

# Library Connections

MAY 2023



**catawba county**  
library system

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828.465.8664



[www.catawbacountync.gov/library](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/library)

- connect
- explore
- grow

## SUMMER LEARNING ALL TOGETHER NOW

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.

Why do we do this? Studies show that kids can lose a substantial amount of the gains they achieve during the school year if they don't regularly put their critical thinking abilities to the test. The library takes an active role in ensuring that children and teens stay engaged during the summer months so that they can pick up where they left off when the new school year begins. Learning new things is proven to help brains stay healthy, so we have plenty to keep adults engaged too.

**ALL TOGETHER NOW** is this year's Summer Learning 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, Carolina Raptor Center, BIG BANG BOOM, NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Bright Star Touring Company, 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, to teens at the 300 and 600 minute marks, and to adults at 10 badges.

Registration for 2023 Summer Learning for children, teens, and adults begins on Monday, May 8, with programs, activities, and reading challenges from June through early August.

Everyone is encouraged to register, at your local library branch or online at

[catawbacountync.beanstack.org/reader365](http://catawbacountync.beanstack.org/reader365)

To learn more, please visit your library or call 828.465.8664.

**Help us kick off the summer at our  
Summer Learning Resource Fair  
featuring BIG BANG BOOM in concert!  
Friday, June 2nd at Conover City Park 4-6pm  
All are welcome!**



**THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 29 TO OBSERVE 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.

## Ready to Learn Storytime: Bilingual

### Miércoles a la 10 am

### Wednesdays at 10 am

St. Stephens Branch Library

Únase a nosotros para hora del cuento bilingüe, canciones, movimiento, aprendizaje y más para preescolares. Join us for bilingual storytime featuring stories, songs, movement, learning and more for preschoolers.



## PAWS To Read

Watch your child's confidence grow by reading for 15 minutes with a certified therapy dog. To schedule an appointment, please call 828-466-6821 for St. Stephens, 828-466-6827 for Sherrills Ford-Terrell, or 828-465-8665 for Newton.

### Saturdays, May 6 & May 20

St. Stephens Branch Library

### Saturday, May 13

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

### Saturday, May 20

Main Library in Newton

## Ceramic Painting

### Friday, May 5 at 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Celebrate spring and join us as we paint ceramic mushrooms. To register, please visit the library or call 828-466-6827.

## Free Comic Book Day

### Saturday, May 6 from 10 am - 2 pm

Main Library in Newton

Drop in to play a board game and create your own comic. Pick up a free comic book (while supplies last).

## Crafternoon for Mom

### Wednesday, May 10 from 4 - 6 pm

Main Library in Newton

Stop in to make something for mom – or the mother figure in your life!

## Pre-K Stations

### Friday, May 12 at 10 am

Conover Branch Library

Experience an engaging learning environment with your little ones! Guide your child through our sensory, craft, and STEAM stations. This program is ideal for children from 2-5 years old.

## Perler Bead Club

### Friday, May 12 at 4 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Love crafts but aren't super crafty? Join the Perler Beads Club! At this easy craft, you'll make designs (keychains, coasters, artwork) using small beads that are fused together with heat. Templates and materials provided. This program is ideal for grades 1 and up.

## Tales in the Garden: Ambulance Explorers

### Thursday, May 18 at 5:30 pm

Main Library in Newton

Join us in the garden for learning and fun, including bilingual stories, crafts and special guests from Emergency Services! You'll even get to explore a real ambulance!

## Pre-K Play!

### Saturday, May 20 at 11 am

Conover Branch Library

Join us for fun, fitness-focused play with music, games, and an obstacle course! Kids will have a blast as they explore, exercise, and develop motor skills. This program is ideal for children from 2-5 years old.

## Kids Art Gallery at Conover Branch Library May 2 through May 31

Elementary aged kids can submit original artwork, using the Summer Learning 2023 theme, All Together Now, to be displayed at the Conover Library during the month of June.



# TEENS

## Teen Tuesdays

### Tuesdays at 5 pm

Main Library in Newton

May 2: Oregon Trail: Retro Game Night

May 9: Career Conversation with Lt. Eric Page, Catawba County Sheriff's Office

May 16: Name that Anime theme song

May 23: Stress Relief –Board Games and Coloring

May 30: Taste Test – Soft Drink Edition

## Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meeting

### Monday, May 1 at 4 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Help plan future teen programs. Tell us what you want to learn, make and do at your library.

## Teen Gaming Night

### Monday, May 1 at 5 pm

St. Stephens Branch Library

Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for an afternoon of games on the Nintendo switch and with the option of a Virtual Reality headset for those ages 13 and above who have a signed waiver form.

## Free Comic Book Day

### Saturday, May 6 from 10 am to 1 pm

Southwest Branch Library

Drop in and celebrate Free Comic Book Day, an annual event promoting a love of all things comic, manga, and graphic novel!

Featuring crafts, gaming, loads of comics to check out, and more, this event is a must for all comic books fans!

## Teen Cornhole Tournament

### Tuesday, May 9 at 5 pm

Conover Branch Library

Test your cornhole skills during this tournament, just in time for summer! Beat your competitors and win a prize! To register, please visit the library or call 828-466-5108.

## Dungeons and Dragons Club

### Saturday, May 20 at 1 pm

Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library

Discover your inner warrior (or bard or cleric or druid or rogue or wizard) and join us in this epic adventure!



\*EVENTS HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE ARE BEING OFFERED AS ONLINE PROGRAMS.



# ADULTS

## Friends of the Library

Catawba County Friends of the Library  
Monday, May 8 at 11 am  
Main Library in Newton

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library  
No meeting in May

Claremont Friends of the Library  
Tuesday, May 23 at 6 pm  
Claremont Branch Library



### Zumba Mondays!

*Mondays at 6 pm*  
Main Library at Newton  
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). No class on May 29.

### Stretch for Health Meditate for Mindfulness

*Fridays at 4 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. While this class is geared to 50+, adults of all ages are invited to join.

### The Station Book Club

*Wednesday, May 3 at 10 am*  
Conover Branch Library  
All are welcome to join as we discuss *The Survivors* by Jane Harper. Come for coffee and great conversation, ending with book recommendations!

### Career Center

*Wednesday, May 3 from 1 - 4 pm*  
Main Library at Newton  
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 828-465-8665 or drop in as you are able.

### Catawba County Friends of the Library Book Sale

*Thursday, May 4 from 10 am - 1 pm*  
Main Library in Newton  
Build your own personal library and help support library programs at the same time by shopping the exclusive Friends Room Book Sale! The Friends room is home to the collection of donated books the library receives throughout the year.



### Adult Book Club (virtual)

*Monday, May 8 at 6:30 pm*  
Online via Facebook  
May's theme is to read a book that was published the year you graduated. To join the Facebook group, make theme suggestions, and read past threads visit [www.facebook.com/groups/St.Stephens-BookClub](http://www.facebook.com/groups/St.Stephens-BookClub)

### Mystery Mavens Book Club

*Tuesday, May 9 at 6:30 pm*  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
The Mystery Mavens book club welcomes new members and is open to the public, even if you haven't read the book. Join us for a lively discussion on *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb.

### Shred-A- Thon Event with the Catawba County Council on Aging

*Wednesday, May 10 from 1 - 4 pm*  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
At this free, drive-thru shredding event, individuals will have the opportunity to shred up to two boxes of personal documents in the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library parking lot. Have expired medication? There will also be a medication and pill drop off. For more information, please call the Council on Aging at 828-328-2269.

### Bath Bombs for Mom

*Wednesday, May 10 at 6 pm*  
Main Library in Newton  
Surprise Mom this Mother's Day with a gift made by you! Pamper Mom (or yourself!) with oil-scented, soothing bath bombs. Materials will be provided. To register, please visit the library or call 828-465-8665.

### ACAP-Hometown Tourists

*Thursday, May 11 at 5:30 pm*  
Main Library at Newton  
All caregivers for an aging parent are invited to join others at this Adult Caregivers of Aging Parents - Hickory/Foothills Meeting. This month's meeting will help adult children learn about an array of local resources to help your older loved one remain socially engaged, including places to visit as a hometown tourist. Light refreshments provided.

### Gelli Printmaking

*Thursday, May 11 at 4 pm*  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
*Tuesday, May 23 at 2 pm*  
Southwest Branch Library

In honor of the Charles White exhibit at the Hickory Museum of Art, we will show you how to create layers of texture and color using a printmaking technique out of household items and your creativity. Open to adults of all skill levels. All supplies are included.

### Gentle Flow Yoga

*Fridays, May 12, 19, & 26 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.

### Creative Outlet - Fresh Flower Prints

*Friday, May 12 at 2 pm*  
Main Library in Newton  
Try your hand at a traditional Japanese craft, Tatakizome, rendering prints of fresh flowers onto fabric – also called Flower Pounding. Create a realistic image of individual flowers or an impressionistic rendering of many flowers together. All supplies provided – but you are also welcome to bring cotton or canvas items that you wish to alter with flower prints. To register, please visit the library or call 828-465-8665.

### Mountain View Book Buzz

*Monday, May 15 at 6 pm*  
Southwest Branch Library  
Join us as we discuss *Captive* by Iris Johansen. All are welcome for lively conversations and lots of fun!

### Introduction to SkillMill

*Monday, May 15 at 6:30 pm*  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
*Thursday, May 18 at 6 pm*  
Main Library in Newton

Are you interested in learning a skill-based trade like HVAC, plumbing, electrical, facilities maintenance, or appliance repair? SkillMill is a free online program teaching HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing and more. Participants can earn certificates that can improve employment opportunities. Learn more about this self-paced program that is available online, at no cost to you.

### Collector's Showcase Featuring Mike and Jacob Mosteller

*Monday, May 15 at 6:30 pm*  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
Local collectors, Mike and Jacob Mosteller, keep local history alive with their show and tell presentation. Go back in time with their museum-quality collections and knowledge. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library.

### Catawba Songwriters

*Tuesday, May 16 at 6 pm*  
Southwest Branch Library  
Share your talents while you learn from others. Bring a finished written song or one that's in progress to share with the group. Teens and tweens with musical talents are invited to join.

### Libby Drop-In Help

*Wednesday, May 17 from 10 am - 12 noon*  
Conover Branch Library  
Whether you're new to Libby or a long-time user, stop by to get help on your phone, tablet, or kindle or for assistance troubleshooting the app. For more intensive technology assistance, please call 828-466-5108 to schedule an appointment.

Meet Libby.

The One-Tap reading app from your library.



### Chair Yoga

Wednesdays, May 17 & 24 at 11:30 am  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
A certified yoga instructor will lead us through a class friendly for all levels, perfect for anyone looking for accessible ways to gain the benefits of doing yoga with the added security of using a chair.

### Needle Felting

Thursday, May 18 at 4 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
Explore the textile art of needle felting as we create a felted mouse. Finger protectors will be available for participants to use. To register, please visit the library or call 828-466-6827.

### Garden Volunteer Day

Saturday, May 20 from 9 - 11 am  
Main Library in Newton  
The community garden at the Main Library in Newton is in need of volunteers to help weeding, mulching, and planting. If you enjoy being outside and working in the soil, we'd be happy to have you join us. All ages and levels of experience are welcome. To register, please call 828-466-6828.

### Club de lectura: Un corazón lector

Domingo, 21 de mayo a las 5 pm  
Se reunirá para discutir y conversar acerca del libro *Corrido de amor y gloria* por Reyna Grande. La ubicación de las reuniones cambia; por favor, llame al 828.465.8664 para más información.

### Books Between Friends Book Club

Tuesday, May 23 at 6 pm  
Claremont Branch Library  
Join us as we discuss *So Long, Chester Wheeler* by Catherine Ryan Hyde. *Booklist* calls it a "testament to unlikely friendships and the power of hidden strengths." Newcomers are welcome.

### Needle Felting at Maiden

Tuesday, May 23 at 6 pm  
Maiden Branch Library  
Explore the textile art of needle felting. Finger protectors will be available for participants to use. To register, please visit the library or call 828-428-2712.

### This is Your Sign!

Tuesday, May 23 at 6 pm  
Conover Branch Library  
Create your own beautiful wood sign with us. Paint it, decoupage it--make it your own! All supplies provided. To register, please visit the library or call 828-466-5108.

### NC Reads

Tuesday, May 23 at 6 pm  
St. Stephens Branch Library  
Join the NC Humanities' statewide book club for this one-time discussion of *Under a Gilded Moon* by Joy Jordan-Lake. We will connect with the author via Zoom as she explores the themes of wealth, poverty, corruptions, and family obligations during the Gilded Age. Free books available while supplies last.

## North Carolina Reads

May 23 at 6 PM | St. Stephens Branch Library



Free books available

### What is Campfire?

Tuesday, May 23 at 6 pm  
Online via Zoom  
Do you like to write stories but struggle to remember all the character and world building details? Do you play RPGs and want to organize your characters all in one place? Campfire is an app and site to help writers imagine, plan, and tell their stories. Join us via Zoom to learn more about this tool. To register, please visit [tinyurl.com/CCLS-Campfire](https://tinyurl.com/CCLS-Campfire)

### Catawba County Genealogical Society

Thursday, May 23 at 7 pm  
Main Library in Newton  
For the May meeting of the Catawba County Genealogical Society, we will be discussing various genealogical and local history topics. All are welcome to attend.

### Getting Good Sleep

Thursday, May 25 at 11 am  
Main Library at Newton  
According to the National Institutes of Health, getting inadequate sleep over time raises your risk for a number of long-term health problems. You'll be glad you joined us for this information-packed workshop on strategies that are proven to help you achieve the sleep you need with a CVMC Wellness Specialist.

### Handmade Houseplants and Plant Swap

Thursday, May 25 at 4 pm  
Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library  
Join us as we make realistic looking plants out of paper and then swap the real thing. We encourage bringing a clean cutting, rooted (water/soil), or any house plant you are ready to unload for something new but it is not required to join.

### Piece of Cake Book Club

Thursday, May 25 at 5 pm  
Narrow Coffee & Nosh in Newton  
Selecting a diverse range of works and authors, join us to chat about May's pick, *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed.

### Blood Drive

Friday, May 26 from 11 am - 3 pm  
Main Library in Newton  
Roll up your sleeve and become a part of the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross! For more information, call 828-466-5111 or sign up online at [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org)

### Spelling Bee: Spelldown for Adults

Tuesday, May 30 at 6 pm  
Southwest Branch Library  
Still bitter after losing your 3rd grade spelling bee? Do you have what it takes to redeem yourself? If so, this is the event for you!! Interested participants should pre-register for this single-error elimination wording night of fun!

## LIBRARY TO GO

### Long View National Night Out

Tuesday, May 2 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 13 from 10 am - 4 pm  
Downtown Newton  
Join us for crafts and a community art project during this annual folk art festival!

### Maiden Juneteenth Event

Saturday, May 20 from 11 am - 4 pm  
Maiden Town Hall  
19 N Main Ave, Maiden, NC 28650  
Stop by the Library to Go to learn more about Juneteenth through storytimes, crafts, and books!

### Clean Wave Laundry Suds & Stories

Sunday, May 21 from 2 - 5 pm  
2720 2nd Ave NW, Hickory, NC 28601  
Check out books, use our wi-fi hotspot, or get some one-on-one help with your device. Our family storytime which incorporates stories, songs, and sensory play starts at 3 pm.

### Conover Farmers Market

Saturday, May 27 from 8 - 11 am  
109 1st St E, Conover, NC 28613  
Stop by to check out materials and participate in library activities while picking up local produce.

### Town of Catawba Juneteenth Event

Saturday, May 27 from 12 - 4 pm  
Catawba Park  
3rd Avenue NE, Catawba, NC 28609  
Stop by the Library to Go to learn more about Juneteenth through storytimes, crafts, and books!



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MAIN LIBRARY IN NEWTON

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CLAREMONT BRANCH LIBRARY  
CONOVER BRANCH LIBRARY  
MAIDEN BRANCH LIBRARY  
SHERRILLS FORD-TERRELL BRANCH LIBRARY  
SOUTHWEST BRANCH LIBRARY  
ST. STEPHENS BRANCH LIBRARY

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