

Library Connections

AUGUST 2025



catawba county
library system

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828.465.8664



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SUMMER FINALE PARTIES & BACK TO SCHOOL READY

Summer LEARNING FINALE PARTIES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5
12 NOON AT MAIDEN BRANCH
1 PM AT ST. STEPHENS BRANCH

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6
3 PM AT SOUTHWEST BRANCH

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7
2 PM AT CLAREMONT BRANCH

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8
3 PM AT CONOVER BRANCH
4 PM AT SHERRILLS FORD-TERRELL BRANCH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9
2 PM AT MAIN LIBRARY IN NEWTON

FEATURING
CRAFTS | ICE CREAM | GAMES
EVERYONE IS INVITED
BRING YOUR READING LOGS

Let's celebrate all we've learned and read over the summer with finale parties at each location! Join us at your library for crafts, treats, and games. Make sure to bring your reading log to collect prizes and be entered in the grand prize drawings.

The library is also here to help you get back to school ready! The library offers Homework Helpers, Paws to Read, study rooms equipped for virtual learning, WiFi hotspot and Chromebook lending, desktop computers for in-library use, and free access to online tutorials, databases, and language learning.

Just in time for school, the library is rolling out two new learning tools -- Decodable Books and LOTE4Kids. Decodable books are specially written stories that help build confidence as children learn to read. The stories are short, fun, and will be hitting our shelves soon! LOTE4Kids is our online database of digital books in World Languages, that allows kids to enjoy the magic of books in LOTE (Languages Other Than English). Each book also comes with English translations to help kids learn another language. Enjoy now online at catawbacountync.gov/library or through the app.

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

CHILDREN 0-5

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

Fridays at 10 am

(No storytime on August 8)

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

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

**Ready to Learn Storytime:
Sensory-Friendly**

Tuesdays at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

Join us for a fun, sensory-friendly storytime for neurodivergent children and their siblings! Enjoy songs, sensory play, crafts, and stories designed for a small group of 10, creating a calm, welcoming space. Afterward, stay for free play to encourage socialization & motor skills.

Pre-K STEAM

Children and their grownups are invited to explore interactive play stations to build confidence in learning.

Tuesday, August 5 at 5:30 pm

Conover Branch Library

Friday, August 8 at 10 am

Maiden Branch Library

Wednesday, August 20 at 1 pm

Claremont Branch Library

R

Please visit or call the library to register.

R

Tales in the Garden: EcoExplore with Catawba County Parks

Thursday, August 7 at 5:30 pm

Main Library in Newton

Enjoy fun insect-themed, bilingual stories and meet our special guests from Catawba County Parks who will show participants EcoExplore, a program that encourages children to explore the outdoors and become community scientists. Afterward, head out to the garden to search for insects and see what you can discover.

Kindergarten, Here We Come!

Thursday, August 21 at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

Join us for a special storytime tailored just for rising kindergartners! We'll read stories, practice readiness skills (like mastering those lunch trays), and provide caregivers with a sweet treat bag to help you through that first day.

R



CHILDREN 6-11

Messy Monday

Monday, August 4 at 2 pm

Main Library in Newton

You heard us right – you're encouraged to get messy during this hands-on, creative experience that's sure to bring out your inner artist!

**Nature's Superpower:
Camouflage and Color**

Tuesday, August 5 at 2 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Learn about nature's superpower - camouflage and color - with the Catawba County Parks.

Rocket Science for Kids

Wednesday, August 6 at 2 pm

Main Library in Newton

3... 2... 1... BLAST OFF! Join us as a trained physicist takes us through a thrilling demonstration of the basics of rockets!

Paws to Read

Tuesday, August 12

by appointment

St. Stephens Branch Library

Read with a certified therapy dog. To schedule an appointment, please call 828-466-6821.

R

Poke-Mania!

Friday, August 15 at 3 pm

Main Library in Newton

Join your fellow Poke-maniacs for a super effective afternoon of games, crafts, and Pokemon fun!

Lego Club

Wednesday, August 20 at 10 am

Maiden Branch Library

Build, make, and play as we explore our creativity through Lego. We will have free play and our monthly Lego challenge will be creating mysterious kronkiwongi.

TEENS 12-18



Teen Kandi Cuffs

Wednesday, August 20 at 3 pm

Main Library in Newton

Learn how to make your very own hand-beaded kandi bracelets, to keep for yourself or share with friends!

**FAMILY MOVIE
MARATHON**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 16
11 AM - 4 PM**

**MAIN LIBRARY IN NEWTON
SHERRILLS FORD-TERRELL BRANCH
ST. STEPHENS BRANCH**

AND SOUTHWEST BRANCH FROM 10 AM - 2 PM

ADULTS

Zumba Mondays!

Mondays at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Kick off your week with a burst of Zumba, a dance and movement class that's too much fun to call exercise.

Smartphone Basics for Seniors

Fridays at 10 am

Main Library in Newton

Need help updating your phone's software, downloading apps, or adding events to your calendar? Join us each Friday in August as we cover a basic topic and have time for a short Q&A afterwards.

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

Low impact exercise and gentle stretching for all ages.

Color Our World: Adult Recess

Friday, August 1 at 3 pm

Main Library in Newton

Spend an hour of your Friday afternoon with the library for some lovely downtime. A variety of activities will be available each week including coloring, board games, and puzzles.

Qi Gong

Saturday, August 2 at 9:30 am

Main Library in Newton

Involving gentle movements, controlled breath patterns, and focused attention, Qi Gong can be practiced seated or otherwise – a great practice for those new to movement.

The Station Book Club

Wednesday, August 6 at 10 am

Conover Branch Library

All are welcome to join as we discuss *One Italian Summer* by Rebecca Serle, followed by a book share and recommended reads.

Career Center

Wednesday, August 6 from 1 - 4 pm

Main Library in Newton

A Goodwill career specialist will be available to provide one-on-one assistance with your job-related needs. Reserve a 30-minute appointment by calling the library or drop in as you are able.

Garden Volunteer Days

Saturdays, August 9 & 23

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. All are welcome.

DIY – Dried Flower Mason Jars

Saturday, August 9 at 2 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Create a beautiful keepsake using dried flowers and mason jars in this relaxing, hands-on craft session.

Homeschool 101

Tuesday, August 12 at 6 pm

Conover Branch Library

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

Rainy Day Jars

Tuesday, August 12 at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Make setting aside your extra change a little more fun by creating a Rainy Day jar. While decorating our jars with fabric, ribbon, and vinyl, participants will learn budgeting ideas.

Budgeting

Tuesday, August 12 at 6:30 pm

Maiden Branch Library

In this workshop you'll learn four steps to budgeting success with a financial advisor.

Mystery Mavens

Tuesday, August 12 at 6:30 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Join us for a lively discussion on *Mother-Daughter Murder Night* by Nina Simon. All are welcome.

Back to School for Parents:

Keeping Your Children Safe Online

Wednesday, August 13 at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

With kids heading back to school, it's the perfect time to learn how to protect your children in today's digital world! This session covers online safety, parental controls, and how to guide your child's safe use of the internet and social media.

Needle Felting

Thursday, August 14 at 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

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

Adult Children of Aging Parents:

Movement for Older Bodies

Thursday, August 14 at 5:30 pm

Main Library in Newton

Certified Tai Chi instructor Diane Christiansen will share some specific movements and exercises that can easily be worked into even the busiest schedule and help encourage our older loved ones to engage in healthy movement.

The Secret Lives of Carnivorous Plants

Thursday, August 14 at 6 pm

Claremont Branch Library

Join master gardener Tad Adams as we learn about the care and feeding of bug catching plants. Plus, you'll be able to take home a flytrap of your own!



Shelf-Care Book Club

Monday, August 18 at 6 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Treat yourself to the best kind of self-care: a good book! Join us to discuss *The Love Haters* by Katherine Center. New readers are always welcome!

Smartphone Basics for Seniors

Monday, August 18 at 1 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Join us to get more out of your phone as we learn the basics, how to install updates, & explore different settings.

Mountain View Book Club

Monday, August 18 at 6 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Join our book discussion on *We All Live Here* by Jojo Moyes. All are welcome.

Bad Art Night: Bob Ross Edition

Tuesday, August 19 at 5:30 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Let us embrace our creativity while accepting our imperfections the Bob Ross way.

DIY Keychains

Tuesday, August 19 at 6 pm

Conover Branch Library

Create a beaded keychain that fits your style: cute, colorful, minimal, or bold. We've got the supplies, you bring the vibe!

Chair Yoga

Wednesdays, August 20 & 27

at 11:30 am

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a beginner-friendly, gentle flow chair yoga class.

Newton Book Club

Thursday, August 21 at 5 pm

Carpe Crustum in Downtown Newton

Join us to talk about August's selection, *Here One Moment* by Liane Moriarty. All are welcome.

Krazy for K-Drama

Thursday, August 21 at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Fans of K-dramas will meet to share and discuss our favorite titles and actors. K-inspired snacks provided.

Wild World of Wycinanki Bookmarks

Thursday, August 21 at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Learn the traditional Polish paper craft of Wycinanki by creating your own bookmarks with colorful cut paper.

Trivia Night

Monday, August 25 at 6 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Join us for an evening of trivia fun guaranteed to test your knowledge. Trivia night will be full of facts, fun and festive prizes!

Maiden Book Club

Tuesday, August 26 at 6 pm

Maiden Branch Library

Join us for Maiden's brand new book club! August's selection is *The Wedding People* by Alison Espach.

Bread Making for Beginners

Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

It is SO easy to have freshly baked bread on demand. Learn to make artisan bread with four ingredients and in just five minutes.

Catawba County Genealogical Society

Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30 pm

Main Library in Newton, Rhodes Room

Check out new materials available for research during this month's meeting, including an overview of the 1890 Federal Census Substitute. All are welcome.

Creative Outlet: Beginner's Quilling

Wednesday, August 27 at 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

In this workshop we'll roll, shape and glue strips of paper to create designs that can stand alone or be used to decorate other items like greeting cards, boxes or jewelry.

Catawba County Friends of the Library Book Sale

Friday, August 29 from 1 - 5 pm

Saturday, August 30 from 10 am - 2 pm

Main Library in Newton

Build your own personal library and help support library programs while enjoying this 4 for \$1 clearance sale! Sale will take place in the Community Room and will be cash only.

LIBRARY TO GO

Maiden Lunch and Library

Tuesdays, August 5 & 12

from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

101 Old Tavern Lane, Maiden

Receive a bagged lunch provided by The Corner Table Community Kitchen and participate in a storytime and craft.

Herman Sipe Lunch & Library

Wednesdays, August 6 & 13

from 11:30 am - 1 pm

115 Herman Sipe Rd, Conover

Enjoy a meal provided by The Corner Table Community Kitchen, check out some books, listen to a story, and participate in free hands-on activities.

Public Health Farmers Market

Thursday, August 7 & 21

from 10 am - 1 pm

3070 11th Ave. Dr. SE, Hickory

The Library to Go will be visiting the farmers market with books for all ages and activities for little ones.

Valley Hills Mall Visit & Storytime

Friday, August 8 from 10 am - 1 pm

1960 US Hwy 70 SE, Hickory

Join us in the Community Room on the lower level across from The Children's Place for storytime at 10 am and outside by the van until 1 pm for checking out books!

Conover Farmers Market

Saturday, August 16

from 8 am - 12 pm

109 1st St E, Conover

Stop by to grab some fresh fruits and veggies from local farmers, check out library materials, and participate in library activities.



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