



# Framingham Library Youth Newsletter

April 2026

## April is Neurodiversity Celebration Month



If you're new to Neurodiversity Celebration Month, it's a time for us to recognize certain differences in our community, including autism, ADHD, dyslexia, and more. This is an opportunity to value those differences because they aren't obstacles to overcome, but strengths worth celebrating.

As part of that celebration, the Framingham Library has a community art project this April, and we need your help! We are creating a mural to raise awareness about neurodiversity. Whether you are neurodiverse, know someone who is, or want to support the community, we invite you to contribute to this mural.

Drop by the Spark Lab at the Main Library to decorate a square using your own artistic style. We have three events scheduled: April 4 at 2PM, April 6 at 6PM, and April 9 at 5PM. Supplies are provided for you. All ages are welcome!

After these three events, we'll put together the squares to form a beautiful mural for display to celebrate the idea that it is our differences that are our strengths.

## Main Library Children's Programs

### Paper Bag Kites

April 3, 11AM | Costin Room | Ages 2–12

Decorate a paper bag, add some string, and watch it soar!

### Collaborative Mural for Neurodiversity Celebration Month

April 4, 2PM | Spark Lab | All ages

April 6, 6PM | Spark Lab | All ages

April 9, 5PM | Spark Lab | All ages

The Children's Department is creating a mural, and we want YOUR HELP! Drop in to contribute by decorating a square using your own artistic style. After all three events have been held, we'll put together the squares to form a beautiful mural for display to celebrate the idea that it is our differences that are our strengths.

### Shell Mosaic Art

April 7, 4:30PM | J Program Room | Ages 4–12

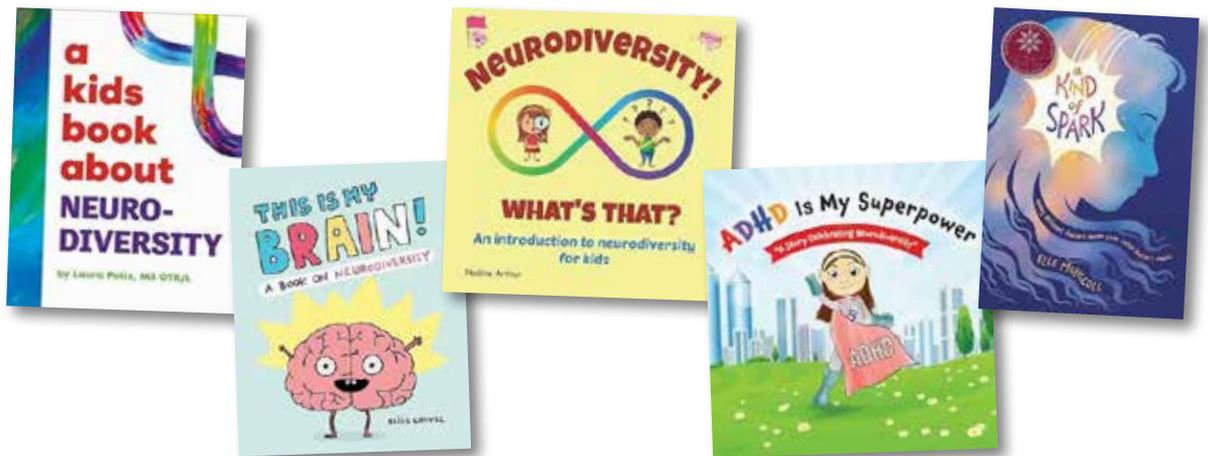
Create tactile art projects using shells on clay.

### Wellesley Symphony: A Family Concert Experience

April 11, 11AM | Costin Room | All ages

Join us for a fun family concert, hear about basic musical concepts, and learn how instruments work!

Want to learn more about neurodiversity? Here are just a few books in our collection to check out.



#### Main Library

49 Lexington Street  
508.532.5570  
Monday–Thursday 9–9  
Friday & Saturday 9–5  
\*Sunday 1–5

#### McAuliffe Branch Library

746 Water Street  
508.532.5636  
Monday–Thursday 9:30–9  
Friday & Saturday 9:30–5  
\*Sunday 12–4

\* Both libraries are closed on Sundays in July and August.

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## Poem in Your Pocket

April 21, 2–4PM | Spark Lab | Ages 4–8

Create a pocket-shaped poem holder and fill it with your favorite poems to share with others on Poem in Your Pocket Day (April 30)!



## Blackout Poetry

April 21, 6PM | Spark Lab | Ages 9–12

Give new meaning to old texts! Learn how to create found poetry from old book pages by drawing over and rearranging the pre-written words.

## Magic of Monarchs

April 22, 11AM | J Program Room | All ages

Learn about the butterfly lifecycle with live caterpillars.

## Kids Afternoon Painting Workshop with Julie Harrold

April 22, 6PM | Spark Lab | Ages 8–12

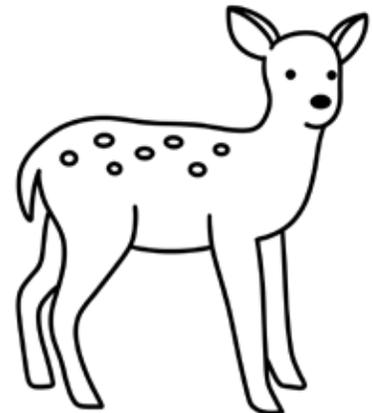
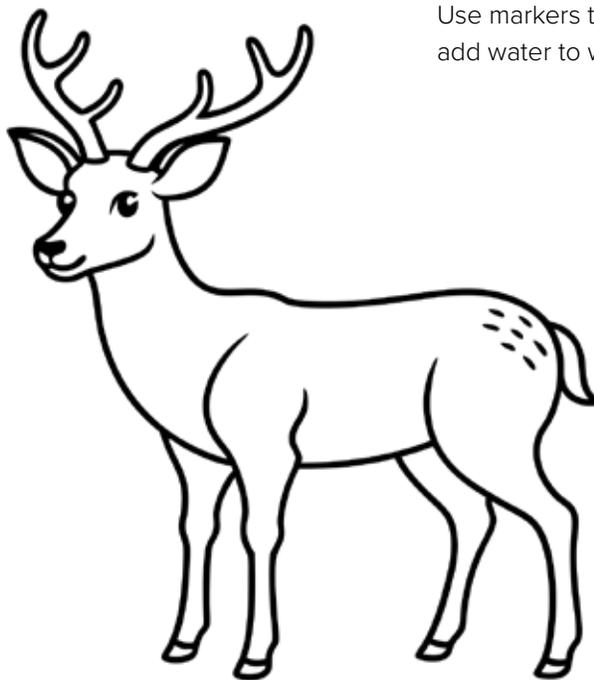
Join Art Educator Julie Harrold in an instructional step-by-step painting of a bird with cherry blossoms! Learn to see shapes and use blending and layering techniques. Painting done on an 11x14 canvas board with acrylic paint. No painting experience necessary—dress for mess! Get a ticket from the Children's Desk within 30 minutes of the program to secure your spot. Space is limited.

## Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.) Day

April 25, 11AM–3PM | Children's Room | Ages 0–12

Held in April for author Beverly Cleary's birthday, D.E.A.R. Day, based on the "Ramona Quimby" book series, reminds everyone to make time for reading. Join us in the Children's Room to celebrate with snacks, hot cocoa, cozy crafts, activities, and lots of comfy reading spots.

Did someone say  
"Deer Day"?



# McAuliffe Children's Programs

## Hanging Planters

April 6, 6PM | Craft Room | Ages 5–12

Using recycled bottles, create and decorate your own hanging planters. Then grab some seeds from our Seed Lending Library to plant!

## Little Innovators, Big Dreams: Putty & Polymers

April 11, 2PM | Craft Room | Ages 8–12

Students can make their own putty while also learning how properties of polymers can be seen through the process!

## Instrument Petting Zoo with Musicologie Ashland

April 14, 11–11:30AM | Community Room | Ages 0–5

Join our friends from Musicologie Ashland for a post-storytime petting zoo of instruments!



## Stuffed Animal Sleepover (Ages 0–12)

April 21, 9:30–7PM (Drop Off) | Children's Room

April 22 9:30–5:30PM (Pick Up) | Children's Room

Drop off your stuffed animal for their own overnight adventure in the library! Registration is required and space is limited. Please call 508.532.5636 x4 to register.

## Make a Mini Boxset Workshop

April 23, 2:30–5PM | Community Room | Grades 3–6

Learn 3D modeling with Tinkercad from the staff of ToysInBox. Design a 2-piece mini box, practice removing support, and learn Tinkercad Workplane helper and design a die! Space is limited. [Registration required.](#)

## Coffee Filter Earth Sun Catcher

April 29, 11AM | Craft Room | Ages 2–5

Use markers to color the earth, and then add water to watch the colors swirl!

# Storytimes

## Weekly Storytimes (Ages 3–5)

Mondays, 10AM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Thursdays, 10AM | Main Library, Costin Room

Drop in every week for themed stories and a craft.

## Baby Storytime (Ages 0–2)

Tuesdays, 10AM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Fridays, 10:30AM | Main Library, Costin Room

Sing and play with words, rhyme, and puppets!

## Mandarin Storytime and Craft (Ages 3–5)

April 4, 3PM | Main Library, Children’s Program Room

April 18, 3PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community & Craft Rooms

Join BrightUpKids for a storytime and craft spoken in Mandarin!

## Baby Sensory Series

Fun, safe, and simple sensory activities to help your baby explore. All programs for ages 1–4 unless otherwise noted.

## Wooden Block Play

April 8, 10AM | Main Library, Children’s Program Room

## Bird Feeders

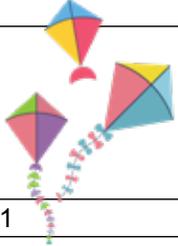
April 23, 10:30AM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room

## Book Buddies: Reading to Dogs

April 24, 11AM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room (Ajax)

April 27, 4PM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room (Marvel)

Improve your reading skills by reading aloud to your new Book Buddy. Call or drop by to sign up for a time slot.

April 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Stuffed Animal Sleepover @ McAuliffe</b> <b>Registration Required</b> April 21, 9:30AM-7PM DROP OFF April 22 9:30-5:30PM PICK UP			1	2	3	4
			Open Color 3:30pm @ McAuliffe	Fuse Bead Social 2pm @ Main	Paper Bag Kites 11am @ Main	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Hanging Planters 6pm @ McAuliffe	Shell Mosaic Art 4:30pm @ Main  Chess Club 5pm @ Main	Wooden Block Play 10am @ Main			Wellesley Symphony 11am @ Main Little Innovators, Big Dreams 2pm @ McAuliffe
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Instrument Petting Zoo with Musicologie Ashland 11am @ McAuliffe		LEGO Build 4pm @ Main		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Poem In Your Pocket 2-4pm @ Main Chess Club 5pm @ McAuliffe Blackout Poetry 6pm @ Main	Magic of Monarchs 11am @ Main  Kids Afternoon Painting Workshop with Julie Harrold 6pm @ Main	Bird Feeders 10:30am @ McAuliffe Make a Mini Boxset Workshop 2:30-5pm @ McAuliffe LEGO Build 3:30pm @ McAuliffe		Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.) Day 11am-3pm @ Main
26	27	28	29	30	<b>Collaborative Mural for                      Neurodiversity Celebration Month                      @ Main</b> April 4th at 2PM April 6th at 6PM April 9th at 5PM	
			Coffee Filter Earth Sun Catcher 11am @ McAuliffe			

## Ongoing Programs

### Kids' Chess Club

April 7, 5PM | Main Library, Technology Learning Center

April 21, 5PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

This Chess Club is an informal group welcoming everyone from new players to junior chess masters! Chess boards are provided, but you can bring your own. Staff are available to help with questions, but do not teach chess.

### Open Color

April 1, 3:30PM | Craft Room | Ages 5–12

Drop in to color printed out pictures and do fun mazes and word activity sheets!

### Fuse Bead Social

April 2, 2–4PM | Main Library, Spark Lab | Ages 7–12

Create your own fuse bead designs!

### LEGO Build

April 16, 4–5:30PM | Main Library, Spark Lab | Ages 5–12

April 23, 3:30PM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room | Ages 5–12

Make a LEGO creation to display at the library.

## Teen Programs (\*Grades 6–12)

### Weekly Minecraft Collaborative Build

Wednesdays, 3–4:30PM | FPL Minecraft Server | Grades 4–12

Every Wednesday, work on a group build in Creative Mode. Must be accepted on Minecraft Server to participate. For more information, visit [framinghamlibrary.org/minecraft](http://framinghamlibrary.org/minecraft).

### Early Release Day Craft: Kandi Bracelets

April 2, 12:30–2:30PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Make your own brightly colored bracelets to wear and share.

### Maker Mondays: Open Spark Lab

April 6, 13, 20, & 27, 3–4:30PM | Main Library, Spark Lab

Use anything in the Spark Lab to work on your projects! Design something to be 3D printed! Needle felt something! Make some stickers! You decide.

### Alphabet Soup—Queer Teen Hangout

April 2, 6–7PM | Main Library, Teen Room

Alphabet Soup will only be at the Main Library in April. We'll see you again at both branches in May!

### Early Release Day Slime

April 9, 12:30–2:30PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Make slime on the back patio!

### Vacation Week Mug Cakes

April 21, 1–3PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

April 23, 1–3PM | Main Library, Spark Lab

Make a tasty post lunch mug cake during vacation week!

### Anime Club

April 25, 2–4PM | Main Library, Trustees Room

Watch anime, do crafts, eat snacks, and meet other anime and manga lovers.



\* Unless otherwise noted