



Keshet



Inclusive Summer Programs at Local Libraries Across Chicagoland

This guide highlights inclusive summer programs and services available at four public libraries across the Chicagoland area. Each offers unique opportunities for children with disabilities to enjoy reading and learning in supportive, accessible environments.

Please check in with your local library branch to see what they offer and how you and your child can benefit from their services. Many libraries provide access to audiobooks, large print books, braille books, and other formats to help make reading more accessible for your child.

Northbrook Public Library

- Inclusive summer reading programs, including Accessibility Hour—an opportunity for families of students with disabilities to visit the library one hour before regular hours in a sensory-friendly environment.
- Themed story times and other general summer reading activities for all ages.
- Information also available about Northbrook Days, an annual event that may include programs for families with special needs.

Skokie Public Library

- Summer Reading Program (2025 theme: “Color Our World”) for children aged 4 to 11, encouraging kids to read six or more library books.
- Incentives for struggling readers and a range of engaging online resources and booklists.
- Accessibility-focused events: Early Entry: An Accessibility Hour, Melody and Motion Sensory Storytime, Together Time, Nature Play, and Books and Bites: Ramen for Everyone.
- Additional resources: podcast series for caregivers, access to the Hellosaurus learning app, and other online materials.

Evanston Public Library

- 'Hearts of Readers': a half-hour all-abilities storytime where Misericordia day residents read to toddlers, preschoolers, and caregivers.
- Designed to be inclusive and accessible for all abilities.

Chicago Public Library

- Offers general summer reading programs and activities that are often inclusive of all ages and abilities.
- Some programs may be specifically supportive for families of children with disabilities, though not always advertised as such.