KIDS’ EVENTS

Watch for our Take It & Make It Shamrock Kit for Children and Teens!

As Easter draws near, we will again offer our popular book and activity kit based on the book The Great Eggscape!

We will feature a brand new book and activity kit featuring the book What If? by Samantha Berger, about being creative with everyday objects. There will be craft items to make your own Dale Chihuly-style ‘glass’ sculpture.

March EXPLORE Bingo

Can you find all the items on the EXPLORE bingo card this month? All ages are welcome to play but to enter the drawing, you must be 18 or younger. Send your e-mail to youthservices@wgpl.org between the 15th and end of the month.

DOWNLOADABLES REFRESHER

During COVID, our various downloadable services have been used more than ever. And yet it appears that there are still plenty of Library users who are unfamiliar with what we offer. Here is a quick guide.

OverDrive: Our first eBook and audiobook service. You download an app called Libby and then use it to request current books in either e-book or audiobook format. You can read or listen to them on your phone, tablet, or computer. These are single-use books, meaning only one reader at a time can have a copy checked out, so there are waiting lists for popular items on OverDrive.

OverDrive now also holds all of the magazines we once offered through our RBDigital magazine service. Check out copies of your favorite magazines and keep them! No need to return these items.

Hoopla: Another popular service offering e-books, audiobooks, comic books, TV shows, music, and movies. It is easy to add the Hoopla app to your device, search and check out content. The content is not as current as on OverDrive, but there are thousands of titles and multiple readers can check out the same title at the same time—meaning no waiting lists. There is a 12 item per month limit on your library card.

Because the Library does pay for each item checked out on Hoopla, reciprocity privileges do not apply—meaning only Webster Groves residents may use our Hoopla service.

Kanopy: A downloadable movie service, Kanopy features independent films, and archived films such as the Criterion Collection. Download and watch Kanopy movies on a computer, tablet, or even your television. There is a limit of 3 movies per month on your library card.

If you would like to learn more about using any of these services, please call our Reference Department at 314.961.7277 tcooper@wgpl.org

FISHING, ANYONE?

Webster Groves Public Library, in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Conservation, will soon offer fishing poles for checkout. This is ideal for anyone—adult or child—who has wanted to try fishing but does not want to spend all the money to acquire the equipment.

Each fishing pole comes complete with hook, weight, and bobber. We also offer a list of free places in the area where you can go to try fishing. The equipment checks out for three weeks, so you have time to take it out more than once. We will allow any adult patron to check out two fishing poles at a time, to make it easier for a family to enjoy an outing. We hope to have the poles ready soon. Check for ‘fishing poles’ in the Library’s catalog.

Since some safety precautions do apply, the fishing poles will only be checked out to adults.

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
TOP REQUESTS
1. The Four Winds, by Kristin Hannah
2. A Promised Land, by Barack Obama
3. The Vanishing Half, by Brit Bennett
4. The Midnight Library, by Matt Haig
5. Anxious People, by Fredrik Backman
6. A Time for Mercy, by John Grisham
7. The Guest List, by Lucy Foley
8. Hamnet, by Maggie O'Farrell
9. The Law of Innocence, by Michael Connelly
10. The Survivors, by Jane Harper
11. Keep Sharp, by Sanjay Gupta
12. Faithless in Death, by J. D. Robb

TAX FORMS
As usual this year, the Library has acquired from the IRS an assortment of tax forms to distribute to our patrons. But these are not usual times, and so you cannot come in and get your forms.

We have been distributing tax forms through curbside pickup. If you need forms, please call our Reference Department at 314.961.7277 and let us know which forms you need. We will get them together and you can come by to retrieve them. We have some forms here, and others should be arriving soon. We can find and print most of the forms we do not have.

We do not receive forms from the State, but, just like the federal forms, we can find them online and print them for you.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS
Saturday, April 3 at 2 p.m.
This meeting will be held via Zoom. For more information, or to get the Zoom link, contact Debbie Ladd at dladd@wgpl.org.

BOOK CLUB KITS—
Remember that while we can’t hold book discussions at the Library, we do have book club kits available for your home group. Kits include 10 copies of the book and a discussion guide, and can be checked out for 6 weeks. Look them up in our catalog under the title BOOK CLUB KIT.

QUARANTINE TIMES FOR LIBRARY MATERIALS
During the coronavirus pandemic, libraries have faced a problem that stores and restaurants do not face—everything that people take home from here is eventually coming back here. In response to this, every library has quarantined returned library materials, meaning that returned items are set aside for a matter of days before being checked in and shelved. These times have ranged from four days to as much as a week. This is another reason why our public meeting room will not be open any time soon—all of those quarantined materials are piled on tables in there.

Our quarantine times were set in response to studies that showed how long the virus can live on hardcover and softcover books, or CD and DVD cases. But later opinions from experts doubted some of these studies, saying that the amount of virus sprayed on the test objects was excessive and unrealistic. In coordination with the other MLC libraries, we recently cut our quarantine time in half, to 48 hours.

We hope this alleviates some of the concern of Library users who have returned items only to see them still on their cards four days later, though the 2-day quarantine time will still be practiced for the foreseeable future.

FRIENDS NEWS
Many thanks to all who have joined or renewed their memberships in the Friends of Webster Groves Public Library—we are so grateful for all the support! We welcome new Friends Board member Pam Mahoney, who has been active with the Board in years past and has now taken on the role of Board member!

The Friends are planning a special community event for early May (we will keep you posted online and by mail) which you will be able to participate in either virtually or in person. We hope many of you will join us!