



The EXPLORER

A Publication of the Westmont Public Library

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Catch the Reading Bug!



This summer, the Westmont Public Library has everything you need for your best summer ever. Whether you are looking for a creative craft, a relaxing read, or an inspirational event, the library is the place to be!

Our Summer Reading Program is bigger and better than ever! After surveying over 100 parents and children after last year's program, we have made some exciting changes.

Children in grades K-3 will use our

newly designed "Bug Bank" system. Every child will get to decide if he/she wants a small prize for every level of reading achieved, or if he wants to "save up" for a better prize.

Participants in grades 4 and 5 will get to choose whether they want to use the Bug Bank system or if they want to try our new "Build a Party" prize model.

The Flea Circus is a party specifically for 4th and 5th graders. We will have a chart in the library that shows the

progress of books read, and for every level reached, the party gets better and better!

The same goes for our teens in grades 6 through 8. They will read as many books as possible to make **Bug-A-Palooza** the best party of the summer! Teens can work towards food, airbrush tattoos, human bowling and more!

Sign up for the Summer Reading program beginning **June 7th**. The program ends **August 9th**.

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Do we have your email address yet?

When you give a staff member your email address, you receive:

- Pick-up notices when an item you reserved arrives.
- Courtesy notices reminding you when your library materials are due.
- Notices when your items are overdue.



Read Your Way to a Family Getaway!



The Westmont Public Library is offering a special prize to the family that reads the most! A one night stay at the Holiday Inn in Elmhurst with passes to the *Mayan Adventure Indoor Waterpark* will be awarded to the family that reads the most books per person. To enter the contest, participants must be registered for the Summer Reading Program in their age category. A family log sheet can be picked up in the Youth Services Department beginning June 7th.

Hot New Fiction for Summer

Place a hold on one of these sizzlin' new fiction titles today!

- * *The Beach House* by Jane Green
- * *Death Angel* by Linda Howard
- * *The Dirty Secrets Club* by Meg Gardiner
- * *Fearless Fourteen* by Janet Evanovich
- * *Foreign Body* by Robin Cook
- * *Into the Fire* by Suzanne Brockmann
- * *Last Kiss* by Luanne Rice
- * *Moscow Rules* by Daniel Silva
- * *Nothing to Lose* by Lee Child
- * *One in a Million* by Kimberla Lawson Roby
- * *Rogue* by Danielle Steel
- * *Sail* by James Patterson
- * *TailSpin* by Catherine Coulter

May

- 1 Storytime @ 10:15am ☹
- 6 Storytime @ 10:15am v Friends of the Library Meeting @ 7pm ☹
- 7 Storytime @ 10:15am ☹
- 8 Storytime @ 10:15am ☹ Big Read Author Event @ 7pm v (Location: Ashton Place)
- 13 Storytime @ 10:15am v
- 20 Board Meeting @ 7pm
- 25 CLOSED ALL DAY
- 26 CLOSED ALL DAY
- 27 Video Games @ 3pm ☹
- 28 Anime Club @ 7pm ☹

June

- 6 CLOSED ALL DAY
- 7 Summer Read begins!
- 11 Musical Storytime
@ 10:30am v
- 17 Storytime @ 10:15am v
Board Meeting @ 7pm
- 18 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
- 19 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
Chocolate Challenge
@ 7pm v
- 21 Bug Egg Hunt @ 10am v
- 23 4th Monday Book Group
@ 7pm ⊖
- 24 Storytime @ 10:15am v
Video Games @ 3pm ⊖
- 25 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
Anime Club @ 7pm ⊖
- 26 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖

Adult Summer Programming

This year's **Big Read** is almost finished. The ten libraries that participated included programs that related to World War II and the featured book by Elizabeth Berg, ***Dream When You're Feeling Blue***. The final event, a special author appearance, will take place on Thursday, May 8th at 7pm at the Ashton Place in Willowbrook. Advance tickets are required for this event. A special thank you to the Friends of the Westmont Public Library who generously funded the **Big Read** programs that were held at our library. For more information on the Friends of the Library, please leave a message for Friends president Eva Rosol at 630.969.5625 ext. 360 or email friends@westmontlibrary.org.

Sunday, July 20th @ 3pm v

Intro to Raw Foods

Learn about a raw, vegan diet from the owners of Borrowed Earth Café and how eating raw foods has changed their life.



Tuesday, August 5th

@ 6:30pm v ⊕

Scrapbooking

Join us for another edition of our Craft Lover's program series. This time, bring in some favorite photos that you want to add to your scrapbook. Are you a beginner? Come and get introduced to this addictive hobby! This program is free for Westmont residents.



Heard at the Library



Here are some of the comments you gave us

about recent library workshops and events. If you have never been to one of our events, now is the time to start!

- Very nice program! We always look forward to coming to the library programs.
- This was fun and creative.
- Please keep these programs and workshops going.
- This was way cool!
- I enjoyed this program very much.
- Excellent program, brought lots of children and families together. Wonderful event.

Teen Scene

Chocolate Challenge v
Thursday, June 19th
@ 7pm



Get ready for an evening of all things chocolate! Games, prizes and a special contest for eating chocolate covered bugs are all on the agenda. You don't want to miss this!

Fly Duct Tape Designs v
Thursday, July 17th @ 7pm

Bring in an item that you want to transform into a "fly" duct tape masterpiece. The library will provide the duct tape.

Librarian Makeover v
Thursday, August 7th @
7pm



Dress up your librarian and make him look like you! You'll have a chance to makeover the librarian and you get to dress up like a stereotypical librarian.

Bug-A-Palooza v
Saturday, August 23
2-4pm, Grades 6-8

The biggest party of the summer is at the library! Come by and enjoy your reward for being in the Summer Reading Program.

Registration Key: v Call ahead or register in person ⊖ No registration required ⊕ Children under 13 not admitted

♿ Please note: Individuals requiring accommodation for a disability for any library program should contact the library at least five days before the program.

Youth Summer Programming

Musical Storytime √
Wednesday, June 11th
@ 10:30am, Ages 6 and
under

A bug-themed musical event with stories, songs, and interactive play. Join us for this popular program for children and their caregiver.



Bug Egg Hunt √
Saturday, June 21st
@ 10am, Ages 3-6

Children will search the youth department for bug eggs filled with candy and other prizes. Little ones love this yearly program, so sign up before all the spots are taken.

Backpack Craft √
Monday, July 7th
From 2-4pm, Ages 8-14



Stop by anytime between 2 and 4pm to get creative and

decorate and take home a cute backpack. The library will provide all the materials, but make sure you call to save your spot!

Insect Program √
Monday, July 14th @
1pm, Ages 5 and up
 Karen Ritter from the Willowbrook Wildlife Preserve will tell us all about insects.

Ugly Bug Ball √
Saturday, July 26th @
1pm, Ages 5-8

Come create your own ugly bug and play silly bug related games! The library will provide all materials.



Mr. Nicky Concert √
Thursday, July 31st
@ 4pm, Ages 4-8

Trader Joe's of Downers Grove presents a concert for children by Mr. Nicky! Join us for an afternoon of silly songs and healthy treats!



Bug Keychain Craft √
Monday, August 4th
From 2-4pm, Ages 8-14
 Drop in anytime between 2 and 4pm, but make sure you register in advance for this cool craft!

Video Game Days @
Your Library ⊖

Come to the library on the 4th Tuesday of every month from 3-6pm. Play your favorite video and board games while enjoying time with your friends. The dates for this summer are **May 27th, June 24th, July 22nd, and August 26th.**



Flea Circus √
Saturday, August 16
2-4pm, Grades 4 & 5

Come celebrate your hard work with a party for everyone who participated in the Summer Reading Program. Food, games, prizes and more for all who attend!



Weekly Drop-In Crafts will take place every Thursday afternoon June 12th through July 24th from 2-4pm in the Storytime Room. If you can't make it to the craft time, extra supplies can be found in the Youth Services Department. Stop by and make a craft in the library or take it home to do later. The weekly crafts are as follows:

6/12: **Bug Door Hangers** 6/19: **Make a Bug Rubbing** 6/26: **Walking Stick Craft** 7/3: **Butterfly Craft** 7/10: **Spider Webs** 7/17: **Ladybug Craft** 7/24: **Dragonfly Craft**

July

- 4 CLOSED ALL DAY
- 7 Backpack Craft 2-4pm √
- 8 Storytime @ 10:15 √
- 9 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
- 10 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
- 14 Insect Program @ 1pm √
- 15 Storytime @ 10:15 √
Board Meeting @ 7pm
- 16 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
- 17 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
Duct Tape Design @ 7pm √
- 20 Raw Foods @ 3pm √
- 22 Storytime @ 10:15 √
Video Games @ 3pm ⊖
- 23 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
Anime Club @ 7pm ⊖
- 24 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
- 26 Ugly Bug Ball @ 1pm √
- 28 4th Monday Book Group @ 7pm ⊖
- 29 Storytime @ 10:15 √
- 30 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
- 31 Storytime @ 10:15am ⊖
Mr. Nicky Concert @ 4pm √

Storytimes this Summer!

June 17th-August 7th

Tuesdays @ 10:15am:

Pre-Reading Storytime √
 Children ages three and up get ready to read.

Wednesdays @

10:15am: Books and Songs for Toddlers ⊖
 Ages three and under learn about social and interactive play.

Thursdays @ 10:15am:

Stories and More for Preschoolers ⊖
 Ages three and up practice listening skills.

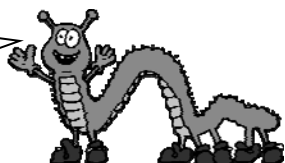
Registration Key: √ Call ahead or register in person ⊖ No registration required ⊕ Children under 13 not admitted

♿ Please note: Individuals requiring accommodation for a disability for any library program should contact the library at least five days before the program.

August

- 4 Keychain Craft 2-4pm v
- 5 Scrapbooking @ 6:30pm v
- 7 Librarian Makeover @ 7pm v
- 9 Summer Read Program Ends
- 16 Flea Circus from 2-4pm v
- 19 Board Meeting @ 7pm
- 23 Bug-A-Palooza from 2-4pm v
- 25 4th Monday Book Group @ 7pm ☺
- 26 Video Games @ 3pm ☺
- 27 Anime Club @ 7pm ☺
- 31 CLOSED ALL DAY

See you @ the library!



The Explorer is a Westmont Public Library quarterly publication intended to offer current and updated library information to Westmont patrons.

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Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday 10am-9pm
Friday-Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

For more information about the Westmont Public Library, please contact us at:
630.969.5625
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A Year in Review-by Christine Kuhn, Director

The Westmont Public Library had a truly amazing year! Our year end numbers are not yet available but over the last 10 months we have seen and experienced significant growth.

Last June (2007) we received our first installment of the new tax dollars that were approved by voters in 2006. With it we added over 11,000 new items to the collection. That's twice as many books, DVDs, CDs, and audio books as were purchased in the previous 12 months. The new items went flying off our shelves! More than 160,000 items went into homes, an increase of 14% over the previous year. This was no doubt due to the 122,000 visits to the library, a more than 15% increase.

Our public computers had over 45,000 sessions and the reference staff answered 7,000 questions, some asked over the Internet via our live chat reference service.

We also added 30 new magazine titles

and several new online services such as Grolier's Student Encyclopedia, available in the library, home or office.

We rolled out this quarterly newsletter and more than tripled attendance at library programs. We debuted a new storytime for little listeners beginning to develop basic pre-reading skills. This year's Big Read finale, a visit by Elizabeth Berg, is on May 8th. We couldn't keep enough copies of her book *Dream When You're Feeling Blue* on shelves and all the programs about the 1940s proved

extremely popular.

The biggest change at the library was the first phase of the Youth Services makeover. New carpet and paint went a long way to liven things up. But there is more! We re-invented the area for little listeners, with books organized by recognizable topics. We added activities that engage the mind and encourage the development of early literacy skills.

We are looking forward to our new year and all the wonderful books, movies, music, magazines, storytimes, speakers, and visitors it will bring.

4th Monday Book Discussions May-August

This Book Discussion Group meets the 4th Monday of every month at 7pm in the library's meeting room.

May 27: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

June 23: *Nature Girl* by Carl Hiaasen

July 28: *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson

August 25: *Humbolt's Gift* by Saul Bellow

Westmont Public Library
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Westmont Resident

