Geek Blind Dates at the Library!
Do you feel stuck in a rut with your reading? Want to branch out, but don’t know what to read next? Or, are you the adventurous type? The Library presents “Blind Date with a Book” for the month of February. Stop in and get set up with your next book date...the catch? You don’t get to find out the title of the book or the name of the author before you go home. All books will be securely wrapped and there will be clues on the packaging (AKA 'dating profiles') as to what the book is about, but that is all you get. No peeking on the inside of the book to see the title or author. Stop by in February to find out if you’re ready to take the plunge!

Geek DIY Spring Cleaning Recipes
The Minot Public and Ward County Public Libraries are once again showing you how to Do-It-Yourself! On Wednesday, April 22nd at the Ward County Public Library our staff will be showing you how to make your own affordable and earth-friendly cleaning supplies. Space and supplies are limited so please call the Ward County Public Library at 852-5388 to register.

Story Times Planned For Children
The Minot Public Library offers story times for children of all ages.

BABY PLAY is a story time and sensory play activity for children ages 12 months to 3 years of age and their caregivers on Fridays February 6th through April 17th at 10:00 AM. There will be stories with an opportunity for children to play after the story time.

SIDE by SIDE STORIES, will be held on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM for children accompanied by parents or other caregivers January 13th through May 12th.

WHIMSICAL WEDNESDAYS, a puppet story time will be held on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM for independent children ages 3-6 January 14th through May 13th.

For more information about story times contact the Children’s Library at 838-0606.

Geek Game Day
Get ready for the big game with a chili cook-off and games on Saturday, January 24th at 2:00 pm. This event is a part of the “Geek The Library” campaign and is in conjunction with the Ward County Public Library. Everyone is welcome to bring their favorite chili recipe and the libraries will provide some toppings and beverages. While you’re sampling the chili you can play some new and classic board games as well as video games – there’s fun for all ages!! Voting will be held and a prize awarded for the best chili so be sure to bring your ‘A’ game! For more information please call the Library at 852-1045.

Geek Friends
Want to make a difference and support your Library? Join the Friends of the Library group! The mission of the Friends of the Minot Public Library is as follows: to maintain a group of people interested in libraries, to focus public attention on the library, to stimulate use of the library’s resources, to encourage gifts, endowments and bequests to the library and to support the freedom to read. Many of the programs and services offered by the Minot Public Library would not be possible without the tremendous support from our Friends. The Friends of the Minot Public Library is always ready to welcome new members. Members sponsor and participate in various types of activities including: three used book sales annually, funding of library programs, volunteering for library activities and purchasing needed items for the library. For more information call the library at 852-1045.

Maker Mondays
Maker Mondays, a story/activity program for independent children ages 3-6, will be held on Mondays at 10:30 AM in the Imagination Station. Topics for the weekly program are as follows:

Jan. 12 - Hot Chocolate
Jan. 19 - Snowmen
Jan. 26 - Mittens
Feb. 2 - Groundhog’s Day
Feb 9 - Valentine’s Day
Feb 16 - Penguins
Feb 23 - Bird Feeders
Mar. 2 - Dr. Seuss
Mar. 9 - Dinosaurs
Mar. 16 - St. Patrick’s Day
Mar. 23 - Kites
Mar. 30 - Easter Fun
April 6 - April Showers
April 13 - Here a Chick, There a Chick
April 20 - Rainbows
April 27 - Butterflies
May 4 - Mother’s Day
May 11 - Flowers

For more information about story times contact the Children’s Library at 838-0606.
Guys Read
Join us January 26th at 7:00 PM for an update on the LEGO Robotics Team that has been formed in the Minot area. Clint and Laura Erickson will be here with some of their team. Come learn all about airplanes on February 23rd at 7:00 PM when representatives of the Air Museum will be here to share some of the things about the planes in the museum.

It’s A Seussical Birthday!
Dr. Seuss’s Birthday Celebration will be held Sunday, March 1, 1:00-1:30 PM. It’s a fun time for children of all ages. There will be games, activities and stories galore. Information about the event will be available at your child’s school and the Library in February. Mark your calendars now.

Tech Tutors: 1-on-1 Computer Help for Adults
The Library offers one-on-one computer help for adults at no cost. Individuals are invited to sign up for these one-hour sessions by calling 852-1045 or by visiting our website at www.minotlibrary.org and clicking on “Technology Education” on the left-hand side. Topics that can be covered include: Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher or PowerPoint Basics; Computer Basics; Internet Tips & Searching; Email Basics; OverDrive or OneClickdigital Electronic Format Materials; Genealogy Resource Links; and the library’s Electronic Resources.

For more information about adult and teen programs, or to preregister, please call the library at 852-1045

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Let’s Go Fishing! On March 23rd at 7:00 PM we will have members from the ND Anglers Association talk about youth fishing.

Makerspace & Crafts
We have been awarded a grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation to create our very own MAKERSPACE. In our new Makerspace we will have equipment that can take a digital consumer to a digital producer. Individuals will be able to make their own video games, write and film their own commercials, add special effects to photos and videos, and animate their own drawings! We hope to have this up and running by mid March! We will be holding workshops to help individuals learn how to use our amazing new tools! We’ll also do some fun crafts and get our hands a little dirty! Be sure to register as space and supplies are limited!

To register: Email Pam at pam.carswell@minotnd.org, call 852-1045 or sign up at the front desk.

Vacation Day Programs For Children
School age children grades K-5 will be able to participate in fun activities when school is not in session. We will be hosting a Frozen Party on Monday, January 19th at 2:00 PM in the Imagination Station. We will be doing all kinds of fun frozen things! Join us Monday, February 16th at 2:00 PM for a sweet program with our version of cupcake wars for children!! On Thursday, March 12th from 2-4 PM we will have a Maker Fair. Children will be able to make a variety of things.

Tag (Teen Advisory Group) Meetings
TAG (Teen Advisory Group) is comprised of teens and tweens in grades 6-12 and is open to ANY teen who is interested in giving Pam their opinions about programs and materials! We welcome big ideas and make a lot of fun and exciting plans! TAG will be held on March 26th and April 2nd from 3:30-4:30 PM.

Big Thank You!
Thank you to Myrna at Marketplace Foods for the instruction on cake decorating. We learned so much! Thank you also to Marketplace for the very generous donation of cakes and supplies!

Tech Tutors: One-on-One Computer Help
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Gaming News
We love video games here at MPL! We have a game collection for checkout located in the teen section. Games go out for a week, limit 2 games per patron. It’s a great way try out a new game and see if you like it. For gaming events, we have an Xbox360, a Wii, a WiiU, a Kinect, and lots of tablets. Bring a game from home or play one of ours. We hold a Gaming Tournament both spring and fall. Jonah from Gorilla Games is our favorite Gamemaster and the teens compete on a chosen game. Those not wishing to compete may play other gaming machines. There are prizes: gift cards to Gorilla Games for the tournament’s top three players. Grab a buddy and see if you’ve got GAME!

GAME ON SATURDAY: 1:00-4:00 PM January 10th and February 14th!
After School Gaming: 3:30-5:30 PM January 29th and February 19th!

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Library cards are required to sign up for Tech Tutors. You may bring your own laptop or portable device if you wish to do so. Tutoring sessions are by appointment only and tutor availability will depend on the type of computer help needed.
Lego Club To Continue To Meet
The LEGO Club will meet the second Tuesday of the month beginning January 13th at 7:00 PM in the Imagination Station. Children four years of age to Grade 5 and parents interested in building are encouraged to attend. At each meeting children will have the opportunity to create different structures and vehicles with LEGOs. Each month their structures are on display in the Children's Library.

Calling All Poets
The Friends of the Library will sponsor the annual Dallas Gillmore Poetry Writing Contest for children grades 2-5. Any type of original poetry may be submitted. Prizes of $25, $15, and $10 will be awarded to the winners in grade 2, 3, 4, and 5. Winners from each grade level (2-5) will be asked to read their poems on Saturday, April 18th at 2:00 PM in the Imagination Station. The deadline for poetry submissions will be Thursday, April 2nd. All entries must have the student's name, grade, school and teacher written clearly on the BACK of the entry. DO NOT put this information on the front. Failure to include this information on the back will result in disqualification.

It's Tea Time At The Library!
Pre-school children and their grandparents are invited to the annual Grandparents Tea on April 15th at 10:30 AM in the Imagination Station. Guests will be treated to stories and puppets and of course, treats. Children may bring special friends or adopted grandparents as well. The event is being held in conjunction with National Library Week.

Teen Movies
Our Friends of the Library provided the funds for a Twentieth Century Fox movie license! THANK YOU! We'll be watching a lot of our favorite books and stories come to life on the big screen! With three of our movies, we'll do an easy craft that relates to the movie! Bring a Friend!!

January 15th Movie: Maleficent 3:30-5:00 PM
January 22nd Movie: Guardians of the Galaxy 3:30-5:30 PM
February 5th Movie: Maze Runner 3:30-5:15 PM
February 12th Movie: The Secret Life of Walter Mitty 3:30-5:30 PM
February 16th Movie: Monuments Men & Craft: Puzzle Picture Frames 2:00-4:30 PM
March 5th Movie: If I Stay 3:30-5:30 PM
March 13th Movie: Boxtrolls & Craft: Circuit Making 2:00-4:00 PM
April 16th Movie: The Book Thief 3:30-5:30 PM
April 23rd Movie: Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader 3:30-5:30 PM
May 13th Movie: Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters & Blue Waffles 2:00-4:00 PM

ASK Programs for School Age Children Scheduled
After School Kids Programs will resume Monday, January 5th at 3:45 PM in the Imagination Station. The activity-based programs geared for school age children (K-5) are as follows:

January 5 – Hot Chocolate Fun
January 12 – Chocolate Science
January 26 – For the Birds!
February 2 – Candy Experiments
February 9 – Happy Valentine’s Day
February 23 – LEGO Fun!
March 2 – Dr. Seuss
March 9 – Let it Blow
March 16 – The Luck of the Irish
March 23 – Chick, Chick Here
March 30 – Easter Eggs

Teen Movies
Come spend your afternoons off with us watching movies on the big screen in the Imagination Station. We will be showing movies at 2:00 PM on the following days:

March 18 Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day
May 13 To Be Announced
Bring your own snacks and drinks!

READ Dog Available for Children
Sisu, a Reading Education Assistance Dog, will be available for children to read to on the first Tuesday of the month from 4:00-5:00 PM in the Children’s Library. Sisu is a standard poodle and LOVES listening to children read. Children may read for 15 minutes on a first come first serve basis.
Calendar of Events

JANUARY
5  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
6   Sisu, The Reading Dog 4:00-5:00 PM
10  Teen Gaming 1:00-4:00 PM
12  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   After School Kids Program 3:45 PM
13  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   LEGO Club 7:00 PM
14  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
15  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
19  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   Frozen Program 2:00 PM
   Teen Program Animal Shelter Visit & Craft 2 PM
20  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
21  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
22  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
24  Geek Game Day & Chill Cook-Off 2:00 PM
26  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   ASK 3:45 PM
   Guys Read 7:00 PM
27  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
28  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
29  Teen Gaming 3:30 PM

FEBRUARY
2  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   ASK 3:45 PM
3   Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   Sisu, The Reading Dog 4:00-5:00 PM
4   Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
   Lego Space Training: Animation 3:30 PM
5   Teen Movie 3:30 PM
6   Baby Play 10:00 AM
9   Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
10  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   LEGO Club 7:00 PM
11  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
12  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
13  Baby Play 10:00 AM
14  Teen Gaming 1:00 PM
15  After School Gaming 3:30 PM
16  Teen Gaming 1:00-4:00 PM
17  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
18  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
19  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
20  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
   Guys Read 7:00 PM
21  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
22  Teen Movie 10:00 AM
23  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
24  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
25  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
26  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
27  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
28  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
29  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
30  Teen Movie 3:30 PM

MARCH
1  Dr. Seuss Celebration 1:30 PM
2  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
3   Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   Sisu, The Reading Dog 4-5 PM
4   Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
   Lego Space Training: Animation 3:30 PM
5   Teen Movie 3:30 PM
6   Baby Play 10:00 AM
9   Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
10  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   LEGO Club 7:00 PM
11  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
12  Maker Fair 2:00 PM
13  Baby Play 10:00 AM
14  Teen Gaming 1-4 PM
16  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
   After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM

APRIL
1  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
6  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
7   Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   Sisu, The Reading Dog 4:00-5:00 PM
8   Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
10  Baby Play 10:00 AM
11  Teen Gaming 1:00-4:00 PM
13  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
14  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   LEGO Club 7:00 PM
15  Grandparent Tea 10:30 AM
16  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
17  Library Board Meeting 4:15 PM
18  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
19  Teen Gaming 3:30 PM
20  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
   Guys Read 7:00 PM
21  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
22  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
23  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
24  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
25  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
26  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
27  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
28  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
29  Teen Gaming 3:30 PM
30  Teen Movie 3:30 PM

MAY
4  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
5   Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   Sisu, The Reading Dog 4:00-5:00 PM
6   Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
7   Teen Craft 3:30 PM
9   Teen Gaming Day 1:00 PM
11  Maker Monday 10:30 AM
12  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
   LEGO Club 7:00 PM
13  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
14  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
15  After School Gaming 3:30 PM
17  Library Board Meeting 4:15 PM
18  Teen Movie 3:30 PM
19  Library Board Meeting 4:15 PM
20  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
   Guys Read 7:00 PM
21  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
22  Whimsical Wednesday 10:30 AM
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25  Side by Side Stories 10:00 AM
26  After School Kids Program (ASK) 3:45 PM
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29  Teen Gaming 3:30 PM
30  Teen Movie 3:30 PM

Library Hour
Mon.-Thur. ................. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Fri. .......................... 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sat. .......................... 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sun. .......................... 1-5 p.m. (Sept.-May)

Phone Numbers
Adult/Reference .......... 852-1045
Children’s .................. 838-0606
Information Referral ........ 852-0333
Talking Books ............. 1-800-843-9948
Fax .......................... 852-2595
Web .......................... www.minotlibrary.org

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www.minotlibrary.org. Downloadable to your Kindle, Nook, Ipad and a variety of other devices. This service is available with your library card. Checkout over 100 digital magazines through the Library’s website.

Thank You Sponsors

Check out the upcoming library events and activities scheduled.