

UNEARTH

A STORY



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FLETCHER FREE LIBRARY

2026 SUMMER CHALLENGE: SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Burlington, VT

Main Library: 235 College Street
New North End Branch: 1127 North Avenue
802.865.7216 | fletcherfree.org



Thank you to our sponsors:



The M&T Charitable Foundation

SUMMER CHALLENGE REGISTRATION

Sign up for the "Unearth a Story" Summer Challenge all through the summer: **June 20-August 15!**

WHERE? Fletcher Free Library Kids' Area, at summer school, through the Beanstack app, or online at fletcherfree.org/summer



JUNE

The Library will be closed on Friday, June 19 for Juneteenth.



SING ALONG WITH LINDA BASSICK

TUESDAYS, JUNE 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 11:00-11:30 am.

Dance, wiggle, and sing with local musician/early educator, Linda Bassick. Recommended for ages 0-3, but all are welcome. Main Library.

READ TO A DOG AT THE NNE BRANCH

WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 3, 10, 17, 24, 11:00 am - 12:00 noon.

Practice your read-aloud skills and snuggle with therapy dog Willow, an English Cream Golden Retriever. Recommended for ages 3 and up. No registration required. New North End Branch Library.

MAGNETILE MASTERPIECES AT THE NNE BRANCH

WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 10 & 24, 10:00-10:45 am.

Design and build fantastic creations with our magnetic toys at our New North End branch. Recommended for ages 3 and up. No registration required. New North End Branch Library.

SUMMER CHALLENGE KICKOFF

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 10:00 - 12:00 noon.

Set your summer reading goals, dig into crafty projects, and enjoy read-alouds and meet-and-greets with ballplayers from the Vermont Lake Monsters, Champ, and authors Kate Messner, Kekla Magoon, Dayna Lorentz, and Chris Tebbetts. All ages. Main Library.

VISION BOARDING YOUR SUMMER VIBE

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 10:30 am - 12:00 noon.

Kids, teens and families create vision boards to inspire summer-themed learning and fun. All materials provided, but you are welcome to bring your own images/photos too! Ages 4-Adult. Main Library.

DINOMAN: DINOSAURS!

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 4:00 pm.

Have no fear, Dinoman is here! Explore the Mesozoic Era with magic, merry mayhem, magnificent props and massive inflatable dinosaurs in the library's Main Reading Room! Recommended for ages 5 & up. Main Library.

SUMMERTIME STORIES & CRAFTS!

MONDAYS, JUNE 22 & 29, 11-11:45 am.

Join us for storytime and a fun craft project based on the Summer Challenge theme! All ages welcome; recommended for ages 2-8. Main Library.

DINOSAUR DIG!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 3:00-4:00 pm.

Unleash your inner paleontologist! Use chisels and brushes to dig up your own unique dinosaur from a plaster egg, then learn more about your dino and create a special habitat jar to bring it home! Recommended for ages 5 and up. Registration required. Main Library.

LYRIC THEATRE: "DON'T LET THE PIGEON DRIVE THE BUS! THE MUSICAL!"

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 6:00 pm.

Based on the popular children's book by Mo Willems, this hilarious fun-filled show invites audiences of all ages to help stop Pigeon's wild antics in their tracks. Space is limited; please RSVP: lyrictheatrevt.org/tya2026/ Contois Auditorium: 149 Church Street, Burlington.

LEGO TIME AT THE NNE BRANCH

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 11:00 am-12:00 noon

Design and build your very own original LEGO creations! Recommended for ages 4-11. New North End Branch Library.

INTRO TO PECHAKUCHA FOR KIDS, TEENS, & FAMILIES

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 4:00-5:30 pm.

Learn about PechaKucha ("chit chat" in Japanese), a short storytelling presentation about anything that brings you joy! We'll help you get started, with an optional PechaKucha presentation at the Library on Saturday, August 1st. Space is limited, please RSVP. Main Library.

LIBRARY IN THE PARKS



Meet us outside! Summer Outreach staff will be visiting Burlington parks, community centers, and schools all summer long with tons of fun activities and free books!

View full outreach schedule at: fletcherfree.org/summer#outreach

● Main Library:
235 College Street
Burlington

● New North End Branch:
1127 North Avenue
Burlington

● Offsite
Location

To complete the Fletcher Free Kids Summer Challenge:

- Read at least **10 hours** and/or complete at least **10 challenge activities!**
- Keep track of your reading and activities in the paper log, or on the Beanstack app (fletcherfree.beanstack.org)
- Submit your reading log (either in-person at Fletcher Free Library or online via Beanstack) by no later than **August 15**.
- **This year, ALL participants who complete the Summer Challenge earn a prize!** When you complete the Summer Challenge, come to the library to collect your prize (first come, first served)! Prizes include Lake Champlain Chocolates, creemee coupons, and much more!
- Questions? Call the Kids' Desk at 802-865-7216 or email FFLkids@burlingtonvt.gov

JULY

The Library will be closed on Saturday, July 4 for Independence Day.



READ TO A DOG AT THE NNE BRANCH

WEDNESDAYS, JULY 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 11:00 am - 12:00 noon.

See June description. New North End Branch Library.

VERY MERRY THEATRE: "THE SECRET GARDEN"

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 12:00 noon-1 pm.

When newly-orphaned ten-year-old Mary discovers a locked and neglected garden at her reclusive uncle's Yorkshire manor, she and her friends set to work restoring its beauty and unearthing its mysteries. Join us for this family-friendly musical about hope, joy, and the magic of friendship. All ages. Main Library Lawn (rain site: Main Reading Room).

GROW PRESCHOOL YOGA

THURSDAYS, JULY 2, 16, 23, 11:00-11:30 am.

Songs, movement, and other fun yoga activities! Ages 2-5. Main Library.

MINECRAFT MEET-UP AT THE NNE BRANCH

THURSDAYS, JULY 2, 9, 16, 30, 5:00-6:15 PM

Drop in and meet up with fellow Minecraft enthusiasts to play together on the library's private server. Snacks will be available. Ages 7-12. New North End Branch Library.

LIBRARY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

SUNDAY, JULY 5, game begins at 5:05 pm.

Root, root, root for the Vermont Lake Monsters with library staff and fellow library fans! Borrow a library pass in advance to access free admission (fletcherfree.org/MuseumPasses), or show your library card at the box office for discounted admission. Tickets required. Delta Dental Diamond at Centennial Field, 287 Colchester Avenue, Burlington.

SUMMERTIME STORIES & CRAFTS!

MONDAYS, JULY 6, 13, 20, 27, 11-11:45 am.

See June description. Main Library.

How does it work?

Challenge yourself to complete your "Unearth a Story" reading log by reading, writing, and completing fun activities. Submit badges through the Beanstack app, at fletcherfree.beanstack.org, or by turning in your completed log.

Visit library staff for activities and t-shirts (while they last) at Fletcher Free Library, Burlington schools, parks, and community centers!

Explore reading material at the Main Library, the New North End Branch or online!

Enjoy programs inside the library and in other community spaces.

Have fun!

SING ALONG WITH LINDA BASSICK

TUESDAYS, JULY 7, 14, 28, 11:00-11:30 am.

See June description. Main Library.

MAGNATILE MASTERPIECES AT THE NNE BRANCH

WEDNESDAYS, JULY 8 & 22, 10:00-10:45 am.

See June description.

New North End Branch Library.

TREASURE HUNT AT THE LIBRARY!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 3:00-4:00 pm.

Legend has it there is treasure hiding somewhere in the Fletcher Free Library! Join a team of adventurous kids to follow the clues and find the treasure, then decorate your own treasure box to take home your share of the loot! Recommended for ages 3-8 with caregiver; registration required. Main Library.

SING ALONG WITH LINDA AT THE NNE BRANCH

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 11:00-11:30 am.

Dance, wiggle, and sing with local musician/early educator, Linda Bassick! Recommended for ages birth - 5, but all are welcome! New North End Branch Library.

GYOTAKU: JAPANESE FISH PRINTING AT THE NNE BRANCH

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 12:00-1:00 pm.

Try out the traditional art method gyotaku by making art prints with rubber fish alongside educators from Lake Champlain Basin Project. Recommended for ages 4-8. Space is limited; registration required. New North End Branch Library.



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Offsite Location

JULY, CONT'D



DINO-MITE CAKE DECORATING

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 4:00-5:30 pm.

Learn some cake-decorating tips and tricks, then design your own dino-themed mini cake! All materials provided. Ages 7-12. Space limited; please register. Main Library.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

GROUP A: SUNDAY, JULY 12, 12:15-3:15 pm.

GROUP B: SUNDAY, JULY 19, 12:15-3:15 pm.

Dungeons and Dragons with DM Andrew! Please choose one group, A or B. Ages 9-14. Space limited and registration required: sign up/join the waitlist at fletcherfree.org. Main Library.

VINS: BIRDS ARE DINOSAURS!

SUNDAY, JULY 12 3:00-3:45 pm.

Find out what 65 million years of evolution turned the dinosaurs into: birds! Join Vermont Institute of Natural Resources (VINS) to meet live birds of prey and learn all about their dinosaur ancestry. All ages. Main Library.

DAD GUILD PLAYGROUP

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 4:00-5:00 pm.

Read books, engage in creative play, and connect with other parents. Ages birth - 5 and caregivers. Main Library.

VERY MERRY THEATRE: "MOANA JR."

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 12:00 noon-1:00 pm.

This thrilling and heartwarming coming-of-age musical follows the strong-willed Moana as she sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. All ages. Main Library Lawn (rain site: Main Reading Room).

STORIES WITH GEOFF AT THE NNE BRANCH

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 11:00-11:30 am.

Join Geoff for stories, songs and movement! New North End Branch Library.

CLIF BOOK GIVEAWAY & DRAWING

DEMONSTRATION

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 11:00-11:45 am.

Illustrator John Steven Gurley shows off his dinosaur drawing skills and helps young readers select new books to keep. Recommended for ages 3 and up. Main Library.

DINOSAUR CRAFTERNOON

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 3:00-4:00 pm.

Dinosaurs are dino-mite, so we're celebrating them with an epic crafternoon! Drop in and make dinosaur jewelry, shrinky dinks, Perler bead creations, and more! Recommended for ages 5 and up. Main Library.



LEGO TIME AT THE NNE BRANCH

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 11:00 am-12:00 noon

See June description. New North End Branch Library.

NATURE ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOP

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2:00-4:00 pm.

Sharpen your pencils and learn to observe like a scientist in this nature walk and art class led by Lake Champlain Basin Project educators. Recommended for ages 8-12. Please pre-register. Main Library.

AUGUST



The Library will be closed on
Friday, August 14 for Bennington Battle Day.

PECHAKUCHA PRESENTATIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 4:00-6:00 pm.

Kids, teens, and families who participated in the June workshop are invited to present on the FFL stage! Share your inspiration with your Library community. Main Library.

SUMMERTIME STORIES & CRAFTS!

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 11:00-11:45 am.

See June description. Main Library.



SING ALONG WITH LINDA BASSICK

TUESDAYS, AUGUST 4, 11, 18, 11:00-11:30 am.

See June description. Main Library.

MAGNATILE MASTERPIECES AT THE NNE BRANCH

WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 5, 19, 10:00-10:45 am.

See June description. New North End Branch Library.

READ TO A DOG AT THE NNE BRANCH

WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 5, 12, 19, 26, 11:00 am - 12:00 noon.

See June description. New North End Branch Library.

GROW PRESCHOOL YOGA

THURSDAYS, AUGUST 6, 13, 20, 11:00-11:30 am.

Songs, movement, and other fun yoga activities! Ages 2-5. Main Library.

MINECRAFT MEET-UP AT THE NNE BRANCH

THURSDAYS, AUGUST 6, 13, 5:00-6:15 PM

See June description. New North End Branch Library.

STACK-A-SAURUS TOPPLE TOWN DOMINO CHAIN REACTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 4:00-5:00 pm.

Kids 5-10 are invited to explore chain reactions through domino play. We will learn the basics of setting up dominoes for successful toppling, play with creating different structures and set up domino runs for large group chain reactions. Main Library.



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