

Librarian's Shelf
Rachelle McPhillips

Unmask More Heroic Fun @ your library™ This Summer

Columbus area teens are encouraged to participate in the Columbus Public Library's teen summer reading program that runs until July 24. Young adults entering 7th through 12th 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 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 July include a superhero craft, puzzle creation, and an opportunity to earn extra chances for prizes by participating in our "Read-In." Instructions for all Anytime Activities will be posted weekly in the Teen Space.

From now until July 24, the Teen Space hosts an activity each Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. and Thursday at 2:00 p.m. On Wednesday, July 1, crafters will decorate special sheets of plastic that shrink in the oven. The superhero emblems they create with this shrinking plastic can be used as charms on keychains, necklaces, and bookmarks. On Thursday, July 2, visitors to the Teen Space will test their superhero trivia knowledge with a Jeopardy-style game.

On Wednesday, July 8, 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 parental permission to apply henna and forms are available in the Teen Space. On Thursday, July 9, teen summer readers can craft a "survival" bracelet from parachute cord. This special, lightweight cord has separate strings inside a nylon sheath that can be used for a multitude of purposes in survival situations. It also makes a really cool looking bracelet.

We will create stop motion animation on Wednesday and Thursday, July 15-16. The following Wednesday, we will deconstruct small stuffed animals and sew them back together in various combinations to make mutant toys. On Thursday, July 23, teens will prepare two sweet snacks to enjoy with a classic "scary" movie.

Young adults 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 and www.facebook.com/columbuspubliclibrary.

If you have questions about the summer reading program, or if you are interested in supporting teen events, please call Rachelle at 402-562-4201 or stop by the library.

Summer reading events and incentives are available for all age groups. Stop by or call the library at 402-564-7116 for information about our programs for children and adults.