

summer for your chance to win great prizes.

To get started, register at your local library or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/bigsummerread

For children and young people up to 18 years.

Dec-lan

All libraries or online

Can you match each BIG Summer Read Ambassador to their book? Collect an entry form from the library desk to complete the challenge, explore new stories and earn a little reward at the finish line.

Dec-Jan

All libraries

NGV Kids on Tour Drop-In Activities

We've partnered with the National Gallery of Victoria to bring you a taste of the NGV Kids Summer Festival. Engage with the inspiring art on display at the NGV with creative activities for the whole family based on the exhibitions: Let's Party, NGV Fashion for Kids and Plans for the Planet, and Olaf Breuning for Kids.

Make a Party Hat

Create a bright and colourful party hat.

Ages 5+ years.

Tue 6 Jan, 10am-12pm Bendigo Library

Take the Cake

Join us for a cake-themed art session. Be inspired and design an imaginative celebration cake.

Ages 5+ years.

Tue 13 Jan, 10am-12pm Bendigo Library



DIY Paper Popsicles

Drop in to create your own colourful paper popsicle. Use cut-out paper shapes, a popsicle stick and tissue paper sprinkles to design a fun, summery treat.

Ages 5+ years.

Tue 6 Jan, 10.30am-12.30pm Eaglehawk Library

Wed 7 Jan, 10am-12pm Heathcote Library



Nature and Us inspired by Olaf Breuning

Let Olaf Breuning's book inspire you to explore what makes forests a good home for birds, insects, and other animals. Draw and learn about habitats and how plants and environments support wildlife.

Ages 5+ years.

Tue 20 Jan, 10am-12pm Bendigo Library



STEM Club

Join us for an exciting series of STEM activities designed to spark curiosity and inspire young minds. Perfect for enthusiastic tinkerers.

Ages 7+ years.

Thu 8, 15, 22 & 29 Jan, 10.30-11.30am Heathcote Library



Game On! at Kangaroo Flat Library

Join us for fun, games, and good times! Drop in for summer fun with giant games, board and card games, LEGO play, and paper planes.

Challenge a librarian

Think you've got what it takes to outplay a librarian. Come test your skills in a friendly game showdown.

All ages.

Wed 7 Jan, 2-4pm



Nintendo Switch challenge

Join us for a Nintendo Switch face off in a fast paced, fun-filled challenge.

30-minute timeslots available.

7-10 years: Wed 14 Jan, 10-11.30am 10-18 years: Wed 14 Jan, 11.30am-1pm





Lego challenge

Your mission is to complete a Lego activity in 30 minutes and move on to the next challenge. Can you do it?

All ages.

Wed 21 Jan, 2-4pm



Italian Card games

Discover the fun of a traditional Italian card game.

Ages 7-12 years.

Fri 23 Jan, 10-11am





Auslan Storytime

Celebrating the vibrant and expressive language of Auslan. Presented by a deaf storyteller and an Auslan interpreter.

For both deaf and hearing children, ages 2-6 years.

Funded by a Multicultural Storytime grant from the Department of Health to Expression Australia.

Mon 12 Jan, 10.30-11.15am Bendigo Library



Mark Penzak: Labyrinth in the Library

Join Hugo on a magical adventure inside the library, where books come alive and a runaway robot threatens to erase their stories. With puppetry, music, and classic tales, this interactive show celebrates the power of reading and imagination.

For families and children aged 4+ years.



Wed 14 Jan, 10.30-11.20am Bendigo Library

Makar Sankranti

at Bendigo Library

Join in with the joyful spirit of Makar Sankranti, a Hindu festival celebrating the end of Winter and the start of the sun's northward journey.

Ages 8-13 years.

Make a Kite

Make a colourful kite to fly symbolising the joy of harvest and the welcoming of longer, sunnier days.

Tue 20 Jan, 10-11am

Rangoli Workshop for kids

Learn about the vibrant art form of rangoli. part of the Makar Sankranti celebration and believed to bring good luck. Watch a demo and have a go at creating your own design to take home.

Tue 20 Jan, 11.30am-12.30pm

Activities for Tweens & Teens

Ages 10-16 years.

Custom Tees and Totes

Fri 9 & 16 Jan, 10-11am Bendigo Library



Custom Vinyl Stickers

Tue 20 Jan, 2-3pm Eaglehawk Library



Water Cycle Wheel

Ioin Coliban Water to colour and create a water cycle wheel to explore how water moves through the environment. Take-home goodies included for extra fun!

For families and ages 5+ years.

Thu 22 Jan, 10-11am Bendigo Library

Movies

Enjoy new release family feature films on our big screen. No bookings needed.

To find out film titles, ask one of the library staff.

Mon 5 Jan, 10.30am-12.10pm (G) Mon 12 Jan, 2.30-4.35pm (PG 10+) Mon 19 Jan, 10.30am-12.15pm (PG 10+) Bendigo Library





Bendigo Library 5449 2700 259 Hargreaves St

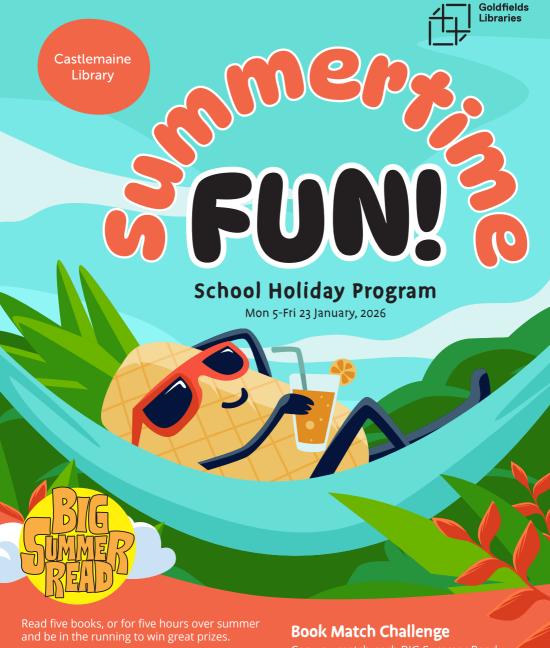
NOW

Eaglehawk Library 5446 7577 1 Sailors Gully Rd

Heathcote Library 5433 3734 121 High St

Kangaroo Flat Library 5447 8344 23 Lockwood Rd

ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram



To get started, register at your local library or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/bigsummerread

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Take the Cake

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Ages 5+ years.

Thu 15 Jan, 10am-12pm



Storytime Special: Nature and Us inspired by Olaf Breuning

Be inspired by the work of Olaf Breuning in this Storytime exploring what makes forests a good home to birds, insects and animals. Draw and learn about habitats and how plants and environments support wildlife

Ages 4+ years.

Tue 20 Jan, 10.30-11.30am



No Tech Games: Italian Card games

Discover the fun of a traditional Italian card game.

Ages 7-12 years.

Thu 22 Jan, 2.30-3.30pm





Mark Penzak: Labyrinth in the Library

Join Hugo on a magical adventure inside the library, where books come alive and a runaway robot threatens to erase their stories. With puppetry, music, and classic tales, this interactive show celebrates the power of reading and imagination.

For families and children aged 4+ years.

Tue 13 Jan, 10.30-11.20am



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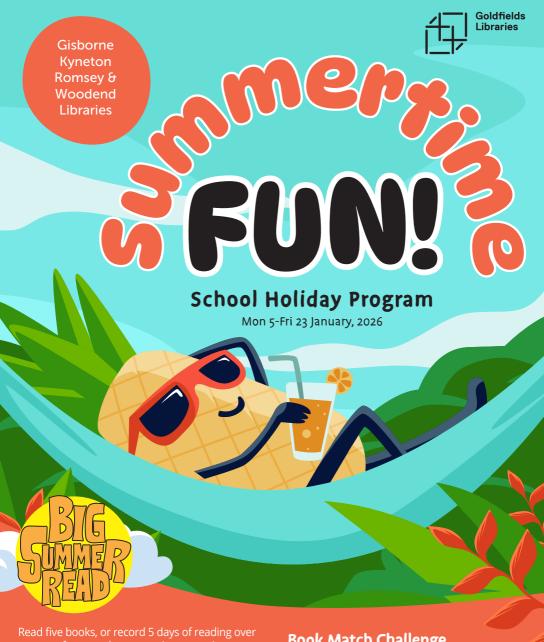
Wed 7 Jan, 10.30am-12.10pm (G) Wed 14 Jan, 10.30am-12:35pm (PG 10+) Wed 21 Jan, 10.30am-12.15pm (PG 10+)

Castlemaine Library 5472 1458 212 Barker St



BOOKINGS REQUIRED www.goldfieldslibraries.com

ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram



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For children and young people

Dec-Jan

All libraries or online

Book Match Challenge

Can you match each BIG Summer Read form from the library desk to complete the challenge, explore new stories and earn a little reward at the finish line.

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All libraries



DIY Paper Popsicles

Drop in to create your own colourful paper popsicle. Use cut-out paper shapes, a popsicle stick and tissue paper sprinkles to design a fun, summery treat.

Ages 5+ years.

Fri 2 Jan, 10am-12pm Woodend Library

Creation Station

The Creation Station is open for creating. Drop in and have fun making something from our stash of craft goodies. Feeling inspired? Try our fun challenge: create a piece that reflects your favourite book or story character.

Mon 5 Jan-Tue 27 Jan Gisborne Library

NGV Kids on Tour

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Take the Cake

Join us for a cake-themed drop-in art session. Be inspired and design an imaginative celebration cake and add to our giant cardboard cake!

Ages 5+ years.

Mon 5-Fri 9 Jan Kyneton Library

Make a Party Hat

Celebrate with us and create your own bright and colourful party hat, and play some funny games.

Ages 5+ years.

Mon 12 Jan, 10.30-11.15am & 11.30am-12.15pm Kyneton Library



Perfume in the 1700s

Come along to make some sweet smelling natural concoctions and design your own perfume bottle inspired by 18th-century elegance. Use imagery from nature, fantasy, street art, or pop culture to express your personal style.

Ages 5+ years.

Mon 19 Jan, 10.30-11.15am & 11.30am-12.15pm Kyneton Library





Watercolour pet portraits

Join our pet portrait painting workshop. Capture your furry friend's personality while learning fun painting techniques.

Ages 8-12 years.

Please email a photo of your pet to programs@ncgrl.vic.gov.au at least one week prior to workshop.

Fri 9 Jan, 10.30-11.30am Romsey Library

Fri 9 Jan, 1.30-2.30pm Kyneton Library



Mark Penzak: Labyrinth in the Library

Join Hugo on a magical adventure inside the library, where books come alive and a runaway robot threatens to erase their stories. With puppetry, music, and classic tales, this interactive show celebrates the power of reading and imagination.

For families and children aged 4+ years.



Thu 15 Jan, 10.30-11.20am

Woodend Library



Teddy Bear Sleepover

Hey kids – ever wondered what you might get up to at a sleepover? Bring your brave teddy or soft toy to the library for stories and fun. I wonder what they will get up to...

All participants will receive a certificate and photos of their toy's adventures.

Drop off: Fri 16 Jan, 9.30am-5pm Pick up: Sat 17 Jan, 9.30am-12.30pm Romsey Library



Activities for Teens

Junk-it!

Enjoy working on your own customised journal using recycled materials and quirky embellishments – a fun and creative way to preserve your story. Bring along your own personal mementos to include if you wish (items must be flat). Snack break included.

Ages 12-18 years.

Mon 12 Jan, 1.30-4.30pm Gisborne Library

Vision boards for teens

Mix it up with a bit of art, craft and handmade collage to set focus on goals and dreams for 2026. We'll have magazines to cut out pics and words to represent your goals, and bits and pieces to decorate.

Materials and snacks provided.

Ages 12-18 years.

Thu 22 Jan, 10-11.30am Woodend Library



Movies

Enjoy a new release family feature film on our big screen. No bookings needed.

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Tue 13 Jan, 10.30am-12.15pm (PG 10+) Mon 19 Jan, 2.30-4.10pm (G) Gisborne Library

Wed 14 Jan, 2.30-4.35pm (PG 10+) Fri 23 Jan, 2.30-4.10pm (G) Romsey Library





GISBORNE LIBRARY 5428 3962

8 Hamilton St

KYNETON LIBRARY 5422 1365 3 Baynton St ROMSEY LIBRARY 5429 3086

98 Main St

WOODEND LIBRARY 5427 2074 Cnr High & Forest Sts

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