CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF BPL!

Keep an eye out for events throughout the year celebrating our 50 years of service to Bloomingdale! We'll let you know all of our events, presentations, and displays via our website, Village Almanac, in the library, and via our eNews.

To subscribe to our enewsletters, visit https://bit.ly/mybpl-enews-signup

McDonald's Storytime (Drop-In)
Families
Tuesday, March 4 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Join us at the Bear Family McDonald's for a storytime and a special surprise. This McDonald's is located at 72 Stratford Square Drive in Bloomingdale.

TAX*time*

Federal and State Tax Forms

The library has common federal income tax forms available to the public. Other forms may be printed at the library.

To order additional federal forms, call the IRS at 1-800-829-3676 or download forms online at www.irs.gov/forms-instructions

To order state forms, call the Revenue Department at 1-800-356-6302 or download forms online at tax.illinois.gov

WEISS FINANCIAL RATINGS

BPL cardholders now have access to **Weiss Financial Ratings**, giving you independent, unbiased financial strength ratings of banks, credit unions, insurance companies, Medicare, and investment options.

Access this new service through our website at https://mybpl.org/databases#bus and click on Weiss Financial Ratings.

50
1975 • 2025
BLOOMINGDALE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
February & March 2025

SPRING BREAK
programs for kids of all ages
March 31 - April 4

Monday

📅 *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* **Book Party**
Grades 3-6
Monday, March 31
3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

📅 **Learn to Use a Sewing Machine**
Grades 4-6
Monday, March 31
6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday

Craft Time (Drop-In)
Families
Wednesday, April 2
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Explore with Your Senses (Drop-In)
Under 3 years old with caregivers
Wednesday, April 2
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Friday

📅 **Toddler Dance Party**
18 months to 36 months
Friday, April 4
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

📅 VIRTUAL: Bob Hope – American Smart Aleck

Monday, February 10 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Bob Hope was one of the most iconic figures of the 20th century, conquering stage, radio, film, and television. Join film expert Steven Frenzel in discovering Hope's groundbreaking work and humor.

📅 VIRTUAL: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin

Monday, February 24 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Art historian Jeff Mishur returns to discuss Horace Pippin, a World War I veteran who overcame adversity to become a professional folk-inspired artist and a part of the Harlem Renaissance.

📅 VIRTUAL: Life on the Cumberland Road

Tuesday, February 25 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

As the first wagon road leading over the Allegheny Mountains, the Cumberland Road became a heavily used route between the eastern seaboard and the emerging states west of the mountains. Explore the original route to Wheeling, WV and see how it travels to Vandalia, IL with outdoor enthusiast John Lynn.
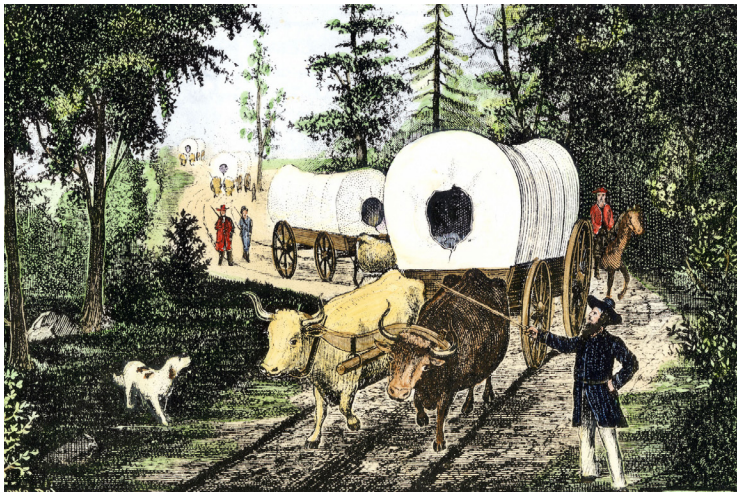
📅 Crochet for Beginners (ages 14+)

Thursdays, March 6 & 13 | 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
registration begins Monday, February 10 (limit 8)

Come ready to learn the basics of crochet with step-by-step instruction. This is a two-part program. Ages 14 and up. Materials provided.

📅 VIRTUAL: Luck of the Irish – A St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Monday, March 10 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

March is the perfect time to celebrate our favorite Irish-American actors with great stories, dancing, and music. Gene Kelly, Maureen O'Hara, James Cagney, Donald O'Connor, and many more will help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day! Hosted by film expert Steven Frenzel.
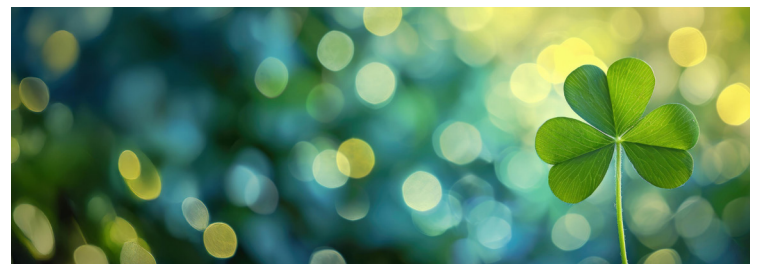
📅 VIRTUAL: The Art of Ruth Asawa

Monday, March 24 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

First introduced to art education in a Japanese internment camp, artist Ruth Asawa achieved success by creating handmade wire sculptures as well as figural public art (especially fountains). She was also a passionate activist for education in the arts. Presented by art historian Jeff Mishur.

📅 VIRTUAL: Life on the Missouri River

Tuesday, March 25 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

The Missouri River flows 2,321 miles from its origin at Three Forks, Montana to the Mississippi River. Travel with John Lynn and experience the adventure of paddling every mile through seven states.

bpl makerspace crafts

Registration Information:
4 per session, ages 12 to adult, BPL card and computer experience required. *Please sign up for one session only.*

📅 Custom Stickers

Create custom stickers using Cricut's Print Then Cut feature. Registration opens Monday, February 10 at 9:00 a.m.

Monday, March 10 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Monday, March 24 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 17 | 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 22 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

ONGOING ADULT PROGRAMS

Genealogy Club (Drop-In)

Wednesdays, February 19 & March 19 | 6:30 – 8:45 p.m.

Join us in person to learn about internet and archival genealogy and research support. Members share strategies and explore library resources with guidance from genealogy librarian Leslie Drewitz.

📅 Great Decisions

Wednesdays, February 19 & March 19 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

The Great Decisions discussion program is a civic education program administered and produced by the Foreign Policy Association. Contact Julie Deeke at jdeeke@mybpl.org for more information.

Programs

I-PASS On Demand Event (Drop-In)
Tuesday, March 11 | 3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

The Illinois Tollway's **I-PASS On Demand** team will be on hand to help you with your I-PASS needs including:

- opening an account
- adding new license plates
- receiving/activating your new sticker tags
- I-PASS Assist Program

Please bring your vehicle plate number.
Please note: there may be wait times.

This event is co-sponsored by State Senator Seth Lewis, State Representative Jennifer Sanalitro, and the Village of Bloomingdale.

DROP-IN MOVIES

It Ends With Us (PG-13)
Wednesday, February 12 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

When a woman's first love suddenly reenters her life, her relationship with a charming but abusive neurosurgeon is upended and she realizes she must learn to rely on her own strength to make an impossible choice for her future.

Enjoy our **Drop-In Movie** and enter for a chance to win a copy of that day's movie on DVD. Movie giveaway will be held following the conclusion of the movie and you must be present to win.

The Wild Robot (PG)
Wednesday, March 12 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

After a shipwreck, an intelligent robot called Roz is stranded on an uninhabited island. To survive the harsh environment, Roz bonds with the island's animals and cares for an orphaned baby goose.
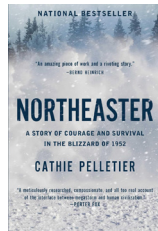

HISTORICAL BOOK DISCUSION

To register, email Julie Deeke at jdeeke@mybpl.org.

Northeaster: A Story of Courage and Survival in the Blizzard of 1952
by Cathie Pelletier

Tuesday, February 4
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Six: The Untold Story of America's First Women Astronauts
by Loren Grush

Tuesday, March 4
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

book discussion groups

Selections are available at the Circulation Desk one month in advance of the discussion. If you have any questions, please call the Reference Desk at (630) 924-2730.
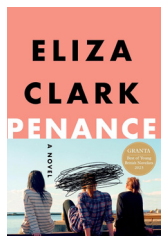
MONDAY NIGHT PAGE TURNERS

To register, email Jessica Frazier at jfrazier@mybpl.org.
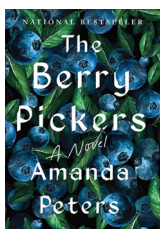
Penance
by Eliza Clark

Monday, February 17
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

The Berry Pickers
by Amanda Peters

Monday, March 17
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Computer Programs

Registration is encouraged for in-person computer classes to receive program updates.

Register **online**,
by phone at **(630) 924-2740**,
or by email at **bdref@mybpl.org**.

Virtual classes are noted with 📷 and will be posted on our YouTube channel.

master MICROSOFT EXCEL

Excel 1
Monday, February 10 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Instructor: Sean

Format, design, and sort spreadsheets, plus learn the first steps towards creating formulas and using functions.

Excel 2
Monday, February 17 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Instructor: Sean

Take the next step in learning Excel! This class covers more advanced topics such as linking between multiple worksheets, graphs, and more complex functions like VLookup.

Excel 3
Monday, February 24 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Instructor: Sean

Get a deeper understanding of Excel formulas, graphs, and formatting techniques, as well as examining other more complex concepts like logic functions.

Excel PivotTables
Thursday, February 27 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Instructor: Charlie

Excel PivotTables can be very helpful in organizing data. Work with several examples to develop a comfort level with the tools Excel provides.

Using Tablets
Thursday, February 20 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.   Instructor: Salvador

Become more comfortable working with apps, the touchscreen interface, and navigating the settings, parental controls, and tools that can make your tablet as fun and useful as possible. iPads will be used for demonstration but other options will also be discussed.

Smartwatches 101
Thursday, March 6 | 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.   Instructor: Salvador

Our phones allow us to carry a computer in our pocket, but smartwatches like the Apple Watch give us computers on our wrists! Learn how tools available with the Apple Watch and Android alternatives can help you meet your fitness goals and even replace your phone for common tasks.

Smartphone Photography & Editing
Monday, March 10 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.   Instructor: Sean

Learn the basics of taking and editing pictures and movies with Android and iPhones. Students will learn to use free editing products to prepare their photos and movies for sharing. *Please note: Different phones offer a wide range of camera features, so we will focus on more generally available tools.*
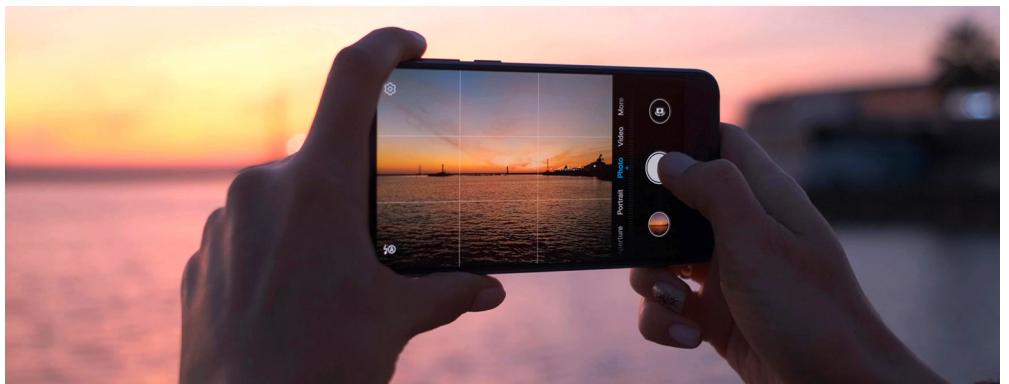
Getting Started: WhatsApp
Thursday, March 13 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.   Instructor: Christian

WhatsApp is a popular free messaging platform for staying connected with friends and family. Learn to start your account and how to message and call people. Once you register with your phone number, you can use WhatsApp on desktop and mobile devices.

Smart Homes
Thursday, March 20 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.   Instructor: Salvador

Your home thermostats, lights, and more can now be controlled from your computer or smartphone. Learn how to integrate different elements of your home and manage them from your device.

Disaster Prevention
Monday, March 24 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.   Instructor: Sean

No preventative measures are 100% effective, but there are practical steps you can take to become less attractive to targets. Learn basic safety measures to block viruses, keep your personal information secure, good privacy practices, safely back up data, avoid fraud, and avoid scary situations with your computer.

Teen Taste Test: Generic vs. Name Brand (Drop-In)
Thursday, February 27 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Challenge your taste buds with a blind taste test of an assortment of name brand snacks versus their generic alter-egos.

Sunrise on the Reaping:
***Hunger Games* Celebration (Drop-In)**
Monday, March 3 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Let's celebrate the release of the new *Hunger Games* prequel, *Sunrise on the Reaping* in March. Enter a giveaway to win a copy of the book! Must be present to win.

📅 **Crochet for Beginners (ages 14+)**
Thursday, March 6 & 13 | 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
registration begins Monday, February 10 (limit 8)

Come ready to learn the basics of crochet with step-by-step instruction. This is a two-part program. Ages 14 and up. Materials provided.

Teen Territory Fun!

Drop-in activity all month in the Teen Territory space.
Supplies available throughout the month specified, while supplies last.

Vintage Valentine's Day Cards (February)
Create a retro valentine, complete with cheesy lines and quirky characters.

New & Improved Origami (March)
Create a new origami creation in the Teen Territory!

Take & Make Crafts

For Take and Make crafts, you will be contacted via email when your craft kit is ready to be picked up at the Adult Reference Desk.

📅 **National Park Color by Number**
Kit Pickup begins Monday, February 10
registration begins Monday, January 27 (limit 12 teens)

Color in five stunning scenes of American wilderness, each from a different national park, and learn about their fascinating history and wildlife with this color by number kit and book.

📅 **Needle Point Mushroom Forest**
Kit Pickup begins Monday, March 3
registration begins Monday, February 17 (limit 10 teens)

Create a beautiful mushroom forest scene through needle felting, capturing the colors and magic in each poke.

Teen Craft Night

📅 **Watercolor Coasters**
Wednesday, February 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
registration begins Monday, January 27 (limit 8 teens)

Turn rustic wood slices into a masterpiece using watercolor painting. Create up to 4 coasters to keep for yourself or as a gift to a friend.

📅 **Make Your Own Merch**
Wednesday, March 12 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
registration begins Monday, February 17 (limit 12 teens)

Going to C2E2 in April? Or just want some new fan merch for your collection? Come and create buttons, keychains, or photocards to represent your favorite show/movie/artist!

Teen Bookish Boxes

Sign up to receive a teen subscription box full of specially curated books and goodies each month! After filling out the registration form, the teen librarian will work to select titles based on your preference. And guess what? You get to keep everything in your box, including the books! Every month, participants will get new books and special surprises.
Visit **mybpl.org/teenbookishboxes** for details.

Teen Book Reviews

Teens who enjoy reading, audiobooks, or writing can write book reviews for service hours! The reviews may appear in whole or part on the library's website, the Teen Space, social media, or in print resources at the library. You may review fiction, non-fiction, comics/graphic novels/manga, and audiobooks. If you are interested, get started on the library website!
Check out the details at **mybpl.org/teenbookreviews**.

Preschool Programs

Ages 0-5

Come Together (Drop-In)
Up to 24 months
Every Wednesday | 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Meet and chat with other parents & caregivers while your child socializes and explores with hands-on toys. Weekly drop-in event for ages 0-24 months. **No session April 2.** *Will be offered simultaneously with Baby Tales and Tunes when in session.*

🗓 Happy Books, Happy Cooks
Ages 3-5
Thursdays, February 6 & March 6
6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

A storytime for all the budding chefs! Read a food-filled story and create a tasty treat. *Please let us know of any allergies at the time of registration.*

playing with STEM

🗓 Playing with STEM
Ages 2-5
Tuesdays, February 11 & March 11
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) are important learning areas for kids of all ages. Start your child early with our fun play to learn program.
February: dinosaurs   March: the body

Baby, Let's Make Music (Drop-In)
Up to 24 months
Wednesdays, February 19 & 26
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Join us for a parade of fun! We will explore the world of music and movement using an array of instruments, flannel stories, rhymes, and songs.

🗓 *Creepy Carrots*
Ages 3-5
Friday, February 21 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Join us for a *Creepy Carrots* reading and other fun activities.

🗓 Fairy Tale Ball
Families
Sunday, March 2 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Every Prince, Princess, Knight, and Jester is invited to the Fairy Tale Ball!

Come dressed like your favorite fairy tale character or creature and join us for an afternoon of fun, crafts, games, and treats.

Preschool Process Art (Drop-In)
Ages 3-5
Saturday, March 15 | 10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Little hands, but big creativity! Pop in to the Makerspace to try this month's artsy activity.

Youth

🗓 Messy Fingers
Ages 2-4
Tuesday, March 18 | 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Your little ones will have the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills through this hands-on messy art class. Join us for all the mess and lots of fun!

SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS

Explore with Your Senses (Drop-In)
Under 3 years old with caregivers
Wednesday, April 2 | 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Come participate in different activities designed to develop sensory processing skills. Explore texture, sound, smell, colors, and patterns.

🗓 Toddler Dance Party
18 months to 36 months
Friday, April 4 | 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Does your toddler like to move, groove, and wiggle? Join us for a morning of music and movement.

Family Programs

🗓 Homeschool Hangout Series
Families
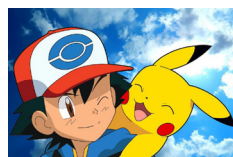Wednesdays, February 5 & March 5
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Join us to explore a new topic each month with books, crafts, and activities specially designed for each grade level.

Pokémon Love Day (Drop-In)
Families
Tuesday, February 25
4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Come share in the love of Pokémon and make Pokémon bookmarks.

Imagination Station (Drop-In)
Families
Friday, February 28
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Enjoy stories and rhymes that inspire imagination and then stay for a process art project.

McDonald's Storytime (Drop-In)
Families
Tuesday, March 4
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Join us at the Bear Family McDonald's for a storytime and a special surprise. This McDonald's is located at 72 Stratford Square Drive in Bloomingdale.

Craft Time (Drop-In)
Families
Wednesday, April 2
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Stop by Youth Services to make a craft. While supplies last.

SPRING BREAK PROGRAM

Programs

Register **online**, by phone at **(630) 924-2740**, or by email at **bdys@mybpl.org**.

Please have your library card when you register.

School Age Programs

Middle Grade Makers (Drop-In)

Grades 4-8
Tuesdays, February 4 & March 4
Thursdays, February 20 & March 20
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

NEW STATION FORMAT! Drop by to try a new skill, make a fun craft to take home, and hang out with friends.

🗓 National Pizza Day

Grades K-2
Sunday, February 9 | 2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

Celebrate National Pizza Day with us! Enjoy stories, crafts, and your own mini pizza. *Dairy will be served.*

🗓 Valentine Crafts & Card Making

Grades K-2
Monday, February 10 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Come in from the cold for some crafting that will warm your heart.

🗓 Makerspace Club: STEM Time

Grades 3-6
Thursdays, February 13 and March 13
4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Libraries are a great place to learn about science and technology while making cool stuff. Come join the fun!

DIY Cactus Pet Rock (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6
Sunday, February 16 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Come make your own adorable pet that requires no maintenance when you get it home.

🗓 Beginning Crochet

Grades 3-8
Mondays, February 17 & 24
6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

This is a two session program. In session 1, learn how to hold your yarn and hook and the single crochet stitch. In session 2, learn how to start a project and read a pattern.

🗓 Collagraph Printmaking Design Studio

Grades 3-6
Tuesday, February 18 | 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Design your collagraph plate with various shapes and discover the process of printmaking. Each piece will be uniquely your own creation.

🗓 Origami Crafternoon

Grades 4-8
Wednesday, February 19 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Learn the basics of origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. See a demonstration of a beginner origami creation, then make some art of your own.

🗓 Plant a Flower with BPL

Grades K-2
Wednesday, February 26 | 4:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Come to the library to plant some flowers and learn how they grow.

🗓 Our Furry Family

Grades K-6
Friday, February 28 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Our pets need many things from us to keep them happy and healthy. Explore what being a responsible pet guardian means for a variety of animals. This program is brought to you by Dupage County Animal Services. There may be a surprise shelter pet visitor, if available that day.

🗓 Middle Grade Mixology

Grades 4-8
Monday, March 3 | 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Come chill with drinks and treats inspired by coffee shops but customized by you.

🗓 TAKE IT & MAKE IT Ponybead Fidget Pals

Grades 3-6
Kit Pickup: Monday, March 3 – 7

Adopt a tiny tactile friend with these kits designed to make retro animals. Kits will be available to be picked up the week of March 3 – 7.

🗓 Rainbow Spring Fling

Grades 1-5
Saturday, March 8 | 3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

To celebrate all things rainbows, come in to create three fun projects: a rainbow cloud art, DIY binoculars, and Fruit Loop necklaces.

🗓 Homeschool Hangout Book Club

Grades K-6
Friday, March 14 | 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Dive into graphic novels and discuss story, character, and how to make the most of reading with pictures. Grades K-2 will read *Diary of a Pug*, while grades 3-6 will read *Pawcasso*. A limited number of books will be available at the Youth Services Desk.

Crochet Along with Miss Carol (Virtual)

Grades 3-8
Saturday, March 15

Learn to crochet along with Miss Carol! Check the BPL YouTube channel for video tutorials for each project. New videos released quarterly.
March Skill: Increases and Decreases

🗓 Crochet Skills: Patterns

Grades 3-8
Monday, March 17 | 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Basic crochet skills required. Learn the structure of a crochet pattern and how to read abbreviations.

🗓 Puzzle Race

Grades 4-8
Wednesday, March 19 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Calling all puzzle lovers! Go head-to-head to see who can complete their puzzle first.

LEGO® Club (Drop-In)

Grades 1-6
Tuesday, March 25 | 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Design and build with the library's LEGO® supply to complete the challenge.

🗓 DIY Device Bean Bag Chair

Grades 3-6
Thursday, March 27 | 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Make a bean bag chair to hold your device.

🗓 *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* Book Party

Grades 3-6
Monday, March 31 | 3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

Join us for the CHEESIEST party around! Be ready for wimpy crafts and activities that are Greg approved.

🗓 Learn to Use a Sewing Machine

Grades 4-6
Monday, March 31 | 6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Learn the parts of a sewing machine, how to thread the machine, wind a bobbin, and sew a simple pillow in this introduction to our machines in the Makerspace. An adult partner is welcome to accompany each student.

SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS

It's Storytime!

The Youth Services department provides age-appropriate interactive fun with stories, sign language, music, and more. Storytimes are drop-in (no registration necessary) and limited to the first 20 children to arrive.

New Year Session: January 6 through February 14
Spring Session: March 3 through April 13
(no storytimes the week of March 31-April 4)

Preschool Storytime
Ages 3-5
Mondays, 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Evening Storytime
All ages with caregiver
Wednesdays, 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Toddler Storytime
Ages 2-3 with caregiver
Thursdays, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Family Storytime
All ages with caregiver
Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Baby Tales & Tunes
Ages 0-24 months with caregiver
Wednesdays,
10:00 – 10:20 a.m. OR
10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

Introduce your baby to the world of music, movement, rhymes, and books that will aid in the development of early literacy skills.

Don't forget to keep an eye out throughout 2025 for events celebrating our 50 years of service to Bloomingdale! Subscribe to our BPL Bulletin eNews and never miss an event – sign up at https://bit.ly/mybpl-enews-signup.

Our Library has a subscription to **TumbleBookLibrary**, and your family can access it from home. It's unlimited, and it's FREE for you to use!

TumbleBookLibrary is an online collection of eBooks for children. They are a great way to encourage tech-savvy kids to enjoy reading! There are over 1,200 animated, talking picture books, along with Spanish and French books, read-along chapter books, non-fiction books, and exciting games and puzzles!

You can use your computer, tablet, or mobile phone. All you need is an internet connection. There are no downloads necessary; books are streamed right to your device at the click of a button.

Check www.mybpl.org/kids and click the TumbleBooksLibrary link to access this free service.

Enjoy, and happy reading!

TumbleBooks