

Library Connections

MAY 2024



catawba county
library system

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- connect
- explore
- grow

SUMMER LEARNING

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY

The Catawba County Library is gearing up for its annual Summer Learning adventure with activities and challenges for kids, teens, and adults! Boasting a double focus on reading and hands-on learning opportunities, the library ramps up its programs and activities to keep learning fresh throughout the summer.

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY

is this year's theme. Join us at any of the seven Catawba County Library locations for an exciting mix of programs including storytimes, STEAM programs, performances and educational programs by the May Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Catawba Valley Astronomy Club, Soap Bubble Circus, Schiele Museum of Natural History, Stretch-N-Grow of the Foothills, Green Bean Players, Dana Hill Magic, and Catawba County Parks!

Children, teens, AND adults are encouraged to participate in our reading challenges and to complete at least 600 minutes of reading over the summer. Prizes are up for grabs, both for

folks who register to participate and for those who complete 600 minutes of reading. Prizes will also be awarded to children at the 200 and 400 minute marks to encourage summer-long participation. Everyone is encouraged to register at your local library or online beginning May 6.

Summer programs and activities take place from June through early August. The adventure begins with a Family Fun Day at the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch on May 11 and then join us for a

system-wide celebration at Conover Station on Friday, June 7 from 4-6 pm with a sneak peek of programs, photo op with Smokey the Bear, crafts, games, and family fun!



ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™



REGISTER FOR SUMMER LEARNING HERE!

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 27 IN OBSERVANCE OF THE MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY.

CHILDREN

Ready to Learn Storytime: Preschool

Preschool story time with reading readiness. Join us for songs, sensory play, crafts, and stories designed to prepare your preschooler to learn.

Wednesdays at 10 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
St. Stephens Branch Library
Main Library in Newton

Wednesdays at 11 am

Southwest Branch Library

Thursdays at 10 am

Maiden Branch Library
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
Southwest Branch Library
St. Stephens Branch Library

Fridays at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

Ready to Learn Storytime: Tiny to Two

Mondays at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

This sweet, simple, 20-minute story time features rhymes, bounces, sensory play, and singing for our youngest learners. Playtime follows.

ASK US ABOUT



1000 BOOKS

BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

R

Please visit or call the library to register.

Star Wars Stations

Thursday, May 2 at 4:30 pm
Main Library in Newton
Get a head start on Star Wars Day celebrations with activities inspired by a galaxy far, far away.

Code Quest

Tuesdays, May 7 & 14 at 5:30 pm
Main Library in Newton
Join us for an interactive coding program for 3rd-5th graders! Learn coding basics through fun games while boosting problem-solving skills. Sessions May 7 and May 14.

Plant a Seed

Tuesday, May 7 at 6 pm
St. Stephens Branch Library
Calling all budding gardeners! Dig into soil, plant your seeds, and watch them sprout. Each participant will receive their own mini pot and a variety of flower seeds to choose from. Afterwards, take your plant home to nurture it and watch it grow! For grades K-3.

Homeschool Hangout

Thursday, May 9 at 11 am
Conover Branch Library
Are you a homeschooling family or group? Meet other homeschoolers while enjoying an activity and coloring pages.

Mother's Day Crafternoon

Thursday, May 9 from 4 to 6 pm
Main Library in Newton
Hey kids, need a gift for mom or another special woman in your life? Drop in to make a scented sachet and other gifts.

Mother's Day Craft

Saturday, May 11 at 11 am
Conover Branch Library
Make something beautiful with air dry clay for a loved one in your life! Kids of all ages are welcome.

Family Fun Day

Saturday, May 11 from 11 am - 4 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
Join us for a day full of fun including live music featuring the King Bees, food trucks, crafts, and much more. Help us kick off the summer and learn about this year's Summer Learning Program.

Paws to Read

Tuesday, May 14 by appointment
St. Stephens Branch Library
Encourage your young reader through reading with a certified therapy dog.

Tales in the Garden: Irish Dance

Thursday, May 16 at 6 pm
Main Library in Newton
Join us in the community garden for bilingual stories, crafts and fun. This month features guest performers, St. Joseph's Irish Dancers!



Perler Bead Club

Friday, May 17 at 4 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
Make designs using small beads that are fused together with heat. Materials provided.

Morse Code Messages

Tuesday, May 21 at 1 pm
Southwest Branch Library
Learn how to send and receive secret messages using Morse Code and unlock a world of creativity! Using beads, we'll encode messages into bracelets so you can carry a special word wherever you go.

Do Re Me and You Dance Party

Saturday, May 25 at 11 am
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library
Friday, May 31 at 10 am
St. Stephens Branch Library
Join us for 30 minutes of music and movement! For children 5 and under.

Kids Book Club: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Thursday, May 30 at 5 pm
Main Library in Newton
Discuss the first book in the Harry Potter series while enjoying snacks. Ideal for grades 3 to 5.

TEENS

Needle Felt & A Film:

Jurassic Park (1993)

Tuesday, May 14 at 5 pm

Maiden Branch Library

"Life finds a way..." to get you into a library to make a needle-felted dinosaur! Join us for a roarsome good time and watch 1993's *Jurassic Park*, where finger protectors and all supplies will be provided.

R

Teen Night

Tuesday, May 14 at 5:30 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Hang out with friends, watch anime, and enjoy some snacks! It's a chill evening filled with your favorite shows and good vibes.

Paint A Summer Scene

Tuesday, May 28 at 5 pm

Main Library in Newton

School's Out! Join us to paint a summer scene following an online tutorial.



ADULTS

Zumba Mondays!

Mondays at 6 pm

*First United Methodist Fellowship Hall
(May 6 & 13)*

Main Library in Newton (May 20)

Kick off your week with a burst of Zumba, a dance and movement class that's too much fun to call exercise. It's appropriate for every skill and ability level and open to anyone 14+ (parental signature required for teens under 18).

Purl and Chain: Knit and Crochet Club

Tuesdays at 6 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Make new friends and enjoy the company of others while you knit and crochet. Bring your own materials.

Gentle Flow Yoga

Fridays at 11 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a beginner-friendly, gentle flow yoga class. You are encouraged to bring a yoga mat or towel as well as a small blanket.

Mindful Movement

Fridays at 3 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Combining stretching with meditation may benefit both your emotional well-being and your overall health. You can do these exercises while sitting in a chair or bring a mat/towel for floor routines.

Chair Yoga

Wednesdays, May 1 & 15 at 11:30 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a beginner-friendly, gentle flow yoga class. You are encouraged to bring a yoga mat or towel as well as a small blanket.

Career Center

Wednesday, May 1 from 1 - 4 pm

Main Library in Newton

Wednesday, May 15 from 1 - 4 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Wednesday, May 22 from 1 - 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

A Goodwill career specialist will be available to provide one-on-one assistance with your job-related needs. Want to get your resume on Indeed or LinkedIn? This is your perfect opportunity! Reserve a 30-minute appointment by calling your preferred library or drop in as you are able.

May the Fourth Be With You Crafternoon

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Saturday, May 4 at 3 pm

Main Library in Newton

Celebrate Star Wars Day with us by making a Rogue One Death Star Plans Notebook. The fate of the Rebellion is in your hands, and now you'll have the perfect place to keep all your most vital information. All supplies provided.

Bullet Journal Club

Monday, May 6 at 6 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Join us for a laid-back hangout where we swap doodle ideas, chat about organizing tips, and sharing our favorite spreads. Some supplies provided, but feel free to bring your own.

Sourdough Starter for Beginners

R

Tuesday, May 7 at 5 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Explore the science of a sourdough bread starter! We'll learn how to feed a sourdough starter, keep it alive, recipes using the discard, and take home a starter to continue future bread making endeavors.

Tech Coffee Chat

Wednesday, May 8 at 11 am

St. Stephens Branch Library

Whether you need assistance setting up your new device, troubleshooting issues, or learning how to use specific apps, we are here to help. Bring your gadgets and questions, and let's tackle them together. No appointment necessary – just drop by and get the tech help you need and have a cup of coffee too!

Needle Felting

R

Thursday, May 9 at 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Explore the textile art of needle felting as we create a small wool snail. Finger protectors will be available for participants to use.

Adult Children of Aging Parents: Creating Balance as a Caregiver

Thursday, May 9 at 5:30 pm

Main Library in Newton

This month's program is designed to help adult-children expand their views about caregiver guilt and other emotions, find understanding, and present strategies for setting boundaries and balancing family needs.

Garden Volunteer Days

Saturdays, May 11 & 25 from 9 - 11 am

Main Library in Newton

We're seeking enthusiastic volunteers to assist with tasks such as weeding, mulching, and planting in the community garden. Whether you're a gardening expert or a just starting out, all ages and experience levels are welcome.

Catawba County FOL Meeting

Monday, May 13 at 11 am

Main Library in Newton

The Friends support and advocate for library services throughout the county. Join us to help plan and share library information.

Trivia Night

R

Monday, May 13 at 6 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Join us for an evening of trivia! Valerie Carpenter will be our trivia event host. Light refreshments will be served.

Plant Swap

Monday, May 13 at 6 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Plant enthusiasts, bring your extra plants, cuttings, or seeds to trade. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, this is the perfect opportunity to expand your collection and connect with other plant lovers!

Roaming Readers Walking Club

Tuesday, May 14 at 4 pm

Mountain Creek Park

Wanting to stretch your legs while enjoying this new season and making new friends? Meet us at the information center at Mountain Creek Park before we begin our walk on their paved ADA accessible trail that winds through a quiet cove.

Summer Homesteading

Tuesday, May 14 at 6 pm

Conover Branch Library

Join us as Melissa Falcone from True Cut Ranch shares the basics of homesteading where you are that you can do this summer!

Resume Workshop

Tuesday, May 14 at 6 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Learn some tips and tricks for writing an engaging resume, and discover how our new GotResumeBuilder tool can help simplify and streamline your process!

Mystery Mavens Book Club

Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Join us for a lively discussion on *While Justice Sleeps* by Stacey Abrams.

Health Insurance Navigator Assistance

Wednesday, May 15 from 10 am to 4 pm

Main Library in Newton

Get help signing up for health insurance from a federally qualified health insurance navigator from Legal Aid of North Carolina who can provide unbiased and experienced help in selecting the Medicaid or marketplace.gov plan that is best for you. Bring proof of income if possible, as well as the social security numbers of any dependents. To register, please call 1-855-733-3711 or drop in.



Transparent Language

Thursday, May 16 at 2 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Interested in learning a new language? Join us as we explore Transparent Language, a free language learning app available through NC Live.

Boost Your Brain & Battle Boredom

Thursday, May 16 at 3 pm
Southwest Branch Library



Game On! Did you know that people who play board and card games have a lower risk of developing illnesses like dementia and depression? Join us for an afternoon of battling boredom and boosting your brain by learning and playing a variety of card games. Light and healthy snacks will be provided.

Piece of Cake Book Club

Thursday, May 16 at 5 pm

Novel Taproom in Downtown Newton
Join us as we savor diverse voices and captivating stories. You're invited to talk about *None of This is True* by Lisa Jewell and read ahead for June's pick, *What Wild Women Do* by Karma Brown.

Shelf-Care Book Club

Monday, May 20 at 6 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Treat yourself to the best kind of self-care: a good book! Our book for May book will be *The Seven Year Slip* by Ashley Poston. Pick up your book at the library or request the e-book or audio version on Libby.

Mountain View Book Buzz

Monday, May 20 at 6 pm
Southwest Branch Library

Join us as we discuss *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. All are welcome to delve into the discussions of twists and turns in this month's book selection.

Homeschool 101

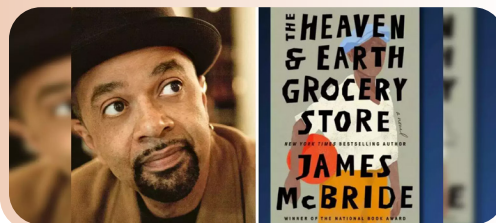
Tuesday, May 21 at 6 pm
Conover Branch Library

Are you a current or prospective homeschooling parent or guardian? Join us as Jessica Frierson, secretary for North Carolinians for Home Education (NCHE), discusses the legal logistics of homeschooling in NC.

2nd Annual Juneteenth Book Discussion

Tuesday, May 21 at 6 pm
Main Library in Newton

In honor of the Freedom we all cherish, and to celebrate the work of African American authors who continue to help shape our culture, we're hosting a discussion of James McBride's *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* - a "Best book of 2023 at NPR," as well as an Instant New York Times Bestseller. Light refreshments provided.



Introduction to Hoopla and Libby

Thursday, May 23 at 2 pm
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Libby and Hoopla are free and user-friendly ways to find thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks. We will teach you how to download the app, sign in, and download a book or two. Bring your own tablet or phone to set up your gateway to the work of eReading.

Let's Talk About It: Juneteenth

Thursday, May 23 at 6 pm
Main Library in Newton

Saturday, May 25 at 11 am
Conover Branch Library

Join us to learn about Juneteenth and enjoy in-depth conversations with members of the community. View a short film, followed by discussion and light refreshments. For more information, please call 828-465-9494.

Books Between Friends Book Club

Tuesday, May 28 at 6 pm
Claremont Branch Library

It's BYOB! Bring Your Own Book that is. Come tell us about a book you've read and enjoyed in the past year.

Catawba County Genealogical Society

Tuesday, May 28 at 7 pm
Main Library in Newton

Join the society for their monthly meeting, followed by an introduction to new local history and genealogy materials available for research in Catawba County. All are welcome to attend.

LIBRARY TO GO

Spring into Summer at Taft Broome Park

Thursday, May 2 from 5 - 7 pm
115 7th Avenue SW, Hickory, NC 28602

Join us for this summer kick-off event sponsored by the City of Hickory and Catawba County Partnership for Children to learn about and connect to activities and services families may need during the summer months.

Market on the Lawn

Saturday, May 4 from 9 am - 2 pm
Connections Clubhouse

1679 Southwest Blvd, Newton, NC 28658
Check out this pottery fundraiser, and be sure to bring the kids for library activities.

Long View National Night Out

Tuesday, May 7 from 5 - 7 pm
Long View Recreation Center
3107 2nd ave NW, Hickory NC 28601

Join police, fire, EMS, military, and librarians from around the county for a night out!

Foothills Folk Art Festival

Saturday, May 11 from 10 am - 4 pm
Downtown Newton

We will be signing up all ages for our summer learning program, have crafts for kids, and a community art project for all to work on during this annual art festival!

Clean Wave Laundry Suds & Stories

Sunday, May 12 from 2 - 5 pm
2720 2nd Ave NW, Hickory, NC 28601

Check out books, use our wi-fi hotspot, or get individual help with your device. Family storytime with stories, songs, and sensory play starts at 3pm.

Conover Farmers Market

Saturday, May 18 from 8 am - 12 pm
109 1st St E, Conover, NC 28613

All ages can stop by to check out materials and children can participate in library activities.

Claremont Night in the Park

Saturday, May 25 from 4 - 7 pm
3430 E. Main St. Claremont, 28610

Join us for a fun evening of activities and music!



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MAIN LIBRARY IN NEWTON

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CONOVER BRANCH LIBRARY
MAIDEN BRANCH LIBRARY
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