November 19, 2020

Grab&Go Kits

In an effort to provide a wee bit of the experience kids and teens enjoy during our pre-pandemic in-Library programs, we’re now offering a wide variety of Grab&Go Kits. Everything from early literacy activities, to crafts and STEAM - the same kind of programs and activities you would have done in the Library with us, and will do again soon, we hope. Librarians in the Trove and Edge are compiling several types of kits that will provide activities that stir the imagination and provide at-home learning and fun.

Grab&Go Kits will be available to pick up in the Library’s lobby while supplies last. You can find out when a new Kit will be released on our online calendar. Kits will primarily be of five kinds: PreK A-Z Kits, Grades K-3 Kits, Grades 4-8 STEAM Kits, Grades 7-12 Craft Kits, and Grades 7-12 STEAM Kits.

However, there will also be special themed kits connected to specific events, observances, or holidays; kits connected to a Library program that participants will register for and use during the virtual program together; and kits related to our StoryWalk once it goes back up in the Spring.

There will be a special Thanksgiving themed PreK Grab&Go Kit available on Monday, November 23rd filled with activities, fun, and opportunities to think about what your family is thankful for.

And now our Adult Services librarians are launching Grab&Go Kits for adults—because we also need to unplug from our screens, relax, and have fun! Each month’s kit will contain a packet that will include instructions and supplies. (A few basics can be found at home.) Kits will be available in the blue Grab&Go box in the lobby while supplies last. This month's kit will be available on Friday, November 20th: making a Gratitude Journal. Just in time for Thanksgiving.

Take care,

Josh Carlson  
Manager of Youth Services

Always feel free to reach out to me at jcarlson@whiteplainslibrary.org or on Twitter.
October was a very eventful month for antiracism at the Library, with the Race Consciousness workshop for parents and caregivers, and the conversation with Dr. Ibram X. Kendi. While these events were enlightening and motivational, the mission of antiracism work has not been accomplished.

If you attended either of these events, we hope you are now energized and ready to learn-and do-more. Don’t let your antiracism work end there. With that goal in mind, Kathlyn gathered a collection of further resources you can use to keep the momentum of your personal antiracism work going.

The Library will celebrate The Hour of Code (December 7-13) by offering a variety of coding programs and resources for parents, caregivers, and children. We will hold programs such as Tech for Parents: Coding Resources, binary coding, and Code Heroes Camp (grades 6-8). We will also have a binary bead Grab N’ Go bag kit (grades 4-8) available to pick up on December 28th. Find out more about our offerings and registration here.

As part of the series of creative writing workshops that have been offered this month, on Wednesday, November 25 there will be a Writing Fairy Tales workshop for grades 4-8. More information and registration here.

Programs for Younger Kids
Coming up: Bilingual Music Time on Nov. 20, Rock Out with Spencer on Nov. 23, and storytimes for ages 2-
3D Printing
In March 2020, at the very onset of the COVID crisis when healthcare workers needed PPE, the Library donated our two 3D printers to Riverside Hospital in Yonkers. Thanks to our partnership with Con Edison, we’ve been able to replace both of the printers and expand printing programs and services. On December 28, 29 & 30 at 2:00 p.m., we will hold a 3 day workshop covering 3D design for middle grade students in grades 4-8. Click here for more info and to register.

College Admissions Workshops
December 2nd and January 6th 6:00 p.m.
Join Patti Miller from CollegeWise. She will cover getting started with the college application, finding the right college during the pandemic, and writing the college essay.

Check out our online calendar for more details.

Our next Project LIT Kids Book Discussion will be held on Wednesday, January 13th at 4:30 p.m. We’ll discuss New Kid by Jerry Craft. Our virtual Book Bunch will meet on Wednesday, January 27th at 4:30 p.m. We will discuss the first book in the 5 Worlds series called The Sand Warrior by Mark Siegel, Alexis Siegel, Xanthe Bouma, Matt Rockefeller, and Boya Sun. We’re ecstatic that author Mark Siegel will be joining us for a Q&A session after the discussion! Find out more and register for these events here.

In this new column, Reads Revisited, librarians revisit books from their childhoods. Kathlyn re-reads The Trumpet of the Swan by E. B. White.
Peculiar Picks:
Three versions of the Three Little Pigs.

E.B. White and shares her thoughts.

Celebrations and Observances in November
- Native American Heritage Month: Dive Into Diversity & Folklore
- No-Shave November
- Day of the Dead
- Diwali

Virtual Chess Club
Wednesday, December 16th
4:00 p.m.
Youth are welcome to play chess online with each other in this fun, new event. Discuss chess strategy and challenge friends to a match using Lichess, a popular free online chess platform. Click here to register.
Around the Web

Thinking about a holiday gathering? Look at this troubling map first.

Watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade online and more virtual Thanksgiving celebrations.

25 Thanksgiving games and crafts for kids and families.

How to host a virtual Thanksgiving.

Working hard on a recent PreK A-Z Kit!

A happy completer of a recent Grades 7-12 STEM Kit.

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