

End of June

The combination of school summer vacation, switching *CPL Game Club* to a biweekly schedule, and setting out board games for patrons to play at their leisure, has all come together to cause an increase in our tween/teen involvement! We've had older children making active plans to visit us on program days or to come in just for somewhere to play a board game and escape the heat.

Unfortunately, the planned visit to the Youth Clubhouse's *Harm Reduction Heroes* program fell through. Fortunately, our scheduled *Clubhouse Radio* appearance on July 1st (station WGXC) was a hit, and I had a lovely time being interviewed. We talked about some Library programs. For those interested, you can listen to the interview here:

<https://wavefarm.org/radio/wgxc/audio-archive/qcd0ag>

Our last crafting program for June was the tween/teen *Macrame & Chill* program, during which we ate some snacks and worked on making keychains in the previous few days of the month. We had eight attendees, many of whom came back for *Game Club*!

July

The first week of July had our *Summer Reading Welcome Week* and *CPL Game Club*. We also welcomed the Columbia-Greene Workforce to the Catskill Public Library! We ended *Welcome Week* with about 59 out of 90 Summer Reading slots. We ended 2021 Summer Reading with 75 total participants, so we're already seeing a massive increase in interest and participation for 2022. We also saw our Friday storytime program double in attendance during this week.

Summer Reading Activities started on July 11th with our first in-person activity, *Seashell Stations*. No pictures to include here, but we had seven children attend. Also, July 11th was our first *On the Go: FOR KIDS* program, for which we are visiting public places around Catskill to advertise to community members, play some outdoor games, and host give-a-ways of small toys and books. We are still 'testing the waters with this program, so times and locations may change for August. Our first visit was to Dutchman's Landing Park, and we had 20 people stop by our table, pick up brochures, and help us fly kites! This is an increase from the five-or-less people we'd attracted during our similar 2021 *Pop-up* program. On Wednesday, we had our tween/teen activity *Marbled Mugs*, which had six participants (please see attached photos!). We also had our second *On the Go* visit to Elliott Park. It was less successful, with only five visitors.

Friday, 7/15, is our storytime program and first-of-two outside facilitator programs down at Dutchman's Landing Stage, which we've been advertising on Facebook, our website, and word-of-mouth! Saturday is our recurring *Classic Cartoons* program.

I want to take a moment to highlight the increase in community engagement we're seeing. Even after the Monday and Wednesday programs had concluded, many of our attendees stuck around to look for books, chat with other families, and play board games.

Upcoming

Every week of July and August we will have two in-house programs and our regular recurring programs. Judging just from the first week, we expect our programs to have consistent (and hopefully growing!) attendance; though only seven children participated in *Seashell Stations*, we

were/are prepped for 25.

August: Caroline and I are coordinating visits with community organizations and programs for our *On the Go: FOR KIDS* program and other activities. We have three weeks of programming planned (same structure, two in-house programs a week, plus storytime). 2022 Summer Reading for Catskill and Palenville ends on August 20th. At the end of August, we'll take a little bit of a programming break to recoup from the Summer Reading excitement, and then it's straight into Fall programming!

7/13 Marbled Mugs:

