keller



Potato is excited because today—for one day only— Lance Vance's Fancy Pants Store is selling...POTATO PANTS! Potato rushes over early, but just as he's about to walk in, something makes him stop. What could it be? Find out in this one-of-a-kind story about misunderstandings and forgiveness, and—of course—Potato Pants!

JUVENILE FICTION



The Tree and Me
by Deborah Zemke

The fourth chapter book in this quirky, beloved series focuses on teamwork in the classroom and care for the environment. There's a very special tree outside the window of Bea's classroom. When Bert, Bea's nemesis, climbs the tree, he gets in a lot of trouble leading to trouble for everyone. "Concerned" citizens proclaim the tree a hazard and call for cutting it down. Using Bea's artistic ability, the class works out a great plan to save the tree.

The Green Kingdom by Cornelia Funke



Twelve-year-old Caspia hates big cities, especially one as busy as New York. So, she isn't thrilled that her parents are taking her to stay in Brooklyn. But everything changes when Caspia discovers a bundle of letters hidden in an old dresser. Each letter contains a 'green' riddle, with clues leading to a different plant. The newest adventure from the award-winning author of *Inkheart* and *Dragon Rider*, Cornelia Funke, weaves magic into every sentence of this exciting mystery set in New York City.

JUVENILE NONFICTION

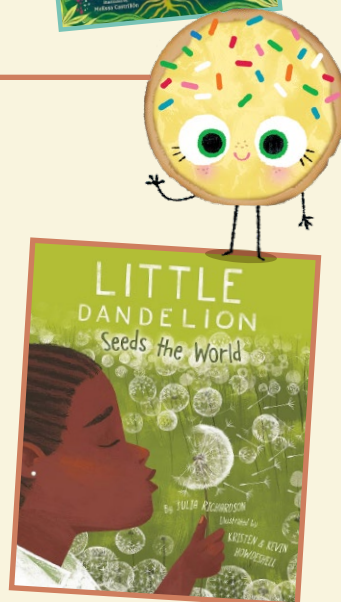


Flowers are Pretty Weird by Jacob Souva

Flowers are beautiful and bright, but that's not the whole truth. Flowers can be WEIRD...and one bee is here to let everyone know! Did you know that there are some flowers that only bloom in the nighttime? Some flowers are spooky, and look like ghosts, or bats, or a monster's mouth. And while most flowers smell good, there are some that smell like dead meat, or even horse poop!

Little Dandelion Seeds the World by Julia Richardson

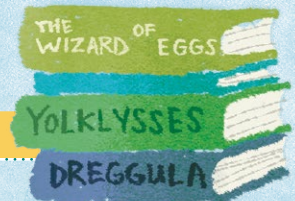
Did you know dandelions thrive on all seven continents? The cheery blooms are among the most resilient and adaptable in the world. In this lyrical book, learn how the crafty plant travels on the wind and hitchhikes in all manner of ways in order to spread far and wide.



KIDS PROGRAMS



- MOVIES
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- VIDEO GAMES
- BOOKS & STORIES
- GAMES
- IN THE GARDEN
- STEM ACTIVITIES
- EVENTS



ANNA MEYER

CREATIVE CRAFTERNOONS: 3-D GARDEN CREATURES

Mon., June 8 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Come get creative at the library and paint your own 3-D wooden garden creature that moves! It's a fun, hands-on craft kids will love!

CHILDREN'S CINEMA

Sat., June 13 | 12-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us for Children's Cinema Day at the library with family and friends! We're showing *Sonic the Hedgehog 3* (PG). Come enjoy the fun together!

MAKE IT & TAKE IT: SILLY SUMMER FRUIT MAGNETS

Fri., June 26 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Hey fruit fans, come turn your favorite fruits into silly magnets with big personalities! Make it, laugh at it, and take your fruity creation home with you!

CHILDREN'S CINEMA

Sat., July 11 | 12-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us for Children's Cinema Day at the library featuring *Lilo & Stitch* (PG)! Bring your family and enjoy a fun movie together!

CREATIVE CRAFTERNOONS: BIRD GLIDERS

Fri., July 17 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Kids can build and paint their own wooden bird glider, perfect for summer garden fun. Create it and watch it soar!

TOTALLY TWEENS: VELVET ART POSTERS

Mon., July 27 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Get creative at the library and color a velvet poster while enjoying relaxing music! A fun, artsy way to unwind and make something amazing.

CARVER-MCDONALD

SUMMER READING KICKOFF

Sat., June 6 | 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | FAMILY
Come register for Summer Reading and enjoy some fun!

MAKING BIRDHOUSES

Tues., June 9 | 10-11 a.m. | AGES 6-12
Make Craft Stick Birdhouses for bird season.

OUACHITA 4-H PETTING ZOO

Fri., June 12 | 11-12 p.m. | FAMILY
Bethany Corona from the Ouachita 4-H will bring the Petting Zoo.

PLANT A SEED!

Tues., June 23 | 10-11 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Plant seeds in flowerpot containers.

LOUISIANA PURCHASE GARDENS & ZOO

Tues., June 23 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Jody Nobles, Educational Director at the Louisiana Purchase Gardens & Zoo will bring and talk about the habitat of diverse animal species.

HAPPY BEE CRAFT KIT

Tues., July 14 | 10-11 a.m. | AGES 6-12
Make a Happy Bee Craft using a wooden spoon.

CARVER-MCDONALD

SPRING FLOWER BED

Tues., July 28 | 10-11 a.m. | AGES 6-12
Spring Flower Bed & Butterflies Craft Kit.

LOUISIANA PURCHASE GARDENS & ZOO

Tues., July 28 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Jody Nobles, Educational Director at the Louisiana Purchase Gardens & Zoo will bring and talk about the habitat of diverse animal species.

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

Tues., August 4 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Create a healthy afterschool snack.

FLYING AIRPLANES

Tues., August 18 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Make animal airplanes-Craft Kit.

LOUISE WILLIAMS

FLOWERPOT PAINTING

Sat., June 20 | 10-11 a.m. | AGES 6-12
We will have fun painting flower pots!

DRAGONFLY CRAFT

Sat., July 18 | 10-11 a.m. | AGES 6-12
Be creative with your dragonfly craft!

MAIN

ALL THINGS TWEEN: PLANT A SEED!

Thurs., June 4 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Come to the library and decorate a small pot to plant a seed in! All supplies, including seeds and dirt, will be provided.

ALL THINGS TWEEN: MINECRAFT GARDENING

Thurs., June 11 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Join us in starting a minecraft garden for the library! You can either play on the Switch 2 provided by the library, or join us from your own device. (Maximum of 4 players on one console)

WHIMSICAL WEDNESDAY: BLOOMIN' DIRT CUPS

Wed., June 17 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
Let's create and enjoy a delightful treat with a colorful addition of an edible flower! It's so much fun to make as it is to eat!

ALL THINGS TWEEN: CHILDREN'S DND ONE SHOT

Thurs., June 18 | 4-5:30 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Come to the library for a short and sweet plant-themed Dungeons and Dragons one-shot! Feel free to bring your own character sheet or pick from a set of pre-made characters provided by the host (all characters will be starting at level 1). Snacks will be provided!

MAIN

SUPER SIZZLERS

Sat., June 20 | 2-3 p.m. | AGES 8-12
We will be making foil paper sculptures.

MAKE-IT-MONDAY: MOSAIC SEED ART

Mon., June 22 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Join in the fun and create a beautiful work of art using a variety of seeds.

ALL THINGS TWEEN: GAME NIGHT

Thurs., June 25 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Game Night! Test your skills with an afternoon of board games, card games, or other group activities!

ALL THINGS TWEEN: FLOWER COLLAGE ART

Thurs., July 2 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Create a collage with flowers and other plants found around the area. Feel free to bring in your own supplies, but supplies will be provided.

WHIMSICAL WEDNESDAY: VEGGIE BINGO

Wed., July 8 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
How well do you know your veggies? Join us for a fun game of Bingo with special prizes.

ALL THINGS TWEEN: FLEXIBLE FUN FLOWERS

Thurs., July 9 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Join us for a fun craft where we get to paint and put together our own flowers from plastic and wire! Supplies will be provided.

WHIMSICAL WEDNESDAY: MINI GREEN HOUSES

Wed., July 15 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Make a mini greenhouse, plant a seed, and watch and observe it daily to see how it grows in it's own little greenhouse.

ALL THINGS TWEEN: MINECRAFT GARDENING

Thurs., July 16 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Join us in starting a minecraft garden for the library! You can either play on the Switch 2 provided by the library, or join us from your own device. (Maximum of 4 players on one console)

SUPER SIZZLERS

Sat., July 18 | 2-3 p.m. | AGES 8-12
We will be making 3D Art

ALL THINGS TWEEN: DND ONE SHOT

Thurs., July 23 | 4-5:30 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Come to the library for a short and sweet plant-themed Dungeons and Dragons one-shot! Feel free to bring your own character sheet or pick from a set of pre-made characters provided by the host (all characters will be starting at level 1). Snacks will be provided!

MAKE-IT-MONDAY: COOKIES AND CANVAS

Mon., July 27 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
If you like painting, let's get creative and paint colorful flowers to take home and enjoy. A special treat included.

ALL THINGS TWEEN: GAME NIGHT

Thurs., July 30 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Game Night! Test your skills with an afternoon of board games, card games, or other group activities!

HOMESCHOOL LIBRARY EXPRESS

Mon., August 17 | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Join us for Homeschool Library Express.

BOOKS & BUMPS

Wed., August 26 | 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | FAMILY
parents learn practical ways to support healthy nutrition for babies before birth and beyond.

OLLIE BURNS

PLANTING THE SUMMER READING SEED!

Sat., June 13 | 11-1 p.m. | FAMILY
Come enjoy sno cones, games, and more while registering for summer reading!

DAD ROCKS!

Thurs., June 18 | 4-6 p.m. | FAMILY
Celebrate dads and special father figures with a creative twist! Children will design a personalized "My Dad Rocks!" artwork using paint and real stones to create a heartfelt keepsake.



OLLIE BURNS

DIY BIRD FEEDERS

Thurs., June 25 | 4-6 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Create and decorate your own bird feeders using popsicle sticks, combining creativity with caring for nature.

DIGGING THE DIRT

Sat., July 11 | 1-3 p.m. | AGES 3-5
Dig into the world beneath our feet! Learn about soil and composting, create a fun dirt-themed craft, and enjoy a tasty "dirt cup" treat—all part of Plant A Seed, Read summer theme.

FAMILY FUN DAY!

Fri., July 17 | 11-1 p.m. | FAMILY
Ice cream, hot dogs, and outdoor water play! Join in on the family fun!

LET'S GET MOVING!

Thurs., August 6 | 4-6 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us for Just Dance and Danny Go! Get those summer wiggles out before its back to school!

PIPE CLEANER PLAY

Sat., August 8 | 1-3 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Explore your creativity using pipe cleaners to design and build unique creations in this fun, free-form crafting program.

OUACHITA VALLEY

SUMMER KICKOFF

Sat., May 30 | 1-3 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us as we celebrate the start of the Summer Reading Challenge with crafts, activities, games, and snacks!

CRAFTY TUESDAY

Tues., June 2 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
DIY Bean Plant Pot. Limited to 18. Register in person or call 318-327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.

CRAFTY TUESDAY

Tues., June 9 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Play Dough Stamping. Learn how to do a simple and fun play dough print making technique. Limited to 18. Register in person or call 318-327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.

POPCORN AND A MOVIE

Sat., June 13 | 3-4 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us for a movie screening of *Maya the Bee Movie* (G).

CRAFTY TUESDAY

Tues., June 30 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Bumblebee Canvas Painting. Limited to 18. Register in person or call 318-327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.

CRAFTY TUESDAY

Tues., July 7 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Canvas Painting: Learn to paint simple swirly flowers that are frame worthy.

POPCORN AND A MOVIE

Sat., July 11 | 3-4 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us for a movie screening of *Maya the Bee: The Honey Games* (G).

CRAFTY TUESDAY

Tues., July 14 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Come out and make your very own bug jars! Limited to 18. Register in person or call 318-327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.

OUACHITA VALLEY

CRAFTY TUESDAY

Tues., July 21 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Shrinky Dinks: Shrink! Shrank! Shrunk! Use your own artwork to make plastic keychains. Limited to 18. Register in person or call 318-327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.

CRAFTY TUESDAY

Tues., July 28 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Wooden Birdhouse Feeders. Limited to 18. Register in person or call 318-327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.

SEARCY MEMORIAL

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., June 2 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Make a 3-D insect craft.

MOVIE DAY

Sat., June 6 | 1-3 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us for a movie screening of *A Bug's Life* (G). Refreshments will be served.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., June 9 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Come make a cool pair of strawberry sunglasses.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., June 16 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Come decorate your own fruit bucket hat! Limited to 12. Register in person or call 318-327-1240 and ask for the Children's Department.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., June 23 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 3-5
Bugs! Bugs! Bugs! Come make a Bug Jar Glitter Globe.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., June 30 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Come make a "Berry" sweet picture frame.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., July 7 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Come make an adorable strawberry house complete with characters. Limited to 12. Register in person or call 318-327-1240 and ask for the children's department.

MOVIE DAY

Fri., July 10 | 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | FAMILY
In honor of Teddy Bear Picnic Day, join us for a movie screening of *Yogi Bear* (PG). Refreshments will be served.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., July 14 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 3-5
Come decorate a whimsical butterfly mask.

MOVIE DAY

Mon., July 20 | 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | FAMILY
Join us for a movie screening of *Antz* (PG). Refreshments will be served.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., July 21 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Come decorate a flower pot.

CRAFTING WITH MRS. AMY

Tues., July 28 | 3-4 p.m. | AGES 3-5
Come join us to make some wacky watermelon crafts!

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

LEGO CLUB

Mon., June 1 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
Make your own nature-inspired Lego mosaic or "plant" a Lego flower garden.

YOGA STORYTIME

Mon., June 15 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
Storytime with fun yoga games and creative activities that encourage mindfulness. Come read and move with us!

DRAWING ANIME CLASS WITH CLARA

Wed., June 24 | 2-3:30 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Learn to draw anime from local artist Clara Fowler. Only 20 spots available. Call 318-327-1382 for required registration sign-up. For teens and tweens only.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

LEGO CLUB

Mon., July 6 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
Let's use our Legos to celebrate our country's 250th birthday! Make an American flag or a fireworks mosaic with Legos.

SEED MOSAIC

Mon., July 13 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
Make a mosaic art piece using real seeds, beans, and grains.

DIAMOND ART

Wed., July 22 | 2-3:30 p.m. | AGES 9-12
Come make a cool diamond art creation. Only 20 spots available. Call 318-327-1382 for required registration sign-up. For teens and tweens only.

HERBOLOGY CLASS

Fri., July 31 | 4-5 p.m. | AGES 6-12
In honor of Harry Potter's birthday, we will have a fun herbiology class! Come learn a little about some common kitchen herbs and plant your very own sample to take home. Registration required. Call 318-327-1382 to register.

LEGO CLUB

Mon., August 3 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
Build a cool Lego set, complete a fun Lego challenge card, or free-build with Legos.

YOGA STORYTIME

Mon., August 17 | 4-5 p.m. | FAMILY
Storytime with fun yoga games and creative activities that encourage mindfulness. Come read and move with us!

WEST MONROE

DINO ADOPTION

Fri., June 5 | 1-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Choose a stuffed dinosaur with adoption paper. Limit 24. Call 318-327-1365 to reserve your spot!

DIY FLOWERPOT DECORATING

Mon., June 15 | 1-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Decorate your own pot for your plant.

PAINTING WINDCHIMES

Mon., June 29 | 1-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Paint veggie gang windchimes. Limit 24. Call 318-327-1365 to reserve your spot.

CHRISTMAS PAJAMA MOVIE

Mon., July 6 | 1-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Watch *The Grinch* (PG).

SUNCATCHER PAINTING

Fri., July 17 | 1-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Paint suncatcher flowers. Limit 24. Call 318-327-1365 to reserve your spot.

FLOWER PAINTING

Mon., July 27 | 1-2 p.m. | FAMILY
Paint wooden flowers. Limit 24. Call 318-327-1365 to reserve your spot.

FAMILY OPEN MIC TALENT SHOW

Sat., August 15 | 1-3 p.m. | FAMILY
Don't be shy! Show your talent: singing, dancing, poetry, and comedy! Refreshments provided.



TEEN TOP 6 BOOK PICKS

Bittersweet in the Hollow

by Kate Pearsall

Bittersweet in the Hollow pulls you into a small town where secrets run as deep as the surrounding forest and some of them can kill. Linden James can taste people's emotions, but after losing her memories during a terrifying night in the woods, she's left with only nightmares and questions as another girl turns up dead. As she digs into the truth with her sisters, and gets pulled back toward Cole Spencer, Linden must face a chilling mystery that might be more dangerous than anything hiding in the forest.



They Bloom at Night

by Trang Thanh Tran

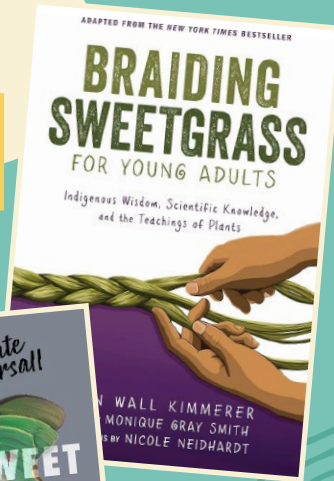
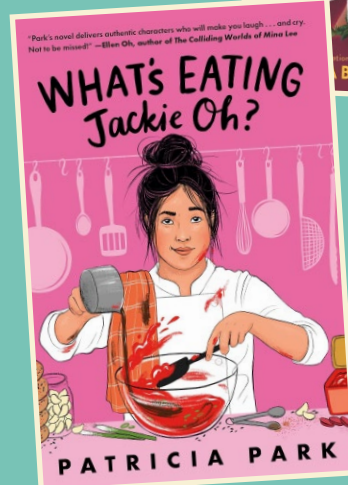
They Bloom at Night is a chilling, post-hurricane story where a strange red algae bloom has turned a small Louisiana town into something dangerous and alive. Noon is just trying to survive, but with people disappearing and something monstrous lurking beneath the water, she's forced to face both the town's secrets and the one growing inside her. Teaming up with Covey, Noon dives into a haunting mystery where the real question isn't if monsters exist, but who's becoming one.



What's Eating Jackie Oh?

by Patricia Park

What's Eating Jackie Oh? follows Jackie as she lands a spot on her favorite teen cooking show and juggles fierce competition, family expectations, and the pressure to define her identity on and off the plate. As the heat rises, Jackie must decide if success means following the rules or creating a flavor all her own.



Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults invites teens to see the world in a whole new way. Adapted by Monique Gray Smith from Robin Wall Kimmerer's bestselling work, it blends real science with powerful Indigenous wisdom about connection, respect, and caring for the earth. With thought-provoking questions, cool facts, and vibrant art by Nicole Neidhardt, this book challenges you to rethink your relationship with nature and your place in it.



Grow Your Groceries

by Simon Akeroyd

Grow Your Groceries will help you turn your kitchen scraps into a mini garden with fun, beginner-friendly growing hacks. From windowsill veggies to endless herbs, learn how to turn everyday leftovers into something fresh, green, and seriously cool.

With the Fire on High

by Elizabeth Acevedo

With the Fire on High is an inspiring story about chasing your dreams even when life says you can't. Emoni Santiago has a lot on her plate between school, family, and raising her daughter, but in the kitchen, her talent comes alive in a way she can't ignore. As new opportunities push her to take risks, Emoni must decide if she's ready to bet on herself and turn her passion into something bigger.



TEEN PROGRAMS

- MOVIES 🍿
- IN THE GARDEN 🌸
- ACTIVITIES & SOCIALS 🎮
- IRL GAMES ♟️
- VIDEO GAMES 🎮
- ARTS & CRAFTS 🎨
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 🐉

ANNA MEYER

- POM POM BOOKMARK**
Thurs., June 4 | 3-4 p.m.
Use yarn to create your own unique pom pom bookmark!
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Thurs., June 11 | 3-5 p.m.
Join us for an exciting Dungeons and Dragons one-shot! Bring your own character or select from a pre-made character sheet.
- DIY BIRD HOUSES**
Thurs., June 18 | 3-4 p.m.
Join us to decorate your own bird house!
- HOUSEHOLD**
Sat., June 20 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us as we play Household! This tabletop RPG, similar to D&D, focuses on exploring an abandoned house as a 'littling.'
- ESCAPE ROOM**
Mon., June 22 | 2-3 p.m.
Bring your friends and tackle our garden-themed escape room! Solve riddles and puzzles before time runs out.
- TEAPOT PLANTER**
Mon., July 6 | 3-4 p.m.
Decorate your own teapot planter! Registration is required. Call 318-327-1351 to secure your spot.
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Thurs., July 9 | 2:30-4 p.m.
Join us for an exciting Dungeons and Dragons one-shot! Bring your own character or select from a pre-made character sheet.
- CERAMIC CACTUS**
Thurs., July 16 | 3-4 p.m.
Decorate your own ceramic cactus!
- HOUSEHOLD**
Sat., July 18 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us as we play Household! This tabletop RPG, similar to D&D, focuses on exploring an abandoned house as a 'littling.'
- SUNCATCHER SUCCULENTS**
Thurs., July 23 | 3-4 p.m.
Decorate your own succulent suncatcher!
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Sat., August 8 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us for an exciting Dungeons and Dragons one-shot! Bring your own character or select from a pre-made character sheet.
- COLOR BY NUMBER**
Mon., August 10 | 3-4 p.m.
Bring your friends and enjoy a summer-themed color by numbers!
- BINGO**
Thurs., August 20 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Join us for a fun round of Bingo!

CARVER-MCDONALD

- PLANT A SEED BINGO**
Thurs., June 11 | 3-4 p.m.
Let's play an old fashion game of Bingo.
- POTATO POWER**
Sat., June 20 | 3-4 p.m.
STEM Saturday-Generate electricity using a potato.
- MOVIE MATINEE**
Thurs., June 25 | 3-4 p.m.
Enjoy the afternoon watching a movie.
- SEED ART**
Thurs., July 9 | 3-4 p.m.
Create unique art portraits using seeds of pumpkin, sunflower, beans, corn, rice, and lentils.



CARVER-MCDONALD

- EXPLORING LEAVES**
Sat., July 18 | 3-4 p.m.
Science Saturday-Observe how water travels through leaves.
- PLANT A SEED GARDENING**
Thurs., July 23 | 3-4 p.m.
Take pleasure in creating a garden of wildflowers.
- INTRODUCTION TO LIBRARY RESOURCES**
Sat., August 15 | 3-4 p.m.
Prepare for an exciting school year with helpful learning resources like Homework LA.
- GAME DAY**
Thurs., August 27 | 3-4 p.m.
Bring a friend to enjoy playing Nintendo Switch.

LOUISE WILLIAMS

- PERLER BEAD FLOWERS**
Wed., June 3 | 4-5 p.m.
Come join us and make perler bead flower magnets.
- PAINTING WITH A POP**
Wed., June 10 | 4-5 p.m.
Come join us and create a masterpiece on canvas.
- GAME NIGHT**
Wed., June 17 | 4-5 p.m.
Come join us for board games and snacks.
- BEAN MOSAIC ART**
Wed., July 1 | 4-5 p.m.
Enjoy creating Bean Mosaic Art with us.
- GAME NIGHT**
Wed., July 8 | 4-5 p.m.
Come join us for board games and snacks.
- MOVIE NIGHT**
Wed., July 15 | 3-5 p.m.
Come join Herbology class and watch *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (PG).
- PAINTING WITH A POP**
Wed., July 22 | 4-5 p.m.
Come join us and create a masterpiece on canvas.

MAIN

- CROCHET CLUB**
Thurs., June 11 | 3-4 p.m..
Start working on a veggie-themed amigurumi.
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Mon., June 15 | 3-5 p.m..
Grab your dice and jump into a fast-paced Dungeons & Dragons one-shot where your choices shape the story!
- CROCHET CLUB**
Thurs., June 25 | 3-4 p.m..
Continue working on a veggie-themed amigurumi.
- NOOK'S CRAFT CORNER**
Mon., June 29 | 3-4:30 p.m..
Visit a cozy Animal Crossing-inspired event where creativity meets island life! Make your own groynd, dig for fossils, and craft keepsakes while enjoying a relaxing, hands-on adventure.
- STARS, STRIPES, AND STORIES**
Wed., July 1 | 3-4:30 p.m..
Celebrate America's 250th birthday! Enjoy cake while learning about the Declaration of Independence, discovering the history of the American flag, and crafting quill pens and fabric flags. Plus, take home a special reading passport to travel across all 50 states through books and earn stickers along the way!



MAIN

- CROCHET CLUB**
Thurs., July 9 | 3-4 p.m.
Join our teen crochet club where we'll start working on a veggie-themed amigurumi.
- FAIRY GARDEN BOOK NOOK**
Mon., July 13 | 3-4:30 p.m.
Create your own miniature fairy garden and add a little whimsy to your shelf. Registration is required. Please call 318-327-1490 or register in person to secure your spot.
- CROP TOPS**
Wed., July 15 | 3-4:30 p.m.
Design and create your own fruit and veggie-themed patchwork t-shirt using colorful fabric pieces. Bring your own t-shirt to customize or use a provided one while supplies last.
- FUNGUS AMONG US**
Tues., July 21 | 3-4 p.m.
Attend a whimsical tea party and explore the role of mushrooms in literature with LSU PhD candidate Ms. Amber Jurgensen. White rabbits and Mad Hatters not included!
- CROCHET CLUB**
Thurs., July 23 | 3-4 p.m.
Join our teen crochet club where we'll continue working on a veggie-themed amigurumi.
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Mon., July 27 | 3-5 p.m.
Grab your dice and jump into a fast-paced Dungeons & Dragons one-shot where your choices shape the story!

OLLIE BURNS

- PLANTED PAGE-TURNERS**
Tues., June 2 | 2-4 p.m.
Blend creativity and literature by decorating a terra cotta pot inspired by your favorite book. Create a one-of-a-kind planter that celebrates the stories you love.
- BRUSH STROKES & TEA**
Tues., June 9 | 2-4 p.m.
Unwind with art and tea! Grab your besties, enjoy refreshing tea, paint, chat, and vibe in a fun, relaxed environment. Registration is required. Please call 318-327-1235 to secure your spot.
- LIT LOUNGE: GAME & CONNECT**
Tues., June 16 | 2-4 p.m.
Drop in and choose from our tabletop game collection & enjoy snacks and time with friends.
- MOSAIC ART**
Tues., June 23 | 2-4 p.m.
Chill & design an eye-catching mosaic masterpiece using cool, easy materials. Mix colors, play with patterns, & make something totally unique - your art, your vibe, your creation to take home!
- MOVIE & CHILL**
Tues., June 30 | 2-4 p.m.
Bring the family for a showing of *Gnomeo & Juliet* (G), a charming, animated adventure where garden gnomes come to life when humans are away. Popcorn & refreshments will be provided.
- BEAN MOSAICS**
Tues., July 7 | 2-4 p.m.
Transform beans into stunning art! All supplies & light refreshments will be provided. Registration is required. Please call 318-327-1235 to secure your spot.
- FAMILY FUN DAY**
Fri., July 17 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Ice cream, hot dogs, & outdoor water play! Join the family fun!
- LIT LOUNGE: GAME & CONNECT**
Tues., July 21 | 2-4 p.m.
Drop in and choose from our tabletop game collection & enjoy snacks and time with friends.
- NO BAKE BASICS**
Tues., July 28 | 2-4 p.m.
Make the ultimate 3-ingredient no-bake dessert. We'll turn Oreo™ cookies & cream cheese into decadent bites dipped in chocolate. Registration is required. Please call 318-327-1235 to save a spot!
- LIT LOUNGE: GAME & CONNECT**
Tues., August 11 | 4-6 p.m.
Drop in and choose from our tabletop game collection & enjoy snacks and time with friends.
- COLOR & PUZZLES**
Tues., August 18 | 4-6 p.m.
Unwind & ignite your creativity! Stop by to color, connect, & enjoy a relaxing, quiet activity with snacks.

OUACHITA VALLEY

- SUMMER ZINE/ JOURNALING**
Wed., June 3 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Start a summer zine or start journaling; Get tips for making zines!
- PERLER BEAD CHARMS**
Tues., June 9 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Use perler beads to make charms for keychains, bags, and more!
- DND ONE SHOT**
Wed., June 17 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us for an RPG adventure with a DND One-Shot! Bring your own character sheet, or have one of our pre-made ones to play! Players must have a complete character sheet to play.
- PAINT WITH A POP: ROCK ART EDITION**
Tues., June 23 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Paint rocks and sip on soda floats! Supplies are limited, so please RSVP by calling 318-327-1382 or email ccoldding@oplib.org!
- CROCHET CLUB**
Sat., June 27 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Come learn and craft with crochet!
- DIY FLOWER IMPRESSION DÉCOR**
Wed., July 1 | 2-4 p.m.
Use paint and press flowers onto CDs, clay, and canvases to make flower impression decorations! Supplies are limited, so please RSVP by calling 318-327-1382 or email ccoldding@oplib.org!
- GAME NIGHT**
Tues., July 7 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Come hang out with a variety of games and snacks!
- DND ONE SHOT**
Wed., July 15 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us for an RPG adventure with a DND One-Shot! Bring your own character sheet, or have one of our pre-made ones to play! Players must have a complete character sheet to play.
- POKEBALL TERRARIUMS**
Tues., July 21 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Grab a pokeball and add some faux flora and fauna to make a nice habitat for your pokemon! Supplies are limited, so please RSVP by calling 318-327-1382 or email ccoldding@oplib.org!
- CROCHET CLUB**
Sat., July 25 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Come learn and craft with crochet!
- MOVIE DAY**
Wed., July 29 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Come watch an afternoon showing of *Little Shop of Horrors* (PG-13); a 1986 cult classic featuring a flower shop owner and his mutant plant friend! Refreshments provided.
- DND ONE SHOT**
Tues., August 11 | 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Join us for an RPG adventure with a DND One-Shot! Bring your own character sheet, or have one of our pre-made ones to play! Players must have a complete character sheet to play.
- CROCHET CLUB**
Sat., August 22 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Come learn and craft with crochet!

SEARCY MEMORIAL

- IRON-ON PATCHES**
Thurs., June 4 | 4-5 p.m.
Color an iron-on patch to decorate your bookbag or clothes.
- DREAM CATCHERS**
Thurs., June 11 | 4-5 p.m.
Create a wood mandala dream catcher.
- JOURNAL COLORING**
Thurs., June 18 | 4-5 p.m.
Color your own journal.
- WIND CHIME**
Thurs., June 25 | 4-5 p.m.
Make a celestial wind chime.
- VIDEO GAME & VIBE**
Thurs., July 2 | 4-5 p.m.
Play games on the Nintendo Switch with friends.
- BIRD HOUSES**
Thurs., July 9 | 4-5 p.m.
Create a strawberry shaped bird house.
- MOVIE NIGHT**
Thurs., July 16 | 4-6 p.m.
Come watch *Gnomeo & Juliet* (G). Refreshments will be served.



SEARCY MEMORIAL

- FLOWERPOT DECORATING**
Thurs., July 23 | 4-5 p.m.
Come decorate a flower pot.
- BLANK CANVAS ART**
Thurs., July 30 | 4-5 p.m.
Using a blank canvas, create your own masterpiece.
- CONNECT 4 WATER WARS**
Tues., June 2 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Win a game of Connect 4 and then chase your friends with a water gun. Let the water wars begin.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., June 4 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- SUNCATCHERS**
Tues., June 9 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Paint your very own suncatchers.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., June 11 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- YARN PAINTING**
Tues., June 16 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Make a painting with yarn and glue on canvas.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., June 18 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- PARACORD SNAKES**
Tues., June 23 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Create your own play snake with paracord.
- DRAWING ANIME CLASS WITH CLARA**
Wed., June 24 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Learn to draw anime from local artist Clara Fowler. Only 20 spots available. Call 318-327-1382 for required registration sign-up. For teens and tweens only.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., June 25 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- MINI CRYSTAL GARDEN**
Tues., June 30 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Grow your own tiny crystals. Start a little crystal garden.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., July 2 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- PET ROCKS**
Tues., July 7 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Paint your pet rocks. Finally, a pet you don't have to clean up after.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., July 9 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- BEADED SUCCULENT PLANT**
Tues., July 14 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Create a fake plant that won't die on ya.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., July 16 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- GNOMING IT UP**
Tues., July 21 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Paint a little garden gnome.
- DIAMOND ART**
Wed., July 22 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Come make a cool diamond art creation. Only 20 spots available. Call 318-327-1382 for required registration sign-up. For teens and tweens only.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., July 23 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- PAPER MARBLING**
Tues., July 28 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Play around with colors while paper marbling.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., July 30 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., August 6 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., August 13 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., August 20 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.
- GAME ON THURSDAY**
Thurs., August 27 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Game with friends! Switch games, board games, card games, etc.

WEST MONROE

- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Mon., June 1 | 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Roll the dice and dive into adventure! Join our D&D session and explore epic stories with friends.
- DIY NATURE JOURNALS**
Wed., June 3 | 14:00-4 p.m.
Track your summer adventures! Make your own mini nature journal to record what you grow, cook, or read all season.
- MINI HERB GARDEN CUPS**
Wed., June 10 | 2-4 p.m.
Grow your own herbs! Decorate a cup, plant basil, parsley, or mint, and take home a mini garden for your kitchen or windowsill. Spaces limited, call 318-327-1365 to reserve a spot!
- PRESSED FLOWER LANTERN JARS**
Wed., June 17 | 4-5 p.m.
Create a glowing floral lantern using pressed flowers and jars. Perfect for adding a cozy, cottagecore vibe to your room. Spaces limited, call 318-327-1365 to reserve a spot today!
- FARMERS MARKET TOTE BAGS**
Wed., June 24 | 1-4 p.m.
Design your own reusable tote bag for books, snacks, or summer farmers market trips! Paint, stencil, and show off your style. Spaces limited, call 318-327-1365 to reserve a spot today.
- TEA TIME DIY: MIX YOUR OWN BLEND**
Wed., July 8 | 2-4 p.m.
Mix and match herbs to create your own custom tea blend. Take home your magical, fragrant creation to enjoy all summer! Spaces limited, call 318-327-1365 to reserve a spot today!
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Sat., July 11 | 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Roll the dice and dive into adventure! Join our D&D session and explore epic stories with friends.
- RECIPE ZINES**
Wed., July 15 | 2-4 p.m.
Make your own mini cookbook zine! Fill it with favorite recipes, snacks, or meals inspired by your favorite books.
- SEED BOMBS**
Wed., July 22 | 2-4 p.m.
Make wildflower seed bombs and bring color to your neighborhood! A fun, hands-on way to plant flowers and brighten your world. Spaces limited, call 318-327-1365 for a spot today!
- COLLAGE CREATIONS**
Wed., August 5 | 2-4 p.m.
Cut, layer, and glue magazines, scrap paper, and old book pages to make your own mini masterpiece. Freestyle or follow a theme; your creativity, your rules!
- DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**
Sat., August 8 | 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Roll the dice and dive into adventure! Join our D&D session and explore epic stories with friends.
- DIY STICKERS**
Wed., August 12 | 2-4 p.m.
Design your own stickers for notebooks, water bottles, or laptops!
- BOARD GAME NIGHT**
Wed., August 19 | 2-4 p.m.
Come hang out and play board games with friends! We'll have classic favorites and new games for everyone to enjoy.
- ORIGAMI FUN**
Wed., August 26 | 2-4 p.m.
Learn to fold fun shapes from paper! Take home your creations and use them to decorate your room or journals.



JOIN A BOOK CLUB!



BOOKS & BANTER MAIN BRANCH | 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Books & Banter is for romance lovers who enjoy good stories and even better conversations.

- Tues., June 2 *Late Bloomer* by Mazey Eddings
- Tues., July 7 *Savor It* by Tarah DeWitt
- Tues., Aug. 4 *Every Summer After* by Carley Fortune

CULTURE IN CONTEXT MAIN BRANCH | 5:30-7 p.m.

We discuss works written predominantly by authors that are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color).

- Tues., June 16 *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride
- Tues., July 21 *Faebound* by Saara El-Arifi
- Tues., Aug. 18 *Automatic Noodle* by Annalee Newitz

JUST READ SEARCY MEMORIAL | 10-11 a.m.

We discuss our favorite books of all genres. Join us at Just Read and discuss while enjoying cookies and coffee.

- Thurs., June 25 | Thurs., July 30 | Thurs., Aug. 27

BOOK CLUB OPEN HOUSE

Monday, June 8 from 5:30-7 p.m.
at Ouachita Valley Branch

Looking to connect with new book genres to laugh, cry, rage, and kick your feet under the covers to?

Join us for our 4th annual Book Club Open House! Come get to know our Adult and YA book club leads, sign up for the door prize, and more!

For teens and adults.

KETTLE & CAULDRON WEST MONROE | AT 4:30-5:45 p.m.

Where stories steep and conversations flow.

- Mon., June 15 *Three Bags Full* by Leonie Swann
- Mon., July 13 *Finding Flora* by Elinor Florence
- Mon., Aug. 10 *Murder by Cheesecake* by Rachel Ekstrom Courage

LOST IN THE STACKS MAIN BRANCH | 5:30-7 p.m.

Spans genres with member selected titles, this is where books and friends meet.

- Tues., June 9 *Marmee* by Sarah Miller
- Tues., July 14 *The Caretaker* by Ron Rash
- Tues., Aug. 11 *Marriage at Sea: A True Story of Love, Obsession, and Shipwreck* by Sophie Elmhirst

QUARTERLY READS: AN ONLINE BOOK CLUB FACEBOOK

Too busy to join a traditional book club? Try our Facebook group and check online to see what our quarterly read will be! Scan our QR code to join.



RAINBOW READS MAIN BRANCH | 5:30-7 p.m.

Rainbow Reads is an 18+ book club that celebrates diversity with books by and about our LGBTQ+ community members. For questions reach out to Ellen at emasters@oplib.org.

- Thurs., June 25 *Can't Spell Treason Without Tea* by Rebecca Thorne
- Thurs., July 30 *Libertad* by Bessie Flores Zaldivar
- Thurs., Aug. 27 *A Botanical Daughter* by Noah Medlock

TEEN BOOK CLUBS

GRIM READERS ANNA MEYER | 2-4 p.m.

A teen book club that discusses YA horror.

- Sat., June 27 *Gorgeous Gruesome Faces* by Linda Cheng
- Sat., July 25 *What We Harvest* by Ann Fraistat
- Sat., Aug. 22 *Dead Fake* by Vincent Ralph

READ WELL WITH OTHERS OUACHITA VALLEY | 1-2 P.M.

Join us at Read Well With Others Book Club as we read and discuss our favorites and recent reads.

- Sat., June 13 | Sat., July 11 | Sat., Aug. 8

SCIFI-FANTASY STERLINGTON MEMORIAL | 2-4 p.m.

We read and discuss great sci-fi and fantasy books with others that enjoy them too!

- Sat., June 27 *Isabella Nagg and the Pot of Basil* by Oliver Darkshire
- Sat., July 25 *The Surviving Sky* by Kritika H. Rao
- Sat., Aug. 22 *How High We Go in the Dark* by Sequoia Nagamatsu

THRILLING THURSDAYS MAIN BRANCH | 5:30-7 P.M.

Thrilling Thursdays discusses books with twists and turns that keep you on the edge of your seat.

- Thurs., July 16 *Forget Me Not* by Stacy Willingham
- Thurs., Aug. 20 *The Last One at the Wedding* by Jason Rekulak



DIGITAL LITERACY PROGRAMS

ANNA MEYER BRANCH

File Edit View Help

Space is Limited. Call (318) 327-1351 or email Nathan at nflores@oplib.org to register.

COMPUTER BASICS CLASS
Every Monday at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Learn computer basics and hone your skills to operate a computer.

PRACTICAL COMPUTER SKILLS
Every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Build on basic knowledge to learn practical and useful computer skills.

COMPUTER BASICS CLASS
Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Learn computer basics and hone your skills to operate a computer.

SMARTPHONE LITERACY
Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Learn more about smartphones including how to operate, navigate, and utilize them in effective ways.

MAIN BRANCH

File Edit View Help

INTRODUCTION TO LIBRARY APPS
Thursday, June 11 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Bring your phone or tablet and learn how to use the library apps Beanstack, cloudLibrary, and Hoopla in this class.

MICROSOFT WORD BASICS
Thursday, July 9 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Learn how to create text-based documents using Microsoft Word, as well as how to complete simple actions like saving, opening, and printing documents in this class.

MICROSOFT WORD FORMATTING
Thursday, August 13 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Learn how to format and align text, apply bullets or numbers, and adjust spacing within your Word documents in this class.



WHAT KIND OF DIGITAL RESOURCES ARE AT MY LIBRARY?

With e-Book and e-Audiobook collections at your local library, you can enjoy your favorite reads at home to beat the heat!

Use your library card and PIN number (last 4 digits of your telephone number) to:

- Access your OPPL account online
- Access Free Digital Apps

Convenient Services at Your Fingertips:

- Place or order items online for pickup at any of our 10 branches.
- Check out and return items at any location.
- Extend your checkout period by phone or online.

Access Free Digital Apps to enjoy books, movies, music, and more through:

- Hoopla
- Freegal
- cloudLibrary
- Kanopy

Easy Login Tips:

- Hoopla:** Library card number + password
- cloudLibrary:** Library card number + PIN (last 4 digits of your phone number)

CHECK OUT LOUISIANA STATE PARKS



CheckOutLouisiana.org



Check out a "Geaux Explore" backpack when you check out a free state parks pass with your library card!

Ouachita Parish Public Library is excited to offer patrons a great way to check out Louisiana's unmatched outdoor experiences.

Library patrons can check out a day pass for free admission to any Louisiana state park or historic site through **Check Out Louisiana State Parks**. The program is a partnership among Ouachita Parish Public Library, the State Library of Louisiana, Louisiana State Parks, and Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser. Launched in October 2024 with 19 original participating library systems, Check Out Louisiana State Parks now includes all 68 library systems in the state.

"In Louisiana, your library card unlocks more than just the outstanding resources of your local library," said State Librarian Meg Placke. "Through programs like Check Out Louisiana, it becomes a passport that connects you with our state's storied history, culture, recreation, and outdoor life. We're very happy to extend the state parks offering to all our public library systems and encourage cardholders to take advantage of this valuable benefit."

When patrons check out a parks pass, they can also borrow a Geaux Explore backpack that contains a set of binoculars, a compass, a magnifying glass, Leave No Trace outdoor ethics cards, and guides to Louisiana parks and wildlife.

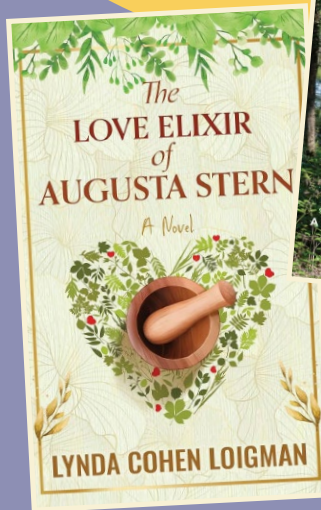
State parks or historic sites will keep the pass upon entry. Patrons must return the backpack and its materials to their library within a two week period.

Learn more about the program at CheckOutLouisiana.org

ADULT TOP 6 6 BOOK PICKS

The Love Elixir of Augusta Stern by Lynda Cohen Loigman

On the cusp of turning eighty, newly retired pharmacist Augusta Stern is adrift. When she relocates to Rallentando Springs—an active senior community in southern Florida—she unexpectedly crosses paths with Irving Rivkin, the delivery boy from her father’s old pharmacy—and the man who broke her heart sixty years earlier.

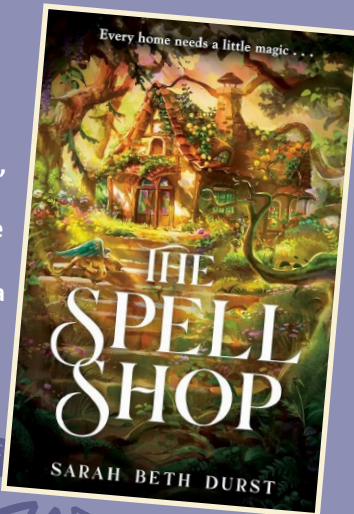


Bayou D'Arbonne Swamp: A Naturalist's Memoir of Place by Kelby Ouchley

Kelby Ouchley grew up near Bayou D'Arbonne and spent his professional life as a wildlife biologist and naturalist overseeing the national wildlife refuge. His connections to the landscape give him insight into the changes that have struck the swamp over the last century and the reasons behind this transformation. In this fascinating narrative, Ouchley offers a kaleidoscopic view of Bayou D'Arbonne that reveals its unique past and distinctive flora, fauna, and people.

The Spellshop by Sarah Beth Durst

Kiela has always had trouble dealing with people. Thankfully, as a librarian at the Great Library of Alyssium, she and her assistant, Caz—a magically sentient spider plant—have spent the last decade sequestered among the empire’s most precious spellbooks. When a revolution begins and the library goes up in flames, she and Caz flee with all the spellbooks they can carry. Kiela starts selling Jam, with the help of an old recipe book (and a bit of illegal magic) risking consequences of using unsanctioned spells.

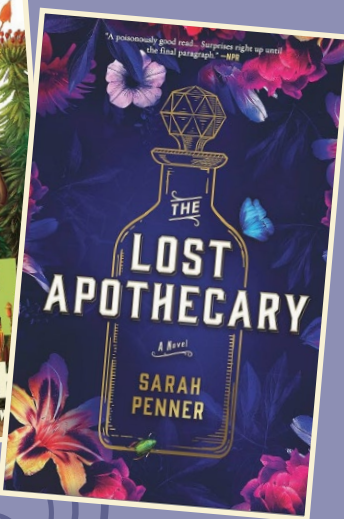


The Gardener's Plot by Deborah J. Benoit

After life threw Maggie Walker a few curveballs, she’s happy to be back in the small, Berkshires town where she spent so much time as a child. Marlowe holds many memories for her, and now it also offers a fresh start. Maggie has always loved gardening, so it’s only natural to sign on to help Violet Bloom set up a community garden. Until she finds a body in one of the plot’s on opening day.

Bog Queen by Anna North

When a body is found in a bog in northwest England, Agnes, an American forensic anthropologist, is called to investigate. But this body is not like any she has ever seen: Although its bones prove it was buried more than two thousand years ago, it is almost completely preserved. Soon Agnes is drawn into a mystery from the distant past, called to understand and avenge the death of an Iron Age woman more like her than she realizes.



The Lost Apothecary by Sarah Penner

Rule #1: The poison must never be used to harm another woman. Rule #2: The names of the murderer and her victim must be recorded in the apothecary’s register. At the back of a dark London alley in 1791 in a hidden apothecary shop, Nella awaits her newest customer. Once a respected healer, Nella now uses her knowledge to sell well-disguised poisons to desperate women who would kill to be free of the men in their lives.

ADULT PROGRAMS

CARVER-MCDONALD

- TEA & TALES**
Thurs., June 4 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Sip tea, enjoy scones, and connect through warm conversation and community.
- SUMMER READING KICK-OFF**
Sat., June 6 | 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Join us for our 'Plant a Seed, Read' Summer Reading Kick-Off with fun activities! Featured guest author, Jackie Jones.
- EXERCISE & WELLNESS**
Thurs., June 11 | 11 a.m.
Enjoy safe, low-impact activities that improve strength, balance, and flexibility, along with practical nutrition tips to support healthy living.

- GAMES
- D&D & RPG GAMES
- IN THE GARDEN
- MOVIES
- TALKS
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- HISTORY TALKS
- BOOKISH & WRITING
- EVENTS & SOCIALS
- HEALTH & WELLNESS

- FROM SEED TO COTTON TO QUILT**
Thurs., June 18 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Quilt Maker, Lena Kelley will demonstrate the steps in making a quilt and sample quilt patterns shown to patrons.

ANNA MEYER

- TABLETOP RPG**
Mon., June 8 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Join our tabletop RPG campaign! This session will continue our Fallout campaign.
- BOARD GAME NIGHT**
Mon., June 15 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Join us for some fun as we play board games!
- FLOWER POT & VASE PAINTING**
Tues., June 16 | 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Come paint a flower pot or vase to hold your favorite flowers!
- TABLETOP RPG**
Mon., June 22 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Join our tabletop RPG campaign! This session will continue our Dungeons and Dragons campaign.
- BINGO BONANZA**
Mon., June 29 | 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Join us for some rousing rounds of Bingo!
- TABLETOP RPG**
Mon., July 6 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Join our tabletop RPG campaign! This session will continue our Fallout campaign.
- BOARD GAME NIGHT**
Mon., July 13 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Join us for some fun as we play board games!
- GARDEN GNOME PAINTING**
Tues., July 14 | 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Come paint a decorative garden gnome for your garden!

- GARDENING: PLANT A SEED!**
Thurs., June 25 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LSU AgCenter, Kerry Heafner will discuss summer garden gardening.

- SOWING THE SEED**
Thurs., July 16 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LSU AgCenter, Kerry Heafner will discuss flower bed gardening tips.

- PLANT A SEED**
Thurs., July 23 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Use flowerpots and a variety of garden seeds to plant in a container.

- EXERCISE & WELLNESS**
Thurs., July 30 | 11 a.m.
Enjoy safe, low-impact activities that improve strength, balance, and flexibility, along with practical nutrition tips to support healthy living.

- GLAUCOMA: SILENT VISION LOSS**
Thurs., August 13 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Mabel Johnson-Mitchell, from Ochsner Monroe Medical Center, will discuss the importance of protecting your eyes and understanding symptoms of Glaucoma.

- COLORED PENCIL ART**
Thurs., August 20 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Leslie Calhoun will show how to use pencil colors to design a portrait.

- BOOK TALK & SIGNING: BULLYING**
Sat., August 22 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Rashad Bristo, Healthy Blue Community Relations Representative, will have a Book Talk & Signing of his new book, *Bullying: Putting the Pieces Together*.

LOUISE WILLIAMS

- FROM SEED TO SUPPER**
Mon., June 1 | 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
2026 Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff Program - From Seed to Supper. LSU AgCenter Agent, Cathy Agan will discuss how to grow food on a budget.

- SEED SWAPPING PROGRAM**
Mon., June 8 | 1-2 p.m.
LSU AgCenter Agent, Kerry Heafner will facilitate seed swapping.

- HERBS AND SPICES**
Thurs., June 11 | 1-2 p.m.
LSU AgCenter Agent, Cathy Agan shares healthy ways to use herbs and spices in recipes to reduce sodium intake.

- CONTAINER GARDENING**
Mon., June 22 | 1-2 p.m.
LSU AgCenter Agent, Kerry Heafner will demonstrate how to start container gardening.

- HERBS AND SPICES**
Thurs., July 9 | 1-2 p.m.
LSU AgCenter Agent, Cathy Agan shares healthy ways to use herbs and spices in recipes to reduce sodium intake.

LOUISE WILLIAMS

WHAT SHOULD I PLANT NEXT?

Mon., July 13 | 1-2 p.m.
Want to know what to plant and the best time to plant? LSU AgCenter Agent Kerry Heafner will explain when to do so.

COMPOSTING IS ESSENTIAL

Thurs., July 23 | 1-2 p.m.
LSU AgCenter Agent, Kerry Heafner will discuss how composting is essential to reducing waste.

MAIN

CAT'S TAIL GUILD

Thurs., June 4 | 5-7 p.m.
Join us for table-top one-shots!

WRITE CLUB

Mon., June 8 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Join Write Club and hone your craft.

HOOKS & BOOKS CROCHET CLUB

Tues., June 9 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Learn crochet basics or bring your own project - all needlework types welcome. A space for conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

BLOOM BOOM WORKSHOP

Wed., June 10 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Make balls out of shredded paper containing wildflower seeds to take on the go. Planting wildflowers has never been easier!

SHADOWBOX ART COLLAGE

Thurs., June 11 | 5-7 p.m.
We will be making paper frame shadow boxes to be filled with an artistic collage of dried flowers and other natural mediums.

CHRONICLES OF YARNIA CROCHET CLUB

Tues., June 23 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Learn crochet basics or bring your own project - all needlework types welcome. A space for conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

TEA 24/7

Wed., June 24 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Join us as we beat the heat with a cold brew tea tutorial and take-home kit! Call 318-327-1490 for required registration.

FOLDED BOOK VASES

Thurs., June 25 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Use old books to make a beautiful, unique vase. All materials will be supplied. Space is limited. Please call 318-327-1490 to register.

FROM 1776 TO 2026: CELEBRATING REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS WHO HELPED SETTLE THE HISTORIC OUACHITA RIVER AREA

Tues., June 30 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Join Genealogy and Special Collections staff as they "dig a little deeper" into the lives of historic characters who served the United States prior to the Louisiana Purchase.

HYPERTUFA FLOWERPOTS

Mon., July 6 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Hypertufa is an artificial stone material used to make durable, rustic, and DIY-friendly flowerpots that will last for years. Watch a demonstration of the mixing process and make a flowerpot of your own! Space is limited. Please call 318-327-1490 to register.

TERRACOTTA FAIRY GARDEN

Thurs., July 9 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Create your own indoor or outdoor fairy garden using terracotta pots and various plants. Call 318-327-1490 for required registration.

WRITE CLUB

Mon., July 13 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Join Write Club and hone your craft.

HOOKS & BOOKS CROCHET CLUB

Tues., July 14 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Learn crochet basics or bring your own project - all needlework types welcome. A space for conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

AFTER HOURS RECESS: HERBAL SOAP MAKING WITH SADÉ

Fri., July 17 | 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Hang out at the library after hours for our 18+ adult recess program series. This month, we will be learning how to craft soap with Jubilant Soapsétions! Call 318-327-1490 for required registration.

TEA IN THE AFTERNOON

Tues., July 21 | 1-2 p.m.
Join us as Ms. Amber Jurgensen, a PhD candidate in English at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, leads a discussion of the use of mushrooms (poisonous or otherwise) in literature. Call 318-327-1490 for required registration sign-up.

MAIN

STAMP ART

Thurs., July 23 | 5-7 p.m.
We will use custom made plant stamps to decorate fabric! Bring an item to decorate, but stamps and paint will be provided. (Ideal items for this project are shirts, tea towels, canvas tote bags, etc.)

SOUNDS OF SUMMER

Fri., July 24 | 1-2 p.m.
An afternoon of live music. Miriam Bennet returns on the Celtic harp to plant seeds of joy with a fresh summer repertoire.

CHRONICLES OF YARNIA CROCHET CLUB

Tues., July 28 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

CAT'S TAIL GUILD

Thurs., August 6 | 5-7 p.m.
Back from summer break! Join us for D&D and other table-top one-shots!

WRITE CLUB

Mon., August 10 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Join Write Club and hone your craft.

HOOKS & BOOKS CROCHET CLUB

Tues., August 11 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

AFTER HOURS RECESS: BOARD GAME NIGHT

Fri., August 21 | 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Hang out at the library after hours for our 18+ adult recess program series. BYOBG (bring your own board game) or play one of ours! Call 318-327-1490 for required registration.

CHRONICLES OF YARNIA CROCHET CLUB

Tues., August 25 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.

STORYBOOK STONES-PAINTING ACTIVITY

Wed., August 26 | 5:30-7 p.m.
Paint a concrete paver to look like your favorite book. Please call 318-327-1490 to register.

OLLIE BURNS

CHAIR ONE FITNESS WITH ZAKIYA

OLLIE BURNS

Every Mon., Tues., and Wed. in June. Regular classes will resume August 10th. From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Join us for 1 hour of invigorating dance fitness from a chair. You'll enjoy the music, movement, and fun. Sit while you get fit.

LINE DANCING NIGHT

Mon., June 8 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Join us for a night full of moving and two step!

PIECE TOGETHER THE NIGHT

Mon., June 15 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Join us for calm vibes with puzzles and good company.

PHOTO MEMORY BOARD

Mon., June 22 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Come out and piece lasting memories together.

SUNSHINE JOURNALING

Mon., June 29 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Shine within through peaceful journaling time.

ADULT GAME NIGHT

Mon., July 6 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Come out and join us for play, laugh, and enjoy games together.

OLLIE BURNS

KARAOKE POETRY NIGHT

Mon., July 13 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Come out and join us to sing quietly, share words, and shine.

MYSTERY CRAFT NIGHT

Mon., July 20 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Guess, create, and enjoy the surprise craft.

PAINT & RELAX

Mon., July 27 | 5-6:30 p.m.
Come out and join us for calm vibes with paint and creativity.

OUACHITA VALLEY

COMPOSTING

Wed., June 10 | 1-2 p.m.
Learn Composting with LSU AgCenter's Master Gardener, Kerry Heafner.

MOVIE MATINEE

Fri., June 12 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us for popcorn and the movie *Little Shop of Horrors* (PG-13)!

FINANCIAL LITERACY: MAKING HOUSING DECISIONS

Sat., June 13 | 2-3 p.m.
Learn about safe and affordable housing with Regions Bank representative, Patsy Meche. Call 318-327-1470 to register.

ADULT CRAFT: BIRD FEEDER

Mon., June 22 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Create your own Bird Feeder. Call 318-327-1470 to register.

HEIRLOOMS

Thurs., July 9 | 1-2 p.m.
Learn Heirlooms with LSU AgCenter's Master Gardener, Kerry Heafner.

MOVIE MATINEE

Fri., July 10 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us for popcorn and the movie *Jurassic World: Rebirth* (PG-13)!

FINANCIAL LITERACY: FUELING YOUR SAVINGS

Sat., July 11 | 2-3 p.m.
Learn how to maximize your savings with Regions Bank representative, Patsy Meche. Call 318-327-1470 to register.

MOVIE MATINEE

Mon., August 10 | 2-4 p.m.
Join us for popcorn and a movie! TBA.

SEARCY MEMORIAL

COLORING FOR FOCUS AND STRESS RELIEF

Thurs., June 4 | 2-3 p.m.
Join us as we relax, have a snack, and color the afternoon away!

MOVIE MATINEE

Thurs., June 11 | 2-4 p.m.
Spend the afternoon with us watching *The Martian* (PG-13).

COLORING FOR FOCUS AND STRESS RELIEF

Thurs., July 2 | 2-3 p.m.
Join us as we relax, have a snack, and color the afternoon away!

MOVIE MATINEE

Thurs., July 9 | 2-4 p.m.
Spend the afternoon with us watching *The Odd Life of Timothy Green* (PG).

COLORING FOR FOCUS AND STRESS RELIEF

Thurs., August 6 | 2-3 p.m.
Join us as we relax, have a snack, and color the afternoon away!

MOVIE MATINEE

Thurs., August 13 | 2-4 p.m.
Spend the afternoon with us watching *The Secret Garden* (PG) starring Dame Maggie Smith.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

BOTANICAL WATERCOLOR WITH ALEX OGLE

Wed., June 3 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Join local artist Alex Ogle as we paint flowers and other plants using watercolor. Call 318-327-1382 to register.

WEBINAR WITH US: LAW TALKS: PUBLIC BENEFITS

Tues., June 9 | 12-1:30 p.m.
Attorneys from Southeast Louisiana Legal Services will discuss what to know about public benefits like SNAP, WIC, and Social Security. The Q&A will follow the presentation.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

TERRACOTTA FAIRY GARDEN

Wed., June 17 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Create your own indoor or outdoor fairy garden using terracotta pots and various plants. Call 318-327-1382 for required registration.

BIEDENHARN MUSEUM TALKS: PLANTS OF THE BIBLE

Wed., July 1 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Join Ralph Calhoun, director of the Biedenharn Museum & Gardens, as he discusses plants of the Bible.

WEBINAR WITH US: LAW TALKS: DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & FEMA UPDATE

Tues., July 14 | 12-1:30 p.m.
Attorneys from Southeast Louisiana Legal Services will discuss what you need to know about disaster preparedness and give an update on FEMA. The Q&A will follow the presentation.

PLANT PAINTINGS WITH ACRYLIC

Wed., July 15 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Join local artist Alex Ogle as we paint flowers and other plants on canvas using acrylics. Call 318-327-1382 to register.

TOP 6 BOOK DISCUSSION

Wed., July 29 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Hey Readers, come discuss the Top 6 Summer Reading books. Whether you've read one or all of our Top 6 Books, join us to discuss.

WEBINAR WITH US: LAW TALKS: CHILD CUSTODY & VISITATION

Wed., August 12 | 12-1:30 p.m.
Attorneys from Southeast Louisiana Legal Services will discuss what to know about Child Custody & Visitation with Q&A to follow.

OPEN CANVAS PAINTING

Wed., August 19 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Bring your creativity and enjoy a relaxed acrylic painting session. There will be no step-by-step instructions or templates, just time to paint and unwind at your own pace. Call 318-327-1382 to register.

WEST MONROE

MUSICAL MORNINGS

Mon., June 1 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Come prepared for a dazzling showing of *Burlesque* (PG-13)!

BEFORE AND AFTER '79: A HISTORY OF MODERN IRAN

Wed., June 10 | 2-3 p.m.
Dr. Jennifer Dumas, Assistant Professor of Political Science at ULM, will be here to discuss Iran in the 20th and 21st centuries.

CREATE WITH HEATHER

Sat., June 20 | 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Join us as we take a "Cricut Crash Course" focusing on beginner friendly, hands-on learning.

DIY BUTTERFLY HOUSES

Wed., June 24 | 2-3 p.m.
Construct and decorate your own butterfly house. Register by phone at 318-327-1365.

DIY BIRDFEEDERS

Wed., July 1 | 2-3 p.m.
Construct and decorate your own birdfeeder. Register by phone at 318-327-1365.

BRING ON THE HEAT!

Wed., July 8 | 2-3 p.m.
Learn about plants that thrive in hot Louisiana summers from Mr. Kerry Heafner, LSU AgCenter Horticulture Agent.

MUSICAL MORNINGS

Sat., July 11 | 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Splash around with us for a viewing of the 2023 version of *The Little Mermaid* (PG)!

GARDENING WITH MS. FLESA

Mon., July 20 | 10:30 a.m.-11:30 AM
Master Gardener Flesa James, owner of Sweet Sarah Louise Nursery Farm, will discuss transplants and succession planting in the garden.

MUSICAL MORNINGS

Sat., August 8 | 11 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
Grease is the word and the movie...Come watch *Grease* (PG)!



FROM
THE
ARCHIVES



Biedenharn Family Home in 1998



Biedenharn family during a celebration of the opening of their new Coca-Cola plant in Monroe

THE BIEDENHARN FAMILY

The Biedenharn family has deep roots in Ouachita Parish. Brothers Joseph, Herman, and Henry were the first Biedenharn men to come to America from Germany. Joseph was already in America when Herman made the voyage to the new world, arriving in New Orleans, then traveling to Farmerville and Monroe. He married Louisa Lundberg in Monroe, Louisiana in 1862. Herman made boots and shoes for the Confederate army and was in Vicksburg when the war ended. Louisa left Monroe and joined him in Vicksburg where they made their home after the war. Herman continued to make boots and shoes and then bought a retail candy firm. Herman convinced his brother Henry to join him in America to help with the confectionery store.

Herman and Louisa had seven sons: Joe, Will, Harry, Lawrence, Herman, Ollie, Albert, and a daughter

Katherine. Joe followed in his father's footsteps and learned to mend boots and shoes, but he really found his place at Uncle Henry's candy store. He went to work full time for Uncle Henry at the age of 14. He loved the marble soda fountain and kept it shining and bright. He enjoyed mixing soda and realized that the secret was in the blending. Coca-Cola, created by Dr. J.S. Pemberton, had been introduced to the public in 1886 and it was popular at the soda fountain. When Henry Biedenharn died in 1888, he left his share of the candy store to Joe. So, the store, Biedenharn and Brother became Biedenharn and Son. Joe married Annie Schlotman in Vicksburg in 1889. He and Anne had sons Henry, Alvin, Malcolm, and Bernard William, and a daughter, Emma Louise, also known as Emmy-Lou. Henry continued to work in the candy store and was also a traveling salesman for the candy company. Joe decided to go into the bottling business and in

1894, he first bottled Coca-Cola. By 1913, the Biedenharn brothers realized more Coca-Cola territory would be good for business. Ollie and Albert moved to run the territories in Louisiana and Texas, while Joe bought the Monroe Coca-Cola Bottling plant to begin teaching his young sons the business. The other Biedenharn brothers remained in Vicksburg. Joe Biedenharn was back in the town where his parents, Herman and Louisa first met, fell in love, and married.

Joe and Anne built their family home at 2006 Riverside Drive, Monroe, Louisiana in 1914. ElSong stands for Emmy-Lou's Song as the gardens were developed by daughter Emmy-Lou when she returned home from a successful singing career in Europe that was interrupted by World War II in 1939. The historic, formal English-style garden contains five iron statues each weighing 1,700lbs. that she found in New Orleans. They had fallen neglected in an old garden and were badly rusted. The hallmark showed they had been cast in England and supposedly they were brought to Louisiana from Italy before the Civil War. The Bible Research Center, also developed by Emmy-Lou, opened in 1971 with the acquisition of an 1848 Wycliffe edition Bible. There are early English Bibles including a Geneva 1560, the Great Bible of 1539, a 1454-55 Gutenberg leaf, a 1611 King James Bible, pages from the first two Bibles printed in the future United

States, and other Bible artifacts. Biedenharn Museum and Gardens is ranked 5th among the most beautiful parks in Louisiana and is always a popular spot for tourists. Many wedding and prom photographs are also taken in the gardens.

In addition to Coca-Cola and the Biedenharn Museum, the Biedenharn family was involved in Delta Airlines. Malcolm Biedenharn, one of Henry Biedenharn's sons, was one of six Ouachita Parish residents who established the airlines in 1929. The Biedenharn family influence is credited with keeping Delta Airlines stockholders' meetings in Monroe until 1996 even though the headquarters had moved to Atlanta in 1941.

Much of this information on the Biedenharn family was published in Biedenharn Heritage by Emma Louise Biedenharn, available at the Ouachita Parish Public Library Special Collections SC La 929.2. Genealogy vertical and biography files also contain information on the Biedenharn family and Biedenharn images are available in the Louisiana Digital Library - see below:

Biedenharn Home <https://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/islandora/object/state-lfc%3A1576>

Biedenharn Family <https://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/islandora/object/oplib-mac%3A17>





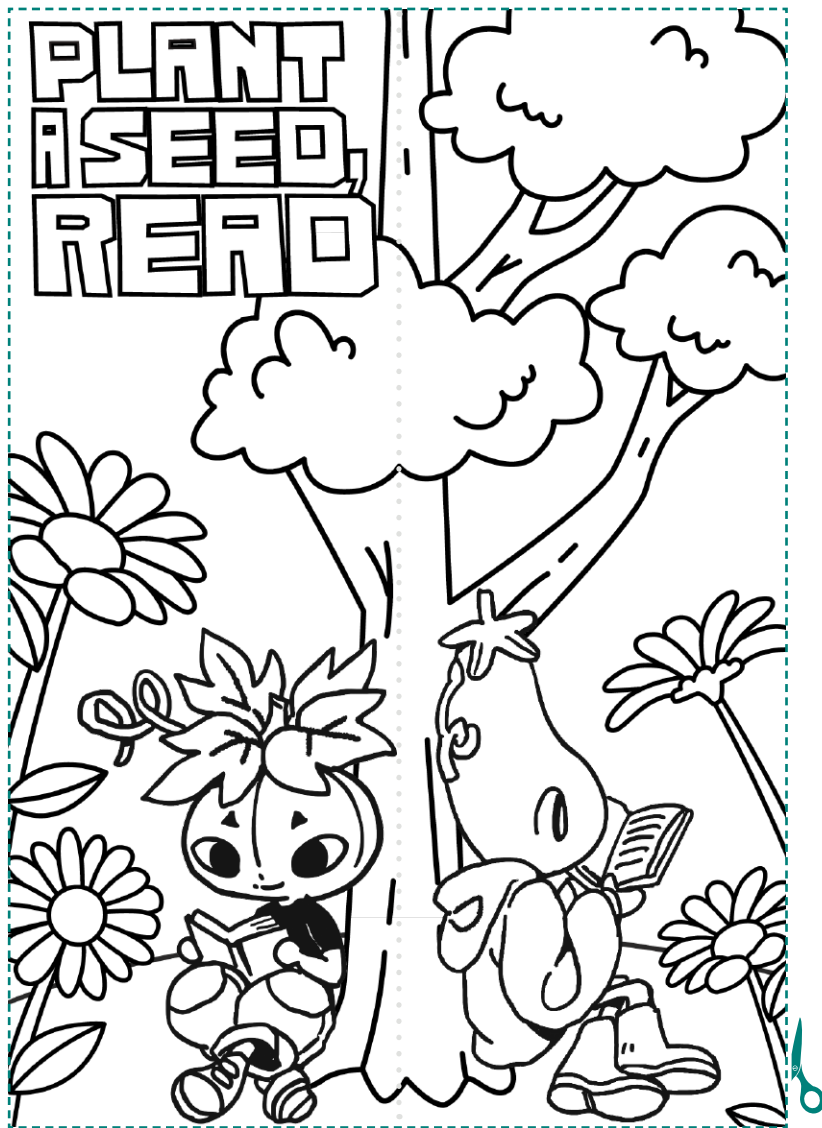
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