

Librarian's Shelf by Brad Hruska

### Build a Better World @ the Columbus Public Library!

Though the weather may not reflect the fact that summer is just around the corner, Lemonade Season is indeed coming and the Columbus Public Library (CPL) is ready with this year's summer reading program, "Build a Better World"! Every week beginning June 5<sup>th</sup> until July 28<sup>th</sup>, the library will be hosting a wide range of events.

On Mondays from 10:30 a.m.-noon, family-friendly features will be shown in the library's auditorium. Children of all ages are encouraged to come with pillows and blankets in tow for these awesome animated flicks. Tasty treats will also be provided to make the experience even more exciting!

On Tuesdays, presentations and activities are scheduled from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at various locations around Columbus. Area youth will have the opportunity to learn and engage with the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo's "Zoo2You" program, the Columbus Police and Fire Departments' safety presentation, the Edgerton Explorit Center's "Bubble Extravaganza" event, Wildlife Encounters' exotic petting zoo, and shows featuring comedian Kevin Horner and magician Jeff Quinn.

For those students that just completed the third through fifth grades; Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. are especially geared for them. CPL has partnered with the Platte County 4-H to provide fun opportunities to help participants hone important S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills. "CPL Imagination Builders" is a hands-on program that will allow students to construct roller coasters, design wind turbines, conduct simulated surgical procedures, and craft the perfect pizza with help from Pizza Ranch team members.

CPL will also be offering its regular story times on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m.-noon and 1:30-3 p.m. Children will have the privilege of listening to books read by talented guest readers. Families will also have the chance to enjoy a fun story time at the Platte County Fair on Friday, July 7.

To conclude this year's festivities, summer reading participants will be invited to race down the slides, enjoy the lazy river, and test their surfing skills at Columbus' own Pawnee Plunge for free the morning of Friday, July 28. After splashing around for a time, hungry swimmers will be treated to a hotdog and potato chip luncheon served up by the amazing members of the Friends of the Columbus Public Library.

Because the 2017-18 school year will not begin until after Labor Day for some students, the library will also be offering weekly events during the month of August, so keep an eye out for details soon to come!

So if you are looking for quality activities for the children in your life, stop by the Columbus Public Library and register them for this year's "Build a Better World!" event. If you have any questions regarding CPL's summer agenda or are looking for recommendations on what books would be best suited for your child to read during the summer months, please contact me at (402) 564-7116 opt. 4!