

Librarian's Shelf by Brad Hruska

Summer Fun for Everyone!

Registration for Columbus Public Library's, "A Universe of Stories" summer reading program is still taking place, so families have time to sign up for the out-of-this-world festivities. Participants will enjoy animated Monday movies; learn from insightful Tuesday presentations conducted by Wildlife Encounters, the Omaha Children's Museum, and the Edgerton Explorit Center; and hear wonderful Thursday tales told by wonderfully talented guest readers.

Students entering the fourth-sixth grades can also participate in the Wednesday tween program entitled "CPL Space Explorers." This program, a partnership between CPL and Columbus 4-H, allows upper-elementary students to learn about the universe and space travel, while launching rockets and cooking up tasty Pizza Ranch pizzas.

Families unable to participate in this year's reading program are welcome to enjoy the library when it works best for them. CPL's Children's Room provides youth with anytime activities like our LEGO and Coloring Tables.

Parents and little artists can use the Coloring Table, which supplies crayons and coloring pages to those who like coloring the hours away. Families can take their paper designs home or they can display them for all to see.

Young builders can hone their engineering skills at the library's LEGO Table and can construct to their hearts' content, using LEGO Duplos. The possibilities are endless when it comes to what innovative minds can create. Cars, bridges, rockets, and even unique sea creatures have been made in the LEGO Zone.

Child-friendly AWE computers and iPads are also located in the Children's Room. These devices are preloaded with educational games that assist children in learning basic concepts like number recognition, phonics, and elementary-level science.

Parents and children are also welcome to fly the family-friendly skies at the Columbus Public Library, using one of six library drones. These tech items are for in-house use only and are limited to being flown in the children's space. The drones can be used to teach students the basic skills of operating these specialized aircrafts, and avid flyers can use the drones to fine-tune their navigating skills by challenging themselves with the library's indoor drone obstacle course.

To access the drones, patrons must have a CPL library card and provide a photo ID. Library staff needs to be present when drones are flown and minors are required to have a guardian present when flying.

So if you're looking for engaging summer fun, look no further than the Columbus Public Library. Our 2019 summer reading program, "A Universe of Stories," is guaranteed to provide area children with events and activities that they are sure to enjoy. The library also has awesome activities that families can partake in at their leisure. If you have any questions about the great summer fun that can be had, contact me at (402) 564-7116 opt. 4.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

"Space Exploration with the Edgerton Explorit Center" on Tuesday, July 2 at 10:30 AM

"Seuss-Sational Science" on Tuesday, July 9 at 10:30 AM

"Wildlife Encounters' Universe of Creatures!" on Tuesday, July 16 at 10:30 AM