

Librarian's Shelf by Brad Hruska

Library Fun during the 2018-19 School Year!

Many think a majority of the Columbus Public Library's children's programming takes place during the summer; however, that is not the case. The Columbus Public Library (CPL) conducts more diverse programming during the school year.

Story Time is a traditional library program offered by public libraries; however, CPL has taken this program to the next level by giving it a twist and renamed it Story Time/ART. The way this program, which began on August 23rd, operates is one week, families enjoy Story Time, consisting of a 30-minute book reading followed by an hour of learning activity time. Before leaving, children receive a colorful balloon animal.

During the following week, participants take part in StoryART. This program flows about the same as Story Time; however, after the 30-minute book reading, little ones have the opportunity to make a fun craft, which ties in with that day's theme. CPL's Story Time/ART program takes place every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

"Monday Night Book Adventures", which kicks off on September 10th, is another program that families can enjoy during the 2018-19 school year. This program, which takes place the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 6:30-7:30 p.m., is geared for students in pre-k through 3rd grade. Participants listen to entertaining stories, make cool crafts, and leave with a delicious bedtime snack!

CPL's "Super Sensational Saturdays" program, which occurs one Saturday a month, focuses on those students in pre-k through 4th grade. The atmosphere for this program, which begins on September 29th, is laid back. Families come between 10 a.m.-noon and take part in three to four activities, including an edible craft.

CPL also conducts outreach to area schools and daycare facilities. Children enjoy songs, finger plays, and poems, as well as three to four terrific stories. Some of the sites involved in CPL's outreach program include Columbus Head Start and various Columbus Public School classes. If you would be interested in having the library visit your school or daycare once a month, please give me a call.

The library also provides tours to organizations during the school year. Tours consist of visitors being shown the different areas of the facility like the computer lab, Teen Space, and Children's Room. Participants are then entertained with an engaging story time. Groups interested in scheduling a tour need only contact me to make arrangements.

So as you can see, the Columbus Public Library's Children's Department does not slow down during the school year. We continually strive to find new ways to keep children reading and engaged in the library! If you have any questions regarding the programs offered by CPL or would like to learn more about our monthly outreach program, please contact me at (402) 564-7116 opt. 4.

Don't forget that the Columbus Public Library's Children's Department offers a monthly calendar that showcases the many events that take place in the Children's Room. To have this informative agenda sent to your inbox, please email me at bhruska@columbusne.us.