Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Join Us For…

A Midsummer Knight’s Read

Sharpen your sword, saddle your steed and join us at the Batavia Public Library for a reading adventure of Medieval Proportions! We begin our eight-week quest on Saturday, June 11, and finish on Saturday, August 6. Registration for this year’s club begins Monday, June 6.

Children from birth through 8th grade are invited and encouraged to join our summertime fun, with distinct reading programs for infants/toddlers, pre-readers, elementary-age readers and middle school-age readers. With the exception of the infant/toddler group, participants will have the opportunity to set a personalized reading goal for themselves and earn prizes while keeping track of minutes they’ve read in their reading logbooks. To receive a logbook, children may register for the Summer Reading Club in the Youth Services Department beginning Monday, June 6.

Summer Reading Club activities will officially commence on Saturday, June 11 at 11 am, when we host Dave Herzog’s Marionette Show: Dragon Days and Knight Time. This family event requires no registration and is sure to delight audiences of all ages—seats are on a first-come, first-served basis, so arrive early! We’re planning lots of other fun activities for our royal readers all summer long. You’ll find complete details of our summer programming schedule in our Official Summer Fun Guide, available at the Youth Services Desk or the Youth Services page of the Batavia Library website: www.BataviaPublicLibrary.org.

Each year, we answer many questions from students, parents and teachers who visit the Batavia Library, but are library card holders at a neighboring library, such as Geneva, Aurora, or North Aurora. Can these students participate in the Batavia Library’s Summer Reading Club? The answer is YES, students who currently attend a Batavia school may join us, but we ask that these students choose only one library’s summer reading club in which to participate—Batavia’s, or the library where they are card holders. And because library cards are issued to tax-paying residents of library districts, only those residing within the boundaries of the Batavia Library District may acquire a Batavia Library Card.

Students should be prepared to show their Batavia Public Library Card at Summer Reading Club registration. Batavia students who are members of another public library should be prepared to show their home library card and proof of current Batavia school attendance when registering.

Library staff will once again be visiting Batavia schools in the next few weeks to promote this year’s Summer Reading Club. We appreciate having this opportunity to share information and generate excitement among the students. We also appreciate the encouragement you give your students to participate in Summer Reading, no matter where they are registered. A recent three-year study by Dominican University confirms what we have long suspected: students who take part in their local library’s summer reading club significantly improve their reading skills and are more able to retain the knowledge they’ve acquired during the previous school year. (School Library Journal, Nov. 2010, p. 26-29.) These facts along with the positive comments we hear from participants and their families definitely make Summer Reading a worthwhile endeavor!
Pardon Our Dust - Remodeling Projects Underway!

Last month, the Batavia Library began three remodeling projects designed to enhance patron services; if you’ve visited the Library in the past few weeks, you’ve probably noticed a few new sights—and occasionally, sounds! Part of the space on the lower level is being finished to provide permanent book sale space for the Friends of the Batavia Public Library. The small study rooms on the upper level will be reconfigured from two rooms to four. New informational display racks and bulletin boards will be added to the Library’s lobby. The Youth Services workroom and the Friends’ ongoing book sale space across from the Check Out Desk are both being remodeled. All construction work is proceeding on schedule and is expected to be completed by the end of May. During this time, study rooms in the Youth Services Department, as well as the small study rooms on the upper level, will be unavailable for patron use. Thank you for your patience! Funds for these remodeling projects are provided by a state grant, the Friends of the Batavia Public Library, and the Library’s building fund.

NoveList Unveils a New Tool for Readers!

Are you looking for a book to read or recommend to your students but need a few good ideas? In conjunction with NoveList, the Library is now offering a new service for readers looking for book suggestions. If you’ve got an e-mail account, you can subscribe to NextReads, a monthly series of e-newsletters that provide reading suggestions for all ages in more than 20 reading-interest categories, such as Picture Books, Kids’ Books, and Tween Reads. Sign up for one or many! Each book listed in the NextReads e-newsletter you receive is accompanied by a brief annotation and is owned by the Batavia Public Library. To subscribe to any of the NextReads e-newsletters go to: BataviaPublicLibrary.org > Library Services > For Readers > NextReads

If you’d just like to sample what NextReads has to offer without signing up, click on any of the e-newsletter titles to view the current month’s selections. You can even read the first chapter of some titles online with just one click of the mouse! Give NextReads a try today!

Boardmaker® Arrives in the Youth Services Department

Boardmaker®, a picture communication symbol (PCS) software, is now available for in-house use in the Batavia Library’s Youth Services Department. Recognizing the need for more resources to reach the special-needs population, Boardmaker® was acquired by the Youth Services Department with educators and parents in mind. This software provides parents and teachers with immediate access to this valuable tool to make schedules and social stories for students who would benefit from a more structured environment.

A library card or photo ID will need to be presented at the Youth Services Desk to use the software in the Youth Services Computer Lab. There is no charge for use, regardless of where a patron resides, but regular printing fees will apply.

The purchase of Boardmaker® software was made possible by a grant from the Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence.

Don’t Forget: Summer Sunday Hours Begin Soon!

Beginning Sunday, June 5, we will begin our Summer Sunday hours schedule; 1—4 p.m. This Sunday schedule will continue until Sunday, September 11, when we will resume our 12—5 p.m. Sunday hours. Hours of operation for the rest of the week remain unchanged.

The Library will be closed May 29 & 30, July 4, and September 4 & 5 for national holidays and August 26 for Staff In-Service. Have a safe and relaxing summer!

24/7 Web Reference Spotlight On...

Student Resources in Context: This next-generation portal reaches out to today’s learners with a Web-like user experience, which intuitively conveys needed information on all core subjects from Science to Literature to History. From the eye-catching, media-rich homepage to the fast navigation options, Student Resources in Context helps students develop both research and critical-thinking skills while covering the spectrum of student-focused subject matter. With a vast amount of full-text reference, periodical and newspaper articles, primary source information, and multimedia content of all types, this resource removes the risk of the open Web while delivering an authoritative multimedia selection of content for students and researchers of all ages.

This site can be accessed via our online catalog while in the Library, or by visiting the Library’s home page at www.BataviaPublicLibrary.org. No authentication is required for computer use inside the Library, but use is limited to Batavia Public Library cardholders on computers outside the Library, using library card numbers and PIN for authentication.