



August 2020

Dear friends,

Oh, how we miss you, your smiles, your greetings . . . stories, kiddos . . . everything. We just miss you, that's all!

Of course, we had hoped that we would be able to open the building by now, and "get back to normal", whatever that means today. We simply cannot do that at this time. COVID cases are rising in Kansas, and our building is too small to accommodate visitors during the virus threat. We have added virtual programs, as you know, and check outs for items such as kits and American Girl Dolls. We are trying hard to serve in the best possible way while we are waiting to be able to re-open the building.

Here is a glimpse of upcoming programming that we are hard at work to develop for you. We will be continuing the "Take and Make" packets as they have been available throughout the summer. Singing Sarah will be offering her baby story times outside the building on the lawn. Of course, we will mandate all outside programming attendees (except very young children) to wear masks and maintain social distancing. Parents must stay with children. Miss Montana is also preparing Tuesday story times to begin soon (same time), with crafts and activities, but to be held outside on the lawn, as well. We will keep you updated on when these two programs will begin in September.

Now, to the books. We will be offering a new 2 X 2 virtual reading challenge (2 years through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and a virtual 1000 books before Kindergarten program which should look a lot like the one we have offered before. Those of you who participated in our virtual Summer Reading Program this year will be familiar with the platform that we used called, Beanstack. This platform offers many wonderful challenges for your kiddos of all ages. We will announce these offerings very soon. Some examples of these challenges are: Dear Diary Day, Ten to Try (10 books in different genres), poetry, etc. And don't forget the Battle of the Books!

Now these last two programming offers will really excite you. They excite us, for sure! Mindy and Tana are working on putting together a Family Escape Room Kit for checkout. Many of you

visited Escape Rooms before COVID. Soon you will be able to bring this fun activity home for the whole family to participate in.

The second exciting programming addition is Camps, available during certain school vacations and summer breaks. Each Camp will last for one week. You will be able to pick up a Camp Box full of specific themed crafts, experiments, sometimes books, color pages, and other appropriate items. Each day's items and instructions will be separated in the box, and each day your child will generate a product or experiment that they can share online on the library's social media outlets. We are planning to pilot this program within the next six weeks with a Harry Potter Camp.

One last thing that has been floating around in my head . . . I have been wondering whether or not you would be interested in our researching how the library might be able to help you with online schooling . . . curriculum, software, ideas, tips, etc. If you are wanting us to do that research, please let us know.

Well, if you have waded all the way through this epistle, I congratulate you. Please know that we are doing all we can to make this period as pleasant as we can for you and yours.

Stay safe, dear ones,

Carol Wohlford  
Director  
Eudora Community Library