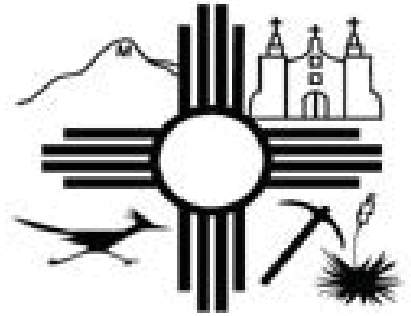


City of Socorro

111 School of Mines Road
Socorro, New Mexico 87801

Phone (575) 835-0240 www.socorronm.gov



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Make a Splash @ Socorro Public Library!

As the weather heats up outdoors, there's no better time to curl up with a book in the cool of the Socorro Public Library. The summer reading program "Make a Splash" is well under way with plenty of incentives for kids to read and join their friends for some afternoon fun.

More than 130 children from the very young to the nearly adult have signed up, turning in a reading log for every 5 books they've read or had read to them. Each log results in a ticket that can be spent at the "store" in the Library's Children's Room.

"These plastic poppers are our biggest seller," says Children's Librarian Jeanne Griffith, demonstrating a plastic disk that launches itself into the air with a loud pop. She also shows off water pistols, sidewalk chalk, a plethora of rubber balls, some squishy mice and frogs and a whole family of costumed rubber ducks.

Besides tickets, kids also get a stamp in their fishing log. On Friday, July 30, all fishing logs will be turned in and counted, and those with the most stamps will ride away from the End-of-Summer party on Tuesday, August 3 at 3:00 pm on a brand new bicycle.

"Every year the Masons Local Lodge #9 donates 3 bikes: for ages 6 and under, 7 to 11, and 12 and up," says



Angel Lopez and Kristina Fontes are spending their summer enjoying library books with grandma Denice Strauss.

Griffith. She says the bikes (along with a grant from the McKune Foundation for the store items) really make the program. "Every year the Masons come through. I'm so grateful to them."

The rules are a little different for older readers. They receive a raffle ticket based on the number of pages read, and the more raffle tickets they have, the more likely they are to win. "We've had older kids read as many as 15,000 pages," Griffith said.

There are other activities as well, and they're open to all.

On Thursday, July 8, the Missoula Children's Theater will be performing "The Rhythm is Gonna Get You" at 3:00 pm. Then, the next 3 Thursdays at 3:00pm, elementary-aged children can come for special story and craft time. For pre-schoolers there is a story time every Wednesday and Thursday morning at 10:30.

On Tuesday, August 3 at 3:00pm, Terry Alvarez, the "story dancer," will provide the entertainment for the End of Summer party.

The Library opens at 9:00am Monday through Saturday and closes at 5:50pm Monday through Thursday, 4:50pm Friday and 1:50 pm Saturday. See the Library's webpage at www.adobelibrary.org.

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