

FAMILY EVENTS

KICKOFF EVENT



Family Events are 45 min long.

No registration required.

Children under age 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

MAD SCIENCE OF MILWAUKEE

Science and storytelling converge in our summer kickoff events! Through dinosaur fossils, skulls, and big science demos, discover how we piece together the lives of these giants and how they've sparked tales from dragons to roaming beasts.

Wed., June 3	Th., June 4
12:30 pm West Salem	12:30 pm Onalaska*
3:30 pm Campbell	3:30 pm Bangor
6:30 pm Onalaska*	6:30 pm Holmen

OUTDOOR FUN

DRIFTLESS ECO EXPLORERS

Enjoy nature walks, stories, and activities designed to foster eco-literacy and fun for youth and their grown-ups. Explore two local trails as summer marches along. (~45 min.) Weather permitting.

Meet outside Holmen Library:
Mon., June 8 at 11 am
Mon., July 6 at 11 am

Meet at Great River Landing (101 Irvin St, Onalaska):
Th., June 11 at 11 am
Th., July 9 at 11 am

FUN & GAMES AT CLEARWATER FARM

Visit Clearwater Farm for open barn events, Story Time at 11:00 am, food trucks, crafts, and yard games.

Sat., June 13 9 am-1 pm

These events are not sponsored or endorsed by any La Crosse County schools, including the School District of La Crosse and the School District of Onalaska. (This material is not printed by the school districts.) Visit lacrossecountylibrary.org, call 608.399.3390, or watch social media for program updates and information.

THE LINEUP



NATURE MUSIC WITH WILL

Wed., June 10
12:30 pm Holmen
3:30 pm Campbell
6:30 pm West Salem



LIFE-SIZE WHALE & FOSSILS WITH FOREST WHALES

Wed., June 17
10 am-3 pm Onalaska YMCA gym*



INDIGENOUS DANCE WITH ZOONGWE PRODUCTIONS

Wed., June 24
12:30 pm Holmen
3:30 pm Onalaska*



STORYTELLING WITH THE STORY PROSPECTOR

Wed., July 8
12:30 pm West Salem
3:30 pm Bangor
6:30 pm Onalaska*



ANIMATRONIC DINOSAURS WITH DINO DIMENSIONS

Wed., July 15
12:30 pm Onalaska*
3:30 pm Bangor
6:30 pm Holmen



READ WITH BERNICE AND BLUFF COUNTRY SNAKES

Wed., July 22
12:30 pm West Salem
3:30 pm Holmen
6:30 pm Campbell

*Program sponsored by the Friends of the Onalaska Library



LA CROSSE COUNTY LIBRARY

Youth Services Summer Library Program | June 1 - July 25, 2026



READING CHALLENGES

Unearth a Story Reading Program

Babies - entering grade 5

Grab a Reading Record, set your own reading goal... and READ! "Travel" around La Crosse County on your Record each time you meet your goal or complete an activity. Select a free book from location book sales when you start. When you complete your Record, earn a free new book of your choice and a ticket to the ice cream party.

Reading Records available in person or via digital download (see website). Completed records will be accepted Mon., June 1 through Sat., July 25.

End-of-Program Ice Cream Party | Sat., July 25

Readers who finish their Reading Record and all Teen Reading Raffle readers earn a ticket to the party. Enjoy free ice cream treats plus outdoor lawn games, sidewalk chalk art, friendship bracelets, bubbles, and... INFLATABLES! (Check library website for times and locations.)

Ice cream donated by: festival foods



Teen Reading Raffle

Entering grades 6 - 12

Each time you read a book and submit a ticket (available online and in person), your name will be entered into a Grand Prize Pack drawing of your choice (Cash, Unearth Your Creativity, and Unearth Action Adventure). Plus, EVERYONE wins a Reading Raffle Reader prize just for participating and a ticket to the ice cream party.

- Raffle Tickets accepted Mon., June 1 through Sat., July 25.
- Grand Prize winners announced Fri., July 31.
- All raffle prizes can be picked up Fri., Aug. 7 through Fri., Aug. 28.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

UNEARTH YOUR STORY

Join local author Mary De Merle Schams in hands-on storyboard and brainstorming activities designed to empower you to dig into your unique experiences and interests and start your own book! Great for youth ages 8 and above. Registration required.
Sat., June 13 Onalaska 12:30 pm

UNEARTH HISTORY

With the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center | UW-La Crosse

Native Americans have been in La Crosse County for 13,000 years. Come see their ancient tools and pottery, learn about excavations in the area, and try your skills with Native American games in this drop-in program for all ages.

Sat., June 27 Onalaska 9-11 am

DIGGING DEEP: SOIL EXPLORATION FOR KIDS

Join soil conservationist Eric Ressel to explore what makes healthy soil and how it grows the food we eat—and get messy with a soil exploration activity. Great for youth ages 8 and above.

Th., July 16 Onalaska 2 pm



YOUTH PROGRAMS, CONTINUED ...

STORY TIMES

Join us for story times full of books, movement, songs, and fun. Approximately 20-25 minutes.

LIBRARY LEARNERS

Ages 3 - entering grade 1, but all are welcome.
June 8 - June 26 and July 6 - July 24

Mondays	Onalaska 10 am & 6:30 pm Bangor & Holmen 10:15 am
Tuesdays	West Salem 6:30 pm
Wednesdays	Holmen 10:15 am West Salem 10:15 am
Thursdays	Onalaska 10 am Campbell 6:30 pm
Fridays	Onalaska 10 am



TINY TALES

Ages 0-36 months, but all are welcome.
June 11 - June 25 and July 9 - July 23

Thursdays Holmen 10:15 am

BILINGUAL STORY TIME *Spanish/English*

Ages 3 - entering grade 1, but all are welcome.

Sat., June 20 Holmen 11 am
Sat., July 18 Onalaska 11 am

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

MINECRAFT LOST EGYPT WITH ARRAYSCAPE

Embark through Ancient Egypt to locate and activate four levers using clues in ancient texts to navigate each step. Work together, solve intricate puzzles, avoid traps, and face challenging mobs to reach each lever. For youth entering grades 4-12. Registration required.

3 pm to 4:30 pm

Mon., July 6	Holmen
Mon., July 13	West Salem
Mon., July 20	Onalaska



Registration opens May 4



SPECIAL STORY TIMES

STORY TIME WITH MAYOR KIM

Come enjoy a story time with Onalaska's very own Mayor Kim as we recognize America's 250th birthday and La Crosse County's 175th.

Sat., June 6 Onalaska 10 am

BLUFF COUNTRY TALE SPINNERS

Come hear tales told by expert storytellers. Enjoy a craft time after the storytelling fun! ~ 45 min.

Sat., June 20 Holmen 10 am
Sat., June 27 West Salem 1 pm
Sat., July 18 Onalaska 10 am

READ TO ROVER

Join special story times with the Coulee Region Humane Society. Kids can read to a therapy dog.

Mon., Aug 3 Onalaska 6:30 pm
Tues., Aug 4 West Salem 6:30 pm
Wed., Aug 5 Holmen 10:15 am
Th., Aug 6 Campbell 6:30 pm
Fri., Aug 7 Onalaska 10 am
Mon., Aug 10 Bangor 10:15 am



STORY TIME WITH APOLLO MUSIC FESTIVAL

Come hear musical tales performed by artists from the Apollo Music Festival. Enjoy a craft time along with coffee for grown-ups and snacks. ~ 45 minutes.

Sat., Aug 15 Onalaska 12 pm

DIDGERIDOO WORKSHOP

Make your own didgeridoo in this workshop that explores Australia's First Nations Peoples history and culture. Geared for youth ages 10 and above. Registration required. *Funding provided by the Ben and Floyd Sias Library Trust Fund in partnership with La Crosse County Library.*

Mon., June 8 Onalaska 11 am

Registration opens May 4



YOUTH PROGRAMS, CONTINUED ...

STEAM PROGRAMS

STEAM=Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics

STEAM CAMP

Sign up for an afternoon of STEAM-related activities. Registration required. One session per child.

Single day sessions from 1:30-3:30 pm

Entering grades 2-4:

Create a prehistoric landscape on canvas, explore the magic of tessellations and patterns, and rescue a dinosaur frozen in ice—plus enjoy a prehistoric snack.

Mon., June 8	West Salem
Th., June 11	Bangor
Th., June 11	Holmen
Mon., June 15	Holmen
Th., June 18	Onalaska
Mon., June 22	Onalaska
Th., June 25	Campbell

Registration opens May 4



TINY STEAM

Families can drop in and explore fun STEAM activities geared for babies and toddlers.

Drop-in stations open 10 am to 12 pm

Tues., July 7 Holmen	Tues., July 14 Onalaska	Tues., July 21 West Salem
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Entering grades 5-8:

Work together to solve an Ancient Egyptian-themed escape room, decorate your own choco-saurus cupcake, and craft a dino-shaped planter from recycled water bottles.

Tues., June 9	West Salem
Fri., June 12	Bangor
Fri., June 12	Holmen
Tues., June 16	Holmen
Fri., June 19	Onalaska
Tues., June 23	Onalaska
Fri., June 26	Campbell

Registration opens May 4



CREATION STATIONS

Weekly activities (dinosaur family fingerprints, pterodactyls on a stick, write like an Egyptian, and more) will be available in Creation Stations at each library location for you to drop in and complete any time. Look for new activities each week.



TEEN PROGRAMS

For youth entering grades 6-12. No registration required.

TEEN BINGO

Bring your friends, play BINGO, eat pizza, and win prizes ... for free! (~90 min.)

5 pm: Hang out, relax
5:30 pm: Bingo begins

Mon., June 22	Holmen
Wed., June 24	West Salem
Th., June 25	Onalaska



TEEN MOVIES

Bring your friends, play games, eat pizza, and watch a movie on the big screen ... for free!

Mondays at Holmen, Wednesdays at West Salem, and Thursdays at Onalaska.

5 pm: Hang out, relax 5:30 pm: Movie begins

June 29, July 1, 2	Jurassic Park (PG-13, 2 hrs. 7 min.)
July 6, 8, 9	Hoppers (PG, 1 hr. 45 min.)
July 13, 15, 16	Superman (2025, PG-13, 2 hrs. 2 min.)
July 20, 22, 23	Freakier Friday (PG, 1 hr. 37 min.)