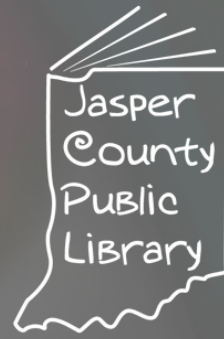


JULY / AUGUST 2026

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

INFORM, ENRICH, EMPOWER



UNEARTH A STORY™ SUMMER READING 2026 CONTINUES!

TEENS & GRADES K-5

Unearth a good story with us in this year's Summer Reading Program from June 2 to July 21. Registration begins Tuesday, May 26 and can be done on the Beanstack app. Each library will have various dinosaur themed programs for you to discover!



ADULT SUMMER READING

May 26-July 26

For every book, ebook, audiobook, eaudiobook, magazine, or digital magazine adults read they get entered into the weekly prize and the grand prize. Grand prize will be drawn on Monday, July 27.



SCAN TO DOWNLOAD THE
BEANSTACK APP.

CONNECT WITH US

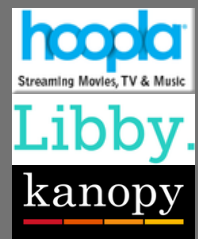
VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.myjcpl.org

VISIT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



E-book and Audio



Rensselaer
(219) 866-5881

DeMotte
(219) 987-2221

Wheatfield
(219) 956-3774

DEMOTTE EVENTS: ADULTS

July 2-First Thursday Craft Club

5 pm, Adults

Bring your unfinished craft projects to work on and socialize with our crafty people in the community!

July 6 & 20-Monday Magic (The Gathering)

5-7 pm, Adults. Registration preferred.

Have you always wanted to play Magic the Gathering but aren't sure where to start? Are you a seasoned player who would like to show others how to play? Join us for Monday Magic! We have plenty of cards to build your own deck to keep, or feel free to bring your own homebrew decks!

July 7-DIY Bee Water Cups

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Create an adorable water station for bees and other pollinators in your garden. Supplies provided.



July 8-Bingo

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us upstairs for bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

July 14-Gardening 101: Soil and Plant Nutrition

5:30 pm, Adults.

Ever wondered what your plants need to thrive? It starts with the soil! Come get the dirt on dirt! Learn about the USDA soil triangle, testing and evaluating your soil, as well as understanding soil nutrients and how and when to fertilize. All plant health, disease control and treatment, and nutrition begin with understanding the soil.

July 15-Storytellers Writing Group

6 pm, Ages 16+

Do you want to write a book? Are you in the middle of writing one already? Come join us for writing tips, sprints, and feedback!

July 16-Ivy Tech Valparaiso Learning Lab & Info Session

Drop in 10 am-3 pm, ages 16+.

The Learning Lab is hitting the road and will be visiting your town in July! Join us for hands-on activities that connect with our programs and degrees. Enhance your skills and gain credibility to elevate your career and achieve your goals and dreams for a better future.

July 16-Cookbook Club Celebrates America's 250th!

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Please stop by the library to select a recipe from this month's chosen books. This month's cookbooks are "Baking Across America" by B. Dylan Hollis and "50 Pies, 50 States" by Stacey Mei Yan Fong.

July 18-Diamond Art Craft

2 pm, Teens-Adults. Registration required.

Join us to create a diamond art potted plant or succulent magnet. All materials will be provided for this free craft.

July 28-Gardening 101: Fruit & Vegetable Gardening

5:30 pm, Adults.

Want a beautiful garden with fruit and veggies that will make your neighbors envious? Learn about what is easiest to grow, how long from planting to crop production, pollination, pruning strategies, disease identification, control and treatment, which plants are most cold hardy, and what challenges you'll face with your crops.

August 1-Write-A-Thon

1-4 pm, Ages 16+. Registration required.

Come join us for a relaxing day of working on your writing projects!

DEMOTTE EVENTS: ADULTS

August 3 & 24-Monday Magic (The Gathering)

5-7 pm, Adults. Registration preferred.

Have you always wanted to play Magic the Gathering but aren't sure where to start? Are you a seasoned player who would like to show others how to play? Join us for Monday Magic! We have plenty of cards to build your own deck to keep, or feel free to bring your own homebrew decks!

August 4-Gardening 101:Herbaceous and Woody Ornamentals

5:30 pm, Adults.

Looking to liven up your yard with beautiful trees and herbaceous plants that are not only aesthetically pleasing but also great for the environment? Then, this is the class for you. Learn how to choose beautiful trees, post planting care, identifying and treating diseases, and how to get plants to survive the winter.

August 6-First Thursday Craft Club

5 pm, Adults.

Bring your unfinished craft projects to work on and socialize with our crafty people in the community!

August 6-Cookbook Club Celebrates the Fair!

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Please stop by the library to select a recipe from this month's chosen book. This month's cookbook is "Linda Skeen's Blue Ribbon Kitchen" by Linda Skeens.

August 8-15-Friends of the DeMotte Library Book Sale

The Friends of the DeMotte Library will be having a book sale during the open hours of the Library. During the Rotary Ramble on August 8 it will be open from 12-5pm. There will be a Friend's preview on August 7 from 1-5pm. On August 15 there will be a \$3 a bag sale. On Monday, August 17 there will be a free day.

August 12-Bingo

11 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us upstairs for bingo fun! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

August 15-Learn Mosaic Crochet

1:30-3:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us and learn the technique of mosaic crochet! This technique allows you to crochet beautiful pictures from graphs. Patterns will be provided. Participants must provide other supplies. A supply list will be at the front desk of the DeMotte Library. This is a beginner level project, however participants MUST know the basics of crochet, how to make a chain, double stitch, and single stitch.



August 19-Storytellers Writing Club

6 pm, Ages 16+

Do you want to write a book? Are you in the middle of writing one already? Come join us for writing tips, sprints, and feedback!

August 25-Gardening 101: Invasive Species, Insects, Animals, and Control

5:30 pm, Adults.

This class will help you understand how what you plant has an impact on what you attract. Avoid invasive and detrimental species, attract beneficial animals and learn how to control what you have.

DEMOTTE EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

July 25-Barbie Club

10 am, All ages.

All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the Barbies; you bring the fun!

July 25-Hot Wheels Club

2 pm, All ages.

All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the cars; you bring the fun!

August 4-Teen Book Club

5 pm, Teens. Registration required.

This teen book discussion group meets at Cup of Joy in DeMotte to hang out with other teens! We're a low-key group up for chatting about books (no need to be an expert, just come out for a good time). Get this month's book Refugee by Alan Gratz at the DeMotte Public Library.

August 15-Family Story Time

10 am, Pre-k & K-5. Registration required.

Families can spend time together for a morning read-aloud and craft or activity designed for children!

August 25-Evening Story Time

6 pm, Pre-K & K-5. Registration required.

Families can wind down together for the night with an evening read-aloud and craft or activity designed for children! Pajamas are welcome or come as you are from the day.

August 27-Lego

4 pm, All ages.

Build a creation to be displayed within the children's area!

August 29-Barbie Club

10 am, All ages.

All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the Barbies; you bring the fun!

August 29-Hot Wheels Club

2 pm, All ages.

All ages are welcome. Ages 5 and under require adult supervision. We have the cars; you bring the fun!

SUMMER READING EVENTS

Grades K-5

July 7 @ 1 pm
Indiana Wild

July 13-17
Crafts to Go (drop in event)

July 14 @ 1 pm
Balloongenuity

July 21 @ 1 pm
Foam Party Finale

Preschool

July 1 @ 10 am & 1 pm*
Preschool Summer Story Time

July 8 @ 10 am & 1 pm*
Lap Sit Story Time

July 13-17
Crafts to Go (drop in event)

July 15 @ 10 am & 1 pm*
Preschool Summer Story Time

*Registration is required for these events

Teens

July 2 @ 7-9 pm*
After Hours Teen Book Club

July 9 @ 1 pm*
Teen Wii Get Together

July 13-17
Crafts to Go (drop in event)

July 21 @ 1 pm
Foam Party Finale



RENSSELAER EVENTS: ADULTS

Programs in Red are special programs that commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the nations founding

July 1-Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for a game or two of Scrabble. This is a free program and all supplies are provided.

July 2-Bingo

10 am, Adults. Registration required.

Join us for Bingo fun and prizes!

July 7-Writing Club

6 pm, Adults.

Join us at the Rensselaer for writing club! We start by doing a couple writing exercises to warm up, and then we usually talk about or work on whatever each of our current projects are. Make sure to bring what you are working on, whether that's a novel, short story, poem, or even just an idea! Writing club is a safe space for us to get out of our shell and spend time with other writers who can encourage and give ideas!

July 7-July 11-All Ages Jurassic Park Escape Room

Please call the Rensselaer Library to make an appointment with your group.

Can your group beat the challenges, and the timer, and save the last dinosaurs? Test yourself in our popular escape room experience. Choose from easy, medium or hard experience. All ages are welcome in this family program. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

July 8-Genealogy Help

5-6:30 pm, All ages

Learn how to search for your family history using the libraries free resources. The library has free use in the library, of genealogy websites such as Ancestry and Family Search. JCPL is a FamilySearch Affiliate library, this allows access to Family Search's digital collections that are otherwise accessible only through a Family Search Center. All assistance is available on a first come, first served basis.

July 18-Team Speed Puzzling

2-4 pm, Ages 10+. Registration required.

Put your jigsaw skills to the test! It's a race against the clock to complete a 500-piece puzzle. Each team will be provided with the same 500-piece puzzle, which must be completed in 120 minutes. All skill levels are welcome. The first team to finish wins bragging rights! Come as a team or an individual (and be placed on a team). Participants will be divided into 4 teams. If you have a group of 4 people, each person must be registered to participate and they will be selected as a team.

July 28-Kahoot! America's 250th Anniversary

6 pm, Adults.

250th Trivia using Kahoot! Bring a mobile device to participate! Prizes awarded - first place winner receives a gift card! Registration requested, Limit 20 teams, Open to ages 18 and up unless 16+ accompanied by an adult.

August 4-Writing Club

6 pm, Adults.

Join us at the Rensselaer for writing club! We start by doing a couple writing exercises to warm up, and then we usually talk about or work on whatever each of our current projects are. Make sure to bring what you are working on, whether that's a novel, short story, poem, or even just an idea! Writing club is a safe space for us to get out of our shell and spend time with other writers who can encourage and give ideas!

August 5-Scrabble Game Night

6 pm, Adults

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for a game or two of Scrabble. This is a free program and all supplies are provided.

August 6-Bingo

10 am, Adults.

Join us for Bingo fun and prizes!

RENSSELAER EVENTS: ADULTS

Programs in Red are special programs that commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the nations founding

August 8-How to Play Pickleball

2 pm, All ages.

Want to try a new sport? Come to the library and learn how to play Pickleball! We'll go over the rules, and walk you through how to play! And at a future date that is still to be determined, maybe you'll be able to play a Pickleball tournament with us! Even if you are an expert at Pickleball, feel free to join us!

August 12-Genealogy Help

5-6:30 pm, All ages

Learn how to search for your family history using the libraries free resources. The library has free use in the library, of genealogy websites such as Ancestry and Family Search. JCPL is a FamilySearch Affiliate library, this allows access to Family Search's digital collections that are otherwise accessible only through a Family Search Center. All assistance is available on a first come, first served basis.

August 15-Preserving Family Artifacts

10 am, All ages.

Tamara Hemmerlein from the Indiana Historical Society will share her knowledge with the public on Preserving Family Artifacts. The Jasper County Historical Society is sponsoring the talk and will have Archival Kits available to purchase.

August 17-Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting

6 pm, Adults

Consider joining the Friends! Annual dues are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for family.

August 19-Colonial Era Foods

5:30 pm, All ages.

Celebrate the United States' 250th birthday by tasting some Colonial Era food. Learn about Amelia Simmons and the early American Cookery cookbook. Enjoy some gingerbread and "hasty pudding" from scratch using recipes that the Colonial Americans would have used and then wash it down with a tall glass of switchel.

August 20-Dungeons and Dragons

3:30-5:30 pm, Grades 6 to adult.

Join us at the Rensselaer Library for a Dungeons and Dragons campaign. Each meet up will be a new adventure! This is a free program for anyone in 6th grade to an adult. Beginners and experts are welcome! Dice will be provided but you can bring your own!

August 22-Felt Succulents

2:30 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Join us at the Rensselaer Library as we create Felt Succulents and plants. All supplies are provided.



Felt Succulents

August 25-Kahoot! Are You Smarter than an 8th Grader?

6 pm, Adults.

Are you smarter than an 8th grader?!! Join us at the Rensselaer library for trivia using Kahoot! And see if you could pass an 8th grade knowledge test! Bring a mobile device to participate! Prizes awarded - first place winner receives a gift card!



Combat Coffee



Every 3rd Monday of the month from 9:30-11 am.

Created by a Vet, Combat Coffee is a casual environment in which Veterans can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.

RENSSELAER EVENTS: CHILDRENS/ TEENS

July 9-All Abilities Storytime

1 pm, All ages.

This program is designed for adults with developmental disabilities. We will have a story and a craft for participants.

July 21-Kid's Night at the Farmer's Market

4-6 pm, All ages.

Join us at the Rensselaer Farmer's Market around the Courthouse lawn for face painting and crafts!

July 30-Jasper County Public Library Goes to the Fair!

4-7 pm, All ages.

Join the Rensselaer Library on Thursday at the Jasper County Fair. Miss Mel and Miss Nancy will offer a storytime and craft from 4-5pm and Miss Jenna and Miss Beth will offer diamond art from 5pm-7pm



August 1-Family Game Day

10 am-4 pm, All ages.

Come explore the board games at the Rensselaer Library and see what you can do. We have Harry Potter Clue, Bookopoly, Risk Legacy, Apples to Apples and more, as well as games for younger players.

August 13-All Abilities Storytime

1 pm, All ages.

This program is designed for adults with developmental disabilities. We will have a story and a craft for participants.

August 17-Digital Citizenship-Online Safety and Cyberbullying

6 pm, Teens and parents.

Rachel Haselby, a Computer Science Specialist with the State 4-H office, will speak about digital citizenship and steps students and families can take to improve online safety. This program is intended to give students and families steps to recognize online dangers such as bullying and address them.

SUMMER READING EVENTS

Tuesdays

July 7 @ 10 am

Indiana Wild

July 14 @ 10 am

Balloongenuity

July 21 @ 10 am

Foam Party Finale

Thursdays

July 2 @ 2 pm

Patriotic Bubble Wands

July 9 @ 2 pm

Cave Craft (ages 4+)

July 16 @ 2 pm

Bling your Book with Diamond Art
(ages 8+)



All Rensselaer Events are all ages unless otherwise stated.

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: ADULTS

July 2-Afternoon Movie

1 pm, Adults.

Spend the afternoon enjoying a movie! Please contact Wheatfield Library for movie title.

July 6-Diamond Art Magnets

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Celebrate America 250 by making sparkly diamond art magnets.

July 8-Trivia Night at Marcella's

6 pm, Adults.

Join us for a patriotic trivia night to celebrate America 250 at Marcella's Pizza!

July 28-Friends of the Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

A nonprofit group whose primary focus is to promote and support the Wheatfield Library. New members welcome!

August 6-Afternoon Movie

1 pm, Adults.

Spend the afternoon enjoying a movie! Please contact Wheatfield Library for movie title.

August 25-Friends of the Wheatfield Library Meeting

1 pm, Adults.

A nonprofit group whose primary focus is to promote and support the Wheatfield Library. New members welcome!

August 28-Flower Pot Mosaic

6 pm, Adults. Registration required.

Adults can join us for a craft night and make a mosaic flower pot!



Every 1st Wednesday of the month at 10 am.

Created by a Vet, Combat Coffee is a casual environment in which Veterans (with or without combat experience) can connect through coffee, conversation, and camaraderie.

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

July 1-Lego Program

4 pm, Ages 5 and up. Registration required.

Kids ages 5 and older are welcome to make Lego creations to be on display in the children's area. Ms. Rachael will also read a patriotic story to celebrate July 4th! A light snack will be provided.

July 9 & 23-Paws and Pages

4 pm, Kids of all ages. Registration required.

Each student will get 20 minutes to read with the therapy dog. This program encourages them to read out loud. Registration is required. Choose a time that suits your student best.

July 10-Nerf Night

5:30-7pm, Ages 8+, registration required.

Anyone under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. All participants will be required to sign a waiver which includes a parent permission for those under age 18.

Participants are required to bring their own unmodified Nerf toy and protective eyewear. The library will provide darts. Refreshments will be provided at this free event.

July 11-Saturday Story Time

10 am, Ages 5 and under. Registration required.

Children ages 5 and under, along with caregivers, are invited to celebrate the Firefly Award nominees by listening to them and voting for their favorite. A craft will be provided.



WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

July 14-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages birth through 23 months. Registration required. Come and hear stories, sing songs, and interact with others.

July 17-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required. Children along with a caregiver are invited to hear stories and make a special craft.

July 17-Family Movie Night

6-8 pm, All ages. Join us for a family movie!

July 20-Homeschool Meetup

12 pm, All ages. Homeschoolers and their parents are invited to attend our monthly program. This month's topic is Water Education.

July 24-Family Water Day

12-2 pm, All ages. We're celebrating the end of Summer Reading with a water day! Wear your swim trunks and tops. All we ask is to bring your library books inside first before we play!

July 30-Chess Program

5:30 pm, Ages 10 and up. Registration required. Children ages 10 and up are welcome to come learn the game of Chess or practice their skills. Students from KVHS Chess Club will be presenting. A light snack will be provided.

August 4-Lapsit Story Time

10 am, Ages birth through 23 months. Registration required. Join us to hear stories, sing songs, and interact with others.

August 4 & 5-Story Time

Ages 5 and under. Choose between August 4 at 2:30 pm or August 5 at 11 am. We will hear stories and make a craft!

August 8-Saturday Story Time

10 am, Ages 5 and under. Registration required. Children ages 5 and under, along with their caregivers, are invited to hear stories and make a special Father's Day craft.

August 13 & 27-Paws and Pages

4 pm, Kids of all ages. Registration required. Each student will get 20 minutes to read with the therapy dog. This program encourages them to read out loud. Registration is required. Choose a time that suits your student best.

August 14-Family Night Paint your Pet Program

6 pm, All ages. Registration required. Registrants will need to send a picture of their pet's face by August 10th. Call the library for more details.

August 17-Homeschool Meetup

12 pm, All ages. Homeschoolers and their parents are invited to attend our monthly program. This month's topic is Outdoor Games.

August 20-STEM: Is That a Bird? Or an Airplane?

4 pm, Grades K-8. Registration is required. It's National Aviation Week! Come to learn about airplanes and where they come from. We'll also be having a paper airplane contest. Who will be the victor?

August 21-Toddler Time

10 am, Ages 2-3. Registration required. Children ages 2 & 3 years old, along with a caregiver are invited to hear stories and make a special craft.

August 24-After School Program

4 pm, Grades K-5. Registration required. Kids in grades K-5 are invited to play Wii games. A snack will be provided.

WHEATFIELD EVENTS: CHILDRENS / TEENS

August 25-Teen Meetup

4 pm, Teens. Registration required.

Teens will be able to create a 2026-2027 school year vision board. Snacks and refreshments provided.

August 27-Chess Program

5:30 pm, Ages 10 and up. Registration required.

Children ages 10 and up are welcome to come learn the game of Chess or practice their skills. Students from KVHS Chess Club will be presenting. A light snack will provided.

SUMMER READING EVENTS

Grades K-5

July 7 @ 3 pm

Indiana Wild

July 14 @ 3 pm

Balloongenuity

July 21 @ 3 pm

Foam Party Finale

Preschool

July 13 @ 10 OR 11 am

Preschool Summer Story Time

July 27 @ 10 OR 11 am

Preschool Summer Story Time



Teens

July 2 @ 3-5 pm

Teens Summer Movie

July 9 @ 3 pm

Teen Explorers Program

July 16 @ 3 pm

Teen Summer Movie

July 23 @ 3 pm

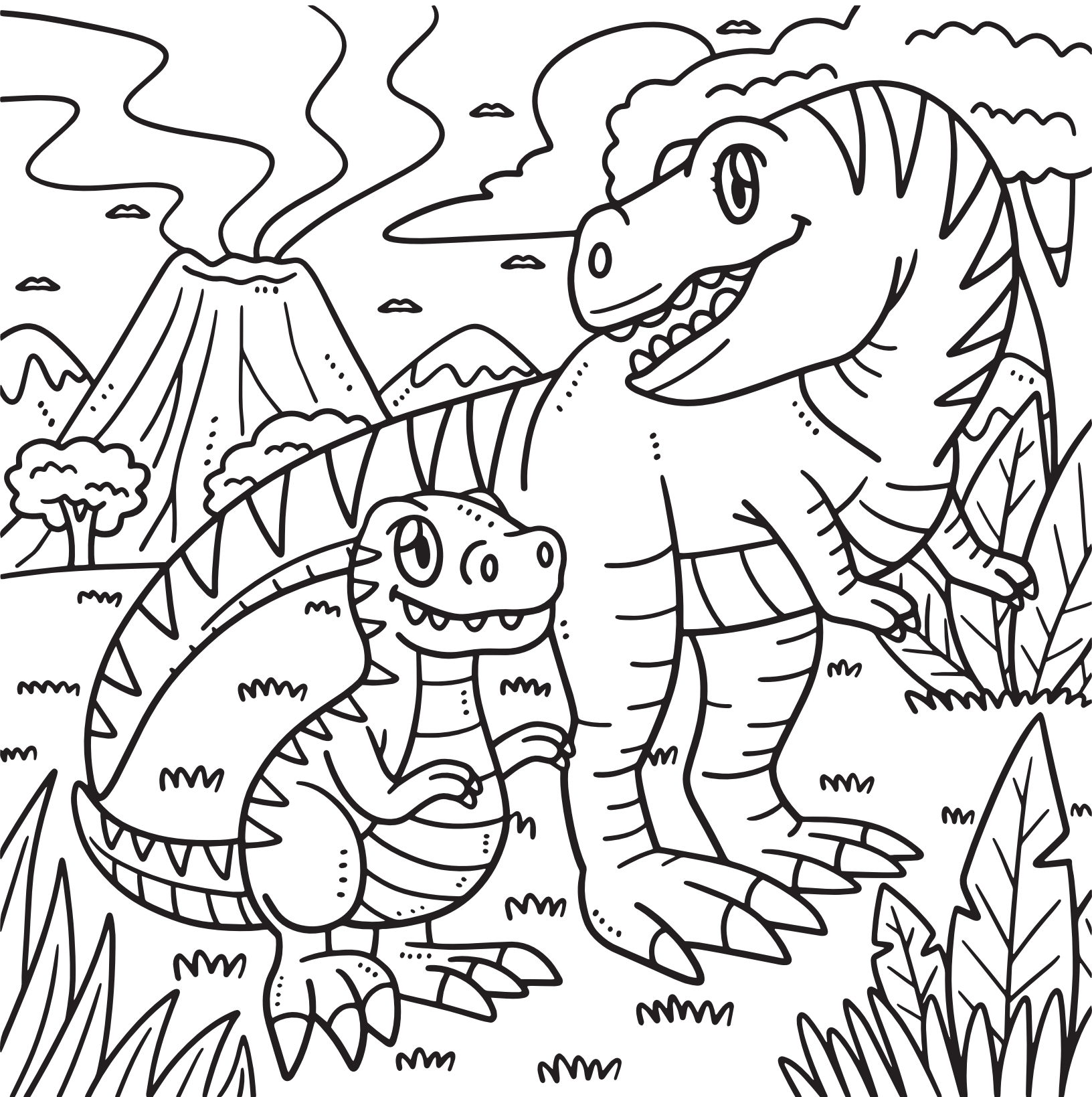
Teen Games & Party Finale

Library Closures

July 4th-All JCPL Libraries will be closed in observance of the holiday.

August 11-All JCPL Libraries will be closed for staff training.

SUMMER READING COLORING PAGE



JCPL Adult Book Discussions

For more details or to reserve a copy, please visit or call your local library.
Registration is appreciated, and available online at www.myjcpl.org/events.

DeMotte

July 21- The Bookies-Tuesday-2 or 6 pm

Book: "The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett" by Annie Lyons

August 17-Dark and Stormy Night Book Club-Monday-6 pm

Book: "The Witch of New York" by Alex Hortis

August 18-The Bookies-Tuesday-2 or 6 pm

Book: "The Reading List" by Sarah Nisha Adams

Wheatfield

July 14-Adult Book Discussion-Tuesday-1:30 pm

Book: "State of Wonder" by Ann Pratchett

July 28-Books and Coffee-Tuesday-2 pm at Cup of Joy in DeMotte

Book: "We Were the Lucky Ones" by Georgia Hunter

August 18-Fantasy Book Club-Tuesday-6 pm

Book: "Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir

August 25-Books and Coffee-Tuesday-2 pm at Books and Coffee at Cup of Joy in DeMotte

Book: "The Last Goodnight" by Howard Blum

Rensselaer

July 22-Men's Book Group-Wednesday-10 am

Book: "Brother, I'm Dying" by Edwidge Danticat

****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****

July 23-4th Thursday Group-Thursday-1 pm

Book: "The Friendly Persuasion" by Jessamyn West

August 26-Men's Book Group-Wednesday-10 am

Book: "Common Sense" by Thomas Paine

****THE MEN'S GROUP WAS CREATED FOR MEN BUT ANYONE CAN JOIN****

August 27-4th Thursday Group-Thursday-1 pm

Book: "The Quiet Librarian" by Allen Eskens