

## THIS YEAR'S LIBRARY SUMMER LEARNING CHALLENGE IS MORE EXCITING THAN EVER

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**I**t's time once again for everyone's favorite annual tradition of summer learning at the library! This year's theme is "Reading Takes You Everywhere," and there will be an exciting array of programs and activities for the whole family.

The National Summer Learning Association has documented that children, especially from low-income families, can experience losses in academic growth over the summer. However, with participation in fun and engaging summer learning activities like those offered by the library and Redwood City School District, kids can even experience academic growth during summer break instead of losing ground.

The 2018 Summer Learning Challenge begins on June 1, and kids of all ages can sign up at any Redwood City Public Library location (Downtown, Fair Oaks, Redwood Shores or Schaberg) or through the library website at [www.redwoodcity.org/library](http://www.redwoodcity.org/library). All four libraries have weekly events all summer long, including magic and ventriloquism (Magic Dan, Randel McGee and Groark, and Dan and James Chan), music and dance (Soul Soup), comedy and circus (Coventry & Kaluza), animals (Norcal Bats, Conservation Ambassadors), theater (Circulo Cultural) and puppets (Magical Moonshine).

But that's not all! Other special events will include

STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) activities like Library Coding Club, math workshops, cooking classes, Preschool STEM Discovery, visits from the Bay Area Discovery Museum, creative writing workshops at the Fair Oaks Library and much more.

Speaking of the Fair Oaks Library, we will have a full day of activities and celebration for the ribbon cutting and grand reopening following five months of construction to renovate and expand the branch to add a teen area, support additional technology and create more children's activity space. We hope you can join us for the ribbon cutting at 9:30 am on Saturday, June 23. If not, come by any time during the day to check out our new digs.

All of our fabulous summer programs are made possible by the generous support of the Friends of Redwood City Public Library, who have sponsored summer reading/summer learning activities for many, many years.

Last summer, over 22,000 people from Redwood City and North Fair Oaks participated in the Summer Learning Challenge at Redwood City Public Library, which almost doubled our participation from 2016. However, we're not content with that number — our goal is to get every child aged 0–14 in Redwood City and North Fair Oaks to enjoy the benefits of the program (along with teens and adults as well!). So tell

your friends, family, kids, grandkids, great-grandkids, school connections, members of your church: The library looks forward to seeing everyone during the 2018 Summer Learning Challenge!

This year, the Library will once again play a critical role in the Redwood City School District's Big Lift Inspiring Summers camp at Roosevelt School. Library staff will play a role in developing enrichment activities and helping kids enjoy the learning experiences. This summer's camp will be held at Roosevelt School starting June 18 and is open to students entering first grade in the fall. Visit [www.thebiglift.org/register/](http://www.thebiglift.org/register/) for more information or to sign up.