

# SARATOGA SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



## Back to school?



*Early September is a great time for a refresher on the various resources available to help with projects you know the school year will bring.*

### Online Resources

It's an experience many parents know: it's the night before a report is due and you're just being told about a project that still needs some work! The great news is, we have resources to help you out 24/7, so you can get started even if the library is closed. From CultureGrams to Digital Science Online, Utah's Online Library and other sources are here to help. At the top of the library's home page, you can find the Educational Resources and Online Resources pages; we suggest exploring the options and seeing what is available *before* the late-night homework hits!

*Need more help and aren't in a time crunch? Feel free to send a request through the Ask A Librarian form, found under the Services tab on our home page.*

### Battle of the Books

Another tradition that comes with the beginning of school is the rush to find and read all of entries on this year's national Battle of the Books list. These books are always going to be in demand; to prevent frustration at an empty display, we heartily suggest putting the next book you want on hold. (And be kind to others waiting their turn; please return books promptly.) *Find each grade's list on page 3.*

## LIBRARY BOARD VACANCY

The City of Saratoga Springs is seeking an interested and qualified citizen volunteer to serve on the Library Advisory Board to fill the remainder of a three-year term position ending June 30, 2025. Resumes and Letters of Interest will be accepted until the position is filled.

To apply, please submit a Resume/Cover Letter describing interest & relevant experience to:

City of Saratoga Springs  
Attn: Library Director  
1307 N. Commerce Drive, Suite 140  
Saratoga Springs, UT 84045

[library@saratogasprings-ut.gov](mailto:library@saratogasprings-ut.gov)

For more information, visit: [www.saratogasprings-ut.gov/286/Library-Board](http://www.saratogasprings-ut.gov/286/Library-Board)

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM  
Friday-Saturday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM



### CONTACT US

801-766-6513 [saratogasprings-ut.gov/library](http://saratogasprings-ut.gov/library)  
Instagram & Facebook: Saratoga Springs Public Library

ask me  
anything!\*

## \* LIBRARY RELATED

Questions? Send them to  
[library@saratogaspringscity.com](mailto:library@saratogaspringscity.com)  
to be answered in a future  
newsletter.

### Q: I've heard that you're getting a new library! When will it open?

A: We are so excited! The city held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new City Hall & Library in mid-March this year; we anticipate that the building will be completed in late fall of 2025. We will be sure to keep our amazing customers in the loop as we hear more information and have firm dates for when the new building will be in use. You can always watch the city's webpage for more information as well.

### Q: I want to register my kids for a program that's for a specific age range, but there is conflicting information about what age it's for. Which set of ages is correct?

A: We have heard this question a few times, and understand the confusion - it stems from limitations in the free software we use. When we create an event on the calendar, it requires us to choose an age category from a few options listed (photo A below).

These categories are preset by the software company; we are unable to edit them, and so they don't always match the age group we have set for the program. We choose the age range option that most closely matches the actual age of the program; think of the initial general age range as an umbrella covering the age range we actually need.

If you're looking at the general details on the calendar (photo B) it will show the age range from the preset age categories. The age range stated in the event description (the info that shows when you click "more details" - photo C) is the one that is accurate.

When in doubt, you can always email Taffi, our programming specialist, at [tpugh@saratogasprings-ut.gov](mailto:tpugh@saratogasprings-ut.gov).

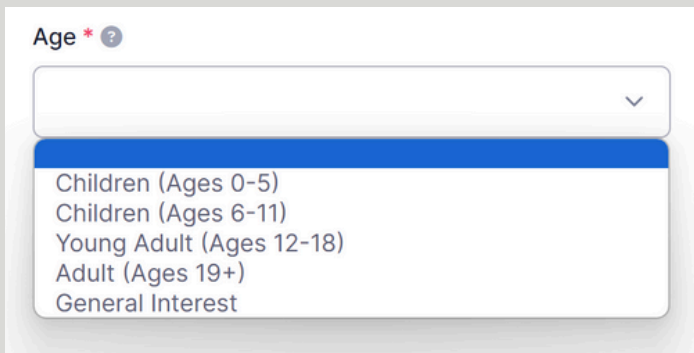


Photo A: the options we must choose from

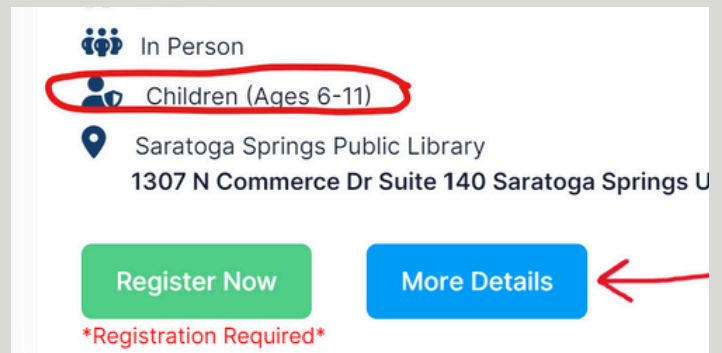


Photo B: how the general details look on the 'quick look' first info page. From here, click 'more details' - which takes us to Photo C.

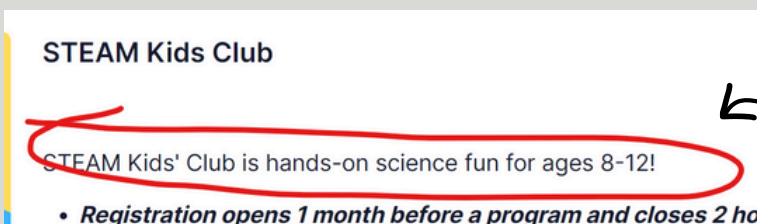
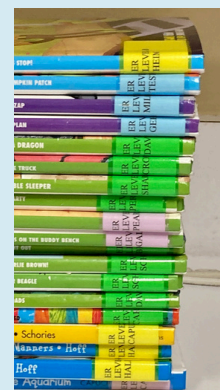


Photo C: What you see on the "more details" page is what we enter to describe the program; this section has the accurate age range, along with all the info regarding how to register.

# Decoding the Early Reader Labeling System

If you've ever tried to figure out which early reader level you should choose for your child's current reading level, you can understand the frustration and confusion that often comes with searching for a book. The source of the confusion is that every publisher of early reader books uses its own leveling system: this means, for example, two books marked as Level 1 by different publishers can have wildly different word counts and difficulty levels. Because of this, we decided to create a system making the early reader book levels more consistent for those searching for a book.



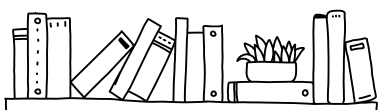
The levels (and corresponding labels) on the books are:

ER LEVEL-A have approximately 1 sentence per page AND have a light blue label.

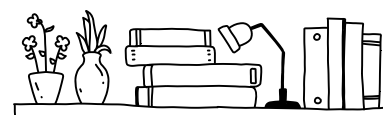
ER LEVEL-B have approximately 2 sentences per page AND have a yellow label.

ER LEVEL-C have approximately 3 sentences per page AND have a light purple label.

ER LEVEL-D have approximately 4 + sentences per page AND have a bright green label.



## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2024-2025



### GRADES 3-4

*The World According to Humphrey*  
by Betty G. Birney  
*The Sword in the Tree*  
by Clyde Robert Bulla  
*Dandelions* by Eve Bunting  
*The Enormous Egg*  
by Oliver Butterworth  
*Jake Drake, Bully Buster*  
by Andrew Clements  
*Honus and Me: A Baseball Card Adventure* by Dan Gutman  
*Dory Fantasmagory* by Abby Hanion  
*Bunnicula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery*  
by Deborah & James Howe  
*Invisible Inkling* by Emily Jenkins  
*Orphan Train Girl* (young readers edition) by Christina Baker Kline  
*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg  
*Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear*  
by Lindsey Mattick  
*Judy Moody Gets Famous!*  
by Megan McDonald  
*The Superlative A. Lincoln*  
by Eileen R. Meyer  
*Dinosaurs Before Dark*  
by Mary Osborne  
*City Spies* by James Ponti  
*May B* by Caroline Starr Rose  
*How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning*  
by Rosalyn Schanzer  
*Stuart Little* by E.B. White  
*Christopher Mouse: The Tale of a Small Traveler* by William Wise

### GRADES 5-6

*The Secret School* by Avi  
*Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling  
*A Nest for Celeste* by Henry Cole  
*The Tale of Despereaux*  
by Kate DiCamillo  
*Tuesdays at the Castle*  
by Jessica Day George  
*Running Out of Time*  
by Margaret Haddix  
*Roller Girl* by Victoria Jamieson  
*Slacker* by Gordon Korman  
*Chronicles of Narnia: Lion, Witch, & the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis  
*Wild Wings* by Gill Lewis  
*Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
*The Kite Fighters* by Linda Park  
*Half Upon a Time #1* by James Riley  
*We're Not From Here* by Geoff Rodkey  
*Sideways Stories from Wayside School*  
by Louis Sachar  
*Frozen Stiff* by Sherry Shahan  
*The Last Mapmaker*  
by Christina Soontornvat  
*The Mysterious Benedict Society*  
by Trenton Stewart  
*A Crooked Kind of Perfect*  
by Linda Urban  
*Bridge Home* by Padma Venkatraman

### GRADES 7-8

*Return to Sender* (2010) by Julia Alvarez  
*Doll Bones* by Holly Black  
*The Midwife's Apprentice*  
by Karen Cushman  
*The Eyes and the Impossible*  
by Dave Eggers  
*Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine  
*Starfish* by Lisa Fipps  
*The Skin I'm In* by Sharon Flake  
*Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan* by John Flanagan  
*Alone* by Megan E. Freeman  
*Julie of the Wolves*  
by Jean Craighead George  
*Everything on a Waffle* by Polly Horvath  
*When Stars are Scattered*  
by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed  
*The Thing About Luck*  
by Cynthia Kadohata  
*Swindle* by Gordon Korman  
*The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had*  
by Kristin Levine  
*A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park  
*A Long Way from Chicago*  
by Richard Peck  
*The Hired Girl* by Laura Amy Schlitz  
*Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian Football Team*  
by Steve Sheinkin  
*Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli



## The library is closed on the following dates:

**Monday, September 2 (Labor Day)**

**Monday, October 14  
(Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day)**

**Thursday, Friday, & Saturday,  
November 28, 29, 30  
(Thanksgiving break)**

**Tuesday & Wednesday,  
December 24 & 25 (Christmas)**

**The library closes early (at 5 pm) on  
October 31 and November 27.**

**We will also be closing early (at 3 pm) on  
December 31.**

## Don't forget!

**There are no programs held in the library on the following dates:**

**Tues., Sept. 3**

**Tues.-Fri., Oct. 15-18**

**Tue., Nov. 12**

**Wed., Nov. 27**

**Mon., Dec. 2**

**Winter break is  
Dec. 23 through Jan. 3**

All programming information, including dates and registration requirements, can be found on the calendar on our website:

[saratogasprings-ut.gov/library](http://saratogasprings-ut.gov/library)

## HOW-TO SECTION

### Have you forgotten your password?

1. Visit [saratogaspringscity.com/library](http://saratogaspringscity.com/library).
2. Click on the link for 'Card Catalog & Log Into Your Account'
3. Click on 'Forgot Your Password'.
4. Enter your card number and email address to have a password reset link sent to you. *(If you have multiple accounts with the same email address, you will have to enter your card number to generate the password reset link.)*

When you reset your password here, you will need to use that new password to sign in to your digital resources as well.

SARATOGA SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY

## MOON PARTY

*Get ready to learn, be amazed, and explore!*

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2024**

**7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM**

**NEPTUNE PARK**

**454 W 400 N**

**SARATOGA SPRINGS**

Check out awesome telescopes and fun science activities for all ages.



**Kiwanis**  
of Westlake

## MEET OUR STAFF: Céline



### Top 3 favorite books:

*Black Sun* by Rebecca Roanhorse  
*We Free the Stars* by Hafsah Faizal  
*Don't Call the Wolf* by Aleksandra Ross

### Recent reads:

*My Salty Mary* by Brodi Ashton, Cynthia Hand, & Jodi Meadows  
*Harrow the Ninth* by Tamsyn Muir

### How many pairs of shoes do you own?

Too many probably, but many, many pairs of boots.

### What is your favorite animal?

Bears!

### Do you love or hate roller coasters?

Undecided; some are okay, but NOT the spinning ones!

### What do you love most about working in the library?

I love the sense of community, and how it always feels like a safe space.

## Youth Programs: Fall 2024

### MONDAY

\* Preschool Pals: 10 AM  
 \* Munchkin MESS: 11 AM  
 Community Play: 10:30-noon

### TUESDAY

\* Move, Rattle & Shake:  
 10:00 AM ONLY  
 Community Play: 10:30-noon

### WEDNESDAY

\* Bouncing Babies: 10 AM  
 \* Toddler Time: 11 AM  
 Community Play: 10:30-noon

### THURSDAY

\* Spanish Story Time: 10 AM  
 \* Preschool Pals: 11 AM  
 Community Play: 10:30-noon  
 \* STEAM Kids Club: 4 PM

### FRIDAY

\* Move, Rattle & Shake:  
 10 AM & 11 AM  
 Community Play  
 10:30-noon

\* Indicates  
 Registration  
 Required

Follow us!



SaratogaSpringsLibrary

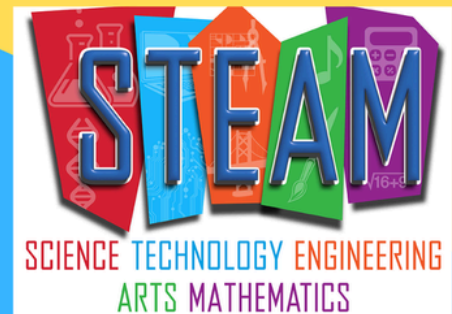


saratogaspringspubliclibraryut



For more information about the programs and how to register, please use the QR code above or visit our website at [saratogasprings-ut.gov/library](http://saratogasprings-ut.gov/library)

## SARATOGA SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY



## KIDS CLUB

For ages 8-12

Thursdays \* 4:00 to 5:00 PM

### September Themes

September 12:  
 Aerospace Engineering  
 September 19: Astronomy  
 September 26: Physics /  
 Newton's Laws

### October Themes

October 3: Entomology  
 October 10: Paleontology  
 October 17: NONE  
 October 24: Neuroscience  
 October 31: NONE





# Early literacy at home

Literacy isn't just reading!



## What is letter awareness, and why is it important ?

*Knowing that letters are different from each other, knowing letter names and sounds, and recognizing letters everywhere are the basics of letter awareness.*

*To read words, children have to understand that a word is made up of individual letters.*



**Remember: there is no app to replace your lap!**

## What Can You Do to Help Build This Skill?

- Look at and talk about different shapes (*letters are based on shapes*)
- Play "same and different"-type games
- Look at "I Spy" type books
- Notice different types of letters ("a" vs "A") on signs and in books
- Read ABC books
- Talk about and draw the letters of a child's own name

## Daily Fun with Your Little One!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1 Writing</b> It's World Letter Writing Day. Keep it simple (and literal). Fill a tray with rice and have your child use his finger to form letters in the rice.	<b>2 Reading</b> It's Library Card Sign-Up Month. Take a trip to the library and get your child a library card of his own. Let him check out some books.	<b>3 Songs</b> It's Classical Music Month. Play a kid-friendly piece such as Vivaldi's <i>Four Seasons</i> or Tchaikovsky's <i>1812 Overture (Finale)</i> . Ask your child what it makes her imagine.	<b>4 Play</b> It's Labor Day. Act out community helper roles. Let your child pretend to be a firefighter, doctor, and more to expand his understanding of different occupations.	<b>5 Science</b> Get a few types of apples. Have your child taste each one. Discuss the similarities and differences. Which is her favorite?	<b>6 Reading</b> Today is Read A Book Day. Read your child's favorite book to him. Ask him to make up a new ending.	<b>7 Rhymes</b> Act out a rhyme with your child like "Leaves Are Falling" or "Five Little Acorns."
<b>8 Stories</b> It's Grandparents Day. Share a fun story with your child about her grandparents.	<b>9 Writing</b> It's Teddy Bear Day. Help your child write a note to his teddy about what makes it special.	<b>10 Sounds</b> Place some leaves in a bucket or bowl. Ask your child what sounds she can make by swirling or crunching the leaves.	<b>11 Play</b> It's Make Your Bed Day. How fast can your child make his bed? Time him and see. Can he do it again and beat his record?	<b>12 Stories</b> Tell your child what your favorite fall activity is. Ask what her favorite is. Go out and enjoy your activities together.	<b>13 Math</b> Put together a puzzle with your child. Then take it apart and do it again!	<b>14 Songs</b> On this day in 1716, the first lighthouse in America was built in Boston Harbor. Sing along to <i>Little Lighthouse</i> by Sue McBride with your child.
<b>15 Writing</b> Help your child draw fall fruits and veggies such as apples, pears, and pumpkins.	<b>16 Science</b> As cooler weather approaches, explore outdoors with your child and help him look for evidence of animals and insects getting ready for winter.	<b>17 Reading</b> Read a fall-themed book with your child like <i>Little Acorn</i> from Igloo Books or <i>The Leaf Thief</i> by Alice Hemming.	<b>18 Play</b> Go on a fall nature walk and look for signs of autumn in your area. Collect fallen leaves, acorns, and pinecones for a fun art project.	<b>19 Stories</b> Celebrate Honey Month by watching bee-themed movies with your child, like <i>Bee Movie</i> . Make up and share your own bee stories.	<b>20 Rhymes</b> Practice the "30 Days Has September" nursery rhyme with your child.	<b>21 Writing</b> It's Gratitude Day. Help your child create a list where each letter of the alphabet is the first letter of something he is thankful for. Be silly!
<b>22 Sounds</b> Celebrate the first day of autumn by having your child listen for fall animal sounds. Can she hear bird songs or squirrel chatter?	<b>23 Math</b> Gather leaves with your child. Have him match them by color, variety, and size. Then count how many of each.	<b>24 Reading</b> For Punctuation Day, show your child how punctuation can show excitement ("What!") or curiosity ("What?").	<b>25 Math</b> It's Math Storytelling Day. Tell your child a fun story with simple math problems she can solve along the way.	<b>26 Play</b> Prepare for winter! Have your child pick a stuffed animal and use a pillow and blanket to create a snug bed/den for his animal to sleep/hibernate in.	<b>27 Rhymes</b> Ask your child to name as many words as she can think of that rhyme with "fall."	<b>28 Songs</b> Make up songs to sing about autumn fun like jumping in leaf piles and picking apples.
<b>29 Play</b> Have a pumpkin hunt! Hide some mini pumpkins indoors or outside. Label them with numbers or letters. Have your child say the number/letter as he finds them.	<b>30 Science</b> Explore outdoors with your child. Help her look for evidence of animals and insects getting ready for winter.	Help your child get ready to learn to read! Each day features a fun activity that will help your child build pre-reading skills. Activities are color-coded by skill. Ask your children's librarian for more ideas on how to promote early literacy skills with daily activities at home.				





# Steam at Home

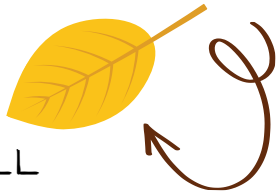


## WHY DO TREES CHANGE COLOR?



RED -  
ANTHOCYANIN

Produced as chlorophyll  
is broken down.



YELLOW -  
XANTHOPHYLL

Responsible for yellow color  
of autumn squash and corn.



ORANGE -  
CAROTENE

Also responsible for  
giving carrots their  
coloring!

GREEN - CHLOROPHYLL

Pigment that gives plants their green  
color; helps plants create their own  
food through photosynthesis.

As Chlorophyll breaks down due to change  
in daylight and temperature, leaves stop  
their food-making process, allowing the  
different colors to become visible!

## PINECONE BIRDFEEDERS



What you will need:

- Pinecone
- Birdseed
- Peanut Butter
- Twine/String/Yarn
- Popsicle Stick

### PROCEDURE:

1. Collect a Pinecone.
2. Tie a loop of twine to the pinecone.
3. Use the popsicle stick to spread the peanut butter on the pinecone.
4. Fill the bowl with birdseed, and roll the pinecone in the seeds so that it is coated completely.
5. Hang your birdfeeder outside. Enjoy watching the birds!

