

# Merrill Public Library Summer Reading Program 2026



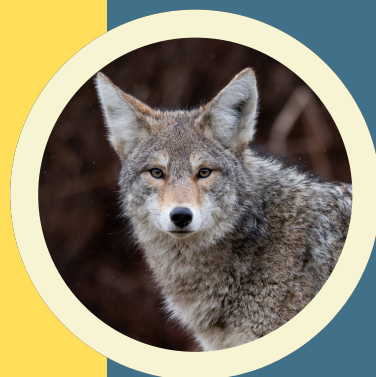
## PLANT A SEED, READ!

**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  
CRAFTS: bubble painting and  
beaded jewelry

5:30 – 6:30 pm  
YOUNG ADULT Book Club, *The  
Inheritance Game*

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  
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  
Nutrition talk followed by "Explore  
your senses" (taste game)

5:30 – 6:30 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