Around the Parish

DECEMBER 2023 – JANUARY 2024
Season's Readings

East Baton Rouge Parish Library Kids

Visit your local library to check out new and classic holiday books. And remember: Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Sleigh!

Season’s Readings: Here are the most popular eBooks and audiobooks available from the Library to guide your winter reading

There’s an embarrassment of riches to consume over the holidays, according to the Library's statistics. The loans of eBooks, audiobooks, and print books have all been on the rise. In 2019, the Library moved multiple positions on the list of the most popular children's titles.

During the holidays, Assistant Library Director Meg Nunez encourages us to take some time for ourselves and enjoy the simple pleasures of a good book. "New books are new gifts for us all. We all have our favorite books to share. And there is a new book for everyone," she said. "Whatever you choose to consume, whether print, audio, or video, let the Library make it easy for you."

These titles and many more are available through the Library’s digital app, Libby, which can be found online at https://www.libby.com.

Kid’s Orchestra Books and Music at the Greenwell Springs Library
Holiday Cheer!

East Baton Rouge Parish Library Kids

Check out the fun things kids have been doing at the Delmont Gardens Library!
Music – Films – Games
Lady Chops will visit three Library branches to celebrate the season with her exciting holiday program, Here Comes the Bells, So Many Bells! Registration is required. To register, please call the Library branch directly.
Santa delivers Christmas gifts to preschoolers at Scotlandville Library

A group of preschoolers received some extra special Christmas gifts at the Scotlandville Library on Monday.

By WAFB Staff
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BATON ROUGE, La. (WAFB) - A group of preschoolers received some extra special Christmas gifts at the Scotlandville Library on Monday.

Baton Rouge Early Childhood Education Collaborative (BRECEC) brought Santa Claus to the library on Dec. 18 to distribute gifts to children enrolled in the Home Start Early Childhood Education and Wellness Program.

Kids even got the chance to take photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The goal of the organization, BRECEC, is to assist underserved preschoolers during the holiday season and year-round.
New Programs for Adults: Tai Chi & Line Dancing
Plus Favorites for Garden Discoveries & Local Film Fans
LINCOLN AT THE LIBRARY

“A VISIT WITH MR. LINCOLN”
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 AT 11 A.M.
GREENWELL SPRINGS ROAD REGIONAL BRANCH LIBRARY

“ABRAHAM LINCOLN: A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM”
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 AT 2:30 P.M.
ZACHARY BRANCH LIBRARY

“LINCOLN ON SLAVERY, EMANCIPATION, AND EQUALITY”
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 AT 3 P.M.
SCOTLANDVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY
“A Tall Order” Premiered on LPB in December
Blake wanted to do something educational with his daughter so he signed her up for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten.

Their experience with the program inspired Blake to write his own book, Squeezing Success.
Virtual Author Talk Series

Remember – Author Talks are archived at library.org/ebrpl
More “Strictly Business”
The overall visitor Gate Count rose to 1,704,452.
An increase of 9.74%
Staff report that people are staying longer and taking advantage of more services when they visit.

The Library issued 27,449 new library cards in 2023.

The total Patron Count increased to 337,943 or 74% of the parish population.

Over 1/3 of these patrons had used their cards within the last 12 weeks.
Engagement and Activity

Overall Circulation is up 8%.

Digital circulation comprised a significant portion of the total circulation of 2,769,116 with more than 1.2 million downloads.

Many “digital” patrons are returning in-person for physical items.

The Library increased the collections of the Library of Things with more circulating Wi-Fi Hotspots, Games, and Family Activity Kits.

725 Wi-Fi 2 Geaux Hotspots were checked out 5,332 times in 2023.
Special Literacy Projects

Continuing its focus on literacy, a new cohort of children “graduated” from 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, which enrolled 646 new participants and logged 49,496 books.

The Reading is Elementary program enrolled 511 children, and the Literacy Calendar has expanded to Spanish.

Beanstack’s virtual Summer Reading Club platform extended activities throughout the year.

Staff presented 2,392 storytimes to almost 53,000 attendees.

The Press Start! Ready, Set, Read! Initiative continued at all branches.

Library staff continued the Home Library Pilot Project working with at-risk 3rd graders at six schools.
Information and Access

This year, there were 878,095 Reference/Information questions, reflecting the ability for patrons to come in person to any location to ask for assistance or self-serve.

Recording 919,008 logins, the Library’s Wi-Fi usage showed modest gains of 2.3%. Wi-Fi was enhanced throughout the system.
300+ Patrons Participated
New Cards for Students
Carver Branch Library will remain closed due to maintenance issues

Bookmobile and Outreach Services phones are down due to construction. See how to contact us.