



WESTMONT
PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE EXPLORER

December 2020, January & February 2021

Expanded Library Hours

Monday – Thursday 10 am – 7 pm
Friday & Saturday 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday 1 – 4 pm

To serve you better, we're adding hours on Sunday afternoons and in the evenings Monday through Thursday.

These hours are current as of publication. We encourage you to check our website, westmontlibrary.org, for the latest information on hours and services.

Westmont Reads:
One Community,
Many Voices

Virtual programs

Live discussions, videos,
and take-home kits

Readers' advisory:
Find your match.



Westmont Reads

December 15, 2020
– February 15, 2021

westmontlibrary.org/westmontreads

One Community, Many Voices

Join us as we celebrate the many voices of our community and the diversity of our experiences in our annual Westmont Reads program. This virtual, winter-long program features titles connected through one common theme: We all have a unique story to tell. We encourage you to read a wide range of books across multiple genres that are representative of the diverse world in which we live. We also invite you to celebrate your own story and your own voice!

Participation in Westmont Reads is easy. Our librarians have curated reading lists so that you can find a selection that interests you. Keep track of your reading list using our Beanstack app, and share your discoveries with the Library. Read one book, earn a prize, and receive an entry into our drawing to win a \$25 Anderson's Bookshops gift card. Each additional book you read will earn you another entry.

I've read a great book and logged it. Now what?

Keep reading! Or try out some related activities and earn more chances to win. For adults, we encourage you to join us for our live Zoom program exploring **genealogy**, and follow along as we create a framed **family recipe keepsake**. For kids, pick up Westmont Reads Take & Makes—**Paper Book: Tell Your Story** and **Family Garden**—and explore your family tree and history.

These programs encourage us to learn more about our own stories and find creative ways to document and celebrate them. Our staff will also be sharing our personal stories through the series **Westmont Reads: Our Family Stories**.

Celebrate the many voices of our community... and celebrate your own story and your own voice.



Librarian curated reading lists

You can find book lists with ideas for all ages—early childhood and families, grade school, teens, and adults—at westmontlibrary.org/westmontreads, or ask a librarian for suggestions!

Adult programming

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: THE MAKING OF A CLASSIC

Premieres Dec. 1 on YouTube.

Can you believe this movie bombed at the box office? Join Leslie Goddard to learn about this and other behind-the-scenes tidbits of one of the most loved holiday movies.

Available through Dec. 14.

WINTER DECOUPAGE CANDLES KIT

Kits/video available starting Dec. 2.

Pick up a kit, then create your own winter-themed electric candle with our video tutorial!

Kits available while supplies last.

TECH TUESDAY

Premieres Dec. 8, Jan. 5 & 19, and Feb. 2 & 16 on YouTube.

Every other Tuesday is Tech Tuesday! Learn something new about popular programs like Microsoft Word and Excel, discover free apps, or dip your toes into video editing or 3D printing.

PIZZA CANDY CANE CRESCENT

Premieres Dec. 16 on YouTube.

Learn to make this savory treat in the shape of a favorite holiday candy!

FRAMED FAMILY RECIPE KEEPSAKE

Premieres Jan. 13 on YouTube.

Discover an artistic way to preserve and display cherished family recipes.



AFRICAN AMERICAN HEROES AND SHEROES

Premieres Feb. 1 on YouTube.

Looking at her own family's dreams and goals, Linda Gorham shares stories of African American men and women who broke color barriers and had noteworthy accomplishments—often in spite of difficult circumstances. Let's celebrate Black History Month with Gorham as she incorporates story, music, personal narrative, quotes, and historical facts to commemorate their achievements.

Available through Feb. 21.

Live on Zoom

Register for these live programs with your email address to receive the link to participate on Zoom.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW: THE ART OF INVENTING HOPE LIVE

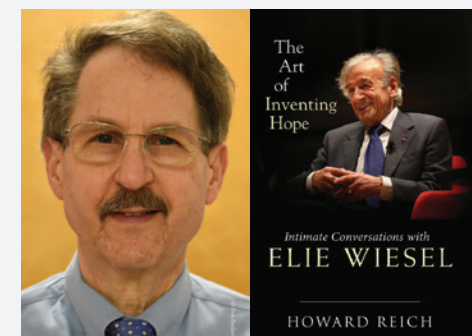
Dec. 9, 7 pm, live on Zoom

Award-winning journalist Howard Reich speaks about his new book, *The Art of Inventing Hope: Conversations with Elie Wiesel*. Mr. Reich shares some of the conversations between his parents, who were Holocaust survivors, and Elie Wiesel, also a survivor, during the last four years of Mr. Wiesel's life.

Twenty randomly selected attendees will win a copy of *The Art of Inventing Hope*.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Westmont Public Library.

This is a live Zoom program that will be recorded and posted to YouTube.



GENEALOGY: WHAT IS IT? WHERE DO I BEGIN? LIVE

Jan. 4, 7 pm, live on Zoom

Looking for help to start researching your family history? Local genealogist Suz Bates is here to help!

This is a live Zoom program that will be recorded and posted to YouTube through January 31.

INVESTMENT CONCERNS IN A FRAGILE MARKET LIVE

Jan. 20, 7 pm, live on Zoom

Join speaker Ray Kozicki with the Society for Financial Awareness as he discusses how to adjust to the current market fluctuation and other investment concerns.

Participate online with Beanstack

Detailed instructions are available at westmontlibrary.org/westmontreads.

1. Visit Beanstack

Mobile App:



Download the **Beanstack Tracker app** on your phone or tablet.

Search for—then select—Westmont Public Library.

Desktop:



Visit westmontlibrary.beanstack.org in your browser.

2. Sign in or sign up

If you already have a Beanstack account:

Sign in with your email and password.

If you haven't used Beanstack before:

Sign up with your email address—no library card needed!

3. Join the challenge

You can use a single Beanstack account (one login) for everyone in your family.

Add a Reader for each person who's taking part.

Register each Reader for the One Community, Many Voices challenge.

4. Log your reading

Log one book to complete the challenge and earn a prize, plus get an entry into our prize drawing. Log additional books and activities for more chances to win.



In the app, start by tapping the **+** icon at the bottom.



On desktop, start by clicking **Log Reading** in the upper left.

Upcoming bestsellers

December 2020

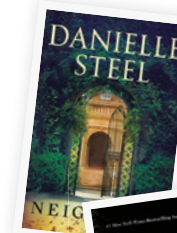
Hush, Hush, Stuart Woods
The Mystery of Mrs. Christie, Marie Benedict
Perestroika in Paris, Jane Smiley

January 2021

The Lost Boys, Faye Kellerman
The Russian, James Patterson
Neighbors, Danielle Steel

February 2021

Four Winds, Kristin Hannah
The Russian Cage, Charlene Harris
The Vineyard at Painted Moon, Susan Mallery



Look for these titles and more, coming this winter.

Youth programming

Early childhood & family-friendly

DIY WINTER STORYTIME KIT

Ages 0 – 5 years

Kits available starting Dec. 1.

This take-home storytime kit includes one snow-themed picture book, 3 felt snowflakes, a tulle snowflake, and ideas for rhyming and moving activities for your young child.

BUSY BAGS

Ages 18 months – 3 years

Sticker Sorting: Kits available starting Jan. 5.
Silly Straw Lacing: Kits available starting Feb. 2.

Pick up a take-home activity to help your toddler learn colors and shapes and practice their fine motor skills.

DIY TOY HOUSE KIT

Ages 3 – 8 years

Kits/video available starting Jan. 12.

Work together as a family to put together a four room cardboard house just the right size for doll-house dolls, small superheroes, or animal figures. Contents include pieces to build the house and some supplies for decorating and furnishing, along with ideas to spark further creativity.

LUNAR NEW YEAR STORYTIME

Ages 3 – 6 years

Kits/video available starting Feb. 9.

Join Language Lab Storyteller Peggy Huang for a special Lunar New Year storytime. Learn some Mandarin words while sharing songs and stories about this holiday.

Video available through Jun. 8.

MONDAYS

LANGUAGE STORYTIME *Prereaders*

Songs and stories in Spanish or French, presented by The Language Labs.

WEDNESDAYS

MESSAGES FROM MS. ADRIAN *Babies & Toddlers*

Ms. Adrian shares short rhymes, finger plays, and flannel board stories.

THURSDAYS

ALPHABET STORYTIME *Preschool*

Ms. Elizabeth introduces a new letter each week through songs and flannel stories.

WPL @ HOME *All ages/family*

Crafts and activities to do together.

FRIDAYS IN FEBRUARY

BOOK BITES *Prereaders*

Join Ms. Adrian as she prepares simple snacks at home that extend the fun of favorite picture books.




Stop by the lobby to pick up a **TAKE & MAKE ** containing basic supplies and instructions, then take it home to enjoy. Kits are designed for ages 3 – 8. *Available while supplies last.*

Light-up Lantern <i>Holly Days</i>	Dec. 1	Popsicle Stick Hot Chocolate Mug	Jan. 19
Winter Picture Frame	Dec. 8	Valentine Kit	Feb. 2
Beaded Keychains	Dec. 15	Craft Stick Aquarium	Feb. 16
Ugly Sweater Decorating	Dec. 22		




Paper Book: Tell Your Story	Dec. 29	Family Garden	Jan. 5
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Program kits

Take home a kit to make and enjoy! Look for the  icon after the program title.

Program kits with video instructions

Create along with us (virtually)! Look for the  icon after the program title.

Pick up a kit of program supplies, then follow along at home with our video instructions. Kits will be available to pick up—and the video will premiere on our YouTube channel, [youtube.com/westmontpubliclibrary](https://www.youtube.com/westmontpubliclibrary)—starting on the program date.

Available while supplies last. If you can't make it in for a kit, a list of supplies will also be provided with each video.

Teens (Gr. 6 – 12)

Registration is required for programs with a checkmark. 

Register at [westmontlibrary.org/events](https://www.westmontlibrary.org/events), by phone at 630 869 6150, or in person.

SHRINKY DINKS

Dec. 2, 6:30 pm, live on Zoom

Pick up shrinky dink plastic and join us on Zoom to learn how to make different designs and share ideas with other teens.

Don't forget to register for and pick up your kit before the program, so you can craft along with us!

DIY STRESS BALL

Premieres Dec. 16 on YouTube.

Learn how to make a stress ball with a balloon and various household materials.

Grade school (Gr. K – 5)

PROCESS ART PARTY

Process Art with Elizabeth:

Kits/video available starting Dec. 8.

Process Art with Kimberly:

Kits/video available starting Dec. 22.

Get inspired with some process art projects. Gather together an assortment of craft materials and create something new!

VIRTUAL MYSTERY CHALLENGE

Premieres Jan. 5 on YouTube.

January 6 is Sherlock Holmes' Birthday. Celebrate the occasion with a series of mysteries and puzzles that only those with the most exceptional detective skills should dare take on.

MINIATURE WINTER TERRARIUMS

Kits/video available starting Jan. 12.

Create your own winter landscape using items found around your home. Get creative and add animals, trees and more.

Find videos in the **WPL Kids** playlist on our YouTube channel.

SALT CRYSTAL SNOWFLAKES

Kits/video available starting Jan. 26.

Enjoy this simple kitchen chemistry experiment using salt, a jar, and pipe cleaners to create your own crystal snowflake.

POP UP CARD FOR BEGINNERS

Kits/video available starting Feb. 9.

Continue the season of card-giving with these tips and tricks to make your very own pop up cards!

POM POM PALOOZA

Kits/video available starting Feb. 23.

Learn to make and decorate your own pom pom!

Find videos in the **WPL Teens** playlist on our YouTube channel.

PONY BEAD LIZARDS

Kits/video available starting Jan. 13.

Pick up a pack of pony beads and follow along at home to make your own lizard keychain!

DIY ROCK CANDY

Premieres Feb. 10 on YouTube.

Learn how to make your own rock candy—that also doubles as a science experiment—with a few simple ingredients.

TEEN ADVISING COMMITTEE

Jan. 27, 6:30 pm, live on Zoom
Feb. 24, 6:30 pm, live on Zoom

Meet with Ms. Alyssa and other Teens on Zoom to discuss programs, books, and what you would like to see happen in the library.

Earns volunteer hours! Sign up for either date or both.



Westmont Public Library
428 N Cass Ave.
Westmont, IL 60559

Curbside Pickup

Monday – Thursday 10 am – 7 pm
Friday & Saturday 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday 1 pm – 4 pm

- 1 Request items.
- 2 Receive a notification when your items are ready.
- 3 Pick up in the Library parking lot.

For more details, please visit
westmontlibrary.org/curbside.

Library Contacts

westmontlibrary.org
630 869 6150
westmontlibrary@westmontlibrary.org

Main Desk 630 869 6160
maindesk@westmontlibrary.org

Adult Services 630 869 6155
reference@westmontlibrary.org

Youth Services 630 869 6165
youth@westmontlibrary.org

Readers' advisory

a service
which involves
**suggesting titles
to a reader**

Looking for something new to read?

Ask your friendly Westmont Public Library staff! At WPL we have readers' advisory services available to help you find your next read.

Ask our librarians.

Personal book recommendations can be requested through our website. Answer a few easy questions about your reading preferences, and let our librarians curate a list of books to suit your taste!

westmontlibrary.org/personal-recs



Browse with Novelist.

Looking for something a little more self service? Check out Novelist in the Digital Branch! Search for readalikes by title, author, story elements, and more.

westmontlibrary.org/novelist



Explore our lists and reviews.

Did you know we also have a site, Book Recs, dedicated to staff reviews and recommendations? New reviews and themed lists are added regularly, and you can search by age, format, and genre.

westmontlibrary.org/bookrecs