

# The DPL Youth Times

Volume 11 Issue 3

Summer 2026



## Summer Reading 2026: Unearth a Story

Registration begins **May 26** using Google Forms. The last day to turn in logs and pick up prizes is **July 26 at 5 p.m.** Register online at [www.derbylibrary.com/summerreadingchallenge](http://www.derbylibrary.com/summerreadingchallenge).



1600 E. Walnut Grove  
Derby, KS 67037  
(316)788-0760  
[www.derbylibrary.com](http://www.derbylibrary.com)

Hours:  
Monday-Thursday  
9 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Friday  
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday  
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

## Which challenge should my child enroll in?

### Babies & Toddlers

Birth - Age 3

### Kids

Preschool - Entering 5th grade

### Teens

Entering 6th grade - 12th grade

All participants should register on the Google Form. Preschoolers and kids are required to read (or be read to) 12 hours to complete the challenge. Caregivers of babies & toddlers will complete a series of early literacy activities with their child. A parent's permission is required to release their child's name as a participant.

### Prizes!

- BOOK!
- Child/Parent combo pass to Rock River Rapids
- Coupon for a youth ticket (ages 3-11) to Exploration Place
- Coupon for a free Fazoli's kids meal, with adult meal purchase
- Coupon for Pizza Hut Personal Pan Pizza
- Entry into grand prize drawings

Sponsors: Celia and Leonard A. Levand Public Library Trust Fund, City of Derby, Derby Recreation Commission, Fazoli's, Exploration Place, Pizza Hut, and South Central Kansas Library System.

Programs, events, and classes may be photographed or video recorded for library promotional purposes. Please notify library staff if you prefer not to be photographed.

## Read & Roar Storytime

Wednesdays 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Ages 3-5

Community Room

Bearsie and Quackers unearth new adventures! In the summer, Preschool Storytime is fully loaded with books, songs, interactive flannel stories, and puppet silliness. Each week our amazing teen volunteers will entertain us with an original skit. Preschool Storytime is designed for ages 3-5, but siblings are always welcome. Each storytime lasts about 30 minutes.

June 3 - Unearthing the Giants

June 10 - The Time Warp

June 17 - Snap, Snack, and a Story

June 24 - Rock-Solid Adventures

July 1 - Scales & Tales

July 8 - Buried Treasures and Pirates

July 15 - Stories from the Soil



## Toddler Time

Fridays 10 a.m.

Ages 2 and under

Community Room

Attention babies and toddlers! Bring your grown-ups to this special early literacy storytime just for you. Each week we'll read books, sing songs, and learn fingerplays. Toddler Time lasts approximately 20 minutes and is a perfect introduction to the library for our smallest patrons. Toddler Time is designed for ages 2 and under, but siblings are welcome.

June 5 - Dino-Diggers

June 12 - Creepy Crawly Critters

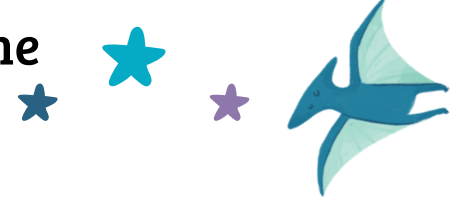
June 19 - Night Adventurers

June 26 - Treasure Island

July 3 - Bearly Hidden

July 10 - Making Waves

July 17 - T-Rex Tales



## Paleontology Pursuit: Scavenger Hunt

New clues posted on Mondays!

For kids in grades K-5

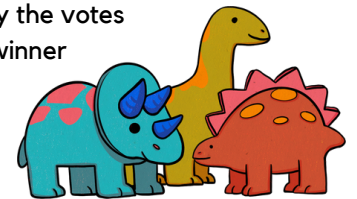
Join us for our summer scavenger hunt!

Each week, a picture with a fossilized creature will be hidden somewhere in the library. Use the clues to find the picture, fill out an entry slip, and you'll be entered to win a grand prize! The more weeks you participate in the scavenger hunt, the more chances you have to win!



## Inaugural Dinosaur Campaign

The race for the "greatest dino of all time" is on! We need your help to decide which prehistoric giant takes home the trophy for Derby's favorite dinosaur! Stop by the Youth Services Desk, your Mesozoic voting station, to review the candidates and cast your vote. Will it be a towering long-neck, a speedy predator, or a spiked defender? At the end of the summer, we'll tally the votes and declare the winner of this election, 65 million years in the making!



## Stomp, Chomp & Explore

Thursdays 10-11:30 a.m.

Come-and-go program!

Grades K-5

Community Room

Dig into the past as we unearth dinosaurs, cave people, and life before the 20<sup>th</sup> century! Each week offers something for everyone, including games, crafts, scavenger hunts, and more.

June 4 - My Pet Dino

June 11 - Build-A-Rex

June 18 - Tracking Dinos

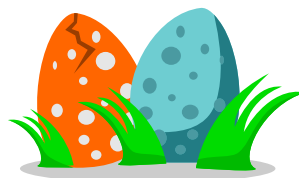
June 25 - Not a Plane, Not a Bird, It's a Dinosaur!

July 2 - Kids' Choice Cinema

July 9 - Surviving the Stone Age

July 16 - Back in My Day

Children under the age of 7 must be accompanied by a parent or other responsible caregiver age 13 or older.



# Dino-Mite Performers

Unless noted, all performers have a  
10 a.m. and 2 p.m. show  
Location: Library Community Room

**Wednesday, May 27**

**Field Station: Dinosaurs**

Join us for Paleo Picasso. You're the artist as we explore the mystery of dinosaur colors! Learn to draw your own dinosaur and discover what scientists know and don't know about what color dinosaurs might have been.



**Tuesday, June 2**

**Great Plains Nature Center**

Discover the ancient history of Kansas in the rocks beneath our feet. Learn how Kansas has changed over time, and see what creatures used to call it home.

**Tuesday, June 9**

**Dan Dan the Magic Man**

Join us for a prehistoric Jurassic Magic show with Dan Dan the Magic Man.



**Monday, June 15**

**Ad Astra Planetarium**

10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m. & 3 p.m.

*\*Registration Required\**

Learn about constellations, planets, the structure of the universe and more without ever leaving the library! Registration is required. Each show is limited to 40 people. Recommended for kids in grades K-5. Each child must have an adult present in the dome during the show. Check out our website or ask library staff for more information.



**Tuesday, June 16**

**Handpan Dan**

Enjoy a mesmerizing journey into sound with a concert from Handpan Dan, local Derby musician. Kids will be spellbound by the unique melodies and rhythms of the handpan.

**Tuesday, June 23**

**Didgeridoo Down Under**

Join us on an epic adventure to "unearth a story" in The Land Down Under! The Didgeridoo Down Under Show is an energetic fusion of Australian music, culture, comedy, character building, storytelling, and loads of audience movement and participation.



*Prior notification is required for all groups of 10 or more. Contact Youth Services. Children under age 7 must be accompanied by parent or other responsible caregiver age 13 or older.*

**Tuesday, June 30**

**What if Puppets**

Join us for "T-Rex Took My Toothbrush." This wordless show uses comedic movement, original music, and plenty of silly surprises to tell a heartwarming story about an unusual but loving family.



**Tuesday, July 14**

**Monty Harper**

Monty Harper's unforgettable concert of original songs will give your family something to roar about! Ranging from silly to scientific, Monty's songs are all terrific.

**Tuesday, July 21**

**Aaron Fowler**

Grab your shovel and your imagination! It's time to dig into a dino-sized adventure! Enjoy a musical journey where stories come alive through singing, storytelling, and movement.



# Splish Splash Dance Party!

**Tuesday, July 7**

10 a.m.

**Rhythm & Read Park**

Come out for a fun-filled morning of music and dance at Rhythm & Read Park! We're going to transform the splash pad into a high-energy dance floor with a tidal wave of music. Kids can also create original art under the shade of the park's mural with sidewalk chalk.



# Meet a Mermaid

**Mermaid Swim**

June 27

11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Rock River Rapids**

**Mermaid Tales**


July 18

10-10:30 a.m.

**Rock River Rapids Pavilion**

You have two chances to meet our resident mermaid at Rock River Rapids this summer. Mermaid Swim happens during Tot Time (ages 5 and under) and has a \$5 per person admission. There is no charge to participate in the Mermaid Tales storytime which takes place before Tot Time.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>MAY 25</b> <b>LIBRARY CLOSED</b> 	<b>26 WEEK 1</b> <b>Summer Reading Challenge registration begins!</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>27</b> Field Station: Dinosaurs 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>June 1 WEEK 2</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>2</b> Great Plains Nature Center 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.  Teen Tuesday 4 p.m.	<b>3</b> Read & Roar Storytime 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.	<b>4</b> Stomp, Chomp, & Explore 10-11:30 a.m.  Teen Moviecraft 1-4 p.m.	<b>5</b> Toddler Time 10 a.m.
<b>8 WEEK 3</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>9</b> Dan Dan the Magic Man 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.  Teen Tuesday 4 p.m.	<b>10</b> Read & Roar Storytime 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.	<b>11</b> Stomp, Chomp, & Explore 10-11:30 a.m.  Teen Moviecraft 1-4 p.m.	<b>12</b> Toddler Time 10 a.m.
<b>15 WEEK 4</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt  Ad Astra Planetarium* 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m. & 3 p.m.	<b>16</b> Handpan Dan 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.  Teen Tuesday 4 p.m.	<b>17</b> Read & Roar Storytime 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.	<b>18</b> Stomp, Chomp, & Explore 10-11:30 a.m.  Teen Moviecraft 1-4 p.m.	<b>19</b> Toddler Time 10 a.m.  Teen Murder Mystery 6:30-8:30 p.m.
<b>22 WEEK 5</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>23</b> Didgeridoo Down Under 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.  Teen Tuesday 4 p.m.	<b>24</b> Read & Roar Storytime 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.	<b>25</b> Stomp, Chomp, & Explore 10-11:30 a.m.  Teen Moviecraft 1-4 p.m.	<b>26</b> Toddler Time 10 a.m.
<b>29 WEEK 6</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>30</b> What if Puppets 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.  Teen Tuesday 4 p.m.	<b>July 1</b> Read & Roar Storytime 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.	<b>2</b> Stomp, Chomp, & Explore 10-11:30 a.m.  Teen Moviecraft 1-4 p.m.	<b>3</b> Toddler Time 10 a.m.
<b>6 WEEK 7</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>7</b> Splish Splash Dance Party 10 a.m.  Teen Tuesday 4 p.m.	<b>8</b> Read & Roar Storytime 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.	<b>9</b> Stomp, Chomp, & Explore 10-11:30 a.m.  Teen Moviecraft 1-4 p.m.	<b>10</b> Toddler Time 10 a.m.
<b>13 WEEK 8</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>14</b> Monty Harper 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.  Teen Tuesday 4 p.m.	<b>15</b> Read & Roar Storytime 10 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.	<b>16</b> Stomp, Chomp, & Explore 10-11:30 a.m.  Teen Moviecraft 1-4 p.m.	<b>17</b> Toddler Time 10 a.m.
<b>20 WEEK 9</b> Paleontology Pursuit: A Scavenger Hunt	<b>21</b> Aaron Fowler 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Red Carpet Premiere 7-9 p.m.



The last day to turn in logs and pick up prizes is  
**Sunday, July 26 at 5 p.m.**

