



UNEARTH **A STORY™**



Wells County Public Library
Summer Reading 2026

June 1-July 31

Prizes awarded throughout June and July for completing reading challenges.

Also enjoy special events for kids, teens, and adults.

Get more information at wellscolibrary.org/summer

Special Events for Kids and Families

All events are free. Grade levels are for students who have recently completed those grades.

Weekly Activities

Stop into the library and complete a different activity each week, including Word of the Week, scavenger hunts, crafts, and more that fit the theme!

To-Go Kits

Available for pick-up starting on June 1 and June 29. *Supplied limited.*

Silly Safaris Kickoff

*Bluffton: Tuesday, June 2:
4:30 pm and 6:30 pm*

All ages. Join us at either session for a Silly Safaris Live Animal show that will provide both facts and fun for the entire family. There will be a variety of reptiles, mammals, birds, and bugs. Special guests from the audience will join each animal for a game that teaches about the natural world.



Dino Trivia/Soap

*Bluffton: Tuesday, June 9: 6:30-7:30 pm
Ossian: Wed., June 10: 6:30-7:30 pm
Grades K-6.* Think you know your prehistoric facts? Compete in teams and test your knowledge! We will also be making dino-shaped soap. *Registration required.*

Stone Mosaics

*Ossian: Monday, June 15: 2-3 pm
Grades K-6.* Kids will create a mosaic art piece using rocks and stones in a pattern, scene, or abstract image. *Registration required.*

Laser Tag at the Library

*Bluffton: Friday, June 19: 6:00-7:30 pm
Grades 1-8.* Come join us for laser tag and games in the library after hours. *Registration required.*

Fossil Fest

*Ossian: Monday, June 22: 11 am-5 pm
Bluffton: Friday, June 26:
11 am-5 pm
All ages of kids.* Enjoy a dinosaur-themed movie with a craft and snacks. *Drop-in event.*



Happy Birthday, America

*Bluffton: Wednesday, July 1: 11 am-5 pm
Ossian: Wednesday, July 1: 11 am-5 pm
All ages.* Drop by to celebrate our nation's 250th birthday with snacks, crafts, and games. Join us in your favorite red, white, and blue attire. *Drop-in event.*

Excavation Exploration

*Ossian: Monday, July 6: 2-4 pm
Bluffton: Thursday, July 9: 2-4 pm
Grades K-6.* Become a junior paleontologist! You'll be able to adopt and hatch a dinosaur from an egg, excavate a mini dig site, explore the layers of a "cookie fossil," and create your own fossils by pressing dinosaur bones into clay. A roaring good time explorers!



for young dino
Drop-in event.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

*Bluffton: Tuesday, July 14: 6:30-7:30 pm
Ossian: Wed., July 15: 6:30-7:30 pm
Pre-K-Grade 6.* Bring your stuffed animal for a night of stories and crafts at the library. Leave them overnight and pick them up the following morning. Be sure to check out what the stuffed animals get up to via our social media pages. *Registration required.*

Rooted in Art

*Bluffton: Monday, July 20: 6:30-7:30 pm
Ossian: Wed., July 22: 6:30-7:30 pm
Grades K-6.* Have fun creating silly faces and pictures using colorful fruits and vegetables. After designing your edible masterpieces, you'll get to enjoy eating your healthy creations! Creative, tasty fun for everyone. *Registration required. Parent or guardian must accompany child.*



Summer Reading Pool Parties

*Thursday, July 30: 6:30-8:30 pm or
Tuesday, August 4: 9:30-11:30 am
Birth-Grade 6.* Complete your summer reading and get a ticket to attend a party at the Wells Community Aquatic Park. *Dates are subject to change. Please check the dates on your ticket after you finish the program.*



Story Sessions for Kids

Weekly stories, crafts, and activities related to the summer theme. Must be registered to attend all story sessions. Sessions start the week of June 8. Registration begins May 18 at 9 am.

BLUFFTON STORY SESSIONS:

Wee Read:
Ages Birth-
24 Months
(with adult)
Fridays at
10:00 am



Toddler Time: Ages 2-3 (with adult)
Tuesdays or Wednesdays at 9:45 am

Story Hour: Ages 4-6
Tuesdays or Wednesdays at 10:30 am

Family Storytime:
Ages 1-5 (with adult)
Thursdays at 10:00 am

Bluffton and Ossian will not have story sessions the week of June 29-July 3.

OSSIAN STORY SESSIONS:

Wee Read:
Ages Birth-30 months (with adult)
Fridays at 10:30 am

Storytime:
Ages 2 ½ -5 (with adult)
Tuesdays at 10:30 am

*StoryWalks® available at
Pickett's Run Park (Bluffton)
& Archbold Wilson
Park (Ossian)*



Events for Teens

Grade levels are for students who have **recently completed** those grades. Teen events made possible by the Wells County Foundation.

Dinosaur Egg To-Go Kit

Bluffton and Ossian: June 1-6
Grades 6-12. Sign up for the Teen Summer Reading Program and then pick up a dinosaur egg kit! Use the tools provided to crack open the fossilized egg and then carefully extract the prize within. While supplies last. *No registration needed.*

Jurassic Park Interactive Movie

Bluffton: Thurs., June 11: 5:30-7:30 pm
Grades 6-12. Watch the 1993 *Jurassic Park* movie while you shout, act, and snack along with it! *Jurassic Park is rated PG-13. Please register to make sure that you receive a premade prop bag with snacks.*

Unearth Paleontology

Bluffton: Wed., June 17: 2-3 pm
Grades 6-12. Jump back in time with Jordan the Science Man and learn about prehistoric life by studying fossils, rock formations, and organisms that lived long ago. Get up close and personal with fossils from different eras and even make your own. Also enjoy themed treats. *Registration required.*

Jurassic Park Escape Room

Bluffton: Thurs., June 25: 6:00-7:30 pm
Grades 6-12. You've seen the movie, now try to escape the park's dangers yourself! Work as a team to solve all the puzzles within an hour. Are you as clever as a velociraptor? *Registration required.*

Crafting the Stars & Stripes

Bluffton: Thursday, July 2: 3-4 pm
Grades 6-12. Celebrate America's 250th anniversary by crafting your own Stars & Stripes hanging art piece! *Drop-in event (while supplies last).*

DIY Dinosaur

Bluffton: Thursday, July 9: 2-3 pm
Grades 6-12. If you wanted to design the ultimate dinosaur, what would it look like? Would it have wings? Tiny arms? Four heads? Now's your chance to show us your best (or worst) dinosaur creations. Drop in to create your own wild figurine to take home. *Drop-in event (while supplies last).*



Teen Trivia Contest

Bluffton: Tuesday, July 21: 2-3 pm
Grades 6-12. It's time to unearth all those random facts that are buried in your brain! Compete in our history-themed trivia contest for the chance to win bragging rights and a small prize. Participants will need a device with the Kahoot app downloaded. If you don't have your own device, the library has a limited supply available for use during the event. *Drop-in event; no registration needed.*



Teen Summer Reading Party

Bluffton: Friday, July 31: 6:00-7:30 pm
Grades 6-12. Teens who have completed Summer Reading (reading 500 pages or more) will enjoy a night of pizza, door prizes, and games ranging from the Nintendo Switch, giant yard games, Hide-n-Seek, or Vampires After Dark. *Registration required by Thursday, July 30. Teens need to be picked up by 7:45 pm.*



Events for Adults/All ages

To-Go Kits

Bluffton and Ossian: pick up starting on these dates (while supplies last)

- *June 1:* Dig Into American History (Patriotic Wind Streamer)
- *July 1:* Unearth a Treat (Dirt Pudding)

Monthly Programs for Adults

Get a schedule of our monthly programs at wellscounty.librarycalendar.com, including Bingo with Jason, Brown Bag Book Club, Chess Club, Timeless Tech, Cook Talk Taste, Theater Thursday, and Golden Gamers.

E.B. Williamson History Talk

Bluffton: Thurs., June 18: 6:30-7:30 pm
Adults. Unearth the history of one of our areas most famous naturalists E.B. Williamson. Local historian Alan Daugherty will give a talk about E.B.'s work with dragonflies, hybrid irises, and his other contributions to the natural sciences. *Registration appreciated.*

America 250 Display

Bluffton: June 22-July 10
All ages. Curious to learn more about the first 250 years of the U.S.? Stop by to view this display, which will include an opportunity to watch clips from the film "The American Revolution" by Ken Burns.



Stepping Stones: Try It Night

Bluffton: Monday, June 29: 6:30-7:30 pm
Adults/Teens. Create unique garden stepping stones using stones, gems, seashells, and quick-drying concrete. *Registration required.*



Summer Book Sale

Bluffton: Tuesday, June 23: 5-8 pm — Friends only Preview Sale. Memberships may be purchased there. June 24-27: open during library hours

Trivia Night

@ *The Parlor City Brewing Company*
Sunday, July 12: 5:00-6:30 pm
Adults (21+). Grab a team of up to four and test your knowledge on a variety of subjects. *Registration required.*

Historical Walking Tour

Thursday, July 16: 4 pm and 6 pm
Adults. Guided walking tour to view the outside of several buildings in downtown Bluffton. Tours led by the Wells County Historical Society. *Registration required.*

Clay Diffuser Discs: Try It Night

Bluffton: Monday, July 27: 6:30-7:30 pm
Adults/Teens. Craft air-dry clay into discs, decorate them, and then hang them in your car to create a simple essential oil diffuser. *Registration required.*

Adult Summer Reading Party

Bluffton: Wednesday, July 29: 5:30-7 pm
Complete your reading log and you can attend the Adult Summer Reading Party. *Registration appreciated.*

Kids & Families Calendar • June 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 2026 Summer Reading sign up begins	2 Silly Safaris Kickoff BL 4:30 pm or 6:30 pm	3	4	5
8	9 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Storytime: OSS 10:30 Dino Trivia/Soap BL 6:30-7:30 pm	10 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Dino Trivia/Soap OSS 6:30-7:30 pm	11 Family Storytime: BL 10:00	12 Wee Read: BL 10:00 Wee Read: OSS 10:30
15 First day to pick up 1st prize! Stone Mosaics OSS 2:00-3:00 pm	16 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Storytime: OSS 10:30	17 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30	18 Family Storytime: BL 10:00	19 Wee Read: BL 10:00 Wee Read: OSS 10:30 Laser Tag at the Library BL 6:00-7:30 pm
22 Fossil Fest OSS 11:00 am-5:00 pm	23 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Storytime: OSS 10:30	24 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30	25 Family Storytime: BL 10:00	26 Wee Read: BL 10:00 Wee Read: OSS 10:30 Fossil Fest BL 11:00 am-5:00 pm
29 First day to pick up 2nd prize!	30			

Unearth a Story • July/August 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Happy Birthday, America BL 11:00 am-5:00 pm OSS 11:00 am-5:00 pm	2	3 LIBRARY CLOSED <i>for Independence Day</i>
6 Excavation Exploration OSS 2:00-4:00 pm	7 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Storytime: OSS 10:30	8 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30	9 Family Storytime: BL 10:00 Excavation Exploration BL 2:00-4:00 pm	10 Wee Read: BL 10:00 Wee Read: OSS 10:30
13 First day to pick up 3rd prize!	14 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Storytime: OSS 10:30 Stuffed Animal Sleepover BL 6:30-7:30 pm	15 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Stuffed Animal Sleepover OSS 6:30-7:30 pm	16 Family Storytime: BL 10:00	17 Wee Read: BL 10:00 Wee Read: OSS 10:30
20 Rooted in Art BL 6:30-7:30 pm	21 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Storytime: OSS 10:30	22 Toddler Time: BL 9:45 Story Hour: BL 10:30 Rooted in Art OSS 6:30-7:30 pm	23 Family Storytime: BL 10:00	24 Wee Read: BL 10:00 Wee Read: OSS 10:30
27 August 3	28 August 4 Pool Party <i>(need ticket to enter)</i> 9:30-11:30 am	29	30 Pool Party <i>(need ticket to enter)</i> 6:30-8:30 pm	31 Last day to log books Saturday, Aug. 1 Last day to pick up prizes

Registration for June and July special events starts May 18.

Location Abbreviations :
BL = Bluffton
(Main Library)
OSS = Ossian Branch



KIDS' PROGRAM SPONSORS:

- American Legion Auxiliary
- Bluffton Lions
- Bluffton Psi Iota Xi
- Bluffton Rotary
- Elks
- Fort Wayne TinCaps
- Friends of the Library
- Masonic Bluffton Lodge 145
- Optimists
- Ossian Psi Iota Xi
- Peyton's Northern
- Sons of the American Legion
- Sigma Phi Gamma
- Taco Bell
- Tri Kappa Sorority
- Virginia Gene Neuschwander Youth Fund
- Wells County Foundation
- Wes Knox & Sons Roofing Company



Escanea el código qr para una lista de actividades (en español).



wellscolibrary.org/summer