

Why We Run the Summer Program

The St. Marys Public Library aims to **inspire** a sense of **adventure** and **wonder** while nurturing the imagination of children and celebrating their accomplishments. This is why we believe in providing a program that **encourages** reading, literacy, and learning-based fun throughout the summer.

Through **games, crafts, and general play**, the program provides a valuable opportunity for children to continue to learn and develop valuable skills in a fun and informal environment. The program also allows pre-school children to engage in activities to help build a strong foundation in literacy, physical literacy, and sensory skills that will benefit them in the future.



Who Are the Friends of the Library?

The St. Marys Public Library is thrilled to announce that the Summer Reading Program 2023 is made possible through the support of The Friends of the Library. **The Friends of the Library** is a **charitable organization** whose purpose is to support the vision of the Library by raising funds to support Library programs, events and to promote Library resources and services in the community. If you would like to learn more about the Friends of the Library, please contact the Library.



St Marys Public Library
15 Church St. N., PO Box 700
St. Marys, Ontario N4X 1B4
519-284-3346
www.stmaryspubliclibrary.ca



SPONSORED BY
THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Programs Offered

Crafty Kids

MONDAYS | 10:30am - 12:00pm

A creative craft program that allows your child to work on a different make and take project each week.

Sessions will run for 1.5 hours. The recommended age is 7+, children under 7 are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. 20 participants max.

Club SMPL

MONDAYS | 1:30pm - 3:00pm

With a mix of technology, toys, and LEGO, this unstructured 2 hour session allows kids to explore and tinker with different items. This is a drop-in session. Participants can join and leave the group anytime.

The recommended age is 7+, children under 7 are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. 20 participants max.

Reading Help

TUESDAYS 10:00am - 12:30pm | WEDNESDAYS 1:30pm - 3:00pm

A free 30 minute tutoring session with Kiersten (Summer Program Coordinator). School age children will read and work on language and vocabulary skills through various activities. Children and parents must book a 30 minute time slot no earlier than one week in advance. This program is not a drop-in based event.

To book your 30 minute session, register here: tinyurl.com/SMPL-Summer-Program

Wonder Workshop

TUESDAYS | 1:30pm - 3:00pm

New this year! Wonder Workshop is a program where we explore different topics and questions that you have wondered about. *Have you ever wondered where rain really comes from? Or how wind is used to generate electricity?* We will use hands-on STEM and inquiry activities to answer these questions and more!

The recommended age is 7+, children under 7 are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. 20 participants max.

This year, we have done away with paper tracking sheets altogether, so all reading tracking will be done through Beanstack. Beanstack can be used in a web browser, or through easy-to-use apps for Android and Apple.

Beanstack Registration

Create a Beanstack account to begin tracking ASAP. Kids are welcome to track before the summer program starts to earn tickets for pre-summer prizes. Don't forget, adults and teens can sign up for chances to win prizes, too; each month, we give away a \$30 gift card to one lucky adult and teen!

To pre-register for the Summer Challenge, create or login to your Beanstack account. On your home page, you will see there are two levels of Summer Program reading tracking: Jr, aimed at kids 0-5 years, and Sr, aimed at kids 6-12 years. Please choose the challenge that you feel best suits your child(ren)'s reading level, but remember this is a reading "challenge". If you or Library staff notice a child would be better suited to the other challenge, we are able to switch the child into a different level.



Visit:
stmaryspubliclibrary.beanstack.org

Reading Challenge

Each year, the Library encourages kids to track their reading for a chance to win prizes. This year, we are providing three different opportunities to win prizes in the hopes that children will be encouraged to read, and maintain literacy skills over the school vacation.

2023 Summer Program Prizes

Weekly Prize Draws

- **When:** Draws take place every Friday from July 7- August 25th
- **How:** To be eligible, Jr kids need to read at least 1 hour each week and Sr kids need to read at least 2 hours each week.
- **What:** Kids will get their choice of prize from the Library's prize display case - think LEGO, crafter kits, electronics, and more!

Milestones

- **When:** Bags will be given out when kids reach each milestone.
- **How:** Jr kids will need to read 5 hours for the first bag, 10 hours for the second and 15 hours for the third. Sr kids will need to read 10, 20, and 30 hours to get each of their bags.
- **What:** Each of the three bags has a gift card or voucher to a local business and some really awesome special activities

Grand Prizes

- **When:** At the end of the program
- **How:** Kids earn tickets by logging reading with Beanstack and attending virtual programming - the more a child reads, the greater chance of winning they will have!
- **What:** Grand Prizes will be announced during the summer.



STEAM League

WEDNESDAYS | 10:30am - 12:00pm

New this year! We are taking STEAM to a whole new level this year and are introducing STEAM League. Offered through the Canadian Minor STEAM Association, this program brings kids together weekly for engaging science, technology, art and math (STEAM) activities with a focus on coding and computational skills. This program is not a drop-in based event.

For more information call the Library, or email Kiersten at summerreading@stmaryspubliclibrary.ca. To register, please visit tinyurl.com/STEAM-League



Funday Fridays

FRIDAYS | STAY TUNED FOR EVENT TIMES

Watch for our free special events, guests, and more. Call the Library or pick up a detailed calendar at the Library to find out what, when and where events are being held.

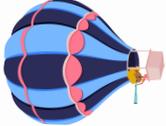
Registration is required and can be found here: tinyurl.com/SMPL-Summer-Program

Watch our Facebook and YouTube Channel on Fridays for the weekly prize draw, a weekly update, and a sneak peak of upcoming events.

We try our best to make sure all dates and information on this brochure remain correct but we do reserve the right to make changes as needed.



Weekly Calendar

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Crafty Kids 10:30am - 12:00pm</p> <p>Club SMPL 1:30pm - 3:00pm</p> | <p>Reading Help* 10:00am - 12:30pm</p> <p>Wonder Workshop 1:30pm - 3:00pm</p> | <p>STEAM League* 10:30am - 12:00pm</p> <p>Reading Help* 1:30pm - 3:00pm</p> |   | <p>Weekly Sneak Peek and Prize Draw Facebook & YouTube @ 9:00am</p> <p>Funday Fridays! Watch for special events, guests, and more!</p>  |

*Appointment/Registration Required



Summer Program FAQs

How Does Registration Work?

There is no registration required for regular weekly sessions, including Crafty Kids, Club SMPL, and Wonder Workshop.

Registration is required for STEAM League, Reading Help appointments and Funday Friday events. Participants can sign up for reading help appointments and Funday Friday events here: tinyurl.com/SMPL-Summer-Program



- Registration for Reading Help opens 7 days before each session.
- Registration for Funday Friday opens at 7am on the Monday before the event.

How Old Do Children Have to Be to Attend?

All programs offered throughout the summer are aimed toward children 7+. Children under 7 are welcome to attend as long as they are accompanied by a caregiver who is at least 12 years of age. Funday Friday events taking place off-site require a caregiver, regardless of the child's age.

How Can I Stay Updated on What's Happening?

Throughout the summer, we keep in touch with families by sending regular email updates with information about the what, where, and when of the summer program. To sign up for these emails, scan the QR code to follow the link. Select "Summer Program 2023" and any other newsletter lists you may be interested in and enter your information. Contact the Library if you run in to any issues.



Where Does the Program Take Place?

This summer, most sessions and events will run out of the Town Hall Auditorium at 175 Queen St. E. There will be directional signage to guide participants to the Auditorium. If any events are taking place off-site, participants will receive lots of notice.