

FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

118 Main Street, Franklin MA 02038

508-520-4941

January 2018

<http://www.franklinma.gov/franklin-public-library>

News & Events for January 2018



Ben Franklin's Autobiography Readathon

In honor of the 312th birthday of Benjamin Franklin, the namesake of our town and founder of our library, the Franklin Public Library will be holding a "readathon" – a marathon reading of the full text of the Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, first published in 1791. The book is considered a classic of American literature. According to the Library of Congress, "It was not only the first autobiography to achieve widespread popularity, but after two hundred years remains one of the most enduringly popular examples of the genre ever written."

Like other readathons, this one invites the public to participate! Readers are encouraged to sign up in advance for 15-minute segments. Commencing when the library opens at 9 AM on January 17, readers will share the words of Ben Franklin with anyone interested in dropping by for all or part of the event. It is expected that the reading will be completed by the time the library closes at 8 PM. Water and other refreshments will be available for readers and audience alike.

More about the Autobiography:

Written intermittently over the years by Franklin, the Autobiography does not cover every part of Franklin's life in equal depth. Indeed, the last section, completed just before his death, when his health was failing, is very brief. Nonetheless, the character and ideas of one of the most fascinating Americans in all of history shows through – including details about his childhood in Boston.

Franklin's interests and accomplishments were astonishing in their breadth and quality and include:

- Diplomacy critical to the American cause during the Revolution
- Discovery of electrical nature of lightning and proposal of concept of positive and negative charges
- Invented bifocal glasses
- Newspaper publisher
- Influential author and commentator
- Pioneer in creating postal systems and first postmaster of the US
- Named and charted the Gulf Stream
- Created musical instrument, the glass harmonica, for which Mozart later composed
- Signer of Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

Although the residents of the new Town of Franklin requested a bell for their meeting house from Benjamin Franklin, who was not only multi-talented but also quite wealthy, he instead chose to send the citizens 116 books, which became the nucleus of the Franklin Public Library, the first public lending library in the United States.

January Library Hours

The Franklin Public Library will be closed Sunday, December 31 for New Year's Eve and Monday, January 1 for New Year's Day, and Sunday, January 14 and Monday, January 15 for Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The Library's regular hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



January Programs

Children's Programs

Mondays

Move Along. 10:30 a.m. For ages 0 – 5 years

This thirty minute program features music, movement, stories, instruments, and other interactive activities to encourage social skills and promote early literacy! Parents and caregivers are welcome and encouraged to participate. No registration is required.

Toddler Playgroup. 11:00 a.m.

Take a break and enjoy some playtime at this informal morning playgroup. The library will provide toys, music, and books for children who are accompanied by an adult. Connect with other parents and let little ones interact with one another. No registration is required.

Monday Crafternoons. 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Join us in the Children's Room every Monday afternoon for a drop-in craft session! Be sure to bring your creativity!

Tuesdays

Get Ready for Kindergarten. 10:30 a.m. For ages 3 – 5.

This 45 minute program featuring stories, songs, activities, and crafts will help prepare your children for preschool and kindergarten. Parents and caregivers can attend with their child if they wish. No registration is required.

Toddler Playgroup. 11:15 a.m.

Take a break and enjoy some playtime at this informal morning playgroup. The library will provide toys, music, and books for children who are accompanied by an adult. Connect with other parents and let little ones interact with one another. No registration is required.

Wednesdays

Terrific Toddlers. 10:30 a.m. For ages 18 months to 3 years.

Enjoy thirty minutes of interactive stories, songs, and activities for families and children from birth to age 3. No registration is required.

Toddler Playgroup. 11:00 a.m.

Take a break and enjoy some playtime at this informal morning playgroup. The library will provide toys, music, and books for children who are accompanied by an adult. Connect with other parents and let little ones interact with one another. No registration is required.

Construction Junction. 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Every Wednesday afternoon we'll hang out and build all sorts of things using all our favorite building toys from Legos to Lincoln Logs!

Thursdays

Baby Tummy Time! 9:30 a.m. (For pre-walkers ages 0-18 months)

Babies and caregivers: join us each Thursday morning for Tummy

Time! Nurture your baby's development with gentle music, movement, and sensory play at the library! Please bring a small blanket or towel for your baby's comfort!

Story and Craft. 10:30 a.m. For ages 3–6 years of age.

Stories, activities, and a craft for children ages 3, 4, 5, and 6 who are able to attend "on their own." This program lasts around 45 minutes. No registration is required.

Toddler Playgroup. 11:15 a.m.

Take a break and enjoy some playtime at this informal morning playgroup. The library will provide toys, music, and books for children who are accompanied by an adult. Connect with other parents and let little ones interact with one another. No registration is required.

Special Programs

Discovery Workshop: Hunks, Chunks, and Flying Objects! Thursday, January 11th, 3:30-4:40 p.m.

Kids K-4th grade! Join our special guest Ms. Marsha for an hour of exploring! Have you ever seen a falling star? What happens when it hits the ground? Come and learn about falling stars, meteors and other flying objects! Bring your curiosity!

Family Yoga Adventure! Saturday, January 13th, 9:30 a.m.

Put on some comfy clothes, grab the whole family and your yoga mats and join us in the program room for our FIRST Family Yoga Adventure! We'll follow along with a fabulous story, doing different moves to keep the story going!

Baby Sensory! Saturday, January 13th, 10:30 a.m.

Join us for a 45 minute baby sensory program! Watch your little one interact and engage with a variety of sensory items! Sensory play is a fantastic way to help babies explore their worlds, stimulate the senses, and create little inquisitive explorers! Babies under 2 are welcome and encouraged! (Got older siblings? They can bring along a stuffed toy or baby and play along!)

Preschool Play Play N' Learn! Wednesday January 17th, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Play N' Learn is a monthly theme based group for parents and children, facilitated by Ms Marsha Wright, CFCE Parent Child Educational Specialist! Winter is the Warmest Season! We will sing, read, play, and learn about all things winter. We will paint with ice, make a tasty treat, and even make some snow dough!

Book Bites, Third Wednesday of the Month, January 17th, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Are you between the ages of 8-11? Do you love to read AND eat? Join us on the third Wednesday of each month for snacks and a casual conversation about your favorite reads! Share what books



Programs Continued...

you're loving lately, and get great book recommendations from others! This is a low key (and delicious) way to find your next favorite book or series!

Doggie Tales. Third Wednesday of the Month, Wednesday, January 17, 6:30 p.m.

Improve your reading skills and make a new friend by reading aloud to a therapy dog! Bring your favorite book or pick out one of ours to read. The dogs and their handlers are from *Pawsitive Touch* and are trained for one-on-one sessions. *For students in grades 2 and up.*

Parent Discussion Group, Wednesday, January 24, 7:00 p.m.

Parents and caregivers of children of any age are welcome to join in on a series of engaging conversations centered on different topics that today's parents and kids face. This group is designed for grownups only, to share concerns, ideas, and come together over shared interest in raising vibrant, kind, successful kids! This month's topic: Raising thoughtful givers and grateful receivers around the holidays!

Book Character Costume Party! Saturday, January 27, 10:30 a.m.

Let's celebrate our favorite books by dressing up like our favorite characters! Enjoy an epic costume party, with literary snacks and games, and a grand costume parade through the library! See you there!

Teen Programs

YA Dystopian Book Club, January 3rd, 6:30

Teens under 18, join us on the first Wednesday of the month to discuss a different YA Dystopian novel! This month's pick is *The Testing* by Joelle Charbonneau! Pick up a copy at the Youth Services reference desk!

Teen Advisory Board, January 10th, 6:30 p.m.

It's back! Join us on the 2nd Wednesday of each month for Teen Advisory Board! The Teen Advisory Board is a GREAT opportunity to get involved here at the library! You'll help plan events and programs, create displays and decorate the teen space, and help drive decisions around the kinds of materials we bring to the YA collection, from books and beyond, all while eating snacks and getting volunteer hours! It's a win-win-win!

Mid-Year Stress Relief Event! Wednesday January 17th, 7:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. (MUST ARRIVE BEFORE 8:00)

Mid-terms got you down? Teens between 13-18 are invited to our after-hours stress relief party! We'll have therapy dogs to pet, board games, and an epic game of hide and seek! ATTENDEES MUST ARRIVE BEFORE 8:00 p.m.

Adult Programs

Guided Meditation Group for Stress Reduction

Tuesday Evenings, January 9, 16, 23, 30, 7:00 p.m.

Led by instructor Suzi Purcell, this group will meet 1 hour per week for 4 weeks to learn and practice stress reduction techniques. We will begin with brief instruction related to mind/body stress techniques followed by

breathwork and then a guided meditation. We will conclude with a brief reflection.

With practice, participants will learn to bring mindful attention and kind hearted awareness into all aspects of life, creating a greater sense of peace and an improved ability to better manage stress; responding, rather than reacting to daily stress.

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Knitting Group, Fridays starting January 12, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Love to knit or crochet? Join our new group of fiber artists who will be meeting in the Friends of the Franklin Community Room on Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Genealogy Club Meeting

Thursday, January 25, 6:30 p.m.

Harness the power of the web for genealogy! Learn how to use a website or blog not just to share what you know but to attract distant cousins who are willing to share. In this presentation, we'll talk about blogs and websites and how you can use them to create a two-way highway of genealogy information.

Chess Group, Sundays January 7 & 28, 2:00 p.m.

Test your skills and improve your knowledge of the game!

Library Book Sale - Buck A Book!

Saturday, January 20 from 9 – 3.

Bag Sale - \$5 A Bag—Sunday, January 21, from 9-12. Come fill a brown bag with all the books you can!

January 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Closed for New Year's Day	Get Ready for Kindergarten 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15	Terrific Toddlers 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:00 Construction Junction 4:00 YA Dystopian Book Club 6:30	Baby Tummy Time 9:30 Story & Craft 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Chess Group 2:00	Move Along 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:00 Monday Crafternoon 3:00-5:00	Get Ready for Kindergarten 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15 Guided Meditation for Stress 7:00	Terrific Toddlers 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:00 Construction Junction 4:00 Teen Advisory Board 6:30	Baby Tummy Time 9:30 Story & Craft 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15 Discovery Work- shop! 3:30	Knitting Group 10:00-12:00	Family Yoga Adventure 9:30 Baby Sensory 10:30
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Closed	Closed for Mar- tin Luther King Day	Get Ready for Kindergarten 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15 Guided Meditation for Stress 7:00	Ben Franklin Autobiography Readathon 9:00-8:00 Terrific Toddlers 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:00 Preschool Play N' Learn 1:30 Construction Junction 4:00 Book Bites 5:00 Doggie Tales 6:30 Mid Year Stress Relief 7:30-11	Baby Tummy Time 9:30 Story & Craft 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15	Knitting Group 10:00-12:00	Book Sale 9-3
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Bag Sale 9-12	Move Along 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:00 Monday Crafternoon 3:00-5:00	Get Ready for Kindergarten 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15 Guided Meditation for Stress 7:00	Terrific Toddlers 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:00 Construction Junction 4:00 Parent Discussion Group 7:00	Baby Tummy Time 9:30 Story & Craft 10:30 Toddler Playgroup 11:15 Genealogy Club Meeting 6:30	Knitting Group 10:00-12:00	Book Character Costume Party 10:30
28	29	30	31			
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