

Blaisdell Memorial Library

Hours:

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10am - 5pm

Wednesday: 10am - 8pm

Thursday: 10am - 8pm

Friday: 10am - 2pm

Saturday: 10am - 2pm

We are closed for some holiday weekends.

Spring Has Arrived

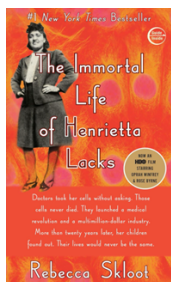
The trees bud, the flowers bloom, and BML programming resumes!

Our new month begins with a final bit of April Vacation fun before settling back into our regular programming. Events might be quiet in the rest of May but we've still got plenty of reasons to come by the library!

*Please note that the library will be closed on **Saturday, May 26th** in observance of Memorial Day Weekend. Please reserve and pick up any museum passes in advance!*

Full calendars for the month are now available online and in the library.

Book Groups



Afternoon Book Group:

Thursday, June 5th -- 1:30pm

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
by Rebecca Skloot



Evening Book Group:

Wednesday, May 28th -- 6:30pm

A Little Less Broken
by Marian Schembari

Children's Programs

The next children's programming session will begin on **May 6th** and run for six weeks until **June 14th**. This will be our final regular programming session before we enter into Summer Reading, with the session after beginning in September.

Story hours are drop-in and open to all ages: Lap-sit and pre-school age children are both welcome. Sign-ups are required for STEAM and Lego + Club.

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- **Story Hour with Miss Julie and Miss Robin:** *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays -- 10am*
 - **STEAM Club (Grades 3 - 6):** *Tuesdays -- 3pm*
 - **LEGO+ Club (Grades K - 2):** *Thursdays -- 3pm*
 - **Weekend Story Hour:** *Every 2nd Saturday, May 10th -- 10am*

Youth Programs

- **Middle School Club (Grades 6 - 8):** *Wednesdays -- 3pm*

The Middle School Club is for library-loving kids to get together in the library after school to try out crafts, creative writing and games! Perfect for preteens who're hitting middle school and want to have some fun when class is done!

*The Middle School Club is part of our regular programming sessions. For more information about the current programming dates, see **Children's Programs**.*

- **BYG:** *Wednesday, May 7th & May 21st -- 6pm*

The BYG (*Blaisdell Youth Group*) is a club for teens in middle and early high school to get together, make friends, discuss books, and participate in fun activities, including gaming, book clubs, crafts, and more! New members are always welcome and no registration is required--you can drop in at any time or even bring a friend.

Meetings alternate between regular sessions and tabletop game sessions.

Regular Adult Programming

- **Game n' Gab:** *Tuesday, May 6th & Tuesday June 3rd-- 1pm*

Join us for games, chat, snacks, and friendly competition while relaxing in the library.

- **Community Coffee Hour:** *Every Wednesday -- 10am*

Join us every Wednesday morning for bite-sized discussions with free coffee and snacks. Each week comes with a short presentation from members of the Nottingham and NH community about all kinds of topics! Want to present? Reach out to the library staff about a subject and date!

Upcoming Coffee Hour Topics:

- **May 7:** Bedrock Gardens with Peggy Tucker
 - **May 14:** Why Dwarves use Axes and Elves use Bows with Alex Conroy
 - **May 21 @ Parks & Rec:** The Poor Vendues and Indentured of Nottingham with Tina Cooke
 - **May 28:** The Libraries Transforming Communities Grant and Future Projects with BML Staff
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- **Mah-jongg Club:** *Every Wednesday -- 11:30am*

Mah-jongg is a Chinese game of collecting tiles and gaining points played with four people, similar to the card game Rummy! Whether you're a beginner interested in learning the rules or an intermediate player looking for new friends, all are welcome to BML's weekly Mah-jongg club gathering.

- **Homeschool Meetup:** *Wednesday, May 21st -- 1pm*

Calling all homeschool families! Come join your fellow homeschoolers at BML to socialize, discuss, and explore the library and what it can offer in this new monthly meetup! This is a family-friendly group, so parents and children of all age are welcome to attend. Meetups are drop-in; no registration required.

Library Events

- **Turtles of NH Talk:** *Saturday, May 3rd -- 11am*

A patron favorite returns to BML! Join local wildlife rehabilitators Dallas and Drew of [New Hampshire Turtle Rescue](#) to learn more about our native species, meet a special turtle guest, and learn how we can be good neighbors to them. This program is drop-in, with no sign-ups required.

Museum Pass Highlight

Every month through spring and summer, BML is showcasing somewhere you can visit with a [library museum pass](#)! This month's highlight is the [Aviation Museum of New Hampshire](#) in Londonderry, NH. Offering free admission for up to 4 people, it makes for an unique adventure for the whole family!

The Aviation Museum is particularly great for kids who have an interest in planes, offering **hands-on learning** for younger kids every Friday until 4pm and a **special flight simulation** for those 13 and up every Saturday between 1pm and 4pm. Of course, any time you can drop by to learn all about the history of aviation and watch planes land and take off in person!

Upcoming at the Library

The annual **Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale** is nearly upon us! Donations will be open from May 12th through May 15th and the Book Sale itself will run from 16th to the 18th. All proceeds go to the Friends and their mission to help support and improve the library. For more information, follow the [Friends on Facebook](#) and keep an eye on your inbox for details to come.

Blaisdell Memorial Library is also excited to announce that we have been awarded a \$10,000 **Library Transforming Communities (LTC)** grant! This funding will be used to replacing the aging emergency ramp on the side of the building, helping us improve accessibility and safety for all of our patrons.

As part of the grant guidelines, we're inviting all members of the community to join us in a public discussion about the project. Your input is valuable and we'd like to hear thoughts on our current plans and how we can ensure the new

ramp will best meet the needs of everyone in the community.

The grant discussion will be held as our May 28th Community Coffee Hour. We look forward to seeing you there!

It's All Fun and Games

Fun fact: I have a standing board game night with a group of friends. Once a week a couple of us get together to play something: occasionally a classic, but more often something new to all of us.

It's *fun*. It turns out there's something incredibly enjoyable about flipping through an instruction manual and setting up pieces, slowly puzzling out the rules with the first turns until everyone gets the flow. We've been item shop owners luring in adventures with lucrative deals and artists crafting mosaic masterpieces. We've worked together to cure a world-threatening disease and sworn vengeance over building train lines!

That fun is what I want to share when we add to the library of things, particularly the board game collection. Reading is great... but sometimes you just want to *play*! The library already has toys for the kids, so adults deserve the chance to have some fun, too!

We've got classics, if you want to hold a [Scrabble](#) tournament or practice your [chess](#) skills, or you can try a more elaborate game like [Lanterns](#) and [Mysterium Park](#) to get your brain working! If board games aren't your jam but you still want some fun with friends, our set of Dungeons and Dragons manuals can give you a rush of fantasy adventure... and if no one wants to DM, there's no age limit on a round of Mario Kart on the library's Nintendo Switch!

I do love to read, make no mistake, but that's not all you can do at the library. So come play a while! Make some time with a friend, look over the boxes. Sit at a table and open it up, start a round right there!

Have fun!

Jordan Reed
Circulation Desk and Tech Services

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