

Early Learners EVENTS GUIDE

Ridgecrest Branch Library

find us!

131 E Las Flores Ave
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

www.kernlibrary.org

contact us!

email
info@kernlibrary.org

phone
760.384.5870

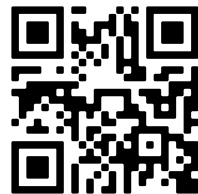
hours

Tuesday - Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

newsletter

Subscribe to our newsletter(s)

Stay updated on the branch, programs, and/or receive book recommendations!



Find us on social!





Events for Early Learners

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted.

Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff

Ages 3+ TUE. JUNE 2 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Join us after the first Lunch at the Library for the kickoff of our Summer Reading Challenge! Enjoy a cookie, make a bookmark, get a (temporary) tattoo, sign up or register for the Summer Reading Challenge on Beanstack, make a bean mosaic, and find out about all of the fun we will be offering this summer for FREE at the library!



Little Seedlings



Ages 3+ WEDNESDAYS | 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Join us to learn about and plant a different seed every week and then watch it grow at home. Seeds used in Little Seedlings will be added to our Seed Library. IN CHILDREN'S RM

Maturango Museum Docents Present: Wildflowers

Ages 3+ WED. JUNE 3 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

This wildflowers program presents colorful slides of the many different wildflowers found in the Indian Wells Valley. Learn about the different parts of a flower. Sponsored by Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library.

Maturango Museum Docents Present: Desert Alive

Ages 3+ THU. JUNE 4 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

The Desert Alive presentation highlights local plants and animals and emphasizes the adaptations that allowed them to survive in the unique Upper Mojave Desert environment. Sponsored by Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library.

Summer Reading Challenge

Sponsors:



finisher books, performance



program supplies, performances



FRIENDS OF THE RIDGECREST BRANCH LIBRARY
program supplies, performances



RIDGE WRITERS
program supplies, performance



PIZZA FACTORY RIDGECREST
free mini 1 topping pizza for all child and teen finishers

CONVEYING AWARENESS WITH JESSICA DAVID
bonus finisher gift cards



ROADRUNNER RIDGE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
funds for bonus finisher gift cards



Sign up today!

Ask library staff or go online
kernlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365



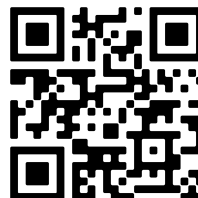
Get a lanyard at sign up and pins for each 100 books read or listened to.

You don't have to use library books!

If your child wants to hear *Pete the Cat* 15 times, it counts as 15 books!

Older children can help (and practice reading aloud) by reading to younger participants.

Books read during library programs counts too! (We usually read 3 books at Preschool Storytime, 2 books at Toddler Time and Family Storytime, 1 book at Baby Bounce, and 1-3 books at Beyond the Book.)



Ridgecrest Branch Library Amazon Wish List
Scan the QR code to see what is on our Amazon Wish List for upcoming programs or branch needs. Items are shipped to Bakersfield first and then delivered to our branch in our weekly shipments. We truly appreciate those generous donors who have already purchased items for us!

Events for Early Learners

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Seed Bomb Making

Ages 3+ FRI. JUNE 26 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Stop by to make some wildflower seed bombs to take home. Seed bombs are a fun and easy way to plant wildflowers in your yard, garden, or in other areas where you get permission first.

Family Storytime

Ages 2-8 SAT. JUNE 27 | 10:30-11:00 A.M.

Children of all ages can enjoy some fun stories along with a shaker egg song and an action rhyme to continue building early literacy skills. The books listened to can be added to your Summer Reading Challenge log.

Build It Up

Ages 3+ SAT. JUNE 27 | 11:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Stop by to build a tall tower (or something else) with our magnet cubes, magnet shapes, rods and balls, wood castle blocks, and more!

Hula From the Heart

Ages 3+ TUE. JUNE 30 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Join us for an interactive hula performance focused on storytelling through dance and sharing the Hawaiian culture. Learn a simple dance and chant along with basic Hawaiian words. IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM.

Sponsored by Lunch at the Library.



PLANT A SEED, READ

Events for Early Learners

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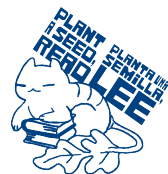
Summer Reading Challenge



Be a finisher



Read OR listen
10 books OR for 10 hours



Be a bonus finisher



Continue reading
OR listening to enter into
prize drawings

Ask library staff OR go to Beanstack to sign up or add the challenge kernlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365 (There is a mobile app too!)



LUNCH FREE for 18 yrs and under

at the LIBRARY Adult lunch \$6 (exact change please)

Tuesdays through Fridays 11:30 am to 12:30 pm
6/2-7/10 except 6/19, 7/3

Books to Build Home Libraries, daily activities, prize drawings.
Indoor and outdoor seating. Lunches MUST be eaten on site.

Lunch Visitors

- 6/2: Waste Management
- 6/3, 6/10: Navy Federal
- 6/4: United Way Central Eastern CA
- 6/5, 6/12, 6/26, 7/3: Princesses from Sierra Academy of Dance
- 6/9: NAWA China Lake Environmental Management
- 6/11: Kern County Fire Station 84
- 6/16: Just Serve
- 6/17, 6/30: Cerro Coso Comm. College
- 6/18: TBD
- 6/23: Ridgecrest Police Department

- 6/24: TBD
- 6/25: Kern Family Health Care
- Guest Readers/Leaders are Readers
- 6/3, 6/10: Navy Federal
- 6/4: United Way Central Eastern CA
- 6/5, 6/12, 6/26, 7/3: Princesses from Sierra Academy of Dance
- 6/9: Solomon Rajaratnam, vice mayor
- 6/11: Kern County Fire Station 84
- 6/16: Mario Ysit, Chief of Police
- 6/24: Sarah Dastrup, SSUSD
- 6/25: Rebecca McCourt, Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce

Events for Early Learners

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Farm Animal Puppets

Ages 3+ THU. JUNE 4 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Stop by to create farm animal puppets using paper bags to have a farm themed puppet show. (We will have this again in July with some different farm animals available.)

Live Action Animal Crossing

Ages 3+ FRI. JUNE 5 | 1:30-3:00 P.M. & 3:00-4:30 P.M.

Stop by to do some live action tasks inspired by the Animal Crossing game, including fishing, digging for fossils, decorating a room, selling turnips to earn coins to "spend" in the store. Complete all activities on your passport to enter a prize drawing.

Coloring & Cookies

Ages 3+ SAT. JUNE 6 | 1:00-3:30 P.M.

Stop by to enjoy a cookie while working on a variety of our coloring pages, with designs appropriate for toddlers through adults.

PERFORMANCE: The Magic Of Josiah

All Ages SAT. JUNE 6 | 3:00-3:45 P.M.

Join magician and illusionist Josiah Bunde for a fully dynamic and interactive large-scale show that fills the stage. Through skillful storytelling, powerful magic, and hilarious interaction, this show is not only magical but also sure to create unforgettable memories. IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM. Sponsored by Friends of the Kern County Library

For more event information, visit our website - kclevents.org
Library workshops, performances, and events are FREE and open to the public. We're adding more programs all the time!
At times, programs may be rescheduled or canceled without advance notice.

Events for Early Learners

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Crafternoon: Flowers

Ages 3+ TUE. JUNE 23 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Stop by to create a mini bouquet of some different flowers that you don't have to keep watered.

Farm to Fable: Bees

Ages 3+ WED. JUNE 24 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Join us to listen to some books about bees and then participate in some related activities! The books listened to can be added to your Summer Reading Challenge log.

DIY Farm

Ages 3+ WED. JUNE 24 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

What would your dream farm look like? Design your own farm using a variety of fun, farm-related stickers.

VISITOR: High Desert Falconry

All Ages THU. JUNE 25 | 1:30-3:30 P.M.

Join us for an educational presentation to learn about the sport of falconry with a three bird presentation (featuring a peregrine falcon, Eurasian eagle owl, and Harris hawk) and a flight demo. IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM. Sponsored by Lunch at the Library.

Sun Safety with Ridgecrest Regional Hospital

Ages 3+ THU. JUNE 25 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Learn some tips on things that you can do to stay safe in the summer sun with Sandra from Ridgecrest Regional Hospital Community Outreach.

Events for Early Learners

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Bring a Lunch & Listen to Books

Ages 3+ FRI. JUNE 19 | 11:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Bring your own lunch to enjoy while listening to stories. The books that you listen to can be added to your Summer Reading Challenge log. We will also have some Vox Books available to explore and will play some Read Along video books available on Kanopy Kids if there is interest.

Sensory Bin Fun

Ages 3+ FRI. JUNE 19 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

We invite early learners and kids to get some different tactile experiences with a hands on opportunity to explore a variety of sensory bins. As our sensory bins have small items as fillers, we request that an adult stay with the children they bring to monitor so that sensory bin contents are not dumped out, mixed up, or eaten.

Catch Up Crafts

Ages 3+ SAT. JUNE 20 | 12:00-1:00 P.M.
TUE. JUNE 30 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Did you miss one of the crafts we offered lately? Stop by to work on a craft that you may have missed! We usually offer a few choices, but feel free to ask about a specific craft you are interested in, in case we still have supplies for that craft.

Did You Know?

You **DO NOT** need to use library books for the Summer Reading Challenge? You can use books from your home library!

Events for Early Learners

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

All About Ravens w/NAWS China Lake Environmental Management

Ages 3+ TUE. JUNE 9 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Explore and learn about ravens! You will learn how humans live with ravens and how ravens interact with other animals and our environment. Attendees will get an opportunity to work together to construct a life size raven nest using provided materials.

Quick STEM Challenge: Tower Building

Ages 3+ TUE. JUNE 9 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Stop by to use one of our building sets and see if you can build the tallest tower. We will keep track of building set used and heights. At the end, we will reveal who was able to build the tallest tower using each building set available!
IN THE MAKERSPACE

Rock Painting

Ages 3+ WED. JUNE 10 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.
FRI. JUNE 26 | 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Express yourself using rocks as your "canvas"! We will provide the rocks and paint while you provide the creativity! Rocks can be kept for yourself, given to someone specific, or left in a public place for someone else to find.

Coffee Filter Flowers

Ages 3+ WED. JUNE 10 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Stop by to make some flowers that will never die and never have to be watered because they are made from coffee filters! Keep in mind that the coffee filters will need time to dry before the flower can be made, so you may need to take home the pipe cleaner to finish up this project.



Events for Early Learners

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Fingerprint Art: Farm

Ages 3+ THU. JUNE 11 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Use your fingerprints to create a variety of fruits, vegetables, flowers, farm animals, and more! We will have some guides to follow or you can make your own fingerprint art creations.

Farm to Fable: Chicken

Ages 3+ THU. JUNE 11 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Join us to listen to some books about chickens and then participate in some related activities! The books listened to can be added to your Summer Reading Challenge log.

PERFORMANCE: David Cousin, Juggler

All Ages FRI. JUNE 12 | 10:30-11:15 A.M.

A family-friendly juggling show that delights audiences of all ages with a mix of juggling techniques. Featuring impressive skill, creativity, playful humor, and science concepts, the performance is visually exciting from start to finish. Families will enjoy the precision, timing, and artistry as David Cousin brings a dynamic, fun-filled juggling experience. **IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM. Sponsored by Lunch at the Library.**

Games for Kids

Ages 3+ FRI. JUNE 12 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Kids will play Giant Connect 4, magnetic fishing, and other games without small pieces due to a teen/adult program happening in the Community Room. **IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM.**

For more event information, visit our website - kclevents.org
Library workshops, performances, and events are FREE and open to the public. We're adding more programs all the time!
At times, programs may be rescheduled or canceled without advance notice.

Storytimes (Children's Room)

Baby Bounce

Ages: 6 Months-3 Years

FRI. JUNE 26 | 10:00-10:20 A.M.

Interactive LAPSIT with action rhymes, songs, and board books. Older siblings can bring a baby doll or stuffed animal to use as a "baby". Baby Play follows.



Toddler Time

Ages: 15 Months-4 Years

TUE. JUNE 9 & 23 | 10:00-10:20 A.M.

Enjoy short stories, movement songs, and action rhymes to build early literacy skills. Stay & Play follows. Add the books to your reading log!

Family Storytime

Ages: 2- 8 Years

THU. JUNE 4, 11, 18, 25 | 10:30-11:00 A.M.

Enjoy stories, action rhymes, and a shaker egg song to continue building early literacy skills. Stay & Play follows. Add the books to your reading log.

Freeplay Fun (Children's Room)

* Event happens before we open to the general public

Baby Play

Ages: 6 Months-3 Years

FRI. JUNE 5 & 19 | 10:00-11:30 A.M.
FRI. JUNE 26 | 10:20-11:30 A.M.

Freeplay time for our littlest ones to socialize with their caregivers (and each other) by exploring a variety of baby-friendly items. Caregivers can also socialize with each other. Items for older siblings available upon request.



Stay & Play

Ages: 12 Months-7 Years

TUE. JUNE 2, 16, 30 | 10:00-11:30 A.M.
TUE. JUNE 9, 23 | 10:20-11:30 A.M.
EVERY THURSDAY | 11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
EVERY SATURDAY | 9:30*-10:30 A.M.

Freeplay time for kids to build their social skills by interacting with other kids or their caregivers. This is also an opportunity for the caregivers to socialize with each other.



Events for Early Learners

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

VISITOR: Snakes on Sam

All Ages WED. JUNE 17 | 1:30-2:15 P.M. Session 1
WED. JUNE 17 | 2:30-3:15 P.M. Session 2

Sam presents two **IDENTICAL** 45 minute educational shows with 8 reptiles with a 15 minute break in between to switch groups. Some audience members will be able to feed some of the reptiles. Late arrivals for Session 1 can go to the Community Room for Build It Up while waiting. **IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM.** Sponsored by Lunch at the Library.

Build It Up

Ages 3+ WED. JUNE 17 | 1:30-2:15 P.M.
WED. JUNE 17 | 2:30-3:15 P.M.

Families who arrive late for Snakes on Sam Session 1 can build with our magnet cubes, magnet shapes, rods and balls, wood castle blocks, and more while waiting for Snakes on Sam Session 2!

Quick STEM Challenge: Tangrams

Ages 4+ WED. JUNE 17 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Kids (and adults) can try to create the tangrams shown on provided cards using the basic shapes. Different levels will be available and people can challenge each other to see who can complete the tangram first!

Zen Garden Making

Ages 3+ THU. JUNE 18 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Create your own mini zen garden to enjoy making meditative patterns in the sand at home. Note that this program involves sand.

For more event information, visit our website - kclevents.org
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Events for Early Learners

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Book Bingo (monthly)

Ages 3+ FRI. JUNE 12 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Play bingo to win a book! Bingo winners can choose a book to build a home library or a small prize. (Limit 3 books per person.) We have a variety of levels of book choices available, from board books for little ones to books for adults. **NOTE:** We use magnetic bingo chips, which can be a choking hazard.

Homeschool Hangout

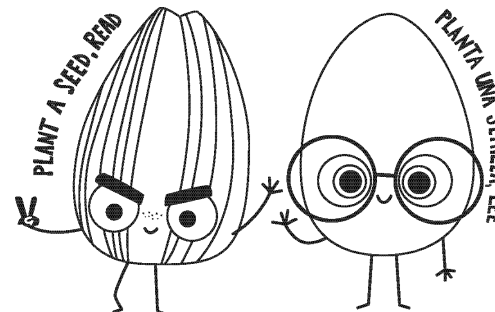
Ages 3+ TUE. JUNE 16 | 1:00-2:30 P.M.

Current or prospective homeschool families (using ANY program or curriculum) can stop by to network with other homeschool families, learn about the different homeschool options available, and/or discuss specific learning related topics. We offer a few different activities for the kids to do while socializing.

Mini Live Action Animal Crossing

Ages 3+ TUE. JUNE 16 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

If you missed the bigger Live Action Animal Crossing program earlier this month, stop by to work on an Animal Crossing inspired craft and do a couple of live action tasks inspired by the Animal Crossing game.



How many books do you want to read or listen to this summer?

JUNE 2026

Early Learners (0-5 yrs)



**RIDGECREST
BRANCH
LIBRARY**

**Sunday
CLOSED
Monday
CLOSED**

**Tuesday-
Thursday
10 am to 7 pm**

**Friday
10 am to 6 pm**

**Saturday
10 am to 4 pm**

* before we open to public; staff will let you in

	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	
2.	10:00-11:30am Stay & Play 1:30-3:00pm Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff	3. 10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings 1:30-2:30pm Maturango Docents Present: Wildflowers	4. 10:30-11:00am Family Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm Stay & Play 1:30-2:30pm Maturango Docents Present: Desert Alive 3:30-4:30pm Farm Animal Puppets	5. 10:00-11:30am Baby Play 1:30-3:00pm Live Action Animal Crossing 3:00-4:30pm Live Action Animal Crossing	6. 9:30*-10:30am Stay & Play 1:00-2:30pm Coloring + Cookies 3:00-3:45pm Magic of Josiah	
9.	10:00-10:20am Toddler Time 10:20-11:30am Stay & Play 1:30-2:30pm NAWS China Lake 3:30-4:30pm Quick STEM Challenge: Tower Building	10. 10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings 1:30-3:00pm Rock Painting 3:30-4:30pm Coffee Filter Flowers	11. 10:30-11:00am Family Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm Stay & Play 1:30-2:30pm Fingerprint Art: Farm 3:30-4:30 Farm to Fable: Chicken	12. 10:30-11:15am David Cousin (juggler) 1:30-3:00pm Games for Kids 3:30-4:30pm Book Bingo	13. 9:30*-10:30am Stay & Play	
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23.	10:00-10:20am Toddler Time 10:20-11:30am Stay & Play 1:30-3:00pm Crafternoon: Flowers	24. 10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings 1:30-2:30pm Farm to Fable: Bees 3:30-4:30 DIY Farm	25. 10:30-11:00am Family Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm Stay & Play 1:30-3:00pm High Desert Falconry 3:30-4:30pm Sun Safety with Ridgecrest Regional Hospital	26. 10:00-10:20am Baby Bounce 10:20-11:30am Baby Play 1:30-3:00pm Seed Bomb Making 3:30-5:30pm Rock Painting	27. 9:30*-10:30am Stay & Play 10:30-11:00am Family Storytime 11:30am-1:00pm Build It Up	
30.	10:00-11:30am Stay & Play 1:30-2:30pm <u>Hula From the Heart</u> 3:30-4:30pm Catch Up Crafts	<p><u>Performance or Special Visitor</u> SUGGESTED AGES</p> <p>4+ yrs 1-7 yrs 3+ yrs 6 mos-3 yrs 2-8 yrs 1.5-4 yrs</p>			 <p>LUNCH — at the — LIBRARY</p> <p>TUE to FRI</p> <p>Served 11:30 am-12:30 pm Free to 18 and under Adult \$6 (exact change please)</p>	

131 E Las Flores Ave, Ridgecrest, CA 93555

760.384.5870