

Library **updates**

INTRODUCING TRANSPARENT LANGUAGE ONLINE

Thinking about taking up a new language? Check out self-paced courses in more than 100 languages from our newest addition to the Digital Branch. Get started at westmontlibrary.org/transparent-language.

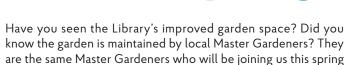
SUNSETTING THE CLASSIC CATALOG

The classic catalog will be discontinued this spring, so don't forget to transfer any lists you'd like to save to the new catalog. Tutorials are available online at westmontlibrary.org/new-catalog.

WESTMONT

GROWS

Connecting a community of gardeners



Did you also know that we have a fully stocked Seed Library? And we're a monarch waystation.

as we kick off our Gardening Expo and Gardening Club.

The Westmont Grows initiative relates to all of the Library's gardening and land use programs. We're excited to bring together a community of gardeners, beginners and experts alike, to connect with people who are passionate about working with the native environment and furthering their own gardening skills.



GARDENING EXPO

Saturday, May 21, 10 am - noon · 1st Floor, Adult Services

Learn more about Westmont Grows and everything gardening-related the Library has to offer!

GARDENING CLUB KICKOFF &

Saturday, May 21, 11:30 am – noon · Community Meeting Room

Gather with fellow gardeners after the Gardening Expo for the Gardening Club Kick-off! Members will discuss the best day and time to meet during the summer. If you can't make it to the meetup but would like to receive information about future meetings, visit westmontlibrary.org/gardening-signup.

More adult gardening programs

For Youth, Teen, and Family programs, see pages 4 & 5.

DIY SEED PAPER 🎝

Thursday, March 10, noon – 1 pm Community Meeting Room

Watch a demonstration and then make your own plantable seed paper! We'll hang on to it while it dries, and you can pick it up at a later date.

MINI SALSA GARDEN &

Tuesday, March 22, 4 – 5 pm Outdoors, south side of the Library

Plant everything you need for homemade salsa in convenient containers you can take home.

SMALL SPACE GARDENING &

Thursday, April 21, 6:30 – 7:30 pm Community Meeting Room

Join Master Gardener Pat Miller to learn about gardening in small spaces!



How to begin

Sign up in person at the Library or online at westmontlibrary.beanstack.org.

Growing Readers Together packets containing instructions, reading logs to track your progress, and tips for promoting early literacy and a love of reading are available at the Youth Desk.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



Growing Readers Together

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Reading aloud to babies, toddlers, and preschoolers is the best and most enjoyable way to prepare them to learn to read on their own. It also encourages a lifelong love of books and reading, and strengthens the caregiver-child bond. For these reasons, the Westmont Public Library is encouraging you to read at least 1000 books to your child before they enter kindergarten.



Keep it growing

Celebrate your reading milestones with a photo op at the Library for every 100 books you read, plus earn small prizes along the way!

Spotlight on cloudLibrary

Looking for great reads without the long wait times? Don't miss out on thousands of ebooks and audiobooks found on **cloudLibrary**—including hidden gems not available on our other digital media platforms, hoopla and Overdrive (Libby). CloudLibrary offers both fiction and nonfiction titles for youth to adults.

Visit westmontlibrary.org/cloudlibrary or download the cloudLibrary app for Android or iOS.



EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILY

VIRTUAL: LANGUAGE STORYTIME

Mondays, March 7 - April 18 youtube.com/westmontpubliclibrary

Spanish: March 7 & 21, April 4 & 18 French: March 14 & 28, April 11

Introduce your little one to a new language as we enjoy songs and stories in Spanish and French. Presented by The Language Labs. Ages 0 – 6 years

FAMILY STORYTIME 4

Choose Tuesdays OR Wednesdays, March 22 - April 27 Choose 9:30 - 9:50 am, 10 - 10:20 am, OR 10:30 - 10:50 am

Join us for 6 weeks of interactive storytimes filled with music, movement, and stories. Choose one day of the week and time. Ages 0 - 6 years with a caregiver

DISCOVERY PLAYTIME &

Thursdays, March 10 and April 7 10 am - noon

Make sure to wear old clothes and be ready for some messy, sensory fun while learning about your world.

Ages 18 months - 5 years with a caregiver

OUTDOOR DISCOVERY PLAYTIME &

Thursday, May 12, 10 am - noon Outdoors, south side of Library

Join us outside the Library for sensory, art,

and educational play. Make sure to wear old clothes and be ready for some messy fun while learning about your world. In case of severe weather, we'll take playtime indoors. Ages 18 months - 5 years with a caregiver

Masks are required for everyone age 2 and older. Class sizes will be kept small to allow for social distancing. If you or your child are not feeling well,

please stay home and enjoy one of the many virtual storytimes on our You-

Tube channel, youtube.com/westmontpubliclibrary.

SATURDAY STORYTIME

Registration is required for programs with this icon: &

Registration begins Tuesday, February 15 at 9 am.

Saturdays, March 19 and May 28 9:30 - 9:50 am

Join us for an interactive storytime filled with music, movement, and stories.

Ages 0 - 6 years with a caregiver

YOUTH TAKE-HOME KITS KIT

Pick up a kit with supplies and instructions for a project to complete at home. Available while supplies last.

DIY Spring Storytime	March 1
Sponsored by the Friends.	
$\Lambda \cos \Omega = 5 \text{ years}$	

Baby Animals Matching	April 12
Game Busy Bag	

Ages 18 months - 3 years

Spring Sensory Bin April 12 Ages 3 - 6 years

Take-home Craft Kits March 8 & 22 April 5 & 19 Ages 3 – 8 years May 3 & 17

Grades K - 2

CLAY PINCH POTS

Thursday, March 17, 4:15 - 5 OR 5:15 - 6 pm

Get creative using air dry clay to make your own pinch pot. Choose one session.

DESIGN A ROBOT &

Thursday, April 14, 4:15 - 5 OR 5:15 - 6 pm

Use your imagination and upcycled household items to create your own robot. Choose one session.

KOI WINDSOCK &

Thursday, May 19, 4:15 - 5 OR 5:15 - 6 pm

Use markers and watercolors to decorate a paper koi windsock. Choose one session.



Grades 3 - 5

HANDPRINT CERAMIC DISH &

Thursday, March 24, 5:15 - 6 pm

Using air dry clay, build a mid-century-inspired dish formed out of your own handprint.

BUILD A BALLOON CAR 🎝

Thursday, April 21, 5:15 - 6 pm

Experiment with different materials to build a balloon powered car. Race them against other designs and see who can make the fastest one!

KOI WINDSOCK &

Thursday, May 26, 5:15 - 6 pm

Use markers and watercolors to decorate a paper koi windsock.



Grades K - 5 with your adult

EXPLORE OZOBOTS &

Saturday, March 12 10 - 10:30 am, 10:45 - 11:15 am, OR 11:30 am - noon

Join us with your adult and explore coding with Ozobots! Choose one session. Sponsored by the Friends of the Westmont Public Library.

EXPLORE PERLER BEADS

Thursday, March 31 3 – 3:30 pm, 3:45 – 4:15 pm, 4:30 - 5 pm, OR 5:15 - 5:45 pm

Join us with your adult and explore crafting with perler beads. Choose one session.

Family Programs

Family programs are designed for children and their adults to enjoy together.

FAMILY PAPER AIRPLANE CRAFTING

Saturday, March 26, 10 am - noon

Create a variety of paper airplane designs, then make a mobile to hang them from your ceiling-or leave your planes free for flying!

FAMILY BIRDHOUSE PAINTING

Saturday, April 16, 10 am - noon

Drop in to paint and decorate a small wooden birdhouse together as a family.

TERRACOTTA GARDEN POTS

Friday, May 7, 10 am - noon

Drop in to decorate a terracotta pot using paint and more.



LIBRARY-WIDE SCAVENGER HUNT

Tuesday, May 24, 9:30 am - 7:30 pm

Join us on National Scavenger Hunt Day and explore your library!

TEENS (Grades 6 - 12)

Registration is required for programs with this icon: 4

Registration begins Tuesday, February 15 at 9 am.

Register online at westmontlibrary.org/events, by phone at 630 869 6150, or in person.

TEEN TAKE & MAKE CRAFTS KIT

Wednesdays, March 2, April 6, May 4

Pick up a kit containing basic supplies and instructions, then take it home to create.

Sticker by Number March 2 Suncatcher April 6 Stone Cactus Garden May 4

3D PRINTING PROJECT &

Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Learn about Tinkercad and create your own project that will then be made on the Library's 3D printer.



TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE &

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm March 30, April 27, May 25 Kwasek Meeting Room OR Zoom

Meet with Ms. Alyssa and other teens to discuss programs, books, and what you would like to see happen in the Library. Come in person or join us virtually over Zoom. Earns volunteer hours.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Saturdays, April 9 and May 21 10 am - noon

Need extra volunteer hours? Drop in on April 9 to make paracord bracelets that will be donated to the troops, or help decorate for Summer Learning on May 21. Volunteers will earn one hour of credit for each hour of participation.

IRON-ON DECALS

Wednesday, April 13, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Using the Library's vinyl cutter, create your own decal to be ironed on a tote bag-or bring your own item to iron your decal on!



DIY TERRARIUMS &

Wednesday, May 11, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Design and build your own terrarium using materials provided by the Library.



SPRING STORYWALKS

Diane Main Park, 200 W 59th St.

Enjoy these stories with the whole family while you stroll through the park. Follow the path, reading signs placed along the trail, to take in the full story.



April 8 – 11: If I Never Forever

Endeavor by Holly Meade



Daniel Finds a Poem

by Micha Archer

Celebrate National Poetry Month with two April StoryWalks.



May 13 - 16: Walter's Wonderful Web by Tim Hopgood

ADULTS

NATIONAL ALFRED HITCHCOCK DAY &

Saturday, March 12, 1 - 3 pm Community Meeting Room

Appreciate Alfred Hitchcock's contributions to Hollywood by watching one of his most famous movies—Rear Window, Popcorn included!

ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE MOBILE UNIT

Tuesday, March 15, 10 am - 2 pm Community Meeting Room

Drop in for renewal, correction, or replacement of your Illinois identification card or Illinois driver's license. Residents will also be able to renew vehicle stickers or register as an organ donor. For questions, contact Nick Giannini at 630 785 3177. Sponsored by Senator Suzy Glowiak.

BOARD GAME SHOWCASE

Wednesday, March 30, 5 - 7:30 pm Community Meeting Room

Stop in for a quick demo from staff or find something to take home for game night!

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: MINI DUNGEON CRAWL &

Saturday, April 2, 1 – 4 pm Community Meeting Room

Something is killing folks in Palebank Village and it's up to our party of adventurers to retrieve the stolen cure. Fight monsters, discover treasure, and attempt to save the day! Use your own character or adventure with one of our handy pre-created characters.



CARD MAKING 101

Tuesday, April 26, 3 - 6 pm Community Meeting Room

Drop in and learn to use the Library's Makery equipment to make your own card!

BLACKOUT POETRY

Monday, April 4, 2 – 3 pm **Community Meeting Room**

Celebrate National Poetry Month by creating poetry on the pages of discarded library books. The books used for this project were weeded or discarded from the Library collection due to damage or duplication.

Celebrate all the ways **Westmont Grows!**

Dig into a series of gardening programs this spring, then join us for our Gardening Expo on Saturday, May 21 to learn about our seed library, a new gardening club, and more!

See page 2 for more information.





ABRAHAM LINCOLN: A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM &

Sunday, April 10, 1 - 2:30 pm Community Meeting Room

DROP-IN SPRING CRAFT:

Community Meeting Room

the perfect wreath.

PAPER FLOWER WREATHS

Saturday, May 21, 10 am - 4 pm

Stop by and create your own paper wreath.

This quick craft makes a great centerpiece

or window decoration for spring. Choose

from different designs and colors to create

Join us for a first-person presentation of President Abraham Lincoln in period dress. talking about his own life and the history of the United States of America, from Independence through the Civil War. The program will be followed by a 30-minute Q&A. Sponsored by the Friends of the Westmont Public Library.

SCRABBLE'S STRONGEST PLAYER

Wednesday, April 13, 6 - 8 pm Community Meeting Room

Celebrate National Scrabble Day and enjoy some time with friends. We'll play to see who comes out on top as Scrabble Master!

BOOK TALK WITH AUTHOR SYLVIE PERRY &

Wednesday, April 20, 6:30 - 7:30 pm Kwasek Meeting Room

Meet local author Sylvie Perry as she reads excerpts from her new book, The Hawthorne School, a twisty psychological thriller about the lengths one mother will go for her child. We will give away 10 signed copies of the book.

CONSUMER FRAUD &

Wednesday, May 11, 1:30 - 2:30 pm Community Meeting Room

Iwona Przonak Garcia, Outreach Liaison with the Attorney General's office, will share tips on how to protect yourself against identity theft, healthcare scams, home repair fraud, and more. She'll also briefly discuss other free services and programs. The program will be followed by a Q&A session.

HOLLYWOOD GOES TO THE LIBRARY &

Wednesday, May 11, 6:30 - 7:30 pm Community Meeting Room

Libraries and librarians have been portrayed in classic films spanning many genres. Film historian Dr. Annette Bochenek talks about depictions of libraries and librarians in classic films, as well as the influence of special ized real-life librarians on the film industry.

DIY SPRING MASON JAR VASE &

Thursday, May 26, 10 am - noon **Community Meeting Room**

Nothing says spring more than flowers. Join in the fun of making your own mason jar vase to put fresh flowers in!

Ongoing programs

ADULT TAKE & MAKE CRAFTS KIT

Mondays, March 7, April 4, May 2

Pick up a kit while supplies last and follow along with the video at youtube.com/ westmontpubliclibrary.

Map Coasters March 7 Tissue Paper Stained Glass April 4 Origami Bookmark May 2

WALK AND TALK BOOK CLUB &

Mondays, 4 - 5 pm March 7, April 4, May 2 Diane Main Park, 200 W 59th St.

Join us for an outdoor walk (weather permitting) and a chat about what books you are reading! Assistant Director Brittany Smith will discuss upcoming titles and provide on-the-go reader's advisory services.

4TH MONDAY BOOK CLUB

Mondays, 6:30 - 7:45 pm March 28, April 25, May 23 Community Meeting Room

Join this patron-led book discussion group to explore the world—one book at a time! See event calendar for titles; copies will be available for pickup one month in advance.

TEAM TRIVIA

Mondays, 7 – 9 pm March 28, April 25, May 23 Zazzo's Pizza & Bar, 200 W Ogden Ave.

Join us for an exciting evening of team trivia.

VIRTUAL: UNREAL WORLD **BOOK CLUB** &

Tuesdays, 7 - 8 pm March 1, April 5, May 3 Virtual on Zoom

Come talk about books set in imaginative times and places, from the mythic past to far future. See event calendar for titles: copies will be available for pickup one month in advance. Register with your email address to receive the link.

KNIT CLIQUE

Tuesdays, 6 - 7:45 pm March 8, April 12, May 10 **Community Meeting Room**

Beginners and experienced crafters alike are invited to attend this casual, patron-led knitting and crochet group.

WPL SPICE CLUB &

Wednesdays, 7 - 7:45 pm March 9, April 6, May 4 Community Meeting Room

Try new flavors and recipes, and connect with other cooking enthusiasts. Each month, the Library will provide a spice packet. Then we'll meet at the Library to share our thoughts on the featured spice and the dishes we've created. Register with your email address to receive an email when the month's spice is available for pickup.

GARDENING CLUB KICKOFF &

Saturday, May 21, 11:30 am - noon Community Meeting Room

We're starting a new gardening club! For information on how you can get involved-plus details for our spring gardening programs-see page 2.

WRITERS GROUP

Thursdays, 6 - 7:45 pm March 10 & 24, April 14 & 28, May 12 & 26 **Community Meeting Room**

This interactive, patron-led group is for adults interested in getting feedback from their peers on original writing.

VIRTUAL: ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP &

Saturdays, 10 - 11 am March 5 & 19, April 2 & 16, May 7 & 21 Virtual on Zoom

Come learn with us! Join this informal and friendly group to practice English conversation skills. Led by a tutor from Literacy DuPage, we meet all year long. Register with your email address to receive the link. Co-sponsored by Literacy DuPage.



10 WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S

Wednesday, March 2, 1 - 2 pm Community Meeting Room

Learn the common warning signs of Alzheimer's and what symptoms to look for in yourself and others. Discover tips to approach someone who is experiencing changes in their memory, and explore the benefit of early detection and diagnosis. In partnership with the Alzheimer's Association.

BUILDING MENTAL MUSCLES &

Wednesday, April 6, 1 - 2 pm **Community Meeting Room**

Join us for this fun, interactive program filled with tips and techniques to help strengthen your brain and memory. In partnership with Aspired Living of Westmont and Birches Assisted Living & Memory Care.

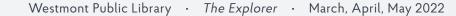
A DAY IN A LIFE &

Wednesday, May 4, 1 - 2:30 pm **Community Meeting Room**

What is it like to have dementia? This two-part, interactive program includes a screening of a short film and an opportunity to experience simulated effects of dementia. In partnership with Aspired Living of Westmont and Birches Assisted Living & Memory Care.

TOGETHER TIME VIDEOS

Seniors and caregivers, check out the **Dementia Friendly** Westmont playlist on our You-Tube channel (youtube.com/ westmontpubliclibrary) to find ideas for creating fun, purposeful, and meaningful moments.





Non-Profit U.S. Postage PAID Permit #12 Westmont, IL

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 8 pm Friday & Saturday 9 am - 5 pm Sunday noon - 4 pm

Scheduled Closings

Sunday, April 17 Sunday, May 29 and Monday, May 30

Library Contacts

westmontlibrary.org 630 869 6150

Main Desk 630 869 6160 maindesk@westmontlibrary.org

Adult Services 630 869 6155 reference@westmontlibrary.org

Youth Services 630 869 6165 youth@westmontlibrary.org

Julia Coen, Director 630 869 6170 jcoen@westmontlibrary.org

The Explorer Staff

Julia Coen, Director Brittany Smith, Assistant Director Aaron Hawkins, *The Explorer* Editor Kerry Barnett, *The Explorer* Design

Library Board of Trustees

Jason Fichtel, President Elaine Carmichael, Vice President Kerry O'Connor, Treasurer Heather Booth, Secretary Melissa Donoghue, Trustee Beth Krotiak, Trustee Joanne O'Malley, Trustee

The Board of Library Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. The public is invited to attend. Postal Patron Westmont, IL 60559



Photo policy: Program participants may be photographed or videorecorded for Library promotional purposes, including social media. Please notify Library staff if you prefer not to be photographed.

Accommodations: We ask individuals with disabilities who require accommodation for Library programs to contact us at least five days in advance.