Kent Rotary Early Literacy Playroom

WED 12 PM - 8:30 PM | THU 9 AM - 8:30 PM | FRI 9 AM - 5:30 PM SAT 9 AM - 4:30 PM | SUN 1 PM - 4:30 PM

For children in kindergarten and younger
Drop in for self-guided play geared toward early childhood
development. Caregiver must stay in the playroom with their child.

Story Times — JAN 2 - FEB 28

No registration is required, but space is limited. Please check in at the Youth Services desk upon arrival to reserve your spot in Story Time.

Toddler Tales

Mondays | 10:30 AM

Ages 2 & 3 with an adult Enjoy books, songs, and finger plays, specifically geared for toddlers.

Baby & Me

Mondays | 11:15 AM

Ages 0 - 23 months with an adult Fingerplays, songs, and playtime for babies and caregivers.

Music and Movement

Tuesdays | 10:30 AM

All ages with an adult Enjoy music, dancing, stories, and more.

Pajama Time

Tuesdays | 6:30 PM

All ages with an adult
A nighttime story time with books,
music, flannel boards, and more.
Pajamas are welcome.

Wednesdays Together

Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

All ages with an adult Enjoy a midweek story time with books, songs, and more.

Friday Family Story Time

Fridays | 10:30 AM

All ages with an adult Bring the whole family for books, songs, and more.

Saturday Story Time

First Saturdays | 10:30 AM

All ages with an adult Enjoy songs and stories the first Saturday of each month.





Youth Program Guide Winter 2026

Winter Read 2026

January 2 - February 28

All Ages

Join Smitten with Reading, our 2026 Winter Read by picking up a reading log at any of our Public Service Desks.



Participation is easy. For each day you read or listen to books, color a mitten on your reading log. You'll earn a raffle ticket for every sixth day of completed reading. Each raffle ticket is a chance to win one of our exciting grand prizes!

Featured Programs

Backyard Birds with Portage Park District* SAT | JAN 24 | 3 PM



Families with children of all ages

Learn about birds that live in your own backyard from Holly Stoneberg, Education Program Coordinator with the Portage Park District. Discover how to identify birds by sight and sound, and enjoy an interactive craft.

Mush with Sophia, the Sled Dog*



Families with children of all ages

Meet Sophia the sled dog and learn about dog sledding, mushing gear, Arctic clothing, and more from writer, speaker, and professional dog musher, Karen Land.





Youth Programs

Tween Book Boxes*

Pickup starts 1st of each month

Grades 3 - 5

A box of bookish surprises curated for tweens.

JAN: Chilly Reads
FEB: Animal Besties

Kindergarten Readiness*

TUE | JAN 6 - FEB 24 | 2 PM

Ages 4 - 5 attend independently Each week we'll read different themed stories, sing and dance to songs, and complete an activity.

Tales and Treats*

TUES | JAN 6 - FEB 24 | 4:30 PM

Grades K - 2

Listen to *Beti and the Little Round House* by Atinuke, have a snack, play games, complete craft projects, and more.

Loomineers*

THU | JAN 8 - FEB 26 | 4 PM

Grades 2 - 12

Choose between a woven or knitted project. Attend weekly and progress through projects. All materials provided.

Tween Zone*

THU | JAN 8 - FEB 26 | 7 PM

Grades 3 - 5

Fun and creative activities including art, crafts, games, and more each week.

Builders Club*

WED | 1/7, 1/21, 2/4, 2/18 | 4 PM *Grades PreK - 5* Creative construction featuring Legos©.

STEAM for Kids*

MON | JAN 12 & FEB 9 | 5:30 PM

Grades K - 2

Bring your creativity as we apply scientific and technological principles through hands-on activities.

Kids Step-By-Step Paint Night: Winter Sun through Snowy Pines*

WED | JAN 14 | 7 PM

Grades 3 - 5

Follow a librarian step-by-step through a beautiful winter painting.

Junior Chess Club*

FRI | JAN 16 & FEB 6| 4 PM

Grades 2 - 5

Learn to play or compete against opponents. All experience levels welcome.

Books & Beyond*

MON | JAN 19 & FEB 16 | 5:30 PM

Grades 3 - 5

Participants read one book prior to each meeting (titles can be found on the Event Calendar at kentfreelibrary.org), then meet for a lively book discussion and related activities.

Pokémon Club*

FRI | JAN 9 & FEB 20 | 4:30 PM WED | JAN 21 & FEB 11 | 6:30 PM

Grades PreK - 8

Battle, trade, and discuss all things Pokémon. Bring your cards and decks and join us for an hour of poké-tastic fun.

60-Second Showdowns*

FRI | JAN 23 & FEB 13 | 4 PM

Grades 3 - 5

Compete in simple sixty-second games for fun and small prizes.

Sensory Playtime

SUN | JAN 25 & FEB 15 | 2 PM

Children of all ages with an adult Drop into the Craft Room for sensory art, toys, and experiences.

Ready, Set, Art*

WED | JAN 28 & FEB 25 | 7 PM

Grades 1 - 5

Begin with a prompt and end with a masterpiece to take home.

Pajama Tea Party*

SAT | FEB 21 | 2 PM

Grade PreK - 5 with an adult
Don your favorite pajamas and
come to the library for afternoon
tea. Enjoy tea, snacks, and activities,
then head home for a well-earned
slumber.

Baby & Toddler Playdate

SAT | FEB 28 | 10 AM - 12 PM

Ages 0 months to 3 years with an adult

Playtime specifically for the smallest littles. Drop in to explore toys, simple art, listen to music, and meet new friends.

StoryWalk® Fun



Have you explored our StoryWalk® at Al Lease Park? It's a fun way to get moving while fostering early literacy!

This winter, enjoy When Winter Comes: Discovering Wildlife in Our Snowy Woods by Aimée M. Bissonette.