

July 2026

Kids 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!



KERN
COUNTY
LIBRARY

Events for Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted



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

Garden "Tea" Party

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 1 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Paint a pot and do a flower craft and enjoy "tea" (juice and butterfly pea tea) with snacks while you wait for your pot to dry before planting a seed in it. We will have a variety of seeds to choose from to plant.

Creative Time: Collage, Draw, Color

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 1 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.
TUE. JULY 21 | 2:30-5:00 P.M.

Express your creativity through drawing, coloring, or by making a collage.

Let's Sew a Bag

Ages 10+ WED. JULY 1 | 4:30-6:30 P.M.

Sew a basic bag. User agreement/liability waiver required to participate (also signed by parent/guardian for minors). IN MAKERSPACE.

Family Storytime

Ages 2-8 THURSDAYS 10:30-11:00 A.M.

Children will 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.

Events for Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Live Action Animal Crossing

Ages 3+ FRI. JULY 31 | 11:30 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Stop by to do some live action tasks inspired by the game Animal Crossing (including fishing and digging for fossils) to earn bells (coins) to "spend" in the store. This session features a new activity to replace the house decorating. Complete all of the activities on your passport to enter a prize drawing.

PERFORMANCE: Awesome Sauce with Wunderland Kitchen

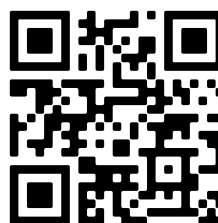
All Ages FRI. JULY 31 | 3:00-4:00 P.M.

Join food ethnographers June Jo and Philip for a book with a food-tasting experience like no other! Create your own Awesome Sauce—spicy, sweet, mild, or bold—and explore how flavors carry stories across families, cultures, and generations. Along the way, learn how Korean meals encourage creativity and choice right at the table. Kids will take home their own Awesome Sauce and, hopefully, a newfound love for vegetables. Supplies are limited, so plan to arrive early! Sponsored by Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library.

Summer Reading Finale Cool Down

Ages 3+ FRI. JULY 31 | 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Stop by to help us celebrate the end of another Summer Reading Challenge with a cool treat! Today (before we close at 6 pm) is your last chance to turn in bonus finisher entries to enter the prize drawings.



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 then delivered to our branch in our weekly shipments. We appreciate our generous donors who have already purchased items for us!

Events for Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Doctors Visits with Ridgecrest Regional Hospital

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 23 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Learn about going to the doctor with Sandra from Ridgecrest Regional Hospital Community Outreach. NOTE: There will NOT be a doctor present for check ups or to give any medical related information.

Crafternoon: Butterfly Life Cycle

Ages 3+ FRI. JULY 24 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Work on some crafts that teach about the life cycle of a butterfly.

Paint Roulette

Ages 6+ FRI. JULY 24 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Join us for a collaborative paint and pass experience! Everyone gets a blank canvas and starts painting. When the timer goes off, pass the canvas along, and add to the canvas in front of you.

PERFORMANCE: Magic Napoleon

All Ages TUE. JULY 28 | 3:30-5:00 P.M.

Magic Napoleon returns with his amazing 90-minute show filled with magic, bubble potions, and balloon twisting fun! IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM. Sponsored by Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library.

BYO Lunch & Last Minute Listen to Books

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 30 | 11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Bring a lunch to eat while listening to books (add them to your book log).

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 Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

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
— at the —
LIBRARY

FREE for 18 yrs
and under
Adult lunch \$5 (exact
change please)

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

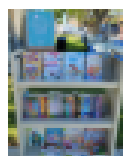
Books to Build Home Libraries, daily activities, prize drawings.
Indoor and outdoor seating. Lunches MUST be eaten on site.

Lunch Visitors

7/1: Boy Scouts Troop 848
7/2: Oasis Family Resource Center
7/7: RidgeWriters
7/8: Children's Burn Foundation
7/9: Pierce Academy of the Arts
7/10: Princesses from Sierra Academy of Dance

Guest Readers/Leaders are Readers

7/8: Amanda Erwin, Women's Center
High Desert, Inc.
7/10: Princesses from Sierra Academy of Dance



Kids eating lunch can choose FREE Books to Build Home Libraries (as supply lasts) and enter the weekly attendance drawing to win a prize bag EVERY TIME they attend. They can fill out a survey for a little prize and enter the survey drawing.

Events for Kids

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Farm Animal Puppets

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 2 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Stop by to create farm animal puppets using paper bags to have a farm themed puppet show. We have new animal choices this month and a limited supply of animals left from the June session available.

LEGO Challenge

Ages 6+ THU. JULY 2 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.
FRI. JULY 24 | 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Stop by to try to complete the LEGO Challenge for the day or you can also build anything you want instead.

7/2: Summer 7/24: Bridge



All Kern County Library branches will be closed for Independence Day on Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4, 2026. We will resume for standard operating hours on Tuesday, July 7, 2026. Our eLibrary is open 24/7! Get your books ANYtime online; all you need is your FREE Kern Library card!

Youth Development Intern Program: Flower Stamp Art

Ages 6+ TUE. JULY 7 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Our Youth Development Program Intern will lead an art program using fake flowers and acrylic paint to create stamped art.

Pokemon Learn & Play with Fistful of Cards

Ages 6+ TUE. JULY 7 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Bring your 60-card deck or use a loaner deck. A volunteer from Fistful of Cards will be available to teach people how to play. Trade at your risk, as we will not monitor trading.

Events for Kids

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Homeschool Hangout

Ages 3+ TUE. JULY 21 | 12:30-2:00 P.M.

Current or prospective homeschool families (using ANY program or curriculum) can network with other homeschool families, learn about homeschool options, and/or discuss learning. There are activities for kids while the caregivers can chat with each other.

VISITOR: Screens Away, Time to Play Cardboard Creations

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 22 | 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Kern County author Kailan Carr will read "Screens Away, Time to Play!" and then kids will get to create cardboard masterpieces using kid-safe tools and materials to bring imaginations to life. IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM. Sponsored by Ridgecrest Branch Library Donations.

Wind Tube Exploration

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 22 | 3:00-5:00 P.M.
SAT. JULY 25 | 12:00-1:00 P.M.
WED. JULY 29 | 12:30-2:30 P.M.

Learners of all ages can experiment with floating a variety of common everyday objects in a vertically moving air column to explore flight, cause and effect, wind resistance, and aerodynamics. IN THE MAKERSPACE.

Snack Ranking

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 23 | 2:00-3:00 P.M.

Stop by and taste test different snacks and then afterwards, rank the snacks to show which one you enjoyed the most! Will YOUR favorite snack be the favorite snacks of others? Some snacks will contain gluten and/or dairy. Snacks will be available as supply lasts.

Events for Kids

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Clothing/Fabric Repair

Ages 13+ FRI. JULY 17 | 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

All ages can bring any CLEAN clothing, fabric, or stuffed animals for evaluation and possible repair by a volunteer. If there are teens or adults who want to learn how to do some basic sewing repair, let us know so we can set up a class in the future. IN THE MAKERSPACE

VISITOR: Golden Meadow Goats

All Ages FRI. JULY 17 | 3:30-5:00 P.M.

Join us for a delightful visit from Golden Meadow Goats! Get up close and personal with these friendly, adorable goats in a fun and interactive experience for all ages. IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM. Sponsored by Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library.

Kids Games

Ages 3+ SAT. JULY 18 | 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Stop by for some Saturday fun to play fun games for kids without small pieces, like Giant Connect 4, magnetic fishing, and bigger than usual Jenga. IN THE CHILDRENS ROOM

Chess Play & Learn

Ages 8+ SAT. JULY 18 | 12:00-1:00 P.M.

Stop by to challenge someone at chess or learn to play with Leland. We will have boards out for playing. IN THE YOUNG ADULT AREA

Unplugged Game Time

Ages 3+ TUE. JULY 21 | 11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

We have classics like Candyland, Jenga, Monopoly, and chess plus a variety of others games like Sushi Go, Clue, Spot It, and Skip-Bo. You can also bring a game from home.

Events for Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Crafternoon: Fruits and Vegetables

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 8 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Stop by to create some fruits and vegetables that would not taste very good if you tried to eat them, using tissue paper squares and more.

Eat the Rainbow

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 8 | 3:30-4:30 P.M. Part 1
THU. JULY 30 | 1:00-2:30 P.M. Part 2

Learn about the edible rainbow, featuring fruits and vegetables in different colors to taste! We will offer different colorful items in each session.

Farm to Fable: Bird

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 9 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Join us to listen to some books featuring birds before participating in some bird related crafts and activities! The books listened to can be added to your Summer Reading Challenge log.

Catch Up Crafts

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 9 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.
FRI. JULY 17 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.
SAT. JULY 25 | 10:00-11:00 A.M.
THU. JULY 30 | 3:30-5:00 P.M.

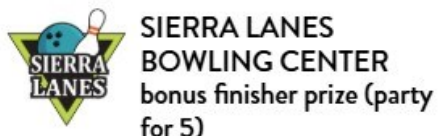
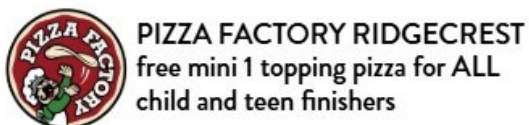
Stop by to work on a craft that you may have missed! We usually offer a few choices, but feel free to ask about a specific craft that you are interested in, in case we still have supplies available for that craft.

Book Bingo (monthly)

Ages 3+ FRI. JULY 10 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Bingo winners choose a book to build a home library or a small prize. We have a variety of levels of book choices, from board books for little ones to books for adults. We use magnetic chips, which can be a choking hazard.

Thank you to these sponsors:



Reading Dragons & Friends Returns! (New cards!)



- * For ages 6 through adults (for ages 5 and under, we have 1000 Books Before Kindergarten)
- * NEW starter card pack available for summer 2026
- * 8 NEW family sets available
- * Reading Dragons is NOT on Beanstack
- * You MUST show your tracker sheet to pick up cards
- * Read or listen for 2 hours to earn a family set of cards (egg, baby, teen, and adult dragon/friend); 16 hours to collect all 8 sets
- * Use the same books for Summer Reading Challenge AND Reading Dragons AT THE SAME TIME
- * Play games with the cards you earn



Events for Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Edible Earth Layers

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 16 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Stop by for some education and a snack by learning about and then building the layers of the Earth using edible items.

Farm to Fable: Cow

Ages 3+ THU. JULY 16 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Join us to listen to books about cows before participating in activities like "milking" a pretend cow and doing a craft! Books listened to can be added to your Summer Reading Challenge log.

Ready-Set Back 2 School Backpack Giveaway with Kern County Child Support Services

TK-12th gr FRI. JULY 17 | 10:00-12:00 P.M.

Kids going into Transitional Kindergarten through 12th grade can receive a free backpack with school supplies and resources. Child must be present to receive a backpack. Limit one per child, as supplies last.

Game Festival

Ages 3+ FRI. JULY 17 | 10:30-11:30 A.M.
TUE. JULY 28 | 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Stop by to play some of our quicker games. Earn a ticket for playing and earn more tickets for winning games. The tickets can be traded for a variety of items like snacks or other prizes. Feel free to bring your own games to play.

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 Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Quick STEM Challenge: Fairy Tale

Ages 3+ TUE. JULY 14 | 3:30-4:30 P.M.

Stop by to try to complete some fairy tale based STEM challenges featuring a shortened version of the story and a related activity. We will have a few different sets available. IN THE MAKERSPACE.

Bring a Lunch & Listen to Books

Ages 6+ WED. JULY 15 | 12:00-1:00 P.M.
THU. JULY 16 | 12:00-1:00 P.M.
FRI. JULY 17 | 12:00-1:00 P.M.

Bring a lunch to enjoy while listening to slightly longer books. We will have in between chapter books read aloud by staff or a volunteer and will also have Vox books or play Read Along video books on Kanopy Kids if there is interest. Add the books to your Summer Reading Challenge logs.

Mini Live Action Animal Crossing

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 15 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Stop by to do an Animal Crossing craft (paint a 3D fossil) and a couple of live action tasks inspired by the game available from the bigger version in early June. Full version with passport returns at the end of July.

Stories and a Snack

Ages 3+ WED. JULY 15 | 3:30-4:30 P.M. Fairy Bread
WED. JULY 22 | 12:00-1:00 P.M. Fruit "Pizza"
TUE. JULY 28 | 1:30-3:00 P.M. Baguette
WED. JULY 29 | 3:30-4:30 P.M. Pizza

Listen to some stories related to the featured snack item while making the listed snack or a related item. Don't forget to add the books read at these programs to Summer Reading Challenge logs!

Events for Kids

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

PERFORMANCE: Omnipresent Puppet Theater

All Ages SAT. JULY 11 | 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Don with Omnipresent Puppet Theater will bring the "Jack and the Beanstalk" puppet show to the library! Join us for an entertaining morning featuring the classic story of a young boy that trades his cow for some "magic" beans that will end up changing his family's lives! Presented with Omnipresent's trademark humor and fun for all ages! IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM. Sponsored by RidgeWriters.

Lorcana Open Play Time

Ages 8+ SAT. JULY 11 | 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Disney Illumineers should bring a Lorcana deck to play with other Illumineers. There will be no official instruction or loaner decks available for this session.

Ridge Writers Mini Writers Bootcamp: Nature Poetry

Ages 6-18 SAT. JULY 11 | 12:30-2:00 P.M.

Young writers can join us for an interactive workshop featuring nature poetry and figurative language, along with landscape themed collages. There will be prize drawings done throughout the program.

Edible Parts of a Plant

Ages 3+ TUE. JULY 14 | 12:00-1:00 P.M.

Stop by for some education and a snack! Learn about the parts of a plant by using a variety of edible items to demonstrate the different parts.

DIY Snack Mix

Ages 3+ TUE. JULY 14 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Stop by to create a customized snack mix by choosing from salty and sweet items. There will be NO NUTS but items will contain gluten and/or dairy.



JULY

2026

**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**

Kids (6-12 yrs)

wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

1.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
1:30-3:00pm Garden "Tea" Party
3:30-4:30pm Creative Time
4:30-6:30 Let's Sew a Bag

2.
10:30-11:00am Family Storytime
1:30-3:00pm Farm Animal Puppets
3:30-4:30 LEGO Challenge: Summer



7.
1:30-2:30pm Youth Development Program: Flower Stamp Art
3:30-4:30pm Pokemon Trading Card Game w/Fistful of Cards

8.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
1:30-3:00pm Crafternoon: Fruits & Vegetables
3:30-4:30pm Eat the Rainbow

9.
10:30-11:00am Family Storytime
1:30-3:00pm Farm to Fable: Birds
3:30-4:30pm Catch Up Crafts

10.
3:30-4:30pm Book Bingo

11.
10:30-11:15am Omnipresent Puppet Theater
10:30-11:30am Lorcana Open Play Time
12:30-2:00pm Ridge Writers Mini Writers Bootcamp

14.
12:00-1:00pm Edible Parts of a Plant
1:30-3:00pm DIY Snack Mix
3:30-4:30pm Quick STEM Challenge: Fairy Tale

15.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
12:00-1:00pm Bring a Lunch & Listen to Books
1:30-3:00pm Mini Live Action Animal Crossing
3:30-4:30 Stories and a Snack: Fairy Bread

16.
10:30-11:00am Family Storytime
12:00-1:00pm Bring a Lunch & Listen to Books
1:30-3:00pm Edible Earth Layers
3:30-4:30pm Farm to Fable: Cow

17.
10:00am-12:00pm Child Support Services Backpack Giveaway
10:30-11:30am Game Festival
12:00-1:00pm Bring a Lunch & Listen to Books
1:30-3:00pm Catch Up Crafts
3:30-5:00pm Golden Meadow Goats

18.
11:00am-1:00pm Kids Games
12:00-1:00pm Chess Play & Learn (Young Adult area)

21.
11:00am-12:00pm Unplugged Game Time
12:30-2:30pm Homeschool Hangout
2:30-5:00pm Creative Time

22.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
12:00-1:00pm Stories and a Snack: Fruit "Pizza"
1:30-2:30pm Screens Away, Time to Play: Cardboard Creations
3:00-5:00 Wind Tube Exploration

23.
10:30-11:00am Family Storytime
2:00-3:00pm Snack Ranking
3:30-4:30pm Doctors Visits with Sandra w/RRH

24.
10:00am-1:00pm LEGO Challenge: Bridge
1:30-3:00pm Crafternoon: Butterfly Life Cycle
3:30-4:30pm Paint Roulette

25.
10:00-11:00am Catch Up Crafts
12:00-1:00pm Wind Tube Exploration (makerspace)

28.
11:00am-1:00pm Game Festival
1:30-3:00pm Stories and a Snack: Baguette
3:30-5:00pm Magic Napoleon

29.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
12:30-2:30pm Wind Tube Exploration
3:30-4:30pm Stories and a Snack: Pizza

30.
10:30-11:00am Family Storytime
11:30am-12:30pm BYO Lunch + Last Minute Listen to Books
1:00-2:30pm Eat the Rainbow
3:30-5:00pm Catch Up Crafts

31.
11:30am-2:00pm Live Action Animal Crossing
3:00-4:00pm Awesome Sauce with Wonderland Kitchen
4:30-5:30pm Summer Reading Finale Cool Down

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

SUGGESTED AGES

2-8 yrs

3+ yrs

4+ yrs

6+ yrs

8+ yrs

10+ yrs

Performance



TUE-FRI until 7/10

Served 11:30 am-12:30 pm

131 E Las Flores Ave, Ridgecrest, CA 93555

760.384.5870

Free for 2-18 yr olds; Adult \$5 (exact change)