THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY 5 WASHINGTON STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102



PRESS RELEASE

June 14, 2013 For Immediate Release Please Contact: Heidi Cramer 973-733-7837 hcramer@npl.org

<u>Dig Into Reading</u> at the Newark Public Library



Can you dig it? Young readers will **Dig into Reading** during the annual Summer Reading Challenge at the Newark Public Library. Funded by The Prudential Foundation, the challenge runs from June 24 through August 3, and is geared towards children five through twelve. Students entering eighth grade and above are invited to participate in the teen themed activities of **Beneath the Surface**. All programs are free of charge and open to the public.

Wilma Grey, Library Director explained, "the Summer Reading Challenge is a recreational summer literacy program designed to foster a love of reading and prevent summer learning loss by offering a variety of incentives to all those participating. We are especially grateful to the Prudential Foundation for helping to promote reading among children of all ages."

Dig into Reading participants read a minimum of five books and are encouraged to challenge themselves to read as much as possible. There is a 200 book maximum for **Dig into Reading**, and **Beneath the Surface** participants may read a maximum of sixty books. For additional rules, information, and a complete schedule please see:

<u>http://kidsplace.npl.org</u> or visit any Newark Public Library location. Daily educational activities such as arts & crafts, story times, and puzzles & games are offered at all Library locations through August 24.

The Summer Reading Challenge will kick-off with stories and songs performed by perennial favorites, Beth & Scott, at the Garden Party concert on Tuesday, June 25 at 10:30 am at the Main Library, 5 Washington Street. Groups must call for reservations: 973-733-7797.

Additional programs and events during the Summer Reading Challenge include:

A dinosaur story time, sing-a-long, and dance party, **Field Station: Dinosaurs presents The Dinosaur Troubadour and the Mighty T-Rex** which will be presented on Wednesday, July 17 at 10:30 am at the Main Library, 5 Washington Street. After the stories, meet an unbelievably life-like roaring, breathing 15-foot juvenile T-Rex during this interactive, entertaining and surprising Paleozoic adventure! Call (973) 733-7797 for more information.

Join in the fun with a swashbuckling pirate and princess adventure full of sea monsters, sharks and a surprise treasure chest as **Crabgrass Puppet Theatre presents** *The Pirate, the Princess and the Pea* on Tuesday, July 23 at 10:30 am at the Main Library, 5 Washington Street. Call (973) 733-7797 for more information. The puppet show will also be presented on Tuesday, July 23 at 3:00 pm at the North End Branch, 722 Summer Avenue. Call the North End Branch at (973) 733-7766 for more information.

The Essex County Environmental Center will present educational nature programs at all Newark Public Library locations:

An Underground Garden

Most of us have seen backyard or community gardens with fruits and vegetables growing in plain sight, but do you know the vegetables that grow down instead of up? Have fun learning about the vegetables that grow underground in the dark!

Tuesday, July 9 at 10:30 am Weequahic Branch 355 Osborne Terrace (973) 733-7751

Soil Science

Often referred to as the skin of the Earth, healthy soil gives us clean air and water, lifesustaining crops and forests, grazing land for animals, a home for countless creatures, and beautiful landscapes. Could we live without it, what is it made of, and how can we keep it healthy?

Tuesday, July 9 at 2:00 pm Vailsburg Branch

75 Alexander Street (973) 733-7755

Wiggly Worms

What feels cold and moist, is often referred to as 'nature's recycler,' and can dig over 6 feet down into the ground? Earth worms! They're all around us, kids love them, and we're often told they'll grow back to full length if they are cut in two. Is this true or just a myth?

Wednesday, July 24 at 2:00 pm Branch Brook Branch 235 Clifton Avenue (973) 733-7760

Wednesday, July 31 at 2:00 pm North End Branch 722 Summer Avenue (973) 733-7766

Wednesday, August 7 at 2:00 pm Main Library Children's Room 5 Washington Street (973) 733-7797

Tuesday, August 13 at 10:30 am Van Buren Branch 140 Van Buren Street (973) 733-7750

Wednesday, August 21 at 2:00 pm Clinton Branch 739 Bergen Street (973) 733-7754

Who Lives In That Hole? Go for a short walk and you'll surely come across a hole or two. Ever wonder who lives in there, or is it empty? Let's learn about the animals that burrow and we'll figure out if there's a way to predict who lives in what hole.

Thursday, August 8 at 3:00 pm Springfield Branch 50 Hayes Street (973) 733-7736

Whether you're a beginning player or an expert gamer, visit your local Newark Public Library location for **Wii Gaming** fun! Test your skills with a variety of Wii activities including Mario Kart and Just Dance!

July 9, 11, 12 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Branch Brook Branch 235 Clifton Avenue (973) 733-7760

July 9, 10, 11 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Weequahic Branch 355 Osborne Terrace (973) 733-7751

July 16, 18, 19 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Van Buren Branch 140 Van Buren Street (973) 733-7750

July 16, 17, 18 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm North End Branch 722 Summer Avenue (973) 733-7766

July 24, 25, 26 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Main Library Children's Room 5 Washington Street (973) 733-7797

July 24, 25, 26 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm North End Branch 722 Summer Avenue (973) 733-7766

August 6, 8, 9 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Van Buren Branch 140 Van Buren Street (973) 733-7750

August 6, 7, 8 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Branch Brook Branch 235 Clifton Avenue (973) 733-7760

August 13, 14, 15 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Main Library Children's Room 5 Washington Street (973) 733-7797

August 13, 14, 15 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Clinton Branch (973) 733-7754

The Library's Summer Hours will be in effect from Monday, July 1 through Saturday, September 7, 2013.

Main Library 5 Washington Street Newark, NJ 07101 (973) 733-7800

Monday, Friday 9:00 am to 5:30 pm; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 am to 8:30 pm; Saturday 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Branch Library hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30am to 5:30pm; Wednesday 1:00pm to 8:00pm; Saturday 11:00am to 3:00pm Please note that Branch Libraries will be closed on Mondays and will now be open on Saturdays.

Branch Brook Branch Library

235 Clifton Avenue Newark, NJ 07104

Clinton Branch Library

739 Bergen Street Newark, NJ 07018

North End Branch Library

722 Summer Avenue Newark, NJ 07104

Springfield Branch Library

50 Hayes Street Newark, NJ 07103

Vailsburg Branch Library

75 Alexander Street

Newark, NJ 07106

Van Buren Branch Library

140 Van Buren Street Newark, NJ 07105

Weequahic Branch Library 355 Osborne Terrace

Newark, NJ 07112

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