

SUMMER 2024

Connect



JOHNSON CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONTACT & VISIT

100 West Millard Street
Johnson City, TN 37604
(423) 434-4450

CONNECT



HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday
9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday
10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday
Closed Memorial Day
through Labor Day

SUMMER CLOSINGS

Monday, May 27
Saturday, June 8
Wednesday, June 19
Thursday, July 4
Monday, September 2

BOARD MEETINGS

Third Tuesday every month
June 18 / July 16 / August 20
4:30 p.m.
Library's Jones Meeting Center

Learn about Library leadership
at jcpl.org/board-of-directors.

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note FROM THE director



Welcome to the very first edition of your Library's new Connect magazine! What you're holding is the product of a dream two years in the making. We wanted to create a tool that would give you a comprehensive picture of the wonderful things happening at the Library every season.

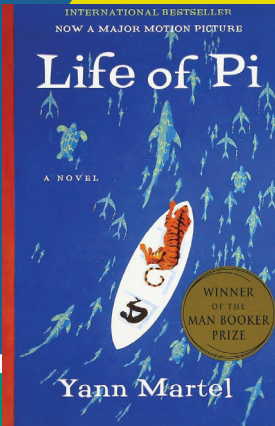
It felt fitting to start this new adventure in summertime, given this year's Summer Reading theme: "Adventure Begins at Your Library."

Our first issue showcases all the fantastic summer events we have planned. As you'll see, there's a lot happening, but Summer Reading isn't just special events! Inside you'll learn how to register for Summer Reading, get suggestions for great titles, and discover library collections.

Thank you for going on this new adventure with us!

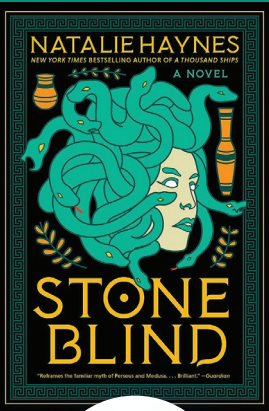
Julia Turpin, Library Director

([Julia's Pick](#))

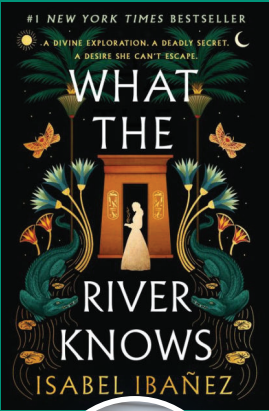


Summer Reading: Staff Picks

This summer, your Library's staff is steeped in adventure stories! Here are some of our new and classic favorites. You can place holds on them at jcpl.org!



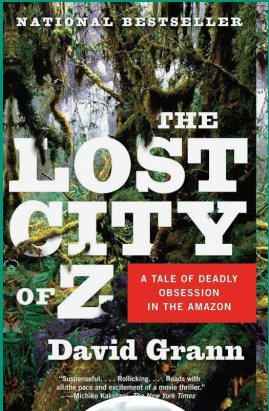
Jaden's Pick



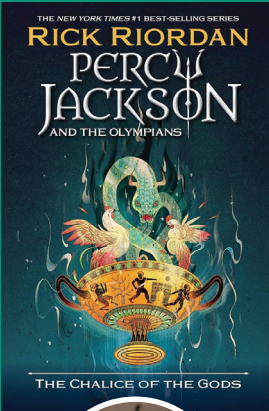
Em's Pick



Mandy's Pick



Elizabeth's Pick



Alexis's Pick

Summer Reading

June 3 to July 28

what

Summer Reading is an annual nationwide reading challenge that libraries have held every year since the 1890s. It was originally started by librarians as a way to keep kids reading and learning during the summer months.

who, when, where

Over the years, Summer Reading has grown and evolved to be for all ages. Our program is divided by age: preschool, school age, teens, and adults. The purpose remains the same though—keep people reading. No matter what age you are, we hope you'll spend the summer reading with your Library!

This year's Summer Reading runs from Monday, June 3-Sunday, July 28. You'll find opportunities for fun and learning at your Library all summer long, from events to prizes to book recommendations.

how

Participating in Summer Reading is fun, easy, and can be done from anywhere! You spend the summer reading, tracking your progress, winning prizes, and attending events.

You can register for Summer Reading beginning Wednesday, May 15.



To get started, scan the QR code or visit jcpltn.beanstack.org. You'll create an account with Beanstack, our reading challenge platform. From there you can register for the 2024 Summer Reading Challenge. If you've used Beanstack before, just sign in with your existing account to register for this summer.

Once Summer Reading officially kicks off on June 3, you'll use Beanstack all summer to log your reading progress, get book recommendations, and write book reviews. You'll earn badges as you meet your reading goals and complete related activities!

Prizes

Each age group earns prizes for reading, attending events, doing activities, and writing book reviews.

preschool and school age kids

- » Badge book to track progress
- » Weekly treasure chest surprises
- » Free book halfway through summer
- » Scholastic book bucks

teens and adults

- » Free book for teens
- » Weekly prize drawings
- » Grand prize drawings for both ages

The first 50 people to sign up for Adult Summer Reading also get a free tote bag!



Beanstack Tracker app

Beanstack has a free, easy-to-use app called Beanstack Tracker. Download it from your app store to log your reading progress anytime, anywhere.



kick-off block party

Monday, June 3 • 5-7 p.m.


Celebrate the beginning of your Summer Reading adventure with inflatables, outdoor games, crafts, and more!  



Fun for All Ages


BIG BANG BOOM CONCERT

Tuesday, June 11 • 9:30 a.m. • King Commons Natural Adventure Area

Enjoy an outdoor concert with kindie rock band Big Bang Boom! The band plays high-energy children's music that gets everyone up on their feet. 


ROGER DAY CONCERT

Tuesday, July 16 • 9:30 a.m. • King Commons Natural Adventure Area

Hear a rumble in the jungle with children's musician Roger Day! His signature wit, whimsy, and wordplay make his concerts fun for the whole family. 

LIBCON VI: TOME RAIDERS

Saturday, July 27 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

No matter your age, you'll love our sixth annual fandom convention. LibCon VI: Tome Raiders features local vendors, games, and activities for all ages. And of course, come dressed in your favorite adventure costume and enter the cosplay contest! 

Event Key

-  Registration required at jcpl.org
-  Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
-  Drop in any time during program



Events may be subject to change. Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

Family Events

Event Key

- R** Registration required at jcpl.org
- O** Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
- D** Drop in any time during program

JUNGLE ANIMALS WITH HANDS ON!

Tuesday, June 18 • 9:30 a.m. / 11 a.m. / 1:30 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Learn about jungle animals like sloths, snakes, frogs, and tapirs in this program led by Hands On! Discovery Center staff. **R**

PARADISE ACRES FIELD TRIP

Tuesday, July 2 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m. • Paradise Acres, Johnson City

Register ages 3-12 at jcpl.org/events for a free ticket to play mini-golf at Paradise Acres, while tickets last. Caregivers can also purchase discounted tickets on-site for mini-golf or other activities. **R D O**

CONNIE DEEGAN: AWESOME SNAKES

Wednesday, July 3 • 10:30 a.m. • King Commons Natural Adventure Area

Ages 3-12 can experience some fascinating snakes during this meet and greet with Johnson City Parks and Rec naturalist Connie Deegan. She'll bring a snake along for a closer look, if you're feeling adventurous! **O**

FAMOUS CHARACTER PARTY

Tuesday, July 9 • 5-7 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Kids of all ages can get to know their favorite characters in real life! Drop in for a meet and greet with photo ops and other fun activities. Characters are from Princess Parties by Mary Katherine. **D**

creativity labs

FAMILY CRAFT DAY

Saturday, June 22 • 1-3 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Stretch your imagination in our Creativity Lab! Drop in with the whole family for a jungle-themed craft. **D**

CARDBOARD COSPLAY

Tuesday, July 23 • 1-3 p.m. / 5-7 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Create your own costumes and accessories out of cardboard and upcycled materials. This is a great way to get ready for our LibCon cosplay contest! **D**

ALL AGES GAME NIGHT

Mondays, June 10 / July 8 / August 12 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Join us for game night fun! The Library provides board and video games for people to play. **D**

POKÉMON TRADING CARD DAY

Saturdays, June 29 / July 27 / August 31 • 2-3 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Kids of all ages trade Pokémon and other cards. **D**

BUILDING WITH THE LIONS

Saturday, July 13 • 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Drop in to build creations with LEGO blocks, facilitated by the Johnson City Lions Club. **D**



Events may be subject to change.
 Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

preschool storytimes

BABIES & BOOKS*

Wednesdays • 9:30 a.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Lapsit storytime with songs, rhymes, books, and sensory activities. Recommended for ages birth-18 months and their caregivers.

READ & ROMP

Wednesdays and Thursdays • 10:30 a.m.
King Commons Natural Adventure Area

Outdoor storytime with books and songs for active preschoolers. Recommended for ages 19-36 months and their caregivers. **O**

FAMILY STORYTIME*

Saturdays, June 1 / July 6 • 11 a.m.
Storytime Room

Recommended for ages 2-6 years and their families.

LITTLE LISTENERS*

Wednesdays and Thursdays • 11 a.m.
Storytime Room

Storytime with longer books, songs, and crafts. Recommended for ages 3-5 years and caregivers.

*Indoor storytimes require a ticket for entry, which you can pick up at the Children's Desk when you arrive.

MUSIC MORNING*

Mondays
June 10 and 24 / July 8 and 22
10 and 11 a.m.

Jones Meeting Center

Music and movement class for ages birth-5 years.

School Age Events

READING PAWS

Mondays, June 3 / July 1 / August 5 • 4-5 p.m.
Saturdays, June 15 / July 20 / August 17 • 11 a.m.
Children's Library

Ages 5-12 read to a trained listening dog for 15 minutes. **R**

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE BADGE

Tuesday, June 4 • 11 a.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Ages 5-12 take the first step to earning a Daisy, Brownie, or Junior Adventure Badge in trail safety. Boys can join in the fun too! The program is facilitated by the Girl Scouts of America. **R**

BOOK WORMS

Thursdays, June 6 / July 11 • 4 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Ages 5-8 hear a story and do activities that "dig in" to the text. **R**

GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

Mondays, June 17 / July 15 • 6 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Ages 8-12 explore graphic novels in a book club format.

CAMP HALF-BLOOD ADVENTURE TRAINING

Tuesday, June 25 • 5-7 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Ages 5-12 train at Camp Half-Blood with Percy Jackson and friends. Get ready for challenges, crafts, photo ops, and more! **D**

TEEN & TWEEN BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, July 17 • 6 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Ages 10-16 discuss "Rutabaga: Adventure Chef" by Eric Colossal and build their own ramen bowls. The first 10 tweens who register get a free copy of the book to keep! **R**

Teen Events

(AGES 12-18)

Event Key

- R** Registration required at jcpl.org
- O** Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
- D** Drop in any time during program

TOME RAIDERS D&D CAMPAIGN

Wednesday, June 5 and Tuesday, June 18 / Wednesdays, July 10 and 24 • 5 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

Participate in a bi-weekly tabletop role-playing style campaign throughout the summer. Party members will unite to save an ancient athenaeum from destruction. Pre-registration is required for all sessions by Wednesday, May 29. **R**

GRAPHIC NOVEL AND COSPLAY PANEL

Friday, June 21 • 4:30 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Dress in your favorite cosplay and join a roundtable discussion about graphic novels and costumed characters! You can also bring your favorite graphic novels and manga to talk about with the group.

ALIEN ADVENTURES: EXTRATERRESTRIAL ESCAPE ROOM

Tuesday, July 2 • 5 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Band together with friends to make your way out of this retro-themed alien escape room. **R**

ADVENTURES IN BOOKBINDING

Monday, July 22 • 5 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Create your very own adventure notebook in this hands-on program. You'll fold, stack, awl, and sew pages together to create a real leather-bound journal. **R**

LIBCON VI: TOME RAIDERS

Saturday, July 27 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Don your favorite costume and get your nerdy self to LibCon! (More details on page 12.) **D**



Teen Advisory Board

**Wednesdays,
June 26 / July 31 / August 28
6:30 p.m. • Teen Space**

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) is open to anyone ages 12-18 who wants to help make the Library a welcoming place for teens. In TAB meetings, teens and Library staff share ideas about the Teen Space, young adult collection, teen programs, and vision for the future.

teen book club

Teen Book Club meets once a month for ages 12-18 to discuss young adult books, do hands-on activities, and share a love of reading. Book club picks highlight diverse stories and authors in a variety of genres. Whether we're playing trivia, throwing a steampunk ball, or crafting, Teen Book Club is always fun and compelling. (Plus, the first 10 teens who register get a free copy of the book to keep!)

June: "The Thief"

Wednesday, June 12 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center **R**



First released in 1996, Morgan Whalen Turner's award-winning book "The Thief" is a classic of young adult fiction.

In the story you meet Eugenides the thief (Gen for short), a charismatic rogue who claims to be able to steal anything. Released from prison by the king's scholar, Gen and his crew embark on a quest to steal a legendary treasure. Readers join a perilous quest into a rich fantasy world, complete with horses, sword-fighting, political intrigue, and divine intervention.

"The Thief" is just the beginning of an adventure that expands across the realms of "The Queen's Thief" series. You can find Turner's companion novels at jcpl.org.

Review by Young Adult Library Clerk Claire Harlock

teen & tween book club

July: "Rutabaga: Adventure Chef"

Wednesday, July 17 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

July's book club is for teens AND tweens! Ages 10-16 discuss the graphic novel "Rutabaga: Adventure Chef" by Eric Colossal and build their own ramen bowls. **R**

August Events

MURDER MYSTERY

Wednesday, August 14 • 5 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Bring your best sleuthing skills to help solve this murder mystery! Dress in character and act out roles to be the best gumshoe in the game. **R**

FANFIC WRITING CLINIC

Saturday, August 17 • 2 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Learn about the creative process behind fan-driven writing! You'll also begin to create, share, and workshop your own fan fiction stories. **R**

TEEN BOOK CLUB: "DRY"

Wednesday, August 21 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Discuss "Dry" by Neal Shusterman and participate in water-based survival activities. **R**



Events may be subject to change.
Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

Adult Events

(AGES 18+)

Event Key

- R** Registration required at jcpl.org
- O** Outdoor event; check Facebook for event status in bad weather
- D** Drop in any time during program

AUTHOR TALK: DR. ROBERT TURPIN

Saturday, June 1 • 3 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Hear Dr. Robert Turpin talk about his new book, "Black Cyclists: The Race for Inclusion." It merges race, technology, and mobility to shed light on an overlooked era in cycling history. Dr. Turpin is the Assistant Dean of Arts and Humanities and Associate Professor of History at Lees-McRae College.

CULINARY QUEST: CONQUER YOUR TASTE BUDS

Thursday, June 6 • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Challenge your palate in a thrilling food adventure. Brave participants will enjoy some unusual snacks, such as crickets, worms, and other exotic cuisines. **R**

UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA

Friday, June 21 • 3 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

For Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month, learn about Alzheimer's and dementia from the Alzheimer's Association Diversity Coordinator Dayisia Wilson. The Alzheimer's Association is at the forefront of research, reduction, prevention, and care of these brain disorders.

EXTRATERRESTRIAL ESCAPE ROOM

Tuesday, July 2 • 6:30 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Band together with friends to make your way out of this retro-themed alien escape room! **R**

JAPANESE CALLIGRAPHY

Saturday, July 13 • 1 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Learn how to write Japanese calligraphy in a workshop led by Miku Kubota. Kubota is a coordinator for the Japan Outreach Initiative at East Tennessee State University. The group promotes awareness and understanding of Japanese culture. **R**

JOHNSON CITY DEATH CAFE

Saturday, July 13 • 2 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Discuss death, dying, and life's finite nature in an open and compassionate group-directed setting. Death cafes give people a space to think and talk about their mortality, with the intention of living their lives more fully.

SHARK DISCOVERY

Saturday, July 20 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Prepare for Shark Week by learning about these notorious ocean predators with Dr. Diane Nelson, Professor Emerita of Biological Sciences at ETSU. Dr. Nelson is an internationally recognized marine biologist who has studied giant whale sharks in the Sea of Cortez.

LIBCON: TOME RAIDERS

Saturday, July 27 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Don your favorite costume and get your nerdy self to LibCon! (More details on page 12.) **D**

recurring programs

SPANISH AT YOUR LIBRARY

Every Thursday • 6 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Practice your Spanish speaking skills with bilingual volunteer-led conversations. All language levels are welcome; whether you're a beginner or a fluent speaker, join the conversation to hone your skills!

FIBER ARTS GROUP

Fridays, June 14, 28 / July 12, 26 / August 9, 23 • 2:30-4:30 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Drop in with your fiber art supplies on the second and fourth Fridays every month to work on a personal project. You can socialize with and learn from fellow fiber art enthusiasts while you work. **D**

ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES STORYTIME

Thursdays, June 13 / July 11 • 11 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Adults with disabilities and their caregivers listen to a story and do a hands-on activity. This inclusive event creates a supportive, enjoyable environment for individuals with disabilities while encouraging creativity and interaction. **R**



August Events

TRIVIA WITH BUDDS

Friday, August 16 • 5 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Team up to compete in a food and drink-themed trivia night hosted by Ryan Budds. A local eatery gift card, prizes, and bragging rights are up for grabs! Budds has hosted trivia for Harrison Ford, the Ted Lasso cast, and the Family Guy cast, to name a few. **R**

NATIONAL WELLNESS MONTH

Saturday, August 24 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

August is National Wellness Month. Hear about Washington County Health Department's health and wellness services.

BOOKED FOR LUNCH: "THE WOMEN"

Wednesday, August 28 • 12 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Join Booked for Lunch, Library Director Julia Turpin's quarterly book club! Bring your lunch and discuss "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. Free copies are available at the Information Desk, while supplies last. **R**

CLOTHES MENDING 101

Friday, August 30 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Learn mending techniques for worn and torn fabrics in a hands-on workshop. Participants will gain valuable skills to extend the life of textiles, and take home a repair kit. **R**



Events may be subject to change.
Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.

JOHNSON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY'S

LIBCON VI: TOME RAIDERS

AN ANNUAL FANDOM CONVENTION

SATURDAY, JULY 27

10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

ALL AGES

FREE

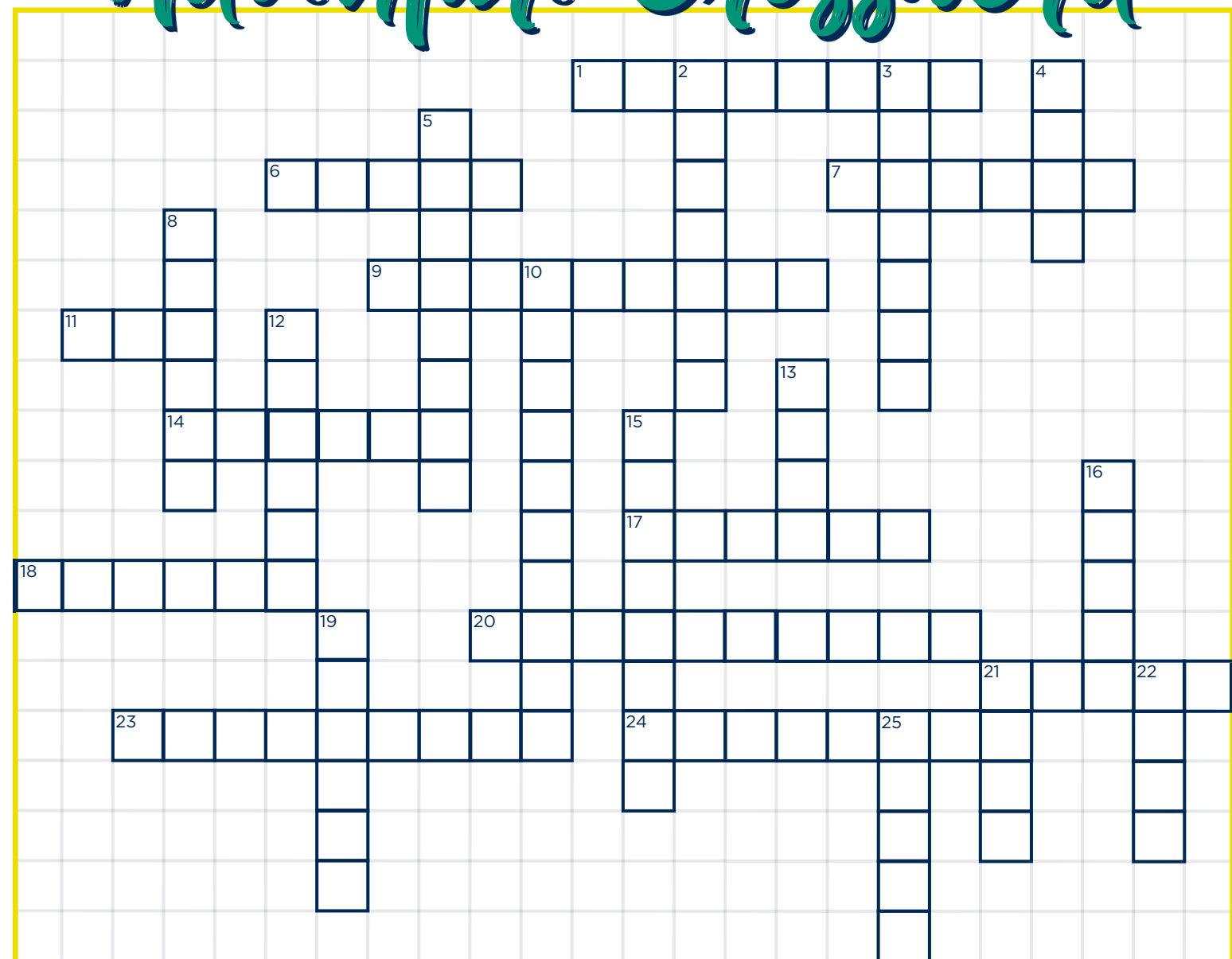


VENDORS  GAMES

COSPLAY CONTEST

ACTIVITIES  PHOTO-OPS

Adventure Crossword



across

1. Can carry your equipment
6. Sharp, pointy thing
7. Connecting pieces make a whole
9. There's usually a secret cave behind this
11. Need this to find your way
14. Everything you're trying to avoid on your adventure
17. Coral, King, or Corn, for example
18. Epic journey, often on water
20. Popular item among birdwatchers
21. A stick that lights your way in the dark
23. Travel partner
24. Person who ventures into unknown territory

down

2. Uses magnetic fields to find true north
3. What the Cowardly Lion lacks
4. Not tame, but _____
5. What X marks the spot for
8. The steep, fast-flowing part of a river
10. A scientific trip in search of something
12. Another word for a tropical forest
13. Highest point of a mountain
15. To find something new
16. A knight's garb
19. The person making decisions
21. Something you get stuck in
22. A place where bats live
25. Ancient structures, once intact

Crossword created by Library staff members:
Xander, Grey, Kristy, Riley, and Hannah

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Wednesday-Friday, August 7-9 • 3-6 p.m.
Saturday, August 10 • 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Jones Meeting Center

The Scholastic Book Fair is open to the public. Plus, preschool and school age kids who participated in Summer Reading can spend the Scholastic book bucks they earned! All proceeds from the book fair support future children's programs and services.



August Events

PAINT A PICTURE WITH WORDS

Tuesday, August 13 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 5-12 and their caregivers hear from Linda Darwish and Jamila Maden, a mother-daughter author duo known as L.J. Madwish. The two teamed up to write the children's book "Mary and Mike's Magnanimous Adventures." Darwish and Maden lead caregiver-child activities that support emerging readers and give you tools to grow your child's vocabulary, self-expression, and love for reading. R

HELPING OUR FOREST FRIENDS

Tuesday, August 20 • 6 p.m. • King Commons Natural Adventure Area

Families learn about critters of Appalachia with animal rehabilitator Vanessa Hawley. Hawley is an educator with Green Valley Wildlife. Her interactive presentation includes how to make your backyard a wildlife sanctuary, as well as a meet and greet with some of our region's wild critters. G

COOKING WITH MARGIE FOODIE

Preschool

Thursday, August 22 • 11 a.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 3-5 learn how to make (and eat!) biscuits and cinnamon rolls from scratch with cooking instructor Margie Foodie. R

School Age

Monday, August 26 • 4 p.m. • Jones Meeting Center

Ages 5-12 learn how to make soft pretzels from scratch with cooking instructor Margie Foodie. Young bakers do everything from making dough, to baking, to eating! R



thank you

Thank you to Friends of the Library for sponsoring the Scholastic book bucks that kids earn during Summer Reading!

Friends OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Johnson City Public Library is a group of volunteers dedicated to the Library's welfare. Through their membership fees and book sales, the Friends help purchase physical and digital library materials, fund programs, and support staff development.

Katie Walser became a Friends member in 2023 as a way of giving back to the Library and our community.

She said, "I grew up in Johnson City, but went away for college and work. I moved back 10 years ago, when my two children were ages 2 and 3. The Library was immediately a way to plug into the community, listen to storytime, read with dogs, and enjoy the amazing programs our Library offers.

I have many fond memories of Johnson City Public Library, but my favorite is my daughter Savannah's 'graduation' from the Librarian-in-Training program! She absolutely loved it and learned so much, because the wonderful staff at the Library bring it to life each day. The programs they provide are incredible and free of charge.

In the whirlwind of life, I didn't even know what Friends of the Library was until recent years. Becoming a Friend is such an easy way to give back to our Library and community. I hope everyone will take a few minutes and join today!"

Learn more and join Friends of the Library at jcpl.org/friends.



digital collections

Take your Library along on your summer adventures with our digital collections!

No matter where you are, your library card gives you access to ebooks, audiobooks, and digital magazines through **Tennessee R.E.A.D.S.** and the **Libby app**. Download Libby from your app store and easily connect it to your library account to get started!

With **hoopla digital**, you can borrow ebooks and stream music and movies. Download hoopla from your app store, then use your library card number to begin streaming.

Find more details at jcpl.org/digital-resources.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

across

1. Backpack
6. Sword
7. Puzzle
9. Waterfall
11. Map
14. Danger
17. Snakes
18. Voyage
20. Binoculars
21. Torch
23. Companion
24. Explorer

down

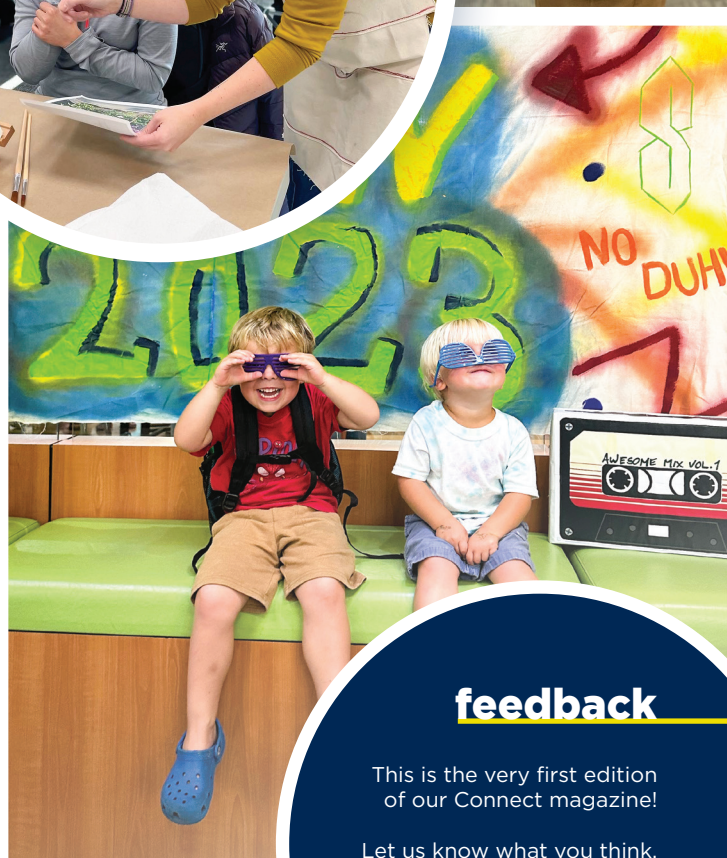
2. Compass
3. Courage
4. Wild
5. Treasure
8. Rapids
10. Expedition
12. Jungle
13. Peak
15. Discover
16. Armor
19. Leader
21. Trap
22. Cave
25. Ruins



Events may be subject to change.
 Please confirm details at jcpl.org/events.



Summer Fun THROWBACKS



feedback

This is the very first edition of our Connect magazine!

Let us know what you think. What would you like to see in upcoming editions?

jcpl.org/connect-feedback