Spending quality time with our kids is critical to their growth and development—and it fosters strong bonds and relationships. But, our fast-paced lives can make finding opportunities for quality family time a challenge.

“We’re working and commuting longer hours. Schedules are packed. Budgets are tight. And planning even small outings takes time and energy. Fortunately, your libraries offer fun activities and amazing learning adventures for families of all types to do together.”

“Libraries are in a unique position to help strengthen family connections,” says David Slivken, executive director, Poudre River Public Library District. “Libraries are also spaces that offer opportunities for families to connect with other families and build community.”

Early Literacy

The Library District has a significant responsibility to children and families in our community to support early literacy skills and ensure young children are ready to learn when they enter school. As a community partner in children’s education – beyond just support for early literacy – the Library encompasses the whole life spectrum of learning. Families can take advantage of rich digital and hands-on resources and programs for knowledge, innovation, and enjoyment.

Often, family learning at the Library incorporates individuals teaching and learning from one another. Do-it-together activities like makerspace programs or 3D model and design classes which allow kids to learn new skills and also demonstrate their expertise to adults.

Other great family learning opportunities include the Curiosity Pass Program, which offers free admission to museums, art galleries, and other cultural attractions, and the Gadgets & Things Collection, with items like telescopes, bird watching kits, and more.

“We hope to encourage and inspire families to be engaged in their children’s learning throughout their childhood and teen years,” says Slivken, “and to provide opportunities for parents to spend quality time with their children in constructive and meaningful ways.”

Play Time

Library time is active, not passive. So it comes as no surprise that Library programs encourage children and parents to play, discover, and

Explore Together. Playing is one of the primary ways young children learn, think, imagine, express themselves, and develop fine and gross motor skills.

Play can become an even more powerful tool for families when its combined with STREAM activities exploring science, technology, reading, engineering, art, and math. Programs like LEGO Build Club, Discovery Zone, and STEM Club are great examples of playful family activities.

Family Learning

Family members and caregivers play a vital role in helping children develop a joy for learning. By spending time learning as a family, children can see that learning is a process, and something that people do all their lives.

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The countdown to the 2020 Summer Reading Challenge begins this month, and we’re excited to share this year’s adventure: A Summer to Imagine.

In addition to new reading challenges and milestone prizes, the all-ages summer experience will feature fairy tales and fantasy stories, science and technology activities, and opportunities to create, innovate, invent, and imagine.

Get a preview of the summer fun this month during Spring Break (March 15-21) with a variety of great programs like Family Fort Day, the Imagine Yourself Series, a Play Together Series, and much more. Check the March events calendar for the full schedule, descriptions of programs, and registration requirements.

Stay tuned! Signup for the Summer Reading Challenge begins May 20. Last year, more than 11,000 people participated in the program. We hope you’ll join us this year, too.

“While knowledge defines all we currently know and understand, imagination points to all we might yet discover and create.” – Albert Einstein
**Harmony Book Group**
6:15 PM - 7:30 PM, Harmony
Adults

**Rekindle the Classics**
6:30 - 8:30 PM, Wolverine Farm Publick House, 316 Willow St.
Adults
Rekindle your love of classic literature with CSU guest lecturer and faculty. March title: One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest by Ken Kesey

**Scrabble for Everyone!**
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Council Tree
All Ages
Meet a volunteer attorney via a free video conference. First come first served.

**Noces en Familia**
5:00 - 6:00 PM, Council Tree
All Ages
Celebrate culture, traditions, and community through children’s stories, music, food, puppets, crafts, and traditional games.

**Harmony in the Round Concert Once Upon a Tune trio**
10:00 - 11:00 AM, Harmony
All Ages
This trio from Loveland performs family-friendly, spirited dance tunes and songs of Ireland and Scotland.

**Expo lo Nuestro**
10:00 AM - Noon, First Presbyterian Church
All Ages
Artists and sponsors will be on hand to connect with families. There will be art to make and take home.

**Yoga Storytime for Families**
1:00 - 1:45 PM, Old Town
Families, all ages
Enjoy movement & play-based Storytime. Yoga mats provided. Registration required.

**Animal Afternoon**
3:00 - 4:00 PM, Council Tree
Grades K-5
Join Larimer Animal People Partnership volunteers and read to friendly animals.

**Kevin Cook: Death on a Mudflat**
1:00 - 2:00 PM, Old Town
Adults
Kevin considers the possibility of entrapment and change have on global geopolitics?” Global Order.” What impact will the effects of climate change have on global geopolitics?

**Teen Book Chat**
11:00 AM - Noon, Harmony
Grades 6-12
Join Larimer County Public Libraries teen book club for a discussion on Make it Move. Build new LEGO designs and design them for movement. Inspiration and ideas provided. Participation is limited.

**LEG0 Build Club: Make it Move**
10:00 - 11:00 AM, Old Town
Grades K-5, all ages
Make it move! Levers, pulleys, axles, and spinners can put your LEGO bricks in motion. Build new LEGO designs and design them for movement. Inspiration and ideas provided. Participation is limited.

**Imagine Yourself as an Artist**
1:00 - 3:00 PM, Council Tree
Ages 5+
Bring an imaginary friend to life using recycled materials. Presented by Elizabeth Mornette, Art Education Coordinator, Museum of Art Fort Collins

**Family Fort Day**
2:00 - 4:00 PM, Harmony
Families of children in grades K-3. Registration required. Build a fort in the library! Let’s share books and create memories at this do-it-together activity. Nut-free snacks provided. Bring blankets, pillows, sheets, and/or flashlights.

**SNAP Assistance**
2:00 - 4:00 PM, Old Town
Adults
The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) can help you pay for groceries. Receive free, confidential, one on one help with applying for food stamps, or complete Redeterminations, Recertifications or Changes in Reports. We speak Spanish!

**U.S. Naturalization Study Group: 100 Questions Review**
6:00 - 8:00 PM, Old Town
Adults, Drop in
Study for the U.S. Naturalization test. Basic English proficiency and familiarity with the content preferred.

**Cook Meet Share - Be More Green: Vegan and Vegetarian**
6:30 - 7:30 PM, Council Tree
Adults
Prepare a dish from pre-selected library cookbooks, meet at the library, share your food and your story. Details at https://blog.poudrelibraries.org/cook-meet-share/

**Play Together!**
10:00 - 11:30 AM, Old Town
Preschool children and caregivers. Drop in
In this unstructured playtime is a chance to interact, read and connect. We will provide toys, books, and activities. Children are entertained by panels and family. Light snacks and drinks provided.

**Imagination-Filled, Screen-Free Game Time**
2:00 - 3:00 PM, Council Tree
All Ages, Drop in
Play board games and create take home craft with friends and family. Light snacks and drinks provided.

**BOOKCLUB**
6:30 - 8:00 PM, Old Town
Adults
Meet to discuss "The Executioner’s Song" by Norman Mailer.

**LONG TERM CARE PLANNING-MONEY MATTERS SERIES**
6:00 - 7:00 PM, Harmony
Adults
Learn about long term care and strategies to manage a crisis.

**Now Showing! The Tale of Despereaux**
10:00 - 11:00 AM, Harmony
Kids and families
A Spring Break matinee. A tiny mouse tries to rescue a prince. Rated G. Popcorn will be served. Seating is limited.

**Job Search Strategies**
5:30 - 7:30 PM, Harmony
Adults
Learn about Northern Colorado’s job market and the best practices for job searching.

**Poudre River Friends of the Library Used Book Sale**
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Harmony
Stop by to browse books and find that special title to read. Proceeds benefit the library.

**Long-term Care Planning-Money Matters Series**
6:00 - 7:00 PM, Harmony
Adults
Learn about long term care and strategies to manage a crisis.

It’s Child’s Play (and Learning) in the Library

One of the joys you’ll find at the libraries is lively children’s areas. The spaces are filled with books (of course), play areas, storytime rooms, educational technology, and more. In fact, each library’s children’s section is uniquely designed for families (caregivers) to spend time learning and playing together.

“Active play is the key to learning,” says Karla Cribari, new Children’s Librarian at Old Town Library. “Play not only builds motor skills, but also strengthens children’s mental and emotional muscles as they explore and discover new things.”

**STREAM Interactive Walls**
With different knobs, levers, and surfaces, the interactive walls are covered with fun play-and-learn activities. Children are entertained by panels filled with colorful letters, numbers, and shapes, and they delight in exploring new things.

**Digital iPads for Kids**
Apps like Doodle Math and Letter School can be great educational tools to extend learning opportunities for children. And they are fun!

The iPads are set up so that kids and adults can explore together, allowing parents and caregiver to guide children through the technology.

The apps on library iPads for kids are evaluated for use in a library setting. We do not use apps that require an internet connection or ask for registration information. We also encourage apps that are also age-appropriate apps on iPads for tweens.

**Computers for Kids**
The computers are set up for children and adults to use together. Families play an active role in guiding and monitoring children’s use of digital media. By using technologies together, the educational value of the experience increases.

**Imaginative Play Toys**
Throughout the Children’s areas at the libraries, tuckers, puzzles, toys, and storytime rooms, you’ll find toys and activities that spark imagination. There are kitchen sets and workbenches, puppets, puzzles, do-it-together activity tables, and so much more. Be sure to visit all three spaces to discover fresh fun for kids and adults alike.

**KEY**
All Ages Adults Teens/Teens Kids Storytimes
**Poudre River Public Library District**
www.poudrelibraries.org  
(970) 221-6740

### Tech & Computer Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 3</strong></td>
<td>1:30 - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Old Town</td>
<td>Excel Dics is a popular browser-based word processing tool that allows you to create, edit, and share documents online, and access them from any computer with an Internet connection. Get started with this easy-to-use alternative to Microsoft Word.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 4</strong></td>
<td>5:00 - 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Old Town</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 5</strong></td>
<td>5:00 - 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Old Town</td>
<td>Our tech-savvy volunteers will answer questions about how your device works and help troubleshoot problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 6</strong></td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Harmony</td>
<td>Learn the fundamental tools for navigating and editing spreadsheets in Microsoft Excel! In Excel 101, we will explore the powerful features of the Excel environment and learn the best ways to use the program effectively.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 7</strong></td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Harmony</td>
<td>Learn the basics covered in Excel 101, Excel 201 adds further fundamental productivity tools to the Microsoft Excel program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 8</strong></td>
<td>1:30 - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Old Town</td>
<td>Learn how to create a basic PowerPoint presentation. This class covers: outlines, formatting, manipulating text, and tips for creating an effective/ attractive presentation. Computer Comfort class is strongly recommended before taking this class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 9</strong></td>
<td>6:30 - 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Harmony</td>
<td>We will build the basics of drag and drop, coding and explore computer programming.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 10</strong></td>
<td>7:00 - 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Council Tree</td>
<td>BYOD - How to Manage Your Device</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 11</strong></td>
<td>1:30 - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Old Town</td>
<td>Powerpoint Basics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Books

- **Adults**
  - **March 3**
    - 6:30 - 7:30 PM, Monday, March 16, Council Tree
      - Cook Meet Share: Be More Green: Vegan & Vegetarian
    - **March 4**
      - 6:30 - 7:30 PM, Monday, March 16, Council Tree
      - Cook Meet Share: Be More Green: Vegan & Vegetarian
  - **March 6**
    - 6:30 - 7:30 PM, Monday, March 16, Council Tree
    - Cook Meet Share: Be More Green: Vegan & Vegetarian
  - **March 9**
    - 6:30 - 7:30 PM, Monday, March 16, Council Tree
    - Cook Meet Share: Be More Green: Vegan & Vegetarian
  - **March 10**
    - 6:30 - 7:30 PM, Monday, March 16, Council Tree
    - Cook Meet Share: Be More Green: Vegan & Vegetarian
  - **March 11**
    - 6:30 - 7:30 PM, Monday, March 16, Council Tree
    - Cook Meet Share: Be More Green: Vegan & Vegetarian

### Memoir

- **March 3**
  - TaraShea Nesbit will speak about her newest novel, Behold. Ten years after the Mayflower pilgrims arrived on rocky, unfamiliar soil, Plymouth is not the land its residents had imagined. Book sales and signing to follow from Old Firehouse Books.

### Lecture

- **March 4**
  - TaraShea Nesbit will speak about her newest novel, Behold. Ten years after the Mayflower pilgrims arrived on rocky, unfamiliar soil, Plymouth is not the land its residents had imagined. Book sales and signing to follow from Old Firehouse Books.

### Powerpoint Basics

- **March 7**
  - 6:30 - 8:00 PM, Harmony

### BYOD - How to Manage Your Device

- **March 9**
  - 7:00 - 8:00 PM, Council Tree

### Powerpoint Basics

- **March 9**
  - 1:30 - 3:30 PM, Old Town

### Event Calendar

- **March 2**
  - **Adults**
  - **March 3**
  - **March 4**
  - **March 5**
  - **March 6**
  - **March 7**
  - **March 8**
  - **March 9**
  - **March 10**
  - **March 11**

### More Events

- **March 2**
  - **Adults**
  - **March 3**
  - **March 4**
  - **March 5**
  - **March 6**
  - **March 7**
  - **March 8**
  - **March 9**
  - **March 10**
  - **March 11**

### Tech & Computer Classes

- **March 3**
  - **Adults**
  - **March 4**
  - **March 5**
  - **March 6**
  - **March 7**
  - **March 8**
  - **March 9**
  - **March 10**
  - **March 11**

### Books

- **March 3**
  - **Adults**
  - **March 4**
  - **March 5**
  - **March 6**
  - **March 7**
  - **March 8**
  - **March 9**
  - **March 10**
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### Lecture

- **March 3**
  - **Adults**
  - **March 4**
  - **March 5**
  - **March 6**
  - **March 7**
  - **March 8**
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### Powerpoint Basics

- **March 7**
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  - **Adults**

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  - **Adults**

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  - **March 8**
  - **March 9**
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  - **Adults**
  - **March 3**
  - **March 4**
  - **March 5**
  - **March 6**
  - **March 7**
  - **March 8**
  - **March 9**
  - **March 10**
  - **March 11**
Family Fort Day
2:00 - 4:00 PM, Monday, March 16, Harmony
Build a fort in the library! Let’s share books and create memories at this do-it-together activity. We’ll provide great books and nut-free snacks. Please bring your own blankets, pillows, sheets, and/or flashlights. The library will provide a few extras just in case. Registration is required. For families with children in grades K-3.

Council Tree Spring Break
Imagine Yourself as an Artist
1:00 - 3:00 PM, Monday, March 16
Bring an imaginary friend to life using recycled materials. Led by Elizabeth Morissette, Art Education Coordinator from the Museum of Art Fort Collins. Ages 2-12 and up.

Imagine Yourself as a Musician
1:00 - 2:00 PM, Wednesday, March 18
Grades 2-12 and their families. Enjoy an interactive performance with singer/songwriter/musician, Heather Stenner. She will jump in to the basics of songwriting and reading music.

Imagine Yourself as an Illustrator
11:00 AM - Noon, Friday, March 20
Create your own characters event! Local artist Heather Stenner. She will jump in to the basics of song writing and reading music. Ages 2-12 and their families. Enjoy an interactive performance with singer/songwriter/musician, Heather Stenner. She will jump in to the basics of songwriting and reading music.

Imagery Filled, Screen Free, Game Time
Noon - 2:00 PM, Tuesday, March 17
Play board games and create a take home craft with friends and family. Drop in. Snacks and drinks provided.

Sing and Play Together!
Wednesday, March 18
Come play! Interact, read and connect with toys, books, and activities.

Read, Write and Play Together!
Friday, March 20
Come read, write and play! Interact, read, write and connect with toys, books, writing/art supplies, and activities.

Ozobots
2:00 - 3:30 PM, Monday, March 2, Harmony
Grades 3-5. Explore coding basics with the tiny but oh-so smart Ozobot. Registration required.

Now Showing! The Tale of Despereaux
10:00 - 11:30 AM, Thursday, March 19, Harmony
For kids and their families. A tiny mouse tries to rescue a kidnapped princess in this animated fairy tale. Rated G.

Popcorn will be served. Seating is limited.

Drop In Activities at Old Town Library
10:00 - 11:30 AM, Old Town
These events geared toward preschool children. Caregivers must supervise children at all times.

Play Together!
Tuesday, March 17
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Play board games and create a take home craft with friends and family. Drop in. Snacks and drinks provided.

Sing and Play Together!
Wednesday, March 18
Come play! Interact, sing, read, make music and connect with toys, books, musical instruments, and activities.

Read, Write and Play Together!
Friday, March 20
Come read, write and play! Interact, read, write and connect with toys, books, writing/art supplies, and activities.

Anime Club
Please note new times in March.
6:30 - 8:00 PM, Monday, March 2, Old Town
Grades 4-12
4:30 - 6:00 PM, Tuesday, March 10, Council Tree, Grades 6-12
4:30 - 6:00 PM, Tuesday, March 24, Harmony, Grades 6-12
Teens gather together after school to watch anime favorites, chat about manga, and munch on yummy snacks!

Conversation and Croissants
10:30 AM - Noon, Saturday, March 7, Old Town
Grades 9-12. Teens talk about... life. Gather every other month to discuss hot topics and current events of their choosing. Registration encouraged, but not required. And, yes, there will be croissants!

Prewalkers Birth-12 months
Walkers Ages 12-24 months
Prewalkers Ages 18-36 months
Walkers Ages 18-36 months

Monday, March 15-21

PEEK-A-BOO
Monday, March 15-21

Toddler
Ages 2-3 years
Monday, March 15-21

Preschool
Ages 2-3 years
Monday, March 15-21

ALL AGES
Monday, March 15-21

Rincón de Cuentos
Monday, March 15-21

STORYTIME GUIDELINES
• All storytimes are free and open to the public. No registration is required.
• Storytimes start promptly. Allow extra time for parking and getting your child’s name tag.
• Refrain from bringing food and beverages into storytimes.
• Group attendance at storytimes is restricted.
• If children in your care become disruptive, please remove them until they are comfortable and ready to listen.

Register for Books Build Boys
4:30 - 8:00 PM, Friday, April 17, Council Tree
Boys in grades 4 and 5, along with dad or a male mentor are invited to read and discuss “In The Footsteps of Crazy Horse” by James Marshall III. Once registered, boy-adult pairs may pick up one complimentary copy of the book at Council Tree Library. Registration is currently open.

Interactive Movie: “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone”
2:00 - 4:30 PM, Friday, March 20, Council Tree
An interactive movie experience for tweens and teens in grades 4-12. Bring your friends, yell at the screen, and do silly stuff with the movie! Registration required.

 Harmony in the Round Concert: Once Upon a Tune
7:00 - 8:30 PM, Friday, March 6, Harmony, Round
This trio features fiddle, guitar, bodhran (Irish handheld drum), and the occasional injection of low whistle and vocals. This trio from Loveland performs the moving, spirited dance tunes and songs of Ireland and Scotland - all family friendly.

Kessel Runners Training Group
Saturday mornings in March and April
Strap on your shoes, gather your friends, and register for the Kessel Runners social running group! No matter your age or ability, they’ll take you from the couch to light speed just in time for the Kessel Run on Monday, May 4. All ages and abilities. $30 registration fee covers all costs. Visit the Fort Collins Comic Con’s website: https://foccomiccon.com/kesselrunners.