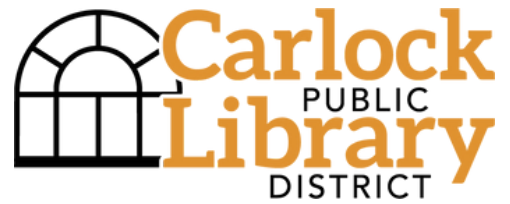


BOOKS & BEYOND

Carlock Public Library Newsletter
September 2025



UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Club

Tuesday, September 2 ~ 1:30 pm
For adults

Join in the discussion about the book *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride!



Story Time

Thursdays, September 4, 11, 18, & 25 ~ 9:30 am
For babies-age 5 (older siblings welcome)

Join us for stories, songs, crafts, and fun with friends!

Silent Book Club

Thursday, September 11 ~ 5:30-6:30 pm

Recommended for kids ages 8+, teens, and adults

Love the idea of joining a book club but short on time to read in advance? This is the club for you! Bring your own book or grab one from our shelves. Settle in for some quiet reading, enjoy light snacks, and stick around for optional social time afterward to share good book recommendations with others! No registration required.

Fall Fruit Tree Wisdom

Monday, September 15 ~ 6:30-7:30 pm

For adults; no registration needed

Presenter Nick Frillman from Illinois Extension will share information about winter pruning plans and smart fall planting for Central Illinois.



Find the Clues: Then and Now With Steve Burns (Online Event)

Tuesday, September 16 ~ 7 pm via Zoom

For adults

Join Illinois Libraries Present for a conversation with Emmy-nominated actor Steve Burns, best known as 'Steve' from the beloved Nickelodeon show *Blue's Clues*.

This special interview offers a closer look at Burns's journey, from the early fame of *Blue's Clues* to his personal growth and creative evolution. Arionne Nettles, a Chicago-based storyteller and cultural reporter, will join Steve in conversation.

Happy Hacks


 **Wednesday, September 17 ~ 1:30-2:30 pm**
For adults

In this engaging and practical session, participants will explore common barriers to positivity and personal well-being. You'll also discover simple, science-backed principles and practices—"happy hacks"—designed to boost mood, productivity, and overall outlook. This program will be presented by Sara Attig from Illinois Extension.

Pages & Paws

Thursday, September 18 ~ 4:30-5:30 pm

Registration suggested; walk-ins welcome

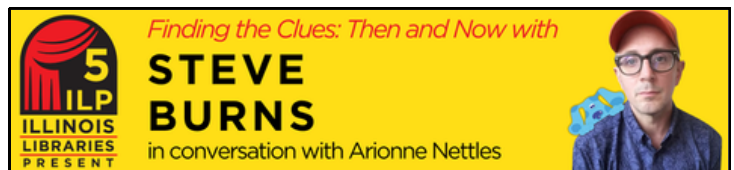
 Read aloud to a certified therapy dog – you won't find a more attentive audience! Aimed to help elementary-age children build their reading confidence, but the dogs love hearing from teens and adults, too! Sign up in advance at this [link](#) to guarantee a spot or walk-in the day of the event.

Writer's Workshop

Friday, September 19 ~ 1-1:45 pm

For kids ages 8+, teens, and adults

Do you enjoy writing? At this session, we will explore strategies for how to write a first line that draws readers in and makes them want to keep reading your story! Sign up ahead of time at this [link](#), or call or visit the library to register.



SCAN ME

To register for this online event, visit the event calendar on carlocklibrary.com, contact the library, or scan this QR code

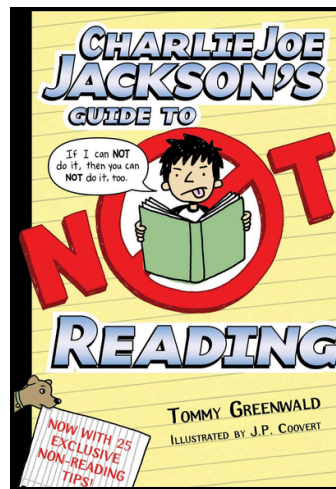
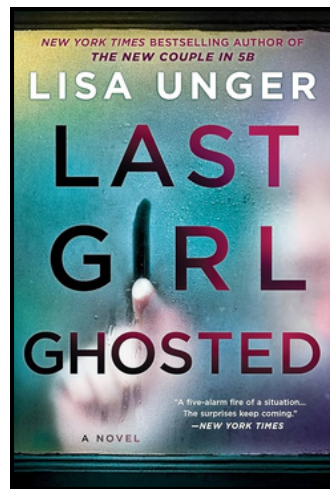
BOOK RECS

Check out these great books at the library or online on Libby, Hoopla, or Boundless!

Adult

Last Girl Ghosted by Lisa Unger

This psychological thriller is about a woman who dives into a whirlwind romance after meeting a man on a dating app, but the man suddenly vanishes without explanation. As she searches for answers, she learns that there have been other women in his life who have gone missing, putting her in danger as she tries to uncover the truth behind his disappearance. You won't want to put down this suspenseful book!



Junior Fiction

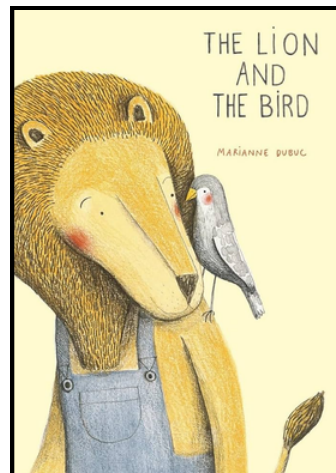
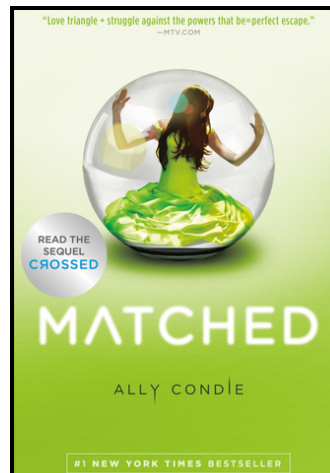
Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to Not Reading by Tommy Greenwald

This hilarious book is about a kid who will do anything he can to avoid reading! He's gotten through grade school without reading a whole book, always relying on his friends to help him out. When he gets to middle school, though, it's much harder to keep up his streak of not reading. Great for readers who enjoy the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series!

Young Adult

Matched by Ally Condie

This dystopian novel is set in a society where all major life decisions are made for you, all the way to who you marry. Cassia starts to question the society's decisions during her Matching ceremony, where a rare glitch briefly shows her two possible matches when it should have only shown one. Torn between following the rules and following her heart, she works to uncover the truth behind the society's control over everyone's lives.



Children

The Lion and the Bird by Marianne Dubuc

In this sweet children's book, an unexpected friendship is formed between a lion and an injured bird. However, once the bird feels better, it eventually has to rejoin the rest of its flock and fly away for the winter. The lion stays behind, adjusting back to his quiet life. This tender story is a great one to share with kids to teach them lessons about friendship and change!

PUZZLE EXCHANGE

Do you love jigsaw puzzles?

Grab a fun puzzle from our Puzzle Exchange! No checkouts, no due dates, and it's totally free. It's simple – just browse the selection of donated puzzles and choose one you'd like to take home with you!

Have extra puzzles at home? You're welcome to drop off puzzles for others to enjoy. All types and difficulty levels of puzzles are welcome!