

ELY PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS



PLAY & LEARN - NEW! - Join us on Saturdays from 10-11:30 am starting January 15th!

Never underestimate the power of play!

According to The American Academy of Pediatrics, (AAP) children playing with both parents and peers builds thriving brains, bodies, and social bonds. Research shows play can improve children's abilities to plan, organize, get along with others, and regulate emotions. In addition, play helps children with language, math and social skills, and even helps children cope with stress. [healthchildren.org]. Play & Learn of East Central Iowa is an organized play group for young children (0-5 years old) and the people who take care of them – parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, other family members and family friends. You will have lots of FUN together by Telling Stories, Creating Art, Singing Songs Playing, and Learning.

Each group has a facilitator that plans and sets up activities for the children and their caregivers to play together. Facilitators help caregivers learn more about child development, how children learn through play and what caregivers can do at home to help the children in their care grow and learn.



ELY LIBRARY BOOK CLUB - We meet the 2nd Monday of every month from 6-7pm. Ask about this month's theme at the circulation desk.

SCHOOL AGE LIBRARY BOOK CLUB - We meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 4:30 pm. Ask about this month's theme at the circulation desk. Share with the group your book and what you thought about it. There will also be a craft and a snack provided.

BINGO – The Friends of the Ely Public Library will



be hosting BINGO fundraisers again this fall/winter at the Ely Legion!

Mark your calendars for the following Friday dates:

January 7, February 11, March 11 and April 8!

Doors open at 6:30pm and BINGO starts at 7:00 pm. See you there!

GERI FIT EXERCISE CLASSES - We are excited to start up our Geri-Fit classes again! **Classes begin February 7th** and will be held on Monday and Wednesday mornings at 8 am. Geri-Fit® classes improve strength, balance and arthritic conditions for people 60 and over. Additional benefits include increasing flexibility, balance and mobility as well as helping prevent osteoporosis. *As with any exercise, please consult with your physician prior to starting.*



FREE YOGA AND TAI CHI CLASSES OFFERED

- These classes are available through Zoom with direct links on our website.

Tuesdays – 8 am Tai Chi with Tom

Thursdays – 8 am Morning Stretch Yoga with Paula
Please consult with your physician before beginning any exercise program.



MASTER GARDENER

SERIES – Save the

date for our FREE gardening classes to be held on Tuesdays in April @ 6:30 pm starting on April 5th.

HOOPLA - Digital Movies, Music and More – Instantly Available – 24/7 – Free with your Library



Card – choose up to 5 each

month! Hoopla is a digital media service provided to you

through which you may access and enjoy nearly half a million titles, from six different formats: Movies, TV, Music Albums, eAudiobooks, eBooks, and Comics/Graphic Novels. All in one location, from your computer, tablet or Smartphone! This service is available for residents of Ely and Rural Linn County. Stop by or call for help accessing this new service!

HOTSPOTS - The Library has invested in six Hotspots that can be checked out by Ely residents and rural Linn County residents. WiFi hotspots work just as your WiFi router does at home by providing wireless connection to the users in the covered range. This is a great service for people who need better coverage or coverage while travelling. Checkout time is one week. Residents who use this service have been very pleased with it.

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HelpNow - Your library card is your ticket to



learning. Get your Ely Public Library card and use HelpNow for free access to online tutoring, homework help, practice tests, writing reviews, study tools, and more!

LearnNow - Test anxiety is real! But it doesn't have to be. With your Ely Public Library card you can access practice tests, preparation guides, and study materials. Simply visit www.ely.lib.ia.us and access LearnNow.

JobNow - Did you know that with your library card you can get FREE job coaching? Visit www.ely.lib.ia.us to find JobNow for professional assistance with all stages of job hunting including online applications, resumes, interviews, and more!



VetNow (VetNow/JobNow) - Are you a veteran, or do you know a veteran, who is transitioning from military to civilian life? Visit www.ely.lib.ia.us to find VetNow to connect with a live veteran navigator and get free assistance from a veteran with your VA benefits. You can also get help with job hunting, resumes, interviews, and building your academic skills.

ELY FOOD PANTRY - Items are available in the lobby for anyone who needs them. We are accepting the following items: unexpired, non-perishable food items, no-heat meals, peanut butter, fruit in squeeze pouches, diapers, wipes, formula, feminine hygiene products, toiletries, water, paper towels, and cleaning supplies. **We are no longer accepting shoes and clothing.** In addition, the library is striving to reduce food waste and accepts perishable foods no longer needed by stores, farmers and gardeners. We ask everyone who can use these items, regardless of need, to feel comfortable taking what they would like. Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

CLOSED - The library will be closed on Monday, January 17th for Staff Projects.

SCHOOL YEAR EARLY LITERACY SCHEDULE:



Babygarten: Mondays at 9 AM.

Babygarten is an educational curriculum for babies & toddlers featuring songs, movement, literacy tips, and free play.

Toddler Time: Mondays at 10 AM.

Toddler Time features stories, rhymes, songs, and interactive activities designed to get babies and toddlers acclimated to loving the library. Big siblings are welcome to join in the fun!

Preschool Story Time: Thursdays at 10 AM. Designed for kiddos aged 3-5 but open to all, preschool story time is a half hour of books, songs, and activities followed by a craft.

1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN - Children who are read to at home are better prepared for school and continue to do well throughout their academic career. Every time you or another loved one read a book with your child you are



providing early learning opportunities. We offer a 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program to help you track the number of books read and provide little rewards along the way. If you would like to enroll your child in this free and fun initiative, give us a call 848-7616! **You do not need to live in Ely to register!**

FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP - We are looking for some good friends! Friends of the EPL help promote and support the library in a variety of ways. For more information, please contact us at eplfriends@ely.lib.ia.us. **Where else can you meet so many new Friends AND help the community? Join us today!**

FOLLOW US - Keep informed of all the latest EPL events by checking out our website at www.ely.lib.ia.us or following us on Facebook or Instagram.

LIBRARY HOURS: (319) 848-7616

Sunday	Closed
Monday	9:00-8:00
Tuesday	1:00-8:00
Wednesday	1:00-8:00
Thursday	9:00-8:00
Friday	1:00-5:00
Saturday	9:00-4:00

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