Programs at the Library

Photo story

Activities

Teacher notes

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Funded by the Winnipeg Public Library Board.

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Winnipeg Public Library, revised 2020.
Activity A – Dialogue

Sahid: Hi Jeong. How are you? And how did you do on your last library project?

Jeong: I’m great! And thanks to the advice you gave me on how to do a search at the library, I got a good mark on my Manitoba author project.

Sahid: Awesome! Let me tell you something else about the library that I’ll bet you didn’t know. Do you remember that old Canadian Tire advertisement where the announcer says, “There’s more to Canadian Tire than just tires.”

Jeong: Yah, I remember it.

Sahid: Well, the same goes for the library. There’s more than just books and newspapers and CDs and DVDs at the library. There’s also a lot of other cool things happening all year long!

Jeong: Yah, like what?

Sahid: Well, for one thing, they have noon hour concerts every Thursday – everything from cultural shows to singers to classical musicians. And on Wednesdays, they have all kinds of interesting lectures.

Jeong: No kidding? That would give me an opportunity to practice my listening and note-taking skills.

Sahid: Yah, and the library offers all kinds of programs such as book clubs and computer classes. Many of the computer classes are designed for people who don’t have much experience with computers – everything from keyboarding basics to doing Internet searches. However, there are also classes for more advanced learners.

Jeong: Well, I could certainly use an Internet class to improve my research skills.

Sahid: Besides that, the library offers all kinds of reading programs for teens and kids. There’s story time where library staff read stories to preschoolers, and family story time where the parents and siblings get involved in the reading, and a lot of other programs for children. There’s also book clubs and activities for teens, and all kinds of interesting things for adults like travelogues where people talk about their trips. There’s also readings by well-known Manitoba authors. And you know what’s the best thing about all these activities?

Jeong: What’s that, Sahid?

Sahid: They’re all free!

Jeong: You’re kidding!

Sahid: No kidding!

Jeong: So how do I find out what’s going on at the library?
Sahid: Well, you can pick up a copy of “At the Library” newsletter which is available at all the library branches, or you can go to the library website and check out the programs there.

Jeong: Great! I’m going to check it out tonight. I know my kids would love to have someone else besides me read to them. And I think I’ll check out some of those computer classes.

Sahid: Maybe I’ll join you for that one. My research skills aren’t that great either.

Jeong: Wow! And I used to think that the library was just a stuffy old place for books. I didn’t realize there was so much action there.

Sahid: Yah, there’s always a lot happening at your friendly neighbourhood library! Now let’s go sign up for those computer classes.

Activity B – Library Tour

A tour of your local library, especially the Millennium Library downtown, is a great way to become familiar with the many resources, programs and activities offered by the Winnipeg Library. Don’t hesitate to ask your tour guide questions about the library. Your teacher will arrange the tour for the class.

Activity C – Skywalk Concerts & Lectures

Ever wondered what it is like to sit in on a university lecture? Do you like good music? Well, the Millennium Library downtown offers both. They have excellent noon hour lectures and noon hour concerts featuring a wide variety of up-and-coming performers. Check out the Skywalk brochure – it’s online at the Winnipeg Library website. Skywalk is held from September to March.
Activity D – Scanning the library newsletter

Find the answers to the following questions by scanning the sampler ‘At the Library’ newsletter:

1. How often is the library newsletter published?
2. Which programs do you have to pay for, and which ones are free?
3. What program will help you learn how to get your writing published?
4. Who shares the story of vaudeville in Winnipeg?
5. What is a “Drop In” library program?
6. Do you need to register for the English Conversation Groups?
7. What program will “tickle your funny bone”?
8. How many computer workshops does the Winnipeg Library offer?
9. What was the first book chosen by Transcona Library’s Tween Book Club?
10. How often does the Tween Drawing Club meet?
11. What do you do with your baby at Baby Rhyme Time?
12. What is the program called in which you help your toddler to ‘learn about letters, numbers, colours and shapes’?
13. ‘A Story Time for the whole family?’ What’s the name of that program? How many libraries offer it?
14. Which library hosts Share and Tell Story Time?
15. What program will help you ‘nearly defy gravity’?
16. What did the Charleswood Library offer on Monday, March 25?
Activity E – Book Talk

A book club is a group of readers who get together to share their thoughts on a book that they’ve all read, or a book that they want to recommend to the other members of the club. It’s fun to bring a book that you have read and enjoyed, and then share it with other students. For this activity, you need to go to the library and pick out a book that you think you’d like - on any subject - and that you think would be of interest to the class. (The librarian can help you in your book selection). After you’ve read the book, you’re going to share it with the class. You’ll have 10 minutes to present the book. You’re going to say something about the author, then tell the class what the book’s about (this is called the narrative), describe the main characters, do a short reading from the book, and then tell the class why you liked this book and why you’d recommend it to them.

Activity F- Reading to Children/Family Story Time

Family Story Time is where parents and children get together. You might read a story to the children, or tell them a story or fable from your own culture, or teach them a song that you can sing together. It’s a lot of fun, and a real learning experience for the children.

Your teacher is going to arrange a get-together for you. Your job is to prepare a book from the library, or a story or a song from your culture, and be prepared to share it with the children. And make sure you ‘ham it up’ – use gestures, facial expressions, and change your tone of voice to entertain the children.

Activity G – Brainstorming Ideas

Now that you know about the library, and it’s many programs and activities, it’s time to do your part. The library is always looking for suggestions and ideas that fall into three categories – literacy (learning to read), literary (related to literature and stories), and cultural programming (such as the Skywalk concerts). Your teacher will lead a brainstorming session – be prepared to come up with ideas that your teacher can pass on to the library.
Programs at the Library: activities for advanced levels
Teacher notes

These photo stories and activities were produced to introduce EAL/ESL and new learners to the wealth of programs, collections and services of Winnipeg Public Library. The photo stories help visually guide the learner through common experiences of the library. The activities help reinforce vocabulary and encourage familiarity with library resources.

Each module presents a new topic to expand library knowledge, vocabulary and reading, writing, and speaking skills. Supplementary handouts and guides are also available for classroom and individual use. All materials are available in .pdf at winnipeg.ca/library.

Please note that library fines, fees and hours are subject to change. Content will be updated periodically to reflect changes to library hours, fees and collections. Visit the Library’s website at winnipeg.ca/library for up to date information on the library.

Feedback is always welcome. Contact the Administrative Coordinator of Adult Programming and Outreach, Winnipeg Public Library at 204-986-6462.

The photo story and activities are suitable for Canadian Language Benchmarks 5-6.

The activities for this unit are arranged according to a suggested sequence for learning. The lessons target the following skill areas:

Reading (A) (D)
Writing (D)
Speaking (A)
Listening (B) (C) (E)

Teacher Instructions and Answer Keys

Activity A – Dialogue

This dialogue will introduce the theme of this module – programs at the library. The teacher can begin the class by asking the students if they know about any of the programs at their local library branch, and to name any programs that they know about. Then the teacher can assign two students to read the first part of the dialogue, and then another two for the next part and so on. Once the dialogue is finished, the teacher can ask the students if they have any questions about the programs mentioned in the dialogue, and if any of them interest the students.
Activity B – Library Tour

A tour of your local library, or the Millennium Library, is an excellent way to make your students aware of the vast collection of resources at the library. You can arrange a tour by phoning any one of the 20 branches of Winnipeg Public Library. For a tour of the Millennium Library call Bookings: at 204-986-6450. Go to https://wpl.winnipeg.ca/library/ourservices/tours.asp# for more information on tours.

Tour of the Millennium Library:

- The tour takes about one hour, and includes all four floors.
- The main floor includes the circulation desk, the children’s area, Teen Central, adult fiction, and new titles.
- The second floor includes the ESL / ABE section, music, movies and books in many languages.
- The third floor is the ideaMILL makerspace, where you can use new and emerging technologies in a collaborative space. There is also a Book Sale where you can purchase gently used books to keep!
- The fourth floor is the Information Services, for research into various non-fiction subjects.

Activity C – Skywalk Concerts & Lectures

One of the many activities offered by the Winnipeg Library is the Skywalk Concerts & Lectures. These are live lectures and concerts – all free - which take place in the Carol Shields Auditorium on the 2nd floor of the Millennium Library. They are held every Wednesday and Thursday from 12:10 pm to 1:00 pm, from Sept. through March. Many of the lectures are given by professors from the University of Winnipeg; the live concerts feature everything from solo performances to ensembles in a variety of musical genres.

You could arrange to take the class to one of the events (no need to book ahead), and when you return to class there could be a class discussion about the lecture or concert. You could also have the students take notes during the lecture, and then have the students answer prepared questions about the lecture the next day.

Skywalk brochures are available at the Millennium Library and library branches, or in the At The Library newsletter. Skywalk information is also available at: https://wpl.winnipeg.ca/library
Activity D – Newsletter Scanning

Having the students scan the library newsletter (either the latest newsletter or the sampler, which is a representative sample of all the library programs) is a great way for them to become familiar with the many programs available through the Library. Copies of this bi-monthly newsletter, called “At the Library,” are available at any library branch, or it can be downloaded from the main Winnipeg library site.

Answers to the sampler quiz
1. Every two months
2. All programs are free
3. Finding Your Voice: Life Writing for New Canadians
4. Grant Simpson
5. You do not need to register for a ‘Drop In’ program
6. Yes
7. Comedy Lunch Hour Special
8. 5
9. Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing
10. Weekly, on Saturdays
11. Introduce them to the sounds of language through rhymes, songs, and simple stories
12. Toddler Time
13. 5 libraries offer Family Story time
14. St. James-Assiniboia Library
15. Ultimate Building Challenge
16. The Great Robot Race

In addition to the above quiz, you could also prepare your own quiz from the latest newsletter edition so the students would have up-to-date information on the latest library programs. You can select questions that focus on activities that would be of most interest to the students and their children. Once the scanning activity is complete, you can have a general discussion with the students about activities and classes that might be of interest to them or their children.
Programs at the Library: activities for advanced levels
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The latest newsletter edition lists library locations and telephone numbers. You could assign students to call a library to find out more about specific programs and report back to the class.

Design a poster. You could divide the class into groups of two and have the groups design a poster to advertise one of the programs. The students need to make sure they include all details such as location, dates and times.

In addition, the Winnipeg Public Library website has a “Calendar of Events” which lists library programs and events at all library locations, and registration for programs online. You can get to the Calendar of Events by going to https://www.winnipeg.ca/library and clicking on the Programs and Events button.

Activity E – Book Talk

Think about forming a book club in your class. To get it started, you could ask the students to prepare a short read-aloud from a book from a library branch. The reading could be anything the students choose – a page of two from a children’s book or a graphic novel, a teen novel, or piece of fiction that the students found exciting or interesting, a poem, a selection from a biography, or from a book containing large pictures or photographs – something that is not too difficult to understand and that would be of interest to the class as a whole. The students should show their selection to you beforehand to ensure that the reading is appropriate for that level. You can tell the students that if they are having difficulty finding an appropriate selection, the staff in the library are very helpful. (This will provide another speaking opportunity for the students).

You’re going to say something about the author, then tell the class what the book’s about (this is called the narrative), describe the main characters, do a short reading from the book, and then tell the class why you liked this book and why you’d recommend it to them.

You should limit each student’s entire presentation to no more than 10 minutes, and the teacher may want to spread the presentations out over several days so the students don’t get bored from hearing one presentation after another.
Activity F – Reading to children

If you have a class of adults who have children of their own, you may want to consider booking someone from the Winnipeg Library’s ‘Outreach Services’ department to come to your class to talk to the students about issues such as early literacy. The staff person will bring along some children’s books and poems and provide a short demonstration of what you’d experience at the library. This might stimulate the students to read to their children in English, or in their own language because the Millennium Library has many children’s books in other languages. The students don’t have to stick to reading. They can teach the children simple songs, or tell the children stories from their own culture. (The library has a tremendous collection of songs and stories). In addition to being educational, it’s a lot of fun!

The Outreach librarian can also talk about other programs and activities at the library as well as the resources available at any particular branch, and through the main branch. For booking an Outreach person, call 204-986-5580.

Activity G – Brainstorming ideas

Now that your class is familiar with the library’s resources, programs and activities, it’s time to put them to work. The library is always looking for suggestions and ideas related to three categories – literacy (learning to read), literary (related to literature and stories), and cultural programming (such as the Skywalk concerts). As a final activity in this module, you could have a brainstorming session with the students to share their ideas about new activities, programs and resources for the library, especially those designed for new Canadians.

You could start off by asking the students about the current resources and activities available at the library to get the conversation going. You could then break the class up into groups of four to brainstorm new initiatives for the library.

Once all the initiatives have been discussed with the class as a whole and outlined on the whiteboard or chart paper, compile them, and then in one email through the ‘Ask Us’ tab of the library website, with the title heading, “Adult Programming Suggestions” or “Children’s’ Programming Suggestions”. You will find the online form at winnipeg.ca/library. In your email, let them know your suggestions were a result of this learning module.
LIBRARY NEWSLETTER SAMPLE

The Winnipeg Public Library’s newsletter *At the Library* has information on library programs, news, membership, locations and phone numbers. The newsletter is published every two months and is available at the library and on the library’s website winnipeg.ca/library.

Below is an example of library programs. The current issue is at the library or read it on the library website. The library has programs for everyone - adults, teens, children and families. You may have to register for some programs. You can register by phone, in-person or online. All programs are free!

**ADULT PROGRAMMING**

**English Conversation Groups**
Improve your English speaking and listening skills and meet new friends. For EAL learners who can speak English in short sentences (CLB 4+). Attending every week is expected. Childcare is not provided. Registration closes after the second meeting.

**MILLENNIUM LIBRARY**
Meeting Room 1  
Saturdays: 10:30 am-12 pm

**PEMBINA TRAIL LIBRARY**
Mondays: 6:30-8 pm

**HARVEY SMITH LIBRARY**
Tuesdays: 6:30-8 pm

**Finding Your Voice: Life Writing for New Canadians**
This six-week creative writing program discusses writing and publishing resources and provides an opportunity for networking. Build your writing, editing and storytelling skills! Sessions are moderated by Janine LeGal. For EAL (English as an Additional Language) writers only. Basic English writing skills are necessary. We suggest a minimum of CLB 4. Attending all six dates is expected.

**MILLENNIUM LIBRARY**
Dr. Anne Smigel Room  
Saturdays: 10:15 am-12:30 pm

**EAL Reading Group For Newcomers**
Practice your English language reading and conversation skills at our EAL (English as an Additional Language) Reading Group! You will be given materials to read at home. Then, we will meet as a group to talk about what you have read. You’ll meet new people, learn something new, build vocabulary, and share your opinions and experiences.

This program is best suited to EAL learners at an intermediate level (CLB 5-6). Attending all dates is expected. Childcare is not available.

**ST. JAMES-ASSINIBOIA LIBRARY**
Saturdays from 2-3:30 pm

**Cercle de conversation francaise French Conversation Group**
Venez exercer vos compétences orales en français dans une ambiance décontractée et faites de belles rencontres! Si vous pouvez formuler de courtes phrases en français, ce cercle de conversation est pour vous! Il est important de venir chaque semaine et d’organiser soi-même un service de gardiennage. À noter que ce n’est pas un cours de français. Come brush up your French speaking and listening skills in a relaxed atmosphere. Please note, this is not a French course - attendees should be able to speak French in short sentences. Registration open until second class only, space permitting.

**BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE SAINT-BONIFACE**
Du mardi de 18 h 30 à 20 h

Registration required. Go to winnipeg.ca/library or contact any branch to register.
computers & technology

These hands-on workshops provide basic skills for further learning on your own. Limited space available. Repeat registration for the same workshop may be limited to ensure that the program is available for everyone. Interested in learning more about computers and other programs? Check out the free online courses on LyndaLibrary at guides.wpl.winnipeg.ca/lynda.

Introduction to the Computer
An introduction to the basics of computer use, focusing on turning a computer on and off, using a mouse, the different parts of Windows, and how to open and close programs.

MILLENNIUM LIBRARY
Computer Training Lab
Saturday, March 30: 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Email Basics
Learn to receive and open, reply to, format, and send email.

ST. BONIFACE LIBRARY
Wednesday, April 3: 6-8 pm

Internet Basics
An introduction to searching the Internet including using a browser, search engines such as Google, and opening and exploring websites.

ST. JAMES-ASSINIBOIA LIBRARY
Thursday, March 21: 6-8 pm

Word Processing Level 1
Learn about editing and formatting text using Word 2010, including opening and saving documents.

WINDSOR PARK LIBRARY
Tuesday, April 16: 6-8 pm

eMedia HELP
One-on-One Appointments
Book a 45-minute appointment with Library Staff for help with any of the library’s online resources - eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, eNewspapers, streaming music and video, and databases. General training on how to use devices is not covered during these appointments.

MILLENNIUM LIBRARY
Meeting Room 1
Tuesday, March 12
Appointments available at: 10:15 am, 11:15 am, 12:15 pm

FORT GARRY LIBRARY
Wednesday, April 3
Appointments available at: 10:15 am, 11:15 am, 12:45 pm, 1:45 pm, 2:45 pm, 3:45 pm

ST. VITAL LIBRARY
Monday, April 15
Appointments available at: 1:15 pm, 2:15 pm, 3:30 pm, 5:45 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm

Comedy Lunch Hour Special
Come to the library to tickle your funny bone with The Winnipeg Comedy Festival. Hear world-class comics being louder than one should be in a library. Don’t be afraid to laugh out loud yourself!

MILLENNIUM LIBRARY
Reader Services Area
Monday, April 29-Thursday, May 2
12:15-1 pm

Gardening with Children
How do carrots grow? Why don’t all flowers smell nice? Capture a child’s natural curiosity by getting them out in the garden and experiencing the joy of seeing plants grow. Jeannette Adams, Master Gardener, will share ideas that will help you grow a new generation of gardeners.

ST. BONIFACE LIBRARY
Saturday, April 27: 2-3 pm

Cooking for a Community
Local chef and author Sharon Steward presents cooking for larger groups - from families to communities - including preparing and planning meals in advance. Learn recipes that are simple, healthy and allergen-friendly.

FORT GARRY LIBRARY
Tuesday, April 2: 6:30-7:30 pm

Greasepaint on the Prairies: The Story of Vaudeville in Winnipeg
Before movies and television, vaudeville variety shows were one of the popular forms of entertainment with an abundance of local theatres hosting shows. With song, stories, and slides, Grant Simpson shares Winnipeg’s rich vaudeville past including the story of Alexander Pantages and the Pantages theatre empire.

MILLENNIUM LIBRARY
Carol Shields Auditorium
Saturday, March 30: 2-3:30 pm
**Millennium of Magic: A Harry Potter Event**
Compete for the House Cup! Wands! Trivia! Quidditch! Does your House have what it takes to be the champs? Costumes welcome. Grades 7-12.

**MILLENIUM LIBRARY**
Saturday, March 16: 3:30-5:30 pm

**Making with Minecraft**
Work in teams to create a Minecraft world with snap cubes, and paper crafts. Test your knowledge with our Minecraft trivia challenge! Ages 9-12.

**HARVEY SMITH LIBRARY**
Saturday, March 23: 2-4 pm

**Hidden Poetry and Button Making**
Creating “hidden” poetry involves blacking out most of the words on a page of a book, magazine or newspaper so that the remaining words become your poem. Take things one step further and create your own button. All supplies provided. Just bring your creativity! Drop in. Grades 7-12.

**MUNROE LIBRARY**
Tuesday, March 26: 6-7:30 pm

**Shakespeare Challenge**
Be prepared to take a part, and read aloud a complete play by the Bard. No advance prep necessary, we will assign parts to whoever shows up! Drop in. Grades 7-12.

**LOUIS RIEL LIBRARY**
Tuesday, March 26: 6-8 pm

**Ultimate Building Challenge**
A series of fun challenges to design and build structures that nearly defy gravity. Using simple materials like spaghetti, paper cups, marshmallows and KEVA® planks. Ages 9-12.

**SIR WILLIAM STEPHENSON LIBRARY**
Saturday, March 23: 2-3 pm

**The Great Robot Race**
Come and play with Dash, the robot! Team up to design and build an obstacle course, then race your robot to the finish line. Ages 9-12.

**CHARLESWOOD LIBRARY**
Monday, March 25: 2:30-4:30 pm

**MUNROE LIBRARY**
Tuesday, April 30: 6-8 pm

**Homework Club**
Free homework help for students ages 6-17 with tutors from Frontier College. To register, call Karen Ste. Marie at Frontier College, 204-253-7993, or email kstemarie@frontiercollege.ca

**MILLENIUM LIBRARY**
Mondays: 6-7 pm
Session ends Monday, April 15.

**Math Homework Club**
Free math homework help for students ages 6-17 with tutors from Frontier College. To register, call Karen Ste. Marie at Frontier College, 204-253-7993, or email kstemarie@frontiercollege.ca

**PEMBINA TRAIL LIBRARY**
Thursdays: 6-7 pm
Session ends Thursday, April 18.

**Tween Clubs**

**Book Clubs**
Laugh, have fun, meet new friends, and talk about some awesome books. Ages 9-12. Registration is ongoing throughout the year if space available.

**CHARLESWOOD LIBRARY**
Saturdays: 10:30-11:30 am
March 30: *Mr & Mrs Bunny - Detectives Extraordinaire* by Polly Horvath
April 27: *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

**HENDERSON LIBRARY**
Saturday March 23: 2:30-3:30 pm
*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* by J.K. Rowling

**TRANSCONA LIBRARY**
Thursdays: 6:30-7:30 pm
March 7: *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume
April 4: *The Bad Beginning* by Lemony Snicket

**Tween Drawing Club**
Do you like to draw? Join us as we use library materials and online resources to practice this fun and useful skill. Supplies provided. Ages 9-12.

**LOUIS RIEL LIBRARY**
Saturdays: 3-4 pm
March 9, 23; April 13, 20
Early Literacy Programs

Join other families for these staff-led programs featuring age appropriate stories, songs, finger plays, felt stories, and action rhymes. Discover simple but powerful practices to nurture pre-reading skills at home.

Developing strong early literacy skills, from birth to age 5, has a long-term impact on children's reading achievement and academic success. Story time is a place where learning and fun happen at the same time! All children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. You can register in person, by phone or online at winnipeg.ca/library.

Baby Rhyme Time
Introduce your baby to the sounds of language through rhymes, songs, and simple stories. For babies newborn to 18 months and a parent/caregiver. 20-30 minutes.

CHARLESWOOD LIBRARY
Thursdays: 10:30 am
Thursdays: 2 pm
FORT GARRY LIBRARY
Wednesdays: 1:30 pm
Thursdays: 10:30 am
HARVEY SMITH LIBRARY
Mondays: 10:30 am
PEMBINA TRAIL LIBRARY
Mondays: 10:30 am
Tuesdays: 10:30 am
TRANSCONA LIBRARY
Mondays: 10:30 am
Mondays: 2:30 pm
WINDSOR PARK LIBRARY
Thursdays: 2 pm

Family Story Time
Discover how reading with your child can help prepare them to learn to read and print. And it's a lot of fun too! For children up to 5 years and a parent/caregiver, but siblings of all ages can enjoy being part of the action. 30 minutes.

CHARLESWOOD LIBRARY
Tuesdays: 10:30 am
FORT GARRY LIBRARY
Thursdays: 6:30 pm

Let There be Unicorns
Get your very own unicorn name, make a unicorn craft and have fun playing unicorn games. Ages 6-12.

FORT GARRY LIBRARY
Tuesday, March 26: 2-3 pm

Magformers
Play with Magformers® magnetic construction sets and build 3D creatures, cars, castles, or anything you can imagine! Ages 6-12.

SIR WILLIAM STEPHENSON LIBRARY
Wednesday, March 11: 7-8 pm

Toddler Time
Help your child learn about letters, numbers, colours, shapes and more by sharing books, songs, and rhymes. For children 19-36 months and a parent/caregiver. 20-30 minutes.

CHARLESWOOD LIBRARY
Fridays: 10:30 am
FORT GARRY LIBRARY
Fridays: 10:30 am
HENDERSON LIBRARY
Tuesdays: 10:30 am
LOUIS RIEL LIBRARY
Fridays: 10:30 am
TRANSCONA LIBRARY
Thursdays: 2 pm
WEST KILDONAN LIBRARY
Fridays: 10:30 am

Share and Tell Story Time
Everyone is welcome to share stories, songs and rhymes that help to develop English language abilities and early literacy skills. For children ages 3–5, their siblings and a parent/caregiver. Drop in. 30 minutes.

ST. JAMES-ASSINIBOIA LIBRARY
Fridays: 10:30 a.m.