

Librarian's Shelf  
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Still Building a Better World @ your library™

Columbus area teens are encouraged to participate in the Columbus Public Library's teen summer reading program that runs until July 28. Young adults entering 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to come to the library and read for prizes and take part in special events offered throughout the summer.

Registration continues on the second floor of Columbus Public Library in the Teen Space. Participants complete a registration form and receive a reading log to track the amount of time they read each week. Teens will also receive a summer reading program calendar to keep track of all of our weekly events, as well as our Anytime Activities.

A new craft or activity is available each week in the Teen Space. "Anytime Activities" can be done any time participants visit the library. Our activities for the rest of July are "Book in a Jar" and "Guess Where." Instructions for all Anytime Activities will be posted weekly in the Teen Space.

From now until July 27, the Teen Space hosts an activity each Tuesday and Thursday at 1:00 p.m. On Tuesday and Thursday July 18 and 20, we will create stop motion animation. This two-day workshop has become a favorite of teen summer readers.

The following week we will explore the art of mehndi. This intricate and beautiful art form uses henna to stain the skin and create a temporary "tattoo." Participants need a guardian's permission to apply henna and forms are available in the Teen Space. On Thursday, July 27, teens will prepare two sweet snacks to enjoy with a "classic" movie.

Summer readers who have actively participated in the program will be eligible to attend our wrap-up party at Pawnee Plunge at the end of the summer. The Plunge will open exclusively for summer readers and participants can enjoy a picnic lunch in Pawnee Park afterward.

Young adults must have completed sixth grade in order to register for the teen program. Complete details are available in the Teen Space and our teen summer reading calendar is available at [www.columbusne.us/library](http://www.columbusne.us/library).

Summer fun doesn't end when the summer reading program concludes. August is a month of making in the Teen Space. Each Tuesday and Wednesday, patrons can drop in any time between 10a.m. to 4p.m. and use one of our special technology or making kits. The library will provide snacks throughout the day.

On August 1, teens can come in and use our button making kits. There are a variety of button styles to choose from including pins, mirrors, keychains, and magnets. I will also provide some challenges and examples if a visitor isn't feeling particularly crafty that day and needs some inspiration.

The following day, visitors to the Teen Space get to play with playdough and electricity. "Squishy Circuits" is an activity that uses insulating and conducting dough, LEDs, motors, and buzzers for sculptures. When assembled correctly, adding a battery pack makes the sculpture come to life. This was a popular activity during the teen summer reading program and is an additional opportunity for patrons to tinker with circuits.

A full list of August activities for teens is available in the Teen Space and on our website. The library provides summer reading incentives and year-round events for all age groups. Stop by or call the library at 402-564-7116 for information about our programs for everyone.