

## August @ your library

Wondering how to make the end of summer fun and exciting for the whole family? Come on down to the Brockville Public Library during August! There are still spaces open in a number of our great **free** programs. Drop in for *Family Storytime* on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. On August 13 at 10:30 children age 7 and under are welcome to a *Kindermusik* Workshop of games and activities. Friendly dogs put out the welcome mat for eager readers in our *Paws to Read* program on Tuesday August 18 at 10:30. We are showing family feature movies throughout August on Tuesday and Friday afternoons at 2 p.m. For 8 to 12 year olds there is a *Drop in Gaming* program each Wednesday at 2 p.m. For two programs we are charging a small fee of \$1 per child. Betsy Cotton the Dinosaur Lady presents *Dinosaur Detectives* for sleuths age 5 to 9 on Tues. August 11 at 10:30 a.m. And children ages 3 to 6 are invited to a *Mystery Party* on Thursday August 20 at 10:30. Our popular Teen Drop-in program continues during August on Thursday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. with Anime films, gaming and movies. For more information about these happenings at your library, and to register, phone 613-342-3936.

Clue Live! (BPL's version of the popular board game *Clue*) will test your powers of deduction. Detectives young and old are invited to solve the "Mystery at the Brockville Public Library." The game board is the library itself! Participating staff members (characters in the game) each have a series of different "clues" to help narrow down your search. Over the course of the summer, players must make deductions and try to eliminate choices until they solve the mystery. All correct deductions will be entered in a draw for prizes.

Books pack a lot of entertainment value for each family member. We have added a number of new graphic novels for children. *Ramp rats, a graphic guide adventure* follows the adventures of Bounce and his friends as they learn how to Ollie and do a 50-50 grind while also dealing with a gang of vandals. Join in the action in *Salt water taffy, the seaside adventures of Jack and Benny in Climb up Mt. Barnabas*. In *The Boxcar Children* you can follow the adventures of orphans Henry, Jessie, Violet and Benny who take refuge in an abandoned railway boxcar. *Adventures in cartooning* is a rip-roaring adventure with dragons and knights in armor combined with lessons in cartooning. Meet Joey Fly, Private Eye of Bug City in *Creepy Crawly Crime* as he tries to help his beautiful butterfly client to find a stolen diamond pencil box while coping with his clumsy scorpion partner. To find other graphic novels in the children's collection, do a power search by entering "graphic novel" as document type and then searching the location "Juvenile Fiction". We have 122 graphic novels for kids!

Agent 009 is the theme this summer and we have lots of books about sleuthing and detecting. For a riveting page-turner meet Zac Power *Mind Games* and find out how he outsmarts the hackers who are trying to disable the ultra-powerful satellite, WorldEye. Follow the adventures of the famous mouse, Geronimo Stilton, who runs a newspaper and writes adventure stories that he promises are "fa-mouse-ly funny". Titles in the series include *A fabumouse school adventure*, *Geronimo Stilton Secret Agent*, *Wedding crasher*, and *A fabumouse vacation for Geronimo*.

Maya Gold has based her book *Harriet the Spy, Double Agent* on the characters created by Louise Fitzhugh in her book *Harriet the Spy*. In this new adventure, Harriet befriends Annie Smith who it turns out has several identities and many secrets, a real challenge for Harriet to unravel. If you want to learn how to be a detective, read *The Usborne book of secret codes* by Eileen O'Brien, *Detective Science* by Jim Wiese, and *Secret Agent Y.O.U.: the official guide to secret codes, disguises, surveillance and more* by spymaster Helaine Becker with spy art by Dave Whamond.

If spying is not your game there are many other stories awaiting you on our bookshelves. Among the new beginning readers try *Houndsley and Catina and the birthday surprise* by James Howe, illustrated by Canadian artist Marie-Louise Gay. For older readers we have new titles in the chapter book section. Former Prima ballerina Darcey Bussell is now writing stories for young girls including *Delphie and the Birthday Show* in her Magic Ballerina series. Follow the underwater adventures of some little mermaids in the series *Mermaid Rock* by Kelly McKain.

Picture books can be enjoyed by the whole family, at bedtime, sitting round a campfire, or on a comfy sofa. For the very young we have books with beautiful art work that tell stories in a few well-chosen words. Just a few examples are *Five little ducks* by author illustrator Ivan Bates; *When I visit the farm* by author illustrator Crystal Beshara; *Big Little Monkey* by Carole Lexa Schaefer, illustrated by Pierre Pratt; *Raindrop plop!* by Wendy Lewison, illustrated by Pam Paparone; and *Little Chick* by Amy Hest, illustrated by Anita Jeram.

Other picture books have longer more complex plots but still have beautiful artwork in a variety of styles. *Thunder-Boomer!* by Shutta Crum, illustrated by Carol Thompson, takes place on a farm where a sudden thunderstorm sends everyone scurrying for cover. Amy Hest's story, *The dog who belonged to no one*, tells how two lonely souls set out to find a true friend. In Michael Catchpool's book *Grandpa's boat* we learn that since Grandpa's death his boat *The Periwinkle* has been abandoned until his family decide to make her shipshape and sail her once again on the ocean. The illustrations are by Sophy Williams. Carmela and Steven D'Amico write and illustrate their stories about Ella, a little elephant, including *Ella sets the stage* and *Ella takes the cake*. For cat lovers and book lovers there is the classic tale, *Millions of cats* by Wanda Gag. A gentle peasant goes in search of one kitten and returns with "*hundreds of cats, thousands of cats, millions and billions and trillions of cats*".

For toddlers the library has over 200 boardbooks which have thick cardboard pages perfect for tiny fingers to manipulate. Some come with added features. For example, in Jon Scieszka's *Trucktown*, a little wheel on the side of the book helps a child to find all the items mentioned in the story, such as speedometers and wrenches.

Space does not allow mention of the many new titles available for adult readers. Visit our website, [www.brockvillelibrary.ca](http://www.brockvillelibrary.ca), to read our latest newsletter, to learn about our hours and many services, and to access our online catalogue. Drop in and get your PIN number so that you can renew and reserve items and initiate your own requests from other Ontario libraries. Visit your public library soon at 23 Buell Street opposite the post office in downtown Brockville. We look forward to welcoming you.