

Holdrege Area Public Library

UNEARTH A STORY™



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Summer Programs 2026

Registration Opens May 19th

SUMMER PROGRAM

KICKOFF NIGHT!

MAY 18th
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

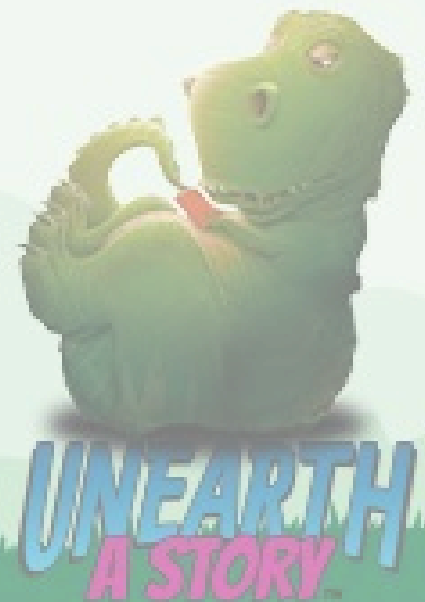
*All Ages
Welcome!*

Kick off your summer by unearthing a story at our prehistoric-themed kickoff event! Inspired by this year's theme, Unearth a Story, we're digging into hands-on fun for all ages. Join us inside the library for interactive booths hosted by the Friends of the Library, Nebraska Prairie Museum, Phelps County 4-H Extension Office, and the YMCA.

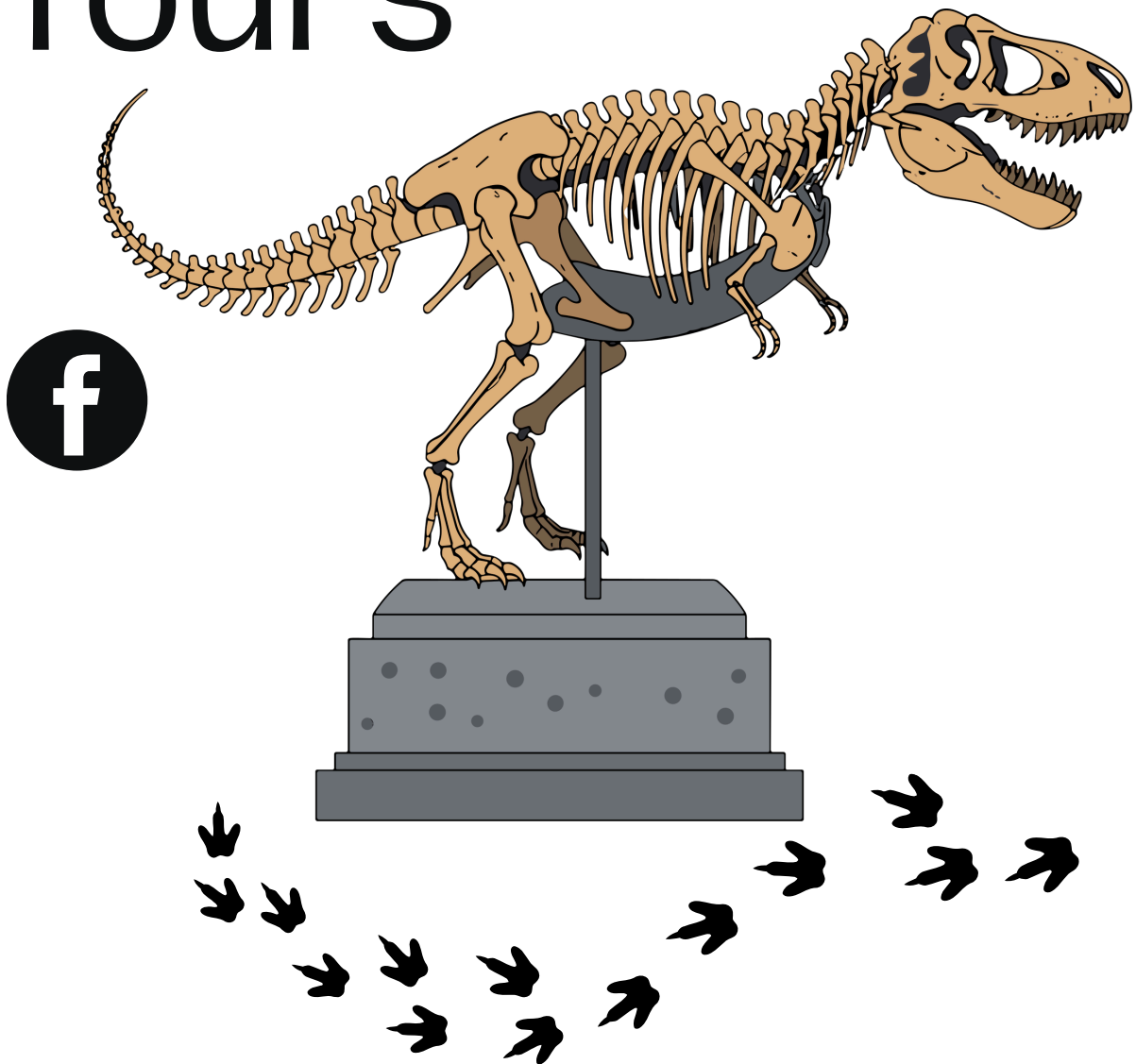
Then head outside for prehistoric adventures, create erupting volcanoes, explore a paleontological dig site, and uncover exciting discoveries along the way!

After all the fun, head inside to sign up for our full Summer Library Program lineup for kids, teens, and adults.

**Let's dig into a summer full of stories,
discovery, and adventure!**



Virtual Tours



Join us this summer on Facebook to unearth stories through virtual museum tours and resources. Explore dinosaur exhibits, discover prehistoric life, and dig into the past—all from the comfort of home!

Summer Reading Program

~ Keep an eye out for other incentives throughout the program as well! ~

Pre-K & K-4th Grade

Summer Program Kickoff Night
May 18th

Sign Up Incentives for
Pre-K & K-4th Graders!

Summer Reading Log
Completion by July 26th
Completion Prizes and More!

Special prize for Pre-School through 12
years old: Nebraska State Fair packet
includes free admission,
vendor coupons, and more!

Distribution begins August 1st.

Teens 5th-12th Grade

Summer Program Kickoff Night
May 18th

Sign Up Incentives for
the first 25 Teens!

Completed Extra Fun Sheets
Due by July 26th
Pick something from the prize basket!

Summer Reading Log
Completion by July 26th
Completion prize and name put into a
Grand Prize Drawing!

Adults

Summer Program Kickoff Night
May 18th

Sign Up Incentives for
the first 25 Adults!

Book Bingo Sheets by July 26th
Pick something from the prize basket!

Summer Reading Log
Completion by July 26th
Completion prize and name put into a
Grand Prize Drawing!

Reader Zone

Track your reading with our app
or
use the reading log sheet to
track your progress!



Our Summer Reading Program
Code: 8582a

Programs for All Ages

June 1 - August 1 Unearth Your Story

Share memories, document everyday life, and preserve local history through storytelling, journaling, and creative activities.

Participants will check out journals to write, draw, and reflect in, then return them to be part of a shared community collection.

Together, you can capture the past and present while creating a time capsule for the future.



June 20

Adopt a Dino

Participants can choose and “adopt” their very own squishy dinosaur! Each adopter will get to name their dino, create a mini adoption certificate, and learn a few fun dino facts along the way. It’s a great way to spark imagination and take home a prehistoric friend!



July 22

5:00 pm

Airworks and Newspaper Towers Edgerton Explorit Center

A fast-paced, hands-on program that digs into how air pressure and airflow power real tools used in construction and technical careers.

Participants will uncover the science through interactive demonstrations—including a ping-pong ball cannon finale—then take on a team challenge to build the tallest free-standing tower using only newspaper and tape. A fun, high-energy experience blending engineering, creativity, and discovery for all ages!

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
STATE MUSEUM
Morrill Hall

July 28

1:00 pm

LIFE IN THE PAST LANE

Presented by the University of Nebraska State Museum, this program offers the chance to meet the State’s Highway Paleontologist and explore how fossils threatened by highway construction are uncovered and preserved through a partnership with the Nebraska Department of Transportation. Discover Ice Age fossils and prehistoric life found right here in Nebraska, and how these discoveries shape our understanding of the past.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Preschool Story Programs

Dinos, Gardens, and Digging Into Books!

Alphabet Soup

10:30 a.m. 3-5 yr olds

- Stories, Songs & Special Activities -

June 3, June 10, June 17, June 24
July 1, July 8

Stay & Play

10:30 a.m. 2-3 yr olds

- Stories, Songs & Play Time -

June 4, June 11, June 18, June 25
July 2, July 9



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K - 4th Grade

Kids Klub

~ Mondays 1:30 pm ~

Discovery Activities, Crafts & More

June 1: Hosted by Library Staff

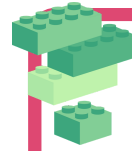
June 8: Hosted by Library Staff

June 15: Phelps County 4-H Extension Program

June 22: Hosted by Library Staff

June 29: Phelps County 4-H Extension Program

July 13: Hosted by Library Staff



Lego Club

10:00 - 11:45 am

June 13: Lego Dinosaurs

July 11: Lego Volcano
Science Experiment

Kids Zone Makerspace

STEAM Building & Tinker Tray
Invention Passive Projects

Project Launch Dates

June 9, June 23, July 7



Special K-4th Grade Programs

June 5 ~ 10:30 am: Unearthing a Story: A Musical Dino Adventure

Aaron Fowler is a musician, educator & songwriter. Enjoy lively songs, imaginative tales & movement filled activities.

June 24 ~ 1:00 pm: Stomp, Chomp, Roar

Presents "The Tale of America's Greatest Dinosaur: Phineas the Baby T-Rex". Join Dinosaur Ranger Anthony as he teaches all about fossils, paleontology & dinosaurs in a fun, interactive show!

July 6 ~ 1:00 pm: Crane River Theatre Page to Stage - FROZEN

Join Anna, Elsa, Olaf, Kristoff & all your favorite characters as they read, perform & interact with the audience!

PASSIVE PROGRAMS + GRAB & GO PROJECTS :: STARTING JUNE 1ST ::

Teens 5th - 12th Grade



June 12

3:00 pm

Teen Science Cafe Build-a-Dino Challenge

Teens get creative as they design and build their own dinosaurs using a variety of hands-on supplies. This interactive program encourages imagination, problem-solving, and teamwork in a fun, hands-on science experience where each participant brings their unique dinosaur creation to life.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



July 10

3:00 pm

Unearth the Dinosaurs

Invites teens to bring prehistoric creatures to life by transforming a dinosaur skeleton base into a lifelike creation using a variety of creative supplies. Participants will use imagination and design skills to build and customize their own unique dinosaurs to take home.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



June 15

4:00 pm

Cricut Craft Lab

Learn the basics of using a Cricut machine to create simple designs and explore digital crafting. You will also have access to pre-cut vinyl designs to mix, match, and personalize your own tote bag.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
STATE MUSEUM
Morrill Hall

Dino Discovery Series

June 24, July 8, July 29

3:00 pm

Explore the fascinating world of dinosaurs through hands-on learning and interactive activities. Each program focuses on a different topic: Dinosaur & Ancient Teeth, Dinosaur Clues and Traces, and Dinosaur Diversity. Teens will uncover how scientists study fossils, track ancient life, and understand the variety of dinosaurs that once roamed the Earth.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Adults



Stories Served Series

June 8 & July 13

6:00 pm

Share personal recipes and the stories behind them as part of this year's Unearth a Story theme. Participants may submit recipes throughout the summer to be included in a community cookbook and are also invited to attend one of two special library gatherings to share a recipe and connect with others. Together, we'll celebrate food, memory, and tradition while preserving the stories that bring our community to the table.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



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June 17

6:00 pm

Cricut Craft

Learn the basics of using a Cricut machine to create simple designs and explore digital crafting. You will also have access to pre-cut vinyl designs to mix, match, and personalize your own tote bag.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



Murder Mystery

June 22 & July 20

6:00 pm

Death in the Desert

Murder mystery set in 1932 on a remote Egyptian excavation site near Mount Sinai. When archaeologist Professor Dough Upmore leads an expedition to uncover a long-lost pharaoh's tomb, the team accidentally breaks an ancient seal—sparking fear, superstition, and a mysterious illness among the group. Soon after, the professor and another team member are found dead under suspicious circumstances. As paranoia spreads, participants must uncover whether an ancient curse is to blame or if something far more human—and sinister—is at play.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Sponsors



BRUNING
BANK





Enjoy a range of virtual talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders!

Explore & Sign-Up Here:
<https://libraryc.org/holdregelibrary>



 Smithsonian

Wednesday, June 3rd 2026 at 1:00 PM CDT

Your Ticket to the Best State Fair Crafts with Smithsonian Curator Mary Savig | A Library Speakers Consortium and Smithsonian Institution Collaboration



Thursday, June 11th 2026 at 6:00 PM CDT

Apocalyptic Mayhem, Lava-Spitting Llamas, and One Very Sassy Cat: Surviving the Universe's Most Twisted RPG with Matt Dinniman | New York Times Bestselling Author and Literary Dungeon Master



Thursday, June 18th 2026 at 1:00 PM CDT

Nurturing Future Generations: Stories from the Heart of Grandfatherhood with Ted Page | Author, Creative Entrepreneur, and Grandpa



Tuesday, June 23rd 2026 at 1:00 PM CDT

Simple, Sustainable, and Powerfully Delicious Meals with Sana Javeri Kadri and Asha Loupy | Kadri, CEO & Founder of Diaspora Spice Co. and Loupy, Renowned Food and Recipe Writer

