

School Services Guide

Grades K-6

For information regarding our programs or to make reservations, please contact:
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Library Presentations

BPL Grade-Level Presentations

Kindergarten

The Author Celebration Program is offered by the Youth Services staff each year from January through March either at the library or in the classroom. The presentation features the life and work of Eric Carle with a video, dancing, crafts, and books he authored.

1st Grade

The Celebrate Reading Party is presented at BPL. Students enjoy a party with a craft, stories, treats, and a behind-the-scenes tour to celebrate the reading skills developed while in 1st grade. Special party invitations will be sent to all 1st grade classes in the spring of each school year.

2nd Grade

Youth Services Staff give an exciting introduction to some of our most popular series fiction for students who are stretching their reading skills, as well as an explanation of how to find transitional chapter books in the library.

Grades K-2

Have the School Liaison visit as a Mystery Reader or provide a themed storytime for the classroom.

3rd – 5th Grades

We offer Book Talks, which can cover new and popular titles or be genre-themed.

STEM Presentation (Grades K-5)

To promote STEM to your students, Youth Services staff members will do 30-minute presentations on a variety of topics using the library's science kits. The library will tailor the presentation to your curriculum. Each presentation will include a chance for the students to have hands on time with the science kits and ideas for experiments to try at home.

Illinois Book Award Book Talks for Grades K-8

The School Liaison will do book talks of the newest Monarch (grades K-2), Bluestem (grades 3-5), and Rebecca Caudill (grades 5-8) Illinois Book Award lists.

BPL Online Resources

Find the library's full list of Homework Help resources at mybpl.org/homeworkteens.

Brainfuse

Online homework help for students in grades K-12 and college intro classes. Tutors are available from 3:00 – 10:30 p.m. Writing Lab, Homework Question Center, and Skills Building also available.

Britannica Online

Encyclopedia Britannica articles, downloadable video and audio clips, and access to hundreds of periodicals and journals.

Gale eBooks

Reference book articles on business, history, science, humanities, and more.

Learning Express Library

Online test preparation and practice exams based on official tests such as the ACT, SAT, and more. Also includes online computer tutorials, skill-building lessons, and more.

NovelList K-8 Plus

For readers in grades K-8, discover new authors and books, booklists, book discussion guides, and more.

Tumblebook Cloud Junior

TumbleBookCloud Junior is an online collection of eBooks and read-along chapter books, graphic novels, educational videos, and audiobooks.

TumbleBook Library

Online animated picture books. Download the app to enjoy eBooks offline.

BPL YouTube Channel

Bloomington Public Library's YouTube channel has a variety of playlists that could be beneficial to classrooms. From crafts & storytimes to computer classes and how to use BPL services, our public videos can enhance your classroom learning.

Find our videos at
www.youtube.com/user/bloomingtonlibrary.



Special Collections

Storypacks

These backpacks are designed to provide fingertip access to theme programs with books, puzzles, puppets, music, and DVDs. Themes include: alphabet, colors, shapes, birds, dinosaurs, fairy tales, school, and more.

For pre-K to 2nd grade.

Donna Beth Froio Foreign Language and Cultural Collection

The Froio Collection is a multicultural resource collection that includes books, DVDs, CDs, and kits on the study of foreign languages, cultures, folklore, ethnic recipes, music, poetry, literature, and history in a variety of languages. Current languages include Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Indian languages, Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, and many more. For preschool to 6th grade.

Parent/Teacher Collection

Books and kits that provide parents and teachers with information on child development, classroom support materials, and parenting issues.

Science and Music Kits

These high quality kits may be checked out for use in your STEM and music classes. Science Kits contain scientific materials and objects such as microscopes, seismographs, magnets and more. Our Music Kits include hand bells, wooden harps, percussion instruments and even a keyboard. Most Science and Music Kits come with instructions and activities and are supported by other non-fiction materials and DVDs in our collections.



eBooks, Audiobook, and Streaming

The library offers multiple options for downloadable media, eBooks, and audiobooks through Digital Library of Illinois, eRead Illinois, Kanopy, Flipster, and Hoopla. To download an item, you must have a Bloomington Public Library card and compatible laptop, tablet, or smartphone. These services are accessible from anywhere.

Need help getting started with eBooks, audiobooks, or digital magazines? Contact the Reference Desk at 630-924-2730 or email bdref@mybpl.org for help or to schedule an appointment.

Local History Room

Find a great resource for local history projects at BPL. You will find archived Bloomington documents and photographs, as well as several special exhibits each year. This area can be used by students and teachers who are interested in more historical background on the settling and growth of Bloomington. The original Bloomington post office boxes are on permanent display in this area. Visit mybpl.org/local for additional information and view photographs online.

Teacher Services



Bag of Books Program

Teachers may request books and other materials for use in their classrooms. Each Bag of Books will be checked out to the teacher and delivered to the school's office on the requested date. Teachers must register with the school liaison and will then receive a program description and forms for their request.

Library Tours

This is a great way for students to familiarize themselves with all library facilities. Upon request, tours will emphasize areas of special interest to each grade. Tours include information regarding the Adult and Youth Services Departments, computer labs, Local History Room, and Tech Services.