



# SUMMER 2023

The Cromwell Belden Public Library



## SUMMER READING IS FOR EVERYONE!

It's time for our 2023 Summer Reading program to get started! This year's theme is:



# HAVE BOOK, WILL TRAVEL



**Sign-ups will open at our Summer Reading Kick-Off.** As in the past, our program is available for all ages - from the smallest of children to the tallest of adults - and we are so excited for you to enjoy this year's new list of activities. Complete enough items on this year's passport and you will receive a 2023 Summer Reading Squad t-shirt! Sign-ups can be done at the library or through our website's Summer Reading tab.

**The first 100 sign-ups will get a coupon for Tall Man's Ice Cream!**  
**So who's ready for an epic summer of fun at the library?!**

### CONTACT US:

Cromwell Belden Public Library  
39 West Street  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
(860) 632-3460  
[www.cromwellct.com/library](http://www.cromwellct.com/library)

Our Hours:  
Mon - Thurs: 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
Fri: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Sat (Jun.): 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Sat. (Jul. & Aug.) & Sun: Closed

**- Please note that events are subject to change or cancellation. -**  
**- Event registration opens one month prior to event date. -**

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS AND SPECIAL HOURS:

Monday, June 19th: CLOSED

Tuesday, July 4th: CLOSED

Monday, Sept. 4th: CLOSED



# SUMMER READING



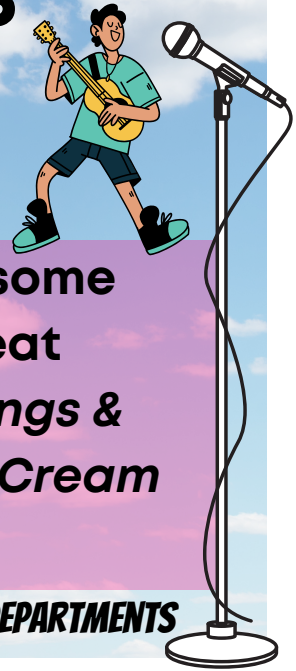
## SUMMER READING KICKOFF CONCERT

### WITH THE HEAVY HITTERS

RIVERPORT PARK AT FRISBEE LANDINGS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21st at 6:30 PM

RAIN DATE: TBD



Come sign up for Summer Reading, listen to some rockin' music, get your face painted, and eat delicious food! Food Trucks from *Wayne's Wings & Things*, *Square Peg Pizzeria*, and *Momma's Ice Cream* will be on-site for your dining pleasure!

**PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CROMWELL RECREATION & YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENTS**

## SUMMER READING WRAP-UP PARTY

Riverport Park at Frisbee Landings  
Wednesday, August 23rd at 6:30 PM

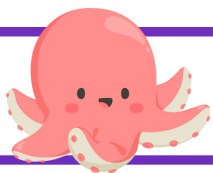
Rain Date: TBD



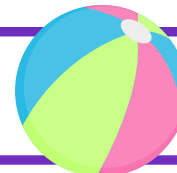
Come see Timmy Maia and listen to Top 40s Hits at the Library's Summer Reading Wrap-Up Party! Get a glitter tattoo, grab some grub from the *Get Stuffed* and *Deep River Ice* food trucks, bring a lawn chair or blanket, and sit back and enjoy! Summer Reading participants can turn in their Summer Reading brochures to be entered to win one of several raffle prizes!

**PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CROMWELL RECREATION & YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENTS**





# CHILDREN



## ONGOING PROGRAMS

### BABY RHYME TIME

WEDNESDAYS | 10:30 AM

SONG SET 1: JUN. 7-28

SONG SET 2: JUL. 19-AUG. 9

AGES 0-18 MONTHS | DROP-IN

THE ARCH ROOM



Babies, babies, babies! You'll learn rhymes, fingerplays, and songs at this program. Enjoy tickles, snuggles, and lap bounces while bonding with your little one. We'll do the same songs for 4 weeks so you can learn all the words.

### MUSIC & MOVEMENT

THURSDAYS | 11:15 AM | JUN. 8-AUG. 17

AGES 0-5 | DROP-IN

THE BELDEN

Come wiggle, sing, dance, and get silly with Miss Emily!



### STORY TIME

FRIDAYS, JUN. 16-AUG. 18 | 10:30 AM

NO STORY TIME JUNE 23

AGES 3-5 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

THE BELDEN

Join Miss Emily for some fun stories, songs, and finger plays, followed by an activity or craft.

## MUSIC & MOVEMENT AFTER DARK

TUESDAY, JUN. 13 | 6:00 PM

AGES 0-5 | DROP-IN

THE BELDEN

Can't make our morning Music & Movement sessions? Join us for our first ever evening edition!



## SPECIAL STORY TIMES

AGES 3-8 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

### DOCTOR FOR A DAY

SATURDAY, JUN. 17 | 10:30 AM

THE BELDEN



Join us for a healthcare heroes story time! A Middlesex Health healthcare hero will read a story featuring a healthcare provider of color. In addition, they will lead attendees in a surgery-style activity. Each youth in attendance will receive a free book that features diverse healthcare characters.

This program is funded in part through a grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County.

### MEET A POLICE OFFICER

MONDAY, JUL. 10 | 10:30 AM

THE BELDEN



Join us for a special police officer story time! We'll enjoy some stories read by some of Cromwell's very own officers and do a craft!

### SILLY STORY TIME

MONDAY, JUL. 24 | 6:00 PM

THE BELDEN



This story time is sure to be a barrel of laughs - we'll read some of the library's funniest picture books and get goofy with some fun activities and crafts

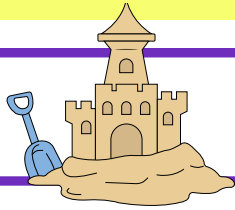
### STORIES DOWN UNDA'

TUESDAY, AUG. 15 | 6:00 PM

THE BELDEN



Pack your bags and set a course for the Southern hemisphere! At this Australian-themed story time, we'll stuff our own stuffed animals to take home, read some stories, and learn all about life down unda'!



# CHILDREN



## SIGN & SING

TUESDAY, JUL. 18 | 10:30 AM  
 AGES 0-5 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 BELDEN ROOM



Come enjoy a morning of children's music with sign language fun with Ms. Janine LaMendola, a musician/author/signer.



## FAIRY TALE STEM: THE LITTLE MERMAID

THURSDAY, AUG. 3 | 3:30 PM  
 GRADES K-3 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 THE BELDEN

Why do some things float and others sink? Come for an under-the-sea story and test your predictions: see if you can make the little mermaid swim!

## TIC-TAC-TOE TO-GO CRAFT

FRIDAY, JUL. 14 | 2:00 PM  
 GRADES K-3 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 THE BELDEN

Make and decorate your own game board bag and pieces for a portable tic-tac-toe game to take home and enjoy!

## FOOD EXPLORERS: PETE THE CAT

MONDAY, JUL. 31 | 10:30 AM  
 AGES 4-7 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 THE BELDEN



Bring your Tiny Food Explorers to this fun and delicious program where we make Pete The Cat in food form! This is a no-pressure food environment; kids are welcome to touch and not taste, and explore new textures and flavors. Recipe is nut-free but may include dairy.

## BLUEY PLAY DATE

TUESDAY, AUG. 8 | 6:00 PM  
 AGES 2-5 | DROP-IN  
 THE BELDEN

Bring the whole family down to the library for a Bluey play date! We'll play games inspired by your favorite Bluey episodes like Keepy Uppy, Magic Xylophone, Zoo and more!



## EMBROIDERY FOR KIDS

FRIDAY, AUG. 11 | 3:00 PM  
 GRADES K-3 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 THE BELDEN

Join Miss Emily to design and sew your own embroidery project! We'll be using plastic needles and yarn to create some beautiful pieces of art.



# 1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

This free program promotes literacy in the home, helping you establish reading routines with your child and helping your child grow their vocabulary, early literacy skills, empathy skills, and so much more!

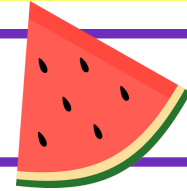
- **Register** - Sign up with a staff member at the library desk to get a Welcome Packet and your first Book Log.
- **Track your reading** - Each time a book is read to your child, mark or color in a shape on the Book Log. Every reading of every book counts!
- **Turn in your Book Log** - When you read 100 books, come to the library desk to get the next book log. You'll get a prize at 100, 500, and 1000 books!







# CHILDREN



## GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

LISTED TUESDAYS | 6:00 PM  
 GRADES 3-6 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 BELDEN ROOM

Graphic novel fans unite! Come to the library once a month to get together with fellow comic lovers to enjoy some fun activities all about your favorite series and authors. We'll make our own comics, play games, and more.

JUN. 27 - Bad Guys  
 JUL. 25 - Phoebe and Her Unicorn

## FOOD EXPLORERS: RAINBOW PASTA

WEDNESDAY, JUL. 12 | 5:30-7:00 PM  
 GRADES 3-6 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 THE BELDEN

Join Food Explorers for a colorful pasta class! You'll learn how to make bright and colorful homemade pasta dough using natural food colorings. The end result will be beautiful rainbow noodles! Recipe is nut-free but will contain eggs.



## KINDNESS KIDS: CHALK THE WALK



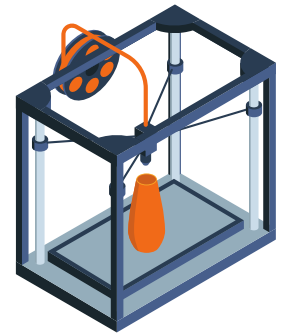
THURSDAY, JUL. 6 | 6:00 PM  
 AGES 0-12 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 FRONT OF THE LIBRARY

Join the **Cromwell Arts Alliance** at the library to do something kind for someone this month by participating in Chalk the Walk in front of the library and Town Hall!

## INTRO TO 3D PRINTING

MONDAY, JUL. 17 | 3:30 PM  
 GRADES 4-6 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 THE BELDEN

Interested in 3D printing? Join Miss Frances as she teaches you how the library's 3D printers work and learn how to design your own creation using TinkerCAD.



## BUG CUPCAKE DECORATING

TUESDAY, AUG. 1 | 6:00 PM  
 GRADES 3-6 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 THE BELDEN



Come to the library to learn how to turn cupcakes into bugs with Ms. Hope from **A Little Imagination Cakes**, located right here in Cromwell!

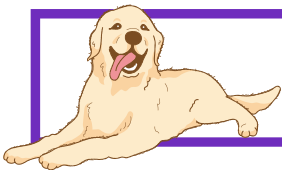
## DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 16 | 3:30-5:00 PM  
 AGES 6-11 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 STORYTIME ROOM



Calling all adventurers! Join Rosie for a game of Dungeons and Dragons - **no prior experience required**. Fight monsters alongside your party through a streamlined version of this popular tabletop role playing game! Premade characters, dice, and other supplies will be provided - just bring your imagination!

## PAWS TO READ



FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
 JUN. 7TH, JUL. 5TH & 19TH, AUG. 2ND & 16TH  
 AGES 5+ | REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
 STORYTIME ROOM & THE BELDEN

This popular program is back with more space than ever! Who better to practice your reading skills with than our therapy dog friends, Phoenix, Maple, & Dodger? **Reserve a 20 minute time slot** to pet and read to a furry companion. Make sure to come early to pick out your book!

**Best suited for children who are reading independently.**



# TEENS



## VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

**THURS., JUN. 29 & MON., JUL. 10 | 4:30 PM**  
**GRADES 7-12 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**

Looking for volunteer opportunities? Sign up to become a Teen Volunteer and attend orientation to get started. You'll learn exactly what you can do in order to earn volunteer hours.



## DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

**THURSDAY, JUL. 6 | 3:30-5:00 PM**  
**GRADES 7-12 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**STORYTIME ROOM**

Calling all adventurers! Join Rosie for a game of Dungeons and Dragons - **no prior experience required**. Fight monsters alongside your party through a streamlined version of this popular tabletop role playing game! Premade characters, dice, and other supplies will be provided - just bring your imagination!



## MINI CAKE DECORATING

**TUESDAY, JUL. 18 | 6:00 PM**  
**GRADES 7-12 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**

Come to the library to learn how to turn a mini cake into a cat or dog with Ms. Hope from **A Little Imagination Cakes**, located right here in Cromwell! You will learn all about different frosting techniques, how to use fondant, and will get to take home a mini cake that you decorate.



## ANIME CLUB 2.0



**WEDNESDAY, JUN. 28 & JUL. 26 | 6:00 PM**  
**GRADES 7-12 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**



Do you enjoy watching, drawing, or discussing anime and manga? Join Erica for our new and improved Anime Club, now on Wednesdays! We'll watch anime and dish about the best manga series while exploring and learning more about Japanese culture through other fun activities!

## DIY SQUISHMALLOWS

**TUESDAY, AUG. 8 | 3:30 PM**  
**GRADES 7-12 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**

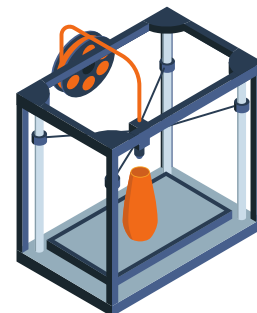


Get crafty at the library and learn how to make your very own mini squishmallow with Erica and take it home to keep!!  
**No prior sewing experience required.**

## INTRO TO 3D PRINTING

**THURSDAY, AUG. 17 | 3:30 PM**  
**GRADES 7-12 | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**

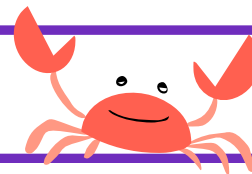
Interested in 3D printing? Join Frances as she teaches you how the library's 3D printers work and learn how to design your own creation using TinkerCAD.







# ALL AGES



## FAMILY COOKBOOK CLUB

**TUESDAY, JUN. 20 | 6:00 PM**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**

Celebrate this year's Summer Reading theme and travel around the world from your kitchen when you sign up for our Family Cookbook



Club! Borrow a copy of **Cooking Class: Global Feast** at the front desk, pick a dish from it to make with your family, and bring your creation in for a library potluck.

## ED POP MAGIC SHOW

**THURSDAY, JUL. 20 | 6:00 PM**  
**ALL AGES | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**

Prepare to be amazed by Ed Popielarczyk - professional magician, balloon sculptor, and flea circus ring master! This interactive magic show combines audience participation with comedy and is sure to keep the whole family captivated.

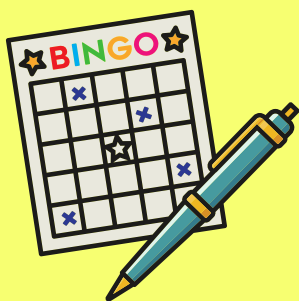


## BINGO PARTY: AFTER HOURS

**FRIDAY, JUL. 28 | 6:00 PM**  
**ALL AGES | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**

Bring your family and friends to the library after hours on a Friday night for a fun bingo party! We'll play the night away with some classic bingo, music bingo, and more. Will you be the one to win a prize?

**Snacks will be provided.**



## ANIMAL EMBASSY: WORLD WILDLIFE

**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 9 | 6:00 PM**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
**THE BELDEN**



### ANIMAL EMBASSY

Animal Embassy will take children on a journey around the globe with incredible live Animal Ambassadors. We'll meet Animal Ambassadors from diverse habitats with some amazing adaptations that help them survive.



## 3-D PRINTING IS HERE!



CBPL now has 3D Printers available for public printing! Here's how you can get started:

**Step 1:** email us at [cbplcreates@gmail.com](mailto:cbplcreates@gmail.com)  
 This email should include: your **name**, **phone number**, and an **STL file** of your requested print.

**Step 3:** Sit back, relax, and wait for us to contact you with the results! Printing time can vary by job and availability, so please be patient.

**Step 2:** We'll email you back with a confirmation and schedule a time for you to stop by the Library to sign off on all the details (like size, cost, etc.)

**Step 4:** Once you hear from us, you can visit the Library anytime we are open and ask for your completed print job at the front desk!



# ADULTS



## INTRO TO 3D PRINTING

TUESDAY, JUNE 6 | 6:30 PM

THE BELDEN | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Interested in 3D printing? Join Frances to learn how the Library's 3D printers work! Learn to design your own creation using TinkerCAD and explore pre-made designs from Thingiverse.

## PAINTED TERRACOTTA POTS

MONDAY, JUNE 12 | 6:30 PM

THE BELDEN | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join us to make a geometrically decorated terracotta planting pot that you can take home at the end of night! If this event is full you can still attend - just bring your own project to work on while we all chat & craft!

## LEARN TO PLAY UKULELE

THURSDAY, JUNE 22 | 6:00 PM

THE BELDEN | REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Want to try an instrument that is fun and easy to play? Join Julie Stepanek as she returns to show the fundamentals of ukulele playing. You'll learn how to tune, strum and read chords. After a short lesson, you'll be able to play songs! No experience necessary. Julie will have ukuleles to borrow for those who sign up - if you bring your own then there's no need to register!

## DECORATE YOUR OWN CUPCAKES

MONDAY, JULY 10 | 6:30 PM

OR

TUESDAY, JULY 11 | 6:30 PM

THE BELDEN | REGISTRATION REQUESTED

Cupcakes aren't just for kids! Join professional caterer Hope Butler of **A Little Imagination Cakes** to decorate a perfectly crafted cupcake. Learn tips & tricks that the pros use and enjoy the satisfaction of eating your own creation! Space is limited, so please only sign up for one night.

## FRUIT-STAMPED TEA TOWELS

MONDAY, JULY 17 | 6:30 PM

THE BELDEN | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Use a fun fruit stamping technique to decorate some plain tea towels. These make great gifts! If this event is full you are still welcome to attend - just bring your own project to work on while we all chat & craft!

## INTRO TO DIAMOND PAINTING

MONDAY, AUGUST 21 | 6:30 PM

THE BELDEN | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Do you enjoy meditative crafting with very pretty results? Then come make a set of coasters you will get to take home at the end of the night. If this event is full you can still attend - just bring your own craft to work on!

## LIBRARY COOKBOOK CLUB

DINNER FOR EVERYONE - MARK BITTMAN

MONDAY, AUGUST 14 | 6:30 PM

THE BELDEN | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join us for the Cromwell Library's bookish version of a friendly potluck. You'll get the chance to use summer produce with this flexible, veggie-inspired cookbook by the classic author. Copies will be available at the front desk starting in July.





# ADULTS



## THURSDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB

**IN-PERSON | 6:30 PM  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

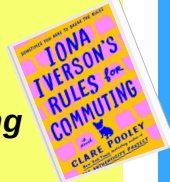
Copies are available at the library's desk.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 29 | 6:30 PM**  
***Things in Jars* by Jess Kidd**



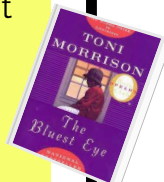
Blending darkness & light, history & folklore, this spellbinding Gothic mystery collapses the boundary between fact & fairy tale to stunning effect, exploring what it means to be human in inhumane times.

**THURSDAY, JULY 27 | 6:30 PM**  
***Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting*  
by Clare Pooley**



Nobody ever talks to strangers on the train. It's a rule. But what would happen if they did? It turns out that talking to strangers can teach you about the world - and even more about yourself. This is a heartwarming novel about the joys of unexpected connections.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 31 | 6:30 PM**  
***The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison**



The critically acclaimed story of eleven-year-old Pecola - a black girl who prays for her eyes to turn blue so that she will be beautiful, so that her world will be different. This "banned book" was the third most challenged book in the U.S. in 2022.

## VIRTUAL REALITY DEMOS

**JUNE 1, JULY 31 & AUGUST 28**  
**4:00-6:00 PM | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Try out the Library's Virtual Reality System! Reserve a 20 minute time slot and try out Beat Saber, Waltz of the Wizard, and more!

## THE SILENT READERS CLUB

**THURSDAYS, JUNE 1, JULY 6, AUGUST 3**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM | IN-PERSON | DROP-IN**

You choose a book & we'll provide an evening with snacks, warm drinks... and some peace & quiet so you can finally finish that book! Cozy up by the "fireplace" or find a quiet spot throughout the library - its your choice!

## FRIDAY FLICKS

**WITH THE SENIOR CENTER**  
**FRIDAYS | 1:00 PM**



**ARCH ROOM | REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Join the Cromwell Senior Center and the Library for this co-presented event - new movies on the big screen! Watch films that are new to DVD every Friday - we've shown features like **A Man Called Otto** and **Call Jane** this past spring, and look forward to showing more fun & interesting films this spring!

Call the Senior Center to register or to find out more: 860-632-3447

## KNITTING CLUB

**THURSDAYS, JUNE 8, JULY 13 & AUGUST 10**  
**6:30 PM | IN-PERSON**  
**REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED**

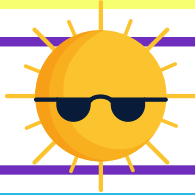


Join us for our monthly knitting club - now back in-person! This club also meets via Zoom on Fridays; email: [cromwellknitclub@gmail.com](mailto:cromwellknitclub@gmail.com) Please join our knitters at the library, all day, for: **WORLD WIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC DAY: JUNE 10TH!**

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

**MONDAYS, JUNE 5, JULY 3 & AUGUST 7**  
**6:30 PM | ALL WELCOME | DROP-IN**

Join the Friends' monthly meeting & help brainstorm new ways to support your local library. The Friends fund museum passes, events & more!



...AND MORE!

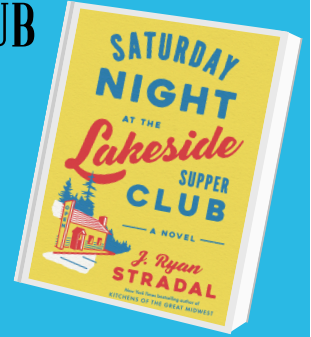


# BOOKS ON TAP @ COLES ROAD BREWING: SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE LAKESIDE SUPPER CLUB

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16 | 6:00 PM

COLES ROAD BREWING, 817 FARMINGTON AVE, BERLIN  
21+ ONLY | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join Kara for a pint and an offbeat book discussion at **Coles Road Brewing!** Mingle and grab a drink - discussion will start at 6:15. Didn't get a chance to register, but still read (or mostly read) the book? Feel free to join us!



We will be reading **Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club** by **J. Ryan Stradel**. Books to borrow will be available to those who register; limited quantities available. Stop by the reference desk to borrow one today!



# CBPL CHILDREN'S GARDEN



## OPEN GARDEN HOURS

WEDNESDAYS, JUL. TO AUG. | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Come visit the CBPL Children's Garden at the Cromwell Community Garden on Evergreen Road in Cromwell, near the intersection of Evergreen and Willowbrook Roads. You'll get a chance to help with daily gardening tasks like watering, weeding, and harvesting!



## STORIES AND ICE CREAM

MONDAY, JUN. 26 | 6:00 PM

AGES 3-8 | DROP-IN  
CHILDREN'S GARDEN

Join Rosie down at the CBPL Children's Garden for a cozy outdoor story time followed by delicious treats from Tall Man's Ice Cream!

## GARDEN ADVENTURE STORY TIME

MONDAY, AUG. 7 | 10:30 AM

AGES 3-8 | DROP-IN  
CHILDREN'S GARDEN

Enjoy the beautiful blooms at the CBPL Children's Garden while we read our favorite garden-themed picture books and go on a scavenger hunt!



STAY TUNED FOR MORE SUMMER GARDEN EVENTS