

Play Your Way Through Baraboo

In March, kids had a chance to learn about ways they could help the earth. Powered Up Baraboo, a local non-profit organization focused on increasing renewable energy and other sustainable practices, co-sponsored the event



Studying river creatures

“Play Your Way Through Baraboo.” During the event, kids could visit stations around the library auditorium that focused on different environmental activities. Kids could get up close and examine crayfish from the Baraboo River, they could try out sitting in a real kayak in a river reproduction, they could pedal a bike hooked up to lightbulbs to see how



Playing in the kayak



Biking to produce energy

much energy they produced, they learned about saving energy around the house, and they planted seeds and made birdseed feeders. There was also a

demonstration of how water runs off roads and fields to end up in the river, and an hourly storytime where kids sang and danced to get motivated to help the earth. Thanks to Powered Up Baraboo for co-sponsoring this fun event!



Runoff demonstration

Eclipse Programming

Leading up to the Solar Eclipse on April 8, the library has been offering a number of different sun and space themed programs to get people excited.

Through UW-Madison’s Badger Talk program, the library was happy to welcome Dr. Jim Lattis, an astronomy professor and the UW Space Place Director. Dr. Lattis gave an interesting and informative presentation all about the upcoming eclipse--how



Eclipse Badger Talk

eclipses happen, how frequently (we won’t have another one in the US until 2044!), what it’s like to experience one, as well as safety information about how to look at the sun without damaging your eyes (you must use eclipse glasses, a pinhole viewer, or other safe viewing tool). Thank you to Badger Talks for making this presentation possible!

Teens got into the solar spirit at a recent Teen Tuesday in March by making suncatchers, crystal pendants you can hang in a window to catch the light. They had fun with the crafting, then were able to leave the program with a beautiful new suncatcher to hang in their home.



Making suncatchers

Our younger kids got a week of space-themed programming during their spring break, which you can see in more detail on the next page.

The library will be holding an Eclipse Viewing Party on Monday, April 8 from 1:30-2:30 PM. We will have a limited number of eclipse viewing glasses, sunoculars, pinhole viewers, and sun-themed snacks. We will also have a livestream of the eclipse from a location in the path of totality to view.

Spring Break Space Week

The last week of March was spring break for kids in Baraboo, so the library put on some special programming for kids ages 3-11.

On Tuesday of spring break week, the program was Aurora Awesomeness. Kids learned



Making the aurora out of scarves

about the aurora borealis from a storytime with Ms. Amy, then they got to dance

around with scarves to look like the aurora in the sky and make aurora chalk art.

On Wednesday, it was Moon Mania. Kids were

able to make moon rovers out of legos, then they could test them out on a



Testing out the Lego moon rovers

special moon environment made out of flour and oil.

On Thursday, it was Outer Space BINGO.



Outer Space BINGO

Kids got to play a space-themed bingo game using moonrocks (mini-marshmallows) as their card

markers. Along the way, they learned fun facts about the planets and other space objects.

This Space Week was a part of our programming gearing up for the April 8 Solar Eclipse. During these programs, participants were able to take home eclipse glasses to safely view the sun during the eclipse. There will be one more Eclipse program before the big day, Eclipse STEM Activities for kids ages 6-11 on Wednesday, April 3 from 3:00-3:45 PM in the Library Auditorium.

Recurring Adult Programs

There are a lot of interesting adult programs that occur on a regular basis at the library, both educational and recreational!

The library hosts a number of different book clubs for adults. The Readers Anonymous book club is for Millennials (which loosely groups people born between 1980 and 2000), and usually meets

on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM, sometimes in various locations around town.



Readers Anonymous

The Lit Wits

book club meets on the fourth Tuesday each month at 6:30 PM, doesn't have age restrictions, and reads a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction titles. The Tuesdays with Murder Book Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM and is for anyone who loves mystery novels.

Weekly on Wednesday nights, the library has "Craft/Tea Time" and "Chess Night for Adults." Both of these programs are drop-in workshops that



Craft/Tea Time

run from 6:00-7:30 PM every Wednesday. At Craft/Tea Time, participants bring the craft projects they are working on, and enjoy time to craft with tea and company.

At Chess Night for Adults, people can drop in to play chess and pick up new strategies from experienced players.

On Mondays from 5-6 PM, the library holds Language Conversation Hours, with rotating languages--English, Spanish, and French. This is a space for people learning a language to practice speaking it with each other. All language levels welcome, though it helps to have basic conversational levels of the language you are learning. These conversation hours will continue in April: English on the second Monday, Spanish on the third Monday, and French on the fourth Monday of the month.