

BY JOSIE THIESSE, MLS, CHILDREN'S LIBRARY ASSOCIATE

special library programs promote reading all summer

Ah, the sights and sounds of summer: kids splashing at the pool, hot dogs on the grill, the AC going full blast. When you visit your local branch of the Tulsa City-County Library, you will find a completely different scene. There will be librarians reading stories, children singing along with The Que Pastas and teens building furiously in a Lego competition. You will hear "abracadabra" at a magic show, jazz music and dogs barking. You might see balloon animals, worm races, mosaic crafting and kids (and parents) jamming to Lucky Diaz.

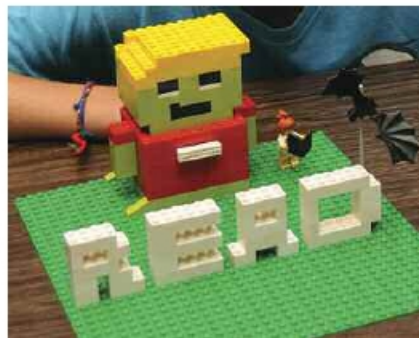
Once you take advantage of all the programs the library has to offer, the only thing you won't hear kids say this summer is, "I'm bored. There is nothing to do!"

Through fun and entertaining programs, the Tulsa City-County Library aims to motivate kids to keep reading all summer. There are programs for all ages (0-18), interests and at all times of the day. Here are few exciting opportunities to visit the library and check out what is going on.

Dig into Reading!

The theme for this year's Summer Reading Program has inspired librarians across Tulsa County to create exciting and educational programs. Learn more about gardening at the Rudisill Regional Library. Go on a treasure

hunt with Encyclopedia Brown at the Helmerich Library. At the Herman and Kate Kaiser Library, you can watch *Gnomeo and Juliet* outside under the stars. Make your own fossils at the Charles Page Library's Bones, Bones, Dinosaur Bones program. Ever wanted to play with worms at the library? Now is your chance at the Broken Arrow Library!



Lego Build-Off Kids and Teens

For the Lego lovers in your life, several libraries will host building competitions for kids and teens. Bring your own Legos and be ready to build on the theme "Dig into Reading" for grades 1-5 and "Beneath the Surface," grades 6-12. The top winners from each branch will move on to the finals.

PAWS for Reading

Dogs can't read, but they do love being read to. Come to a PAWS for Reading event for a chance to read to a registered therapy dog. Barkley, Twister, Captain Boo, Toby and all the

other PAWS dogs can't wait to hear a story. Dogs make the best listeners for readers of all skill levels and provide a safe and supportive atmosphere for struggling and shy readers.



Music and Dance with Andres

Uno, Dos, Tres! Everyone will be on their feet and singing along with Andres Salguero. Learning Spanish and information about Latin culture is incorporated into the show. This high-energy performance will leave you singing Andre's songs on the car ride home.

Gustafer Yellowgold and Songwriting Workshop

Gustafer Yellowgold comes from the sun and will be back at Connor's Cove this year with an impressive multi-media show. In addition, creator Morgan Taylor will conduct songwriting workshops for kids ages 10 to 18 at several libraries. This is a not to be missed event for creative tweens and teens.

Library Summer Reading Night @ BOK Center and @ ONEOK Field

As part of the prizes for participating in the Summer Reading Program, children and teens will receive a coupon for free admission to a Tulsa Shock Game on Friday, Aug. 2 at 7 p.m. and a Tulsa Drillers game on Saturday, Aug. 10 at 7:05 p.m. Come and hang out with Buddy Bookworm, Hornsby and Volt!

Pick up an event guide at the library or visit www.tulsalibrary.org/eventguide online to see when and where these exciting programs will be taking place. Don't forget to sign up for the Summer Reading Program, now through Aug. 3, for the chance to earn awesome coupons and win prizes. Dig into Reading with the Tulsa City-County Library this summer!

