

THE NEWS *of* ORANGE COUNTY

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At the Library: Summer reading offers fun, prizes at OCPL

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It's almost summer reading time at Orange County Public Library.

Our libraries will be bustling with even more activity and excitement than usual as summer reading begins June 1 and runs through July 31.

We'll kick things off with a summer reading extravaganza at the OCPL Main Library on Saturday, June 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring the whole family to sign up for summer reading, play games, make crafts, hear music, get your face painted, enter prize drawings, enjoy a magic show and more.

Summer reading features events, activities and prizes for kids, teens and adults.

Activities at the Main Library include weekly storytimes for babies, toddlers and preschoolers Monday through Wednesday at 10 a.m. Children ages 5 to 8 are invited to Kids Explore on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. Library Lab, a science program for 6- to 11-year-olds, is Thursdays at 4 p.m. at the Carrboro Branch Library.

Special summer reading events include:

- Summer movie matinees—Thursdays, June 20 and 27, July 11 and 18, at 2 p.m. at the Main Library. All movie showings at the library are free and open to the public. Call the library at 919-245-2536 to find out what's playing.
- Family literacy program—Saturday, June 21 and July 12, at 10:30 a.m. at the Main Library. Join us for a family storytime followed by a craft or activity. Best for ages 6 and younger, but please feel free to come with siblings, parents and grandparents.
- "Hansel and Gretel, The Science of Outsmarting a Witch"—Saturday, June 28, at 10:30 a.m. at the Carrboro Branch. Presented by Rags to Riches Theater.
- Rock Star Magic—Wednesday, July 16, at 4 p.m. at the Main Library. Join us for the amazing and interactive magic of Chris and Neal.
- Fish the Magish—Saturday, July 19, at 10:30 a.m. at the Carrboro Branch. Magician Mike Fisher will present a show filled with science, fun and magical experiments.

More information on these and other events is available at

www.orangecountync.gov/library/SummerReading2014.asp or by calling the Main Library at 919-245-2525 and the Carrboro Branch at 919-969-3006.

At the Main Library, all kids earn weekly prizes or Book Bucks to donate books to other children in the community. Weekly book drawings will be held for teen and adult summer readers. And those who write reviews of books they've read will be entered into the grand drawing for Kindle Fire e-readers, generously donated by the Friends of the Orange County Public Library.

The OCPL Carrboro Branch is also a children's summer reading site. Every child who participates receives a free book at the end of the program.

Reading through the summer is crucial to preventing summer slide. Children who don't read or get read to over the summer tend to lose literacy skills. On the flip side, kids who do read or are read to improve their reading ability during the summer.

Summer reading at OCPL is a fun and free way to develop the joy of reading in kids. Just 15 minutes of reading a day can make all the difference for young, growing minds.

And don't forget, OCPL offers much more than just books. With a free library card, you can borrow movies, music, audiobooks, e-books, Kindles (pre-loaded with hundreds of titles) and magazines. Come use the free WiFi and Internet-connected computers, attend a program, take a class or get help from our knowledgeable staff.

The OCPL Main Library is at 137 W. Margaret Lane in Hillsborough. Free parking is available in the Eno River Parking Deck. The OCPL Carrboro Branch is located inside McDougle Middle School at 900 Old Fayetteville Road.