

Merrill Public Library Summer Reading Program 2026



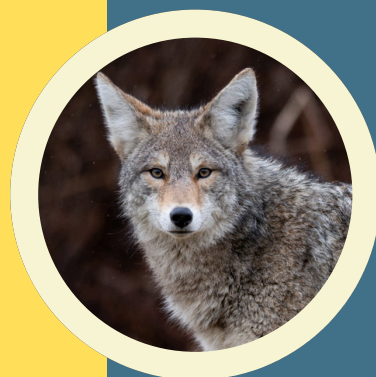
PLANT A SEED, READ!

Plant a Seed, Read is rooted in the concept of farm to table. A farm grows food that nourishes our bodies; a library grows ideas that nourish our minds. Both food and stories connect us to our family, culture, economy, and ecology. The idea of this theme looks at the library as a community table where, instead of food, we feast on ideas.



ZooMobile

Friday, June 12: From the Great Plains Zoo in Sioux Falls, this exciting program will feature a zookeeper with 3 different animals. Geared for kids of all ages, adults will enjoy it too!
Hinton 1 pm; Merrill 2:30 pm



Storytime & Crafts

For ages 3 - 6. On Fridays (see event schedule) in **Merrill at 10 am and Hinton at 2 pm**. Children must be accompanied.

Nature Talks & Crafts

Learn about beekeeping, pollinators, birding, and nutrition (see event schedule). For ages 7 - 12.



Young Adult Book Club

For young adults, by young adults ages 13 - 18 (see event schedule).

Adult Summer Reading

Keep a bingo card of reading activities this summer and win prizes.

Pizza & Prizes

The summer finale is a pizza party with veggie toppings from local gardens. Everyone who participated in Summer Reading is invited!





EVENT SCHEDULE

JUN 12

FRIDAY

ZOOMOBILE

1 – 1:45 pm
Hinton Community Center

2:30 – 3:15 pm
Merrill Kissinger Bldg. Gym

JUN 17

WEDNESDAY

3 – 4:30 pm
Meet our police officer
CRAFTS: bubble painting & more

3:00 – 4:00 pm
YOUNG ADULT Book Club, *The Inheritance Games*

6:30 – 7 pm
ADULT Summer Reading: pick up bingo cards; learn about prizes

JUN 19

FRIDAY

ICE CREAM DAYS in Le Mars with an event at the Le Mars Public Library

JUN 24

WEDNESDAY

3 – 3:45 pm
Meet a local beekeeper

3:45 – 4:30 pm
CRAFTS: sidewalk art

JUN 26

FRIDAY

10 – 11 am
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Merrill Library, Iowa Room

2 – 3 pm
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Hinton Community Center

JUL 1

WEDNESDAY

3 – 3:45 pm
Jeanne Bockholt, a local naturalist talks about pollinators

3:45 – 4:30 pm
CRAFTS: fireworks painting

JUL 8

WEDNESDAY

3 – 4:30 pm
CRAFTS: Paint the book drop box

JUL 10

FRIDAY

10 – 11 am
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Merrill Library, Iowa Room

2 – 3 pm
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Hinton Community Center

JUL 15

WEDNESDAY

3 – 4:30 pm
ISU presents "Green Thumbs, Dirty Fingers" followed by a taste game

3:00 – 4:00 pm
YOUNG ADULT Book Club, *The Sun is Also a Star*

JUL 17

FRIDAY

10 – 11 am
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Merrill Library, Iowa Room

2 – 3 pm
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Hinton Community Center

JUL 22

WEDNESDAY

3 – 4:30 pm
"Urban Birding" with Marla Kerr from the Loess Hills Audubon Society followed by garden walk and fire station tour

JUL 24

FRIDAY

10 – 11 am
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Merrill Library, Iowa Room

2 – 3 pm
STORYTIME and CRAFTS
Hinton Community Center

5:30 – 6:30 PM
Pizza Party for all who participated in Summer Reading