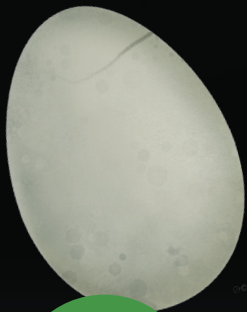


**2026  
Summer  
Reading Program**  
**For Teens  
Ages 12-18**  
Starts June 1;  
Ends August 8



# UNEARTH A STORY



at the Library!

- Prizes: **Fresh Start Fine Waiver Card** after first activity; **Free Book and Summer Youth Passport** after 10 hours of reading and eight activities.
- Free book and Summer Youth Passport can be picked up beginning June 8.
- Use this game board or register online to record your reading and activities: [thelibrary.org/summerreading](http://thelibrary.org/summerreading).
- Complete your first activity to earn the Fresh Start Fine Waiver Card. Read 10 hours and complete seven more activities, then bring your game board to any Library or the Mobile Library to claim your free book and Summer Youth Passport! You can mark off the icon as you read and complete activities to track your progress.

**START  
HERE**

**END  
HERE**

- Each = 15 minutes of reading or being read to.
- Each = 1 activity completed.



**Funded by  
Friends  
of the Library**  
Additional funding from Missouri State Library

**Last day to pick up Summer Reading Program prizes: Saturday, August 8.**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

# UNEARTH A STORY™ at the Library!

Springfield-Greene County Library District  
2026 Summer Reading Program  
for Teens Ages 12-18

## Important Dates:

- Starts June 1; Ends August 8
- Free Book and Summer Youth Passport can be picked up beginning June 8; Fresh Start Fine Waiver Card can be picked up beginning June 1.
- Last day to pick up prizes: August 8

- Read 10 hours and do eight activities.
- Receive a **Fresh Start Fine Waiver Card** upon completing your first activity. Then, complete the program to earn a **Free Book** and a **Summer Youth Passport**.
- **You can complete only one game board. After you complete this game board, see your librarian for Star Reader Challenges** — keep reading to earn more prizes! Complete up to nine Star Reader Challenges to earn entries into the end-of-summer drawings. Prizes include reading totes, coupons for additional free books, admissions to local attractions and gift cards for local businesses.

## ACTIVITIES

**Unearth a Story at the library!** Complete at least eight activities — you can choose from our list or create your own!

- Research a topic you are curious about using library databases and/or nonfiction books.
- Find a rock outside and use the internet and/or library resources to guess what kind of mineral it is.
- Go outside and look for crinoids (Missouri's state fossil).
- Go outside and look for mozarkite (Missouri's state rock).
- Read a nonfiction book about dinosaurs.
- Read a YA mystery book.
- Research and/or visit a Missouri cave.
- Check out a DVD about dinosaurs from the library.
- Visit a historic marker in Greene County.
- Take a picture of a classic car.
- Use Your Next Read on the library website to get some personalized book suggestions from your librarians.
- Unearth a poem using the blackout poetry method.
- Visit the Missouri Institute of Natural Science in Springfield.
- Make a dino meme or comic strip.
- Rewrite a scene from your favorite book, but add dinosaurs!
- Research the hieroglyphic alphabet and write (or draw) your name in hieroglyphics.
- Go outside and lift up some grass or leaves until you find a bug or other creature. Use online resources to try and find the creature's Latin name based on where in the world you found it, what it looked like, and what it was doing.
- Try making some pottery out of mud! Leave it in the sun for a long time to dry it out.
- Read a book about history.
- Read a biographic article or book about a paleontologist or archaeologist.
- Visit Wilson's Creek National Battlefield and learn about an artifact found at the site.
- Create and bury a time capsule for your future self.
- Read a book that's different from what you usually choose. Try a new genre, format or author!
- Learn a new artistic hobby — try one of the workshops offered by the library this summer.
- Create your own: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Create your own: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to repeat any of these activities and adapt them to fit your needs.



Completed the program? Scan this QR code to take our survey.



Springfield-Greene County Library District  
4653 S. Campbell Ave. • Springfield, MO 65810



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Friends  
of the Library

Additional funding from Missouri State Library

Want to participate online? Go to [thelibrary.org/summerreading](https://thelibrary.org/summerreading).