

August 2026

EVENTS Early Learners 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!



KERN
COUNTY
LIBRARY

Events for Early Learners

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Unplugged Game Time

Ages 3+

TUE. AUG 4 | 12:00-3:00 P.M.
SAT. AUG 22 | 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
TUE. AUG 25 | 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Stop by to play any of our games for ages 3 and up. We have a variety of games like the classics (Jenga, Candyland, Chutes & Ladders, chess) to newer games (Shark Bite, Kollide, Uzzle). You can also bring a game from home.

Back to School Cookies

Ages 3+

THU. AUG 6 | 3:30-5:00 P.M.

Stop by and enjoy a cookie to celebrate the start of a new school year, whether you are starting preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, homeschool, online school, or community college! Cookies available while supply lasts.

Crafternoon: International Cat Day

Ages 3+

SAT. AUG 8 | 11:00 A.M-12:00 P.M.

Stop by to work on some cat themed crafts to celebrate International Cat Day! We will have a few different options to choose from, so you can do one or all of the cat crafts.

Beyond the Book (monthly)

Ages 3+

WED. AUG 12 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Listen to some beach themed picture books while working on some beach themed crafts or activities. You can also collect a themed button (as supply lasts)!

International Left Handers Day

Ages 3+

THU. AUG 13 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Left handers, this is your time to shine! Stop by to celebrate International Left Handers Day by doing some activities with your left hand. Take on our left handed challenges, whether you are lefthanded or not!



Did You Know?

90% of a child's brain develops before they are 5 years old. This sets the foundation for health, learning, and social development. Reading to your child is an excellent way to help build neural connections during this time of rapid development.

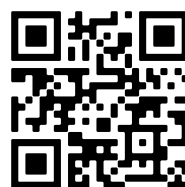
- * Sign up your baby, toddler, preschooler, or even kindergartener! Ask staff at the Circulation Desk or go to kernlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365 to sign up. (Beanstack has a mobile app too!)
- * Get a lanyard at sign up and pins for every 100 books listened to or read.
- * You do not need to use library books AND the same book 10 times counts as 10 books!

Does 1,000 books seem overwhelming?!? It doesn't have to be!

- * 5 books a week for 4 years = 1,040 books
- * 1 book a day for 3 years = 1,095 books
- * 10 books a week for 2 years = 1,040 books
- * 3 books a day for 1 non-leap year = 1,095 books



Older children can help (and practice reading out loud and fluency) by reading to participants. Listening also counts, so books read during library programs (Toddler Time and Preschool Storytime) count!



Ridgecrest Branch Library Amazon Wish List

Scan the QR code to see our upcoming programs or branch needs. Items are shipped to Bakersfield then delivered to our branch in our weekly shipments. We truly appreciate the generous donors who have already purchased items for us!

Events for Early Learners

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted.

Homeschool Hangout (monthly)

Ages 3+ TUE. AUG 18 | 12:30-2:00 P.M.

Families using any curriculum to homeschool can attend to network with other homeschool families and discuss learning. Stop by to learn about homeschool options. Basic activities will be offered for kids to socialize while caregivers chat.

Book Bingo

Ages 4+ FRI. AUG 21 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Bingo winners can choose a book to build a home library or a small prize. We have book choices for babies through adults. NOTE: We use magnetic bingo chips which can be a potential choking hazard.

Sun Safety for Kids with Ridgecrest Regional Hospital

Ages 3+ WED. AUG 26 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Kids will learn some important sun safety tips to help them stay cool in this still hot weather from Sandra. Afterwards, there will be a sun visor making craft and some possible other surprises.

Cookie Decorating

Ages 3+ THU. AUG 27 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Stop by to decorate a delicious cookie! We will have some frosting and several kinds of sprinkles to choose from to customize your yummy treat.



What do
you want
to learn?

Storytimes (Children's Room)

Baby Bounce

Ages 6 mos- 3 yrs

FRI. AUG 14 & 28 | 10:00-10:20 A.M.

Interactive LAPSIT with rhymes, songs, and board books. Siblings can bring a stuffed animal "baby". Baby Play follows.

Preschool Storytime

Ages 3-5 yrs

THURSDAYS | 10:30-11:00 A.M.

Enjoy stories, action rhymes, and a shaker egg song to continue building early literacy skills. Stay & Play follows.

Toddler Time

Ages 1.5-4 yrs

TUE. AUG 11 & 25 | 10:00-10:20 A.M.

Enjoy short stories, movement songs, and action rhymes that build early literacy skills. Stay & Play follows.

Family Storytime

Ages 2-8 yrs

SAT. AUG 22 | 10:30-11:00 A.M.

Children of all ages can enjoy some stories and fun action rhymes to continue building early literacy skills.

Freeplay Fun (Children's Room)

*starts before we open to the public (library staff will let you in)

Baby Play

Ages 6 mos-3 yrs

FRI. AUG 7 & 21 | 10:00-11:30 A.M.
FRI. AUG 14 & 28 | 10:20-11:30 A.M.

Babies build social skills and discover baby-friendly items while caregivers socialize with each other.

Stay & Play

Ages 1-7 yrs

TUE. AUG 4 & 18 | 10:00-11:30 A.M.
TUE. AUG 11 & 25 | 10:20-11:30 A.M.
THURSDAYS | 11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS | 9:30*-10:30 A.M.

Kids build social skills through play while caregivers can socialize with each other.

Little Learners (Community Room)

Little Learners: Explore

Ages 1.5-5 yrs

TUE. AUG 4 & 18 | 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Little learners focus on activities to build and strengthen fine motor skills, which can be helpful when learning to write.

Little Learners: STEAM Time

Ages 1.5-5 yrs

WED. AUG 12 | 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Little learners will explore basic activities monthly that are related to science, technology, engineering, art, or math.

Early Learners (0-5 yrs)

AUGUST 2026



**RIDGECREST
BRANCH
LIBRARY
HOURS**

**Sunday
CLOSED
Monday
CLOSED**

**Tuesday-Thursday
10 am to 7 pm
Friday
10 am to 6 pm
Saturday
10 am to 4 pm**

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

4.
10:00-11:30 am Stay & Play
10:30-11:30 am Little
Learners Explore: Puzzles
12:00-3:00 pm Unplugged
Game Time

5.

12.
10:30-11:30 am Little
Learners STEAM Time:
Fingernail Painting (on
paper)
3:30-4:30 pm Beyond the
Book

6.
10:30-11:00 am Preschool
Storytime
11:00 am-12:00 pm Stay &
Play
3:30-5:00 pm Back to
School Cookies

7.
10:00-11:30 am Baby Play

8.
9:30*-10:30 am Stay & Play
11:00 am-12:00 pm
Crafternoon: International
Cat Day

11.
10:00-10:20 am Toddler
Time
10:20-11:30 am Stay & Play

13.
10:30-11:00 am Preschool
Storytime
11:00 am-12:00 pm Stay &
Play
3:30-4:30 pm International
Left Handers Day

14.
10:00-10:20 am Baby
Bounce
10:20-11:30 am Baby Play

15.
9:30*-10:30 am Stay & Play

18.
10:00-11:30 am Stay & Play
10:30-11:30 am Little
Learners Explore: Stickers
12:30-2:00 pm Homeschool
Hangout

19.

20.
10:30-11:00 am Preschool
Storytime
11:00 am-12:00 pm Stay &
Play

21.
10:00-11:30 am Baby Play
3:30-4:30 pm Book Bingo

22.
9:30*-10:30 am Stay & Play
10:30-11:00 am Family
Storytime
11:00 am-1:00 pm
Unplugged Game Time

25.
10:00-10:20 am Toddler
Time
10:20-11:30 am Stay & Play
3:30-5:30 pm Unplugged
Game Time

26.
3:30-4:30 pm Sun Safety
for Kids with Ridgecrest
Regional Hospital

27.
10:30-11:00 am Preschool
Storytime
11:00 am-12:00 pm Stay &
Play
3:30-4:30 pm Cookie
Decorating

28.
10:00-10:20 am Baby
Bounce
10:20-11:30 am Baby Play

29.
9:30*-10:30 am Stay & Play

SUGGESTED AGES:

6 mos-3 yrs

1-7 yrs

1.5-4 yrs

1.5-5 yrs

2-8 yrs

3-5 yrs

3+ yrs

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

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