

July 2026

Tween/Teen 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 Tweens & Teens

All events happen in Community Room unless noted

Tweens = 9-12 years Teens = 13-18 years



LUNCH
of 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

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 your pot dries before planting seeds in it.

Creative Time: Collage, Draw, Color

Ages 6+

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 using our supplies.

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.

Farm Animal Puppets

Ages 3+

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

Stop by to make farm animal paper bag puppets. We have new animal choices and a limited supply of animals left from last month as supply lasts.

Events for Tweens & Teens

All events happen in Community Room unless noted

BYO Lunch & Last Minute Listen to Books

Ages 3+

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

Bring your own lunch to eat while you listen to stories. This may be your last chance to hear stories at the library that you can also add to your Summer Reading Challenge log.

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.

VISITOR: Awesome Sauce with Wunderland Kitchen

Ages 3+

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.

Events for Tweens & Teens

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Fiber Art Friends

Ages 16+ THU. JULY 23 | 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Do you crochet, knit, macramé, embroider, cross stitch, needlepoint, hand sew, or hand quilt? Bring your fiber art project supplies and join us for some time to socialize while crafting.

Paint Roulette

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

This collaborative paint and pass experience gives everyone a canvas to paint on. When the timer goes off, pass it, then paint the one in front of you.

Plant Swap with Indigenous Home & Garden

Ages 16+ SAT. JULY 25 | 11:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Bring a labeled, pest-free plant to swap. From 12:30 to 1:00 pm, it will be open to anyone to choose a plant, even if you did not bring one to swap.

Junk Journal Decorating (monthly; 4th Saturday)

Ages 16+ SAT. JULY 25 | 1:30-3:30 P.M.

Decorate your junk journal with our supplies (newspapers, stickers, scrap paper, magazines, etc.) or bring your own. We have donated books to use.

PERFORMANCE: Magic Napoleon

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

Magic Napoleon returns with an 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.

Stop by and check out our Seed Library in the adult reading area! We have a variety of seeds to plant, for FREE!

Events for Tweens & Teens

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

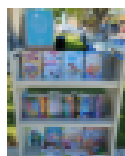
Books to Build Home Libraries, daily activities, prize drawings.
Indoor and outdoor seating. Lunches **MUST** be eaten on site.

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 **EVERYTIME** they attend. They can fill out a survey for a little prize and enter the survey drawing.

Events for Tweens & Teens

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The Healing Grove: Grief Support Group with River Sage Revival

Ages 13+ WEDNESDAYS 5:30-6:30 P.M.

Weekly space for all forms of loss: death, relationships, identity, health, and major transitions. Join at any time as a clinician from River Sage Revival will help guide teens and adults using a weekly curriculum.



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

Bubble Qigong

Ages 16+ THU. JULY 2, 9, & 16 | 5:15-6:00 P.M.

Learn to breathe, move, and center yourself using a series of simple and repetitive motions guided by a certified instructor. Note that the instructor is not certified to work with pregnant women.



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!

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 Tweens & Teens

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Unplugged Game Time

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

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

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 each other, learn about options, and/or discuss learning. We have activities for kids while caregivers chat with each other.

VISITOR: Screens Away, Time to Play w/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 Explorations

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.

Taste test different snacks then rank them 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 Tweens & Teens

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

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 more tickets for winning. Tickets can be traded for a variety of prize items.

Clothing/Fabric Repair

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

All ages can bring CLEAN clothing, fabric, or stuffed animals for evaluation and possible repair by a volunteer. If teens or adults want to learn basic sewing repair, let us know so we can set up a class. 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.

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.

Local Outdoor Plants with Hyla Nursery

Ages 16+ SAT. JULY 18 | 2:30-3:30 P.M.

Learn about outdoor plants suitable for our desert environment along with tips for plant care with Alisha.

Events for Tweens & Teens

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Youth Development Intern Kids 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 (monthly)

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 teach how to play. Trade at your risk, as we will not monitor trading.

Special Needs Teens & Caregivers Meet Up (1st & 3rd Tue)

Ages 13-18 TUE. JULY 7 & 21 | 5:30-6:30 P.M.

Special needs teens can hang out while caregivers (does not have to be a parent) can chat. We will have individual and group activity options available.

Crafternoon: Fruits & Vegetables

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

Stop by to create some fruit and vegetable themed crafts.

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.

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 do a craft you may have missed! We may still have supplies for it.

Events for Tweens & Teens

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Your Hometown College: Express Enrollment Event

Age 16+ THU. JULY 9 | 2:00-5:00 P.M.

Students wanting to enroll at Cerro Coso Community College can get help from admissions, financial aid, counseling, and veteran services staff.

Youth Development Teen Program: Mixed Media Workshop

Ages 13-18 FRI. JULY 10 | 1:30-3:00 P.M.

Our Youth Development Program Intern leads a mixed media workshop. Teens can use a variety of materials (oil pastels, watercolor, salt, acrylic paint, newspaper, magazines, stickers, and more) to create a mixed media project on canvas.

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 books, from board books for toddlers to books for adults.

PERFORMANCE: Omnipresent Puppet Theater

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

Don from Omnipresent brings the "Jack and the Beanstalk" puppet show to the library! The classic story of a young boy that trades his cow for some "magic" beans that will change 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 (monthly)

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

Disney Illumineers should bring a Lorcana deck to play with other Illumineers. No official instruction to play or loaner decks will be available.

Thank you to these sponsors:



**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



**SIERRA LANES
BOWLING CENTER**
bonus finisher prize (party
for 5)



**ROADRUNNER RIDGE
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**
funds for bonus finisher gift cards

**CONVEYING AWARENESS
WITH JESSICA DAVID**
bonus finisher gift cards



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 Tween & Teens

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

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 something related.

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.

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

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

#KCLSUMMERREADINGCHALLENGE2026

Events for Tween & Teens

All events happen in the Community Room unless noted

Ridge Writers Mini Writers Bootcamp

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

Interactive workshop to learn about figurative language, writing nature poetry, and making landscape collages. There will be prize drawings.

DIY Book Vase

Ages 16+ SAT. JULY 11 | 2:30-3:30 P.M.

Turn a donated book into a cool, decorative vase for artificial flowers for yourself or to gift to someone else. You need at least 30 minutes to finish.

General Resume Workshop

Ages 16+ TUE. JULY 14 | 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Learn how to create effective resumes regardless of your employment history (or lack of) and get some tips on navigating the USAJobs website.

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.

Create a custom snack mix from a variety of salty and sweet snack items. Snack options will have NO NUTS but will have gluten and/or dairy.

Teen Dungeons & Dragons

Ages 13-18 TUE. JULY 14 | 4:00-6:00 P.M.

Teens can join our adventuring party to overcome challenges, make mischief, and complete quests using pre-made character sheets.



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**

Tweens (9-12 yrs) Teens (13-18 yrs)

wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

tuesday

1.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
1:30-3:00pm Garden "Tea"
Party
3:30-4:30pm Creative Time
4:30-6:30pm Let's Sew a Bag
5:30-6:30pm The Healing
Grove: Grief Support Group

2.
1:30-3:00pm Farm Animal
Puppets
3:30-4:30pm LEGO
Challenge: Summer
5:15-6:00pm Bubble Qigong



7.
1:30-2:30pm Youth
Development Program: Flower
Stamp Art
3:30-4:30pm Pokemon Learn
to Play w/Fistful of Cards
5:30-6:30pm Special Needs
Teens + Caregivers Meet Up

8.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
1:30-3:00pm Crafternoon:
Fruits & Vegetables
3:30-4:30 Eat the Rainbow
5:30-6:30pm The Healing
Grove: Grief Support Group

9.
1:30-3:00pm Farm to Fable:
Birds
3:30-4:30pm Catch Up Crafts
2:00-5:00pm Your Hometown
College: Express Enrollment
Event
5:15-6:00pm Bubble Qigong

10.
1:30-3:00pm Youth
Development Teen
Program: Mixed Media
Workshop
3:30-4:30pm Book Bingo

11.
10:30-11:15 Omnipresent
Puppet Theater
10:30-11:30am Lorcana Open
Play
12:30-2:00pm Ridge Writers
Mini Writers Bootcamp
2:30-3:30pm DIY Book Vase

14.
10:30-11:30am Resume Workshop
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
4:00-6:00pm Teen Dungeons &
Dragons

15.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
1:00-3:00pm Mini Live Action
Animal Crossing
3:30-4:30pm Stories and a Snack:
Fairy Bread
5:30-6:30pm The Healing Grove:
Grief Support Group

16.
1:30-3:00pm Edible Earth
Layers
3:30-4:30pm Farm to Fable:
Cow
5:15-6:00pm Bubble Qigong

17.
10:00am-12:00pm Child Support
Services Backpack Giveaway
10:30-11:30am Game Festival
11:00am-1:00pm Clothing/Fabric
Repair
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)
2:30-3:30pm Local Outdoor
Plants with Hyla Nursery

21.
11:00am-12:00pm Unplugged
Game Time
12:30-2:00pm Homeschool
Hangout
2:30-5:00pm Creative Time
5:30-6:30pm Special Needs
Teens + Caregivers Meet Up

22.
10:30-11:30am Little Seedlings
12:00-1:00 Stories and a Snack: Fruit
"Pizza"
1:30-2:30pm Screens Away, Time to
Play
3:30-5:00pm Wind Tube Exploration
5:30-6:30pm The Healing Grove:
Grief Support Group

23.
2:00-3:00pm Snack
Ranking
5:00-7:00pm Fiber Art
Friends

24.
10:00-1:00pm 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
11:30am-1:00pm Plant Swap
12:00-1:00pm Wind Tube
Exploration (makerspace)
1:30-3:30pm Junk Journal
Decorating

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
5:30-6:30pm The Healing
Grove: Grief Support Group

30.
11:30am-12:30pm BYO Lunch
& Last Minute Listen to Books
1:30-2:30pm 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 Wunderland
Kitchen
4:30-5:30pm Summer
Reading Finale Cool Down



**TUE to FRI
until 7/10**

SUGGESTED AGES

3+ yrs 4+ yrs 6+ yrs 8+ yrs 10+ yrs 13+ yrs 16+ yrs 13-18 yrs

Performance

131 E Las Flores Ave, Ridgecrest, CA 93555

760.384.5870

Served 11:30 am-12:30 pm
Free to 18 and under
Adult \$5 (exact change)