

imagineif LIBRARIES

Bigfork | Columbia Falls | Kalispell | Marion

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ImagineIF Kicks Off Summer with Outdoor Educational Programming

Kalispell, MT – ImagineIF Libraries' Youth Services staff are excited to bring educational programming for children outdoors this summer. Library staff have a responsibility to provide reasonably safe access to library services. Due to limited space in the library to safely host in-person programs, in-building events will remain on pause through the summer. ImagineIF will still provide robust hands-on learning for youth in Flathead County. Starting in June, kids can enjoy outdoor Early Literacy classes and Story Strolls at local parks around the Flathead Valley. Plus, ImagineIF's Summer Experience program launches June 14th at all locations.

Join your favorite youth services staff for outdoor Early Literacy classes in June, July and August at local parks around the valley. They'll read books, sing songs, and develop pre-reading skills together. See dates, times and locations online at:

<https://imagineiflibraries.org/for-you/kids/>

Take reading into the outdoors this summer with ImagineIF's Story Strolls. ImagineIF has partnered with local parks so youth and adults alike can enjoy reading a children's picture book while strolling along a nature path. This activity is a great complement to ImagineIF's Summer Experience program and encourages literacy and a love of reading. Studies have shown that families that read together grow strong readers.

Story Stroll Dates and Times:

Bigfork Nature Trails: June 10-17

Lawrence Park: June 19-25

West Shore Community Library: July 9-16

More locations are coming soon! Stay tuned to ImagineIF Libraries' Facebook or Instagram accounts for updates, or check their online events calendar at:

<https://imagineiflibraries.org/events/>

In addition to the outdoor Early Literacy classes and Story Strolls, ImagineIF's Summer Experience Program launches June 14th. Youth and Adults can pick up guidebooks and adventure kits designed to encourage self-paced reading, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) and nature activities at all ImagineIF locations (while supplies last). Find out more at: <https://imagineiflibraries.org/summer-experience/>

With libraries having returned to full hours in May, library staff invite the community to visit their local library to get a card, check out books and more, and see what's new. Masks are recommended and appreciated but not required. Curbside Pickup and Personal Shopper services are still available.

ImagineIF Libraries' mission is to provide safe and unfettered access to information for everyone in Flathead County. For more information, visit www.imagineiflibraries.org.

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