

WDM LIBRARY

West Des Moines Public Library Monthly Newsletter



REGULAR HOURS

Labor Day - Memorial Day

Monday - Thursday
9am - 9pm

Friday 9am - 6pm

Saturday 9am - 5pm

Sunday 2pm - 5pm

Patrons participate in our new Tween Book Club

Sensory Spaces @ Metro Libraries

Sensory Spaces are Metro area libraries offering special hours for members of the public who appreciate a sensory friendly environment. While individuals and families with special needs are welcome at our libraries during regular hours, these sensory times will offer quieter browsing, special programming, and other adaptive services that will vary by location.



For all ages, no registration required.

Upcoming Sensory Spaces:

- October 7 from 4-5 PM | [Waukee Public Library](#)
- October 8 from 1-2 PM | [West Des Moines Public Library](#)
- November 5 from 12-1 PM | [Urbandale Public Library](#)
- December 3 from 1-2 PM | [West Des Moines Public Library](#)
- December 9 from 4-5 PM | [Waukee Public Library](#)

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CHILDREN & TEENS OCTOBER EVENTS

Memory Care Storytime

In our latest [podcast episode](#), we sat down with our Homebound and Outreach Assistant Betsy Richter. Betsy wears many hats in the outreach world, but one of her newest is coordinating memory care storytimes and kits to eldercare facilities in our community. She shares what inspired her to start this program and why it's so important to engage with our population experiencing cognitive decline.



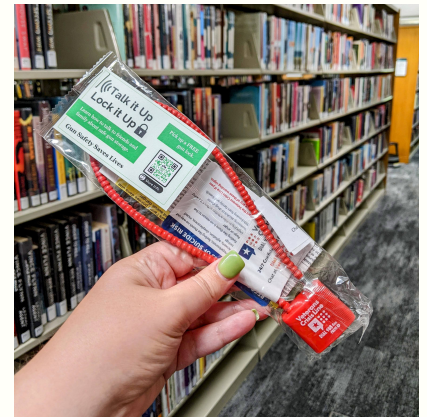
WDM Library is a Free Gun Lock Pick-Up Location

The West Des Moines Public Library is partnering with the Polk County Health Department to be a pick-up location for free gun locks. Patrons do not need to have a library card in order to pick up a free gun lock at the Accounts and Checkout Desk or Children's Desk.

These free locks are provided thanks to the Polk County Health Department's Talk It Up, Lock It Up campaign which educates Polk County residents about gun safety. According to the Polk County Health website, guns are the leading cause of death for children and young adults in the U.S. and are the second leading cause of death for children and young adults in Polk County.

There are many places around Polk County (including the WDM Library) that you can get a free gun lock. [See the full list here.](#)

We will also be hosting the event "BeSMART About Gun Safety," on Wednesday, October 4 from 7:00 - 8:00 PM. There will be gun locks and other resources available for attendees to take home with them after the event.



New Titles Added to the Collection

Children's



Young Adult



Adult



Q: Get prepared for the upcoming election on November 7?

A: Our library staff is happy to assist you with any questions you might have regarding the upcoming city/school board election on November 7, 2023. In the past, we have been an early voting location. We will not be an early voting location for this election.

How do I...



Need to [register](#)?

We have paper applications that can be mailed to your county auditor in time for November 7th. You can also register at your county auditor's office. Find your county auditor's office [here](#).

Not sure if you are registered?

The Adult Services Desk staff can help you [verify your registration online](#).

Has your polling location changed?

We can also help you [find your polling site](#). Your site may have changed for this election, so check before you go to vote!

Planning to vote via Absentee Ballot?

Applications for absentee ballots can be obtained [online](#) in a PDF format, or mailed upon request from the Secretary of State. You can also request a ballot by mailing the application to the [county auditor/commissioner of elections](#) in the county where you are registered.

Full information on voting in the state of Iowa can be found at [VoterReady.Iowa.gov](#).

October Adult Events at the WDM Library

Social Security: Knowing Your Options

Monday, October 2 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

In this session you'll learn how to find out what your social security might be in the future, as well as some tips or tricks on how to lower your taxable income by utilizing more tax advantaged vehicles. No registration required.



Musical Performance by Matt Woods

Saturday, October 14 - 1:00 - 2:00 PM

As a seasoned performer of many local, regional and national venues, Matt has developed his own unique style while staying true to his love of traditional American music. No registration.



Be Smart About Gun Safety

Wednesday, October 4 - 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Be SMART is a program to bring together parents and all adults concerned about kids, guns, and safety. Be SMART is a framework that parents, caretakers, and community leaders can follow to help keep their communities safe. No registration.

Iowa Files: Camp Dodge; Always Ready

Sunday, October 15 - 2:30 - 3:30 PM

During 1917-1918, Camp Dodge Iowa became the largest military base in Iowa's history. Gold Star Museum Curator Mike Vogt will share an illustrated presentation exploring the training activities conducted in support of the US Army's victory in World War I. No registration required.



Dungeons & Dragons One Shot Series

Thursday, October 5 - 5:45 - 9:00 PM

This session will be using D&D 5th edition rules and materials. Characters will be provided. Dice and books are also available if needed. Registration required.



Best Practices for Genealogy Research on the Internet

Monday, October 16 - 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Are you researching your family history and feeling a bit overwhelmed by all the information online? Genealogist Kevin Spire will show you ways the Internet can support your family history research. No registration.



Tech One-On-One

Saturday, October 7 & 21 - 10:00, 10:30, 11:00 AM

Do you have a specific computer, mobile device, or other technology-related questions? We are here to help! Registration requested.



Adult Craft Night: Ghost Wall Hangers

Thursday, October 19 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Come join us to create a fun craft for the adult crowd! We will have a variety of supplies to make ghost wall hangers! Registration is required and spots fill quickly.

The Ground-Breaking Men and Women of Fort Des Moines

Monday, October 9 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

In 1917, 1,250 men came to Des Moines to be part of the first officer training camp for Black men in US military history. Decades later, Fort Des Moines hosted the first class of women. Learn more about how these individuals left a legacy of service long after leaving the uniform behind. No registration required.



Step Back in Time: Historical Fiction Book Group

Thursday, October 19 - 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Hosted at the Jordan House (2001 Fuller Road)

This group discusses titles from a wide variety of time/places/people. Please join us for a discussion of Circling the Sun by Paula McLain. Registration required.



Club Read: Hybrid Edition

Monday, October 9 - 7:00 - 8:45 PM

Join us for a book club discussion on September 11. We will be discussing The Wishing Game by Meg Shaffer. You may join us in the Millie Knee Classroom upstairs at the library or in Zoom. Registration is required.



Book Club Social: Hybrid Edition!

Monday, October 23 - 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Please join Alana and Amy to discuss what everyone has been reading and watching this month. You may join us in the Millie Knee Classroom upstairs at the library or in Zoom. Registration is required.



Color Connection: Adult Coloring Club

Tuesday, October 10 - 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Relax, unwind and color your stress away! Studies show that coloring can have a calming effect on the mind and help promote wellness. No registration.



Author Event: Brooke Van Sickle

Tuesday, October 24 - 6:45 - 8:00 PM

The Friends Foundation is proud to present local author Brooke Van Sickle. Brooke is a 3-time picture book author and creator of Bibliokid Publishing. She will speak about her writing journey and what it's like to start a publishing house. No registration.



YA Not Club Read

Thursday, October 12 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

YA Not Club Read is our non-traditional book club for "Grown ups" who like to read and talk about Young Adult books. This month we'll be discussing Gallant by V.E. Schwab. Registration required.



How to "Read" a Cemetery

Thursday, October 26 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Join us in exploring common cemetery iconography. You'll learn about how even though there are multiple points of views and facets to these images, the symbolism is represented across many cemeteries. No registration.



Was the Book Better Than the Movie?

Practical Magic

Saturday, October 28 - 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Read the book beforehand (if you like), and then come and enjoy a good movie, followed by some lively discussion about the differences between the two. The library will provide popcorn. No registration required.



WDM Writer's Group

Saturday, October 14 & 28 - 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Open to aspiring authors of all experience levels. Each participant brings an approximately 1500-word excerpt of their work-in-progress to read aloud. Constructive critique follows each writer's turn. No reg.



Children & Teen October Events at the WDM Library

Tween Club Read

Tuesday, October 3 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM

(Ages 11-14)

If you like to talk about books (but you're getting too old for our other book clubs), this club is for you. Join us for discussion and activities related to this month's book Doll Bones by Holly Black! Register online or at the Children's Desk. Get a copy at the Children's Desk.



Family Storytime

Wednesdays (6:30 - 7:30 PM) Thursdays (10:30 - 11:30 AM) and Fridays (10:30 - 11:30 AM) Dates: 10/11, 10/12, 10/13, 10/18, 10/19, 10/20

(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)

Join us in the Community Room for this class featuring stories, songs, and rhymes followed by gross and fine motor play all with an early literacy focus! No registration.



Teen Halloween Party

Tuesday, October 6 - 5:30 - 7:30 PM

(Grades 6-12)

This year, we're showing "The Nightmare Before Christmas" movie, eating pizza and popcorn, and working on fun crafts. Dressing up (in any costume) is encouraged, but not required. Please plan to arrive at 5:30. Permission slip required.



Saturday Storytime

Saturdays (10/14 & 10/21) - 9:30 - 10:00 AM OR 10:30 - 11:30 AM

(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)

Drop in and join us in the storyroom for Saturday Storytime! Build a lifetime love of books and reading as we share stories, songs, and interactive rhymes with an early literacy focus. No registration.



Sensory Spaces @ WDM Library

Sunday, October 8 - 1:00 - 2:00 PM

(All ages)

Sensory Spaces are Metro area libraries offering special hours for people who appreciate a sensory friendly environment. These sensory times offer quieter browsing, special programming, and other adaptive services. No registration.



Teen Clothing Swap

Thursday, October 19 - 5:30 - 8:30 PM

(Grades 6-12)

Attendees can swap clothing items to update their wardrobe or find items for their Halloween costumes. Attendees should plan on bringing clean, appropriate clothing to exchange with other attendees. Registration is requested, but not required.



Lapsit Storytime

Mondays (10/9 & 10/16) - 9:30 - 10:00 AM

OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM

(Ages 1 mo. - 18 mo. w/ adult)

Using puppets, rhymes, songs, and short stories, we will engage baby and caregiver in language-rich activities designed for pre-walking babies. Registration is required.



Family Night at the Library: Hocus Pocus Hex-A-Long!

Monday, October 23 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

(All Ages)

This month we'll be showing Hocus Pocus, and everyone is invited to sing, play, hex (and snack) along with us. Please register each person attending (children and adults).



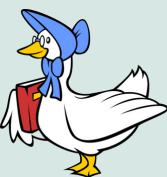
Toddler Storytime

Tuesdays (10/10 & 10/17) 9:30 - 10:00 AM

OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM

(Ages 6 mo. - 2 yrs w/ adult)

Each week we will incorporate activities that emphasize and reinforce body part identification, counting, rhythm, sensory stimulation, fine and gross motor skills, and animal sounds. Registration is required.



Group Service Project (Teens)

Wednesday, October 25 - 3:00 - 5:00 PM

(Grades 9-12)

Are you looking for a few Silver Cord, Community Service, or other volunteer hours? The Library is looking for volunteers to help with a monthly group service project. No experience or training necessary! Registration required.

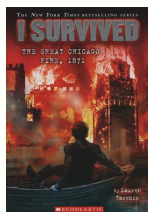


Kids Club Read: I Survived The Great Chicago Fire, 1871

Tuesday, October 10 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM

(Ages 7-10)

Join us for discussion and activities related to this month's book, I Survived the Great Chicago Fire, 1871 by Lauren Tarshis. If you need a copy of the book, please come to the Children's Desk and check out a book club copy! Registration required.

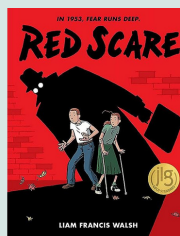


Kids Graphic Novel Club Read: Red Scare

Thursday, October 26 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM

(Ages 8-12)

Join us for discussion and activities related to this month's book, Red Scare by Liam Francis Walsh. If you need a copy of the book, please come to the Children's Desk and check out a book club copy! Registration required.



Baby Doll Storytime

Wednesdays (10/11 & 10/18) - 9:30 - 10:00 AM

OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM

(Ages 18 mo. - 3 yrs w/ adult)

Bring a favorite doll or stuffed animal and join us for Baby Doll Storytime. Children will participate in songs, rhymes, and stories while interacting with their baby doll. Registration required.



Preschool Halloween Storytime

Wednesday (10/25) - 6:30 - 7:00 PM OR

Thursday (10/26) and Friday (10/27) 10:30 - 11:00 AM

(Ages 2-6 w/ adult)

Put on your favorite costume and join us in the community room for not-too-scary stories and Halloween fun at the library. We'll also show off our costumes with a short parade around the first floor of the library. Registration required.



After School Adventures: Pumpkin Decorating!

Wednesday, October 11 - 3:45 - 4:30 PM

(Ages 5-12)

Join us in the Community Room after school to embark on an adventure! This month we'll decorate pumpkins that you can take home or leave with us to decorate the library for fall! Registration required.



The WDM Library works hard to make every program enjoyable to all patrons. If you have specific accessibility or accommodation questions for an upcoming event, please email library@wdm.iowa.gov or call 515-222-3405.