

**Brownell Library**  
**Kids 6–11 Summer Program 2026**



**Unearth a Story at Brownell Library this Summer!**

Grab your library card — it's time to dig in! This summer, Brownell Library is going prehistoric with a lineup of programs all about dinosaurs, paleontology, the past, and chances for YOU to share your own stories.

**Registration, Reading Logs, and Prizes**

Starting June 15th, you can learn about the 2026 summer reading program and register to participate at <https://brownelllibrary.org/summer-reading/>. Once you're signed up, stop by the youth circulation desk to grab your summer reading materials, including your reading log.

Every time a registered reader shows us an updated reading log, they'll get a raffle ticket or a small prize from the treasure box — whether they've read one new book since their last visit or one hundred.

Read-alouds, audiobooks, graphic novels, and magazines all count!

Starting June 24th, bring your reading log to the library any time we're open to report what you've read.

Can't make it in? You can still report books and enter raffle tickets at <https://brownelllibrary.org/summer-reading/>. All registered participants are eligible to win raffle prizes, including a \$50 Amazon gift card and prizes from local businesses. We'll contact winners after the Summer Reading Celebration on August 7th.

**Don't Miss Our Summer Reading Celebrations**

The adventure kicks off with a *roar* on Wednesday, June 24 from 6-7pm when **Dinoman** will fill the Main Reading Room with giant dinosaurs, wild science facts, and lots of laughter. There's something for all ages at this **Summer Reading Kick Off**, made possible with support from the Friends of Brownell Library.

Then stomp on back on Friday, August 7th from 5:30-7pm, when everyone who participates in summer reading is invited to our **Summer Celebration with the No String Marionettes** in the Main Reading Room. This event is made possible with support from the Vermont Department of Libraries.

You can learn more about these programs in our online events calendar:

<https://brownelllibrary.org/calendar>

We can't wait to see you for another dino-mite summer at Brownell Library!

The Brownell Youth Team



*All BIG PROGRAMS are at the library this year:*



**Wed. June 24, 6-7pm - DINOMAN for Unearth A Story Opening Night** in MRR - This summer, dig in to all things dinosaurs and paleontology when you Unearth a Story at Brownell Library. This summer's festivities kick off with Dinoman, giant dinosaurs, and lots of laughter in the Main Reading Room. There will be something to enjoy for all ages! This program is made possible thanks to the Friends of Brownell Library.

**Fri. July 17, 4-7pm - 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary BBQ and Lawn PARTY** - Join Brownell Library for our 100th Anniversary on July 17th! Brownell Library first opened in July 1926, so we will celebrate its 100th birthday with games, food, activities, t-shirt making, and more!

**Tue. July 28, 1-2pm - VINS: Birds Are Dinosaurs!** - Join VINS, the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, for Birds Are Dinosaurs! In this presentation you'll meet some live birds of prey and learn all about their dinosaur ancestry. We'll also explore the ways modern birds became masters of the air, and get a sense of the immense timescale (65 million years!) over which these dinosaur-descendants adapted! In the main Reading Room, for all ages.

**Fri. Aug. 7, 5:30-7pm - Summer Celebration with No Strings Marionette Company** in MRR - Celebrate this summer's accomplishments with the ever amazing No Strings Marionette Company in the Main Reading Room. Then stay to celebrate Erna's 20 year career as an assistant youth librarian with refreshments.

The library is **closed on Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>** in observance of Independence Day.

**ONGOING PROGRAMS:**

**100 Things for 100 Years:** This June, bring in your collections of 100 things to celebrate 100 years of Brownell Library! Any collection smaller than a shoebox or a jar will be displayed. If you have a larger, perishable or valuable collection, send a photo to [youth@brownelllibrary.org](mailto:youth@brownelllibrary.org) with a description and we will display the photo. Let's celebrate 100 together!

**Adopt a Dino:** June 24-July 1, a train full of dinosaurs has escaped into the library, and we need your help to find them! Beginning Wednesday June 24, patrons are invited to search the library for dinosaur figurines to take home. These little dinosaurs will only be available until July 1 - come claim yours today! This program is open to patrons of all ages.

**Zine Prompts:** This summer we invite young writers and artists ages 6-18 to unearth a story, a drawing, a comic, or a poem. New creative prompts will be released on Wednesday 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, and 7/22. Each week the youth writer or artist with the most creative entry, which best responds to the prompt will win a \$20 Phoenix gift card! Select entries will be featured in our community zine, to be released in August. Check for prompts in the library or on our website.

The **Winnie Belle Maker Space** in Youth Nonfiction offers a rotating selection of Art and STEM activities all year long and it is made possible with support from the Winnie Belle Learned Fund.

**ART LABS:** June 16-30 - Dino Prints & July 16-31: Dino Sounds

**STEM CHALLENGES:** July 1-15 - Pasta Paleontology & Aug. 3-14: Chomp Saw Dinos

**Breakout Boxes:** Stop by the youth desk to pick up a Breakout Box and unravel the clues by yourself or with friends. June 29-July 10: The Lost Letters of Liberty and July 27-Aug. 7: The Earth's Break Up

**250<sup>th</sup> and Vermont History Bingo Card** - June 29-July 31 - Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary and explore Vermont's Revolutionary War history. Take home a bingo card full of activity ideas to do at the library and beyond. Bring it back with a completed row by July 31st for a prize.

**Estimation Jar:** Aug. 3-28 - Estimate the amount in the jar and win the contents! Winners will be called after Aug. 30th.

**Scavenger Hunt:** July 2-21: Dinosaur Silhouette Scavenger Hunt - Pick up a dinosaur silhouette sheet at the youth desk and hunt for the dinosaur figures hidden throughout the youth area. Can you name them all?

**Outdoor Activity Walk:** July 22-Aug. 10: Dino Stomp & Roar - Follow the signs around the library building and move like a dinosaur!

**Foster a Pet!** - Take home a stuffie, keep a journal and care for it for a week.





**Wed. June 24, 10-noon - Bookmark Stitch-In** - Local members of the Embroiderers' Guild of America celebrate our summer theme with a Stitch-In. Watch them create embroidery using a variety of needlework techniques. Choose a beautifully stitched bookmark to take home. For all ages in the Main Reading Room.

**Thu. Jun 25, July 9 & 30; 3-6pm - The Brick Pit** - Calling all builders! Drop in to tackle a special LEGO building challenge or build creatively. Creative constraint cards will be available for anyone looking to up the challenge and finished creations will be displayed in the library until the next session (one per participant please). Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Fri. June 26, 3:30-4:30pm - T-Rex Tea Party** - Even paleontologists deserve tea! Join us for an afternoon of cookie excavation, grid mapping, and dino-themed refreshments as we explore archaeological techniques — and then eat the evidence.

**Mon. June 29, 3-4:30pm - Dinolympics!** - A fun, dinosaur-themed event with games, activities & crafts inspired by prehistoric eras.

**Tue. June 30, 4-5pm - The Potter's Time Machine** - A broken pot can tell archaeologists what people ate, believed, and traded thousands of years ago. Explore ancient pottery from around the world, then design your own vessel that tells a story about you. Recommended for children in grades 3 and up, including teens!

**Wed. July 1, 2-3pm - Vermont Vexillographers** - Vermont is a state we all love - so why is our flag just the state seal on a blue background? It's time to show the flag some love and give it a makeover! Come show off your vexillography (that's flag designing!) skills and create a flag that captures the essence of Vermont. This program is open to patrons of all ages.

**Tue. July 7, 3:30-4:30pm - Underwater Fireworks** - Use oil, water and food coloring to make fireworks, then make a fireworks bookmark by printing with shaving cream and food coloring to take home.

**Wed. July 8, 9am-4pm - Teddy Bear Sleepover Drop Off** - Drop off your stuffed animal friend from 9-4 to stay overnight at the library! Pick them up the following morning at Teddy Bear Story Time. This program is open to all ages.

**Thu. July 9, 10-10:30am - Teddy Bear Pick Up Story Time** - Did you drop off a stuffed animal to sleep over at the library? Pick your stuffie up at this story time or bring a stuffie friend. We will share a slide show of all the fun the stuffies had together and read some stories, rhyme and sing together in the Picture Book area.

**Fri. July 10, 1-3pm - 100th Anniversary: Retro Library Desk** - Experience old library technology like a card catalog, stamps, and vintage handwriting at our retro circulation desk! This is part of the Brownell 100th Anniversary celebrations.

**Mon. July 13, 5-6pm - Marshmallow Roast and Campfire Songs with Linda Bassick** - Roast marshmallows under the library pavilion and sing campfire songs with Linda Bassick. Then make up a campfire story together. Open to all ages.

**Tue. July 14, 3:30-4:30pm - Dino Glow Up** - Old dinosaur toys get a second life — and a lot more color — at this hands-on painting program for elementary explorers. Choose your dinosaur, pick your palette, and create a one-of-a-kind prehistoric creature inspired by the latest science on what dinosaurs really looked like.

**Tue. July 14 & Aug. 11; 4-5pm - Read with Sammy** - Sammy loves belly rubs, carrots, and listening to kids read! His owner is Kim Nowlan, an educator at Summit St. School. They are a certified team with Therapy Dogs of Vermont.

**Thu. July 16, 4-5pm - Dino Gardens** - World-building in a jar - this terrarium-making program invites older children and teens to design and build a miniature dinosaur landscape using live plants, natural materials, and their own imagination.

**Mon. July 20, 5-6pm - Reduce, Reuse, Recyclosaurus** - Use recycled and recyclable materials to create a dinosaur!

**Tue. July 21, 3-4pm - Hieroglyphs: Create a Cartouche!** - Using Egyptian hieroglyphics from over 5,000 years ago, create cartouches the ancient Egyptians used to enclose the names of their pharaohs. Plus secret messages!

**Fri. July 24, 3-4:30pm - Tie-Dye Party** - Twist, bind, and dye your way to unique, wearable works of art. Bring your own t-shirt if you are able; we will also have some shirts on hand just in case. Dyed shirts will be sent home in a bag to complete.

**Mon. July 27, 3:30-4:30pm - Dino Slime** - What would you call a cold, glittery, purple slime from the Cretaceous period? Find out at our slime-making program, where kids going into grades 1-5 can customize their own slime and give it an official scientific name.

**Wed. Aug. 5, 10-11am - Visit Public Works** - We will meet up at the library at 10am and walk over to the public work facility to check out their earth moving equipment! We will walk back together.



6-11 year olds

Summer Reading Program

Brownell Library 2026

Look for these programs:

\*Scavenger Hunt

\* Outdoor Activity Walk

\* Zine Prompts for Prizes

\*100 Things for 100  
Years Display

			June 24	June 25	June 26	27
		June 24- July 1 - Adopt a Dino*** June 16-30 - Art lab: Dino Prints				
			10am Bookmark Stitch In 6pm DINOMAN	3pm The Brick Pit: Dino Habitat	3:30pm T-Rex Tea Party	
28	June 29	June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	4
	June 29- July 10 - Breakout box: The Lost Letters of Liberty					
	 3pm Dinolympics!	4pm The Potter's Time Machine	2pm Vermont Vexillographers (Flag Designers)		The Library is closed today	
5	July 6	July 7	July 8	July 9	July 10	11
	July 1-15 STEM Challenge: Pasta Paleontology					
	 3:30pm Underwater Fireworks!	9-4 Teddy Bear Sleepover Drop Off	10am Teddy Pick Up Story Time 3pm The Brick Pit: Ancient Artifacts	1pm 100th Anniversary: Retro Library Desk		
12	July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	18
	June 29- July 31- 250th and Vermont History Bingo Card					
	5pm Marshmallow Roast and Campfire Songs	3:30pm Dino Glow Up 4pm Read with Sammy		4pm Dino Gardens	4-7pm 100th Anniversary BBQ and Lawn PARTY	
19	July 20	July 21	July 22	July 23	July 24	25
	July 16-31 - ART LAB: Dino Sounds					
	5pm Reduce, Reuse, Recylcosaurus	3pm Hieroglyphs: Create a Cartouche!			3pm Tie-Dye Party	
26	July 27	July 28	July 29	July 30	July 31	1
	July 27-Aug. 7 - Breakout box: The Earth's Break Up					
	3:30pm Dino Slime	1pm VINS: Birds are Dinosaurs!!		3pm The Brick Pit: Dino vs Dino		
2	Aug. 3	Aug. 4	Aug. 5	Aug. 6	Aug. 7	8
	Aug. 3-14 STEM Challenge: Chomp Saw Dinosaurs August 3-28: Estimation Jar					
			10am Visit Public Works		5:30pm Summer Celebration with No Strings and 7pm Retirement Party	

Brownell Library 802-878-6956

Open: Mon, Wed & Fri 9AM-8PM; Tues & Thu 9AM-6:30PM; Sat 9am-5pm