

LIBRARY LINES

LEXINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY — CONNECT. ENGAGE. ENRICH.

July 2026

UNEARTH A STORY AT THE LIBRARY

Summer Reading – This year's Summer Reading Program came to a close on July 31. Lexington County Public Library held a myriad of fantastic programs — we celebrated the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution alongside Lexington County Museum, heard true crime stories from Dick Harpootlian, saw hilarious dino-themed magic shows by Professor Whizzpop and so much more. A total of **9,355** people registered for Summer Reading, read for **4,365,038** minutes and unearthed their own stories at the library.



Rooted in Poetry – Jennifer Bartell Boykin, Poet Laureate of the City of Columbia, presented *Rooted in Poetry* for **28** middle and high schoolers. She visited seven library locations throughout the month of July and encouraged the attendees to draw inspiration from nature to craft their own poems.



Dave the Potter – Lexington County Museum showcased *Dave the Potter* at seven branches for middle and high schoolers. A total of **48** attendees explored Edgefield pottery and the long-lasting legacy of Dave Drake, an enslaved potter and poet.



America 250 – Thanks to a grant from SC250, Southern Campaign 1750 presented *Battlefield Stories* at all ten branches during the week of July 13. A total of **122** attendees revisited the American Revolution in honor of the 250th anniversary as they learned about soldier gear, medicine and daily life on the battlefield.



For grades K–5, three programs were available during that same week across the ten branches. Relic Room curator Joe Long taught **39** attendees about the role swords played in the Revolution before everyone tried 18th-century saber moves during *Revolutionary Swords*. Elizabeth Lumsden from Cayce Historical Museum showed **139** attendees how to make pinch pots inspired by Native American cultures in *Clay Shapers*. During *Quills, Seals & Hats*, representatives from Lexington County Museum educated **235** attendees on the Declaration of Independence before the kids tried their own hand at writing with quill and ink.



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Wrap-Up Parties – On July 27, South Congaree-Pine Ridge Branch Library held *Summer Send-Off* to celebrate the end of Summer Reading. The **50** attendees enjoyed drinks from Canal Coffee, a dinosaur dig, face painting and yard games galore.



Cayce-West Columbia Branch Library put together a *Wrap-Up Party* on July 29 for elementary-aged kids. The **78** attendees listened to stories, danced through bubbles and snacked on delicious ice cream.



On July 29, Chapin Branch Library held their *Wrap-Up Party* featuring tons of foam fun. The **220** attendees soaked up the sun as they played and danced in the soapy suds. The celebration was a fun finale to a summer filled with reading and activities.



Gilbert-Summit Branch Library's *Wrap-Up Party* took place on July 29. The **34** attendees marked the end of Summer Reading with a bright celebration featuring coloring activities, games and plenty of time to socialize while snacking on ice cream treats.



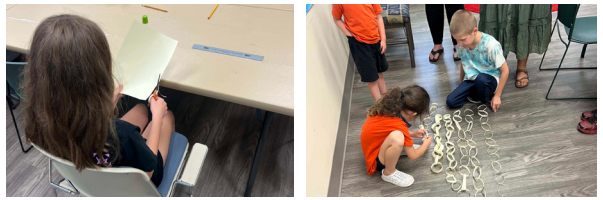
Archaeology – Lexington Main Library welcomed Meg Gaillard of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Heritage Trust Program to present *Lifelong Learning: Archaeology in the Carolinas* on July 15. The **12** attendees discovered how the program preserves our heritage and the impacts climate has on cultural sites.



Archaeology (cont.) – On July 14 and 20, Batesburg-Leesville Branch Library put together *Craft Squad: Egyptian Archaeology*. The **30** kids carved their names into clay using hieroglyphics as they learned about the pharaohs of ancient Egypt.



Homeschool Hub – On July 21, Pelion Branch Library challenged homeschoolers at their monthly gathering to see who could create the longest paper chain using only one sheet of paper and a glue stick.



Outreaches – On July 22, Irmo Branch Library attended *Storytime in the Park With Mayor Danielson*. Families gathered for a fun-filled morning of storytelling, community connection and sweet summertime snacks. Swansea and Gaston Branch Libraries were invited to Sandhills Elementary School's *Meet the Teacher* event on July 29. The library staff shared swag and helpful resources with parents and their students.



The Mobile Library visited Lexington Child Development Center for a storytime on July 30. The little ones climbed aboard Myles the bus to enjoy stories, songs and a fun library experience on wheels.



**FUN
FACT**

We had a total of 17 presenters and 129 shows during the Summer Reading Program.

Monthly Circulation Report

July 2026
Connect. Engage. Enrich.

Material Type	Batesburg- Leesville	Cayce- West Columbia	Chapin	Gaston	Gilbert- Summit	Irmo	Lexington	Mobile Library	Pelion	South Congaree- Pine Ridge	Swansea	Ebooks	SYSTEM TOTALS
Fiction Adult	938	3,533	2,145	252	517	4,498	9,509	347	493	570	220	—	23,022
Paperback	24	65	94	0	13	35	138	0	4	8	7	—	388
NonFiction Adult	353	1,694	806	174	342	2,030	4,921	105	330	260	138	—	11,153
LARGE PRINT	389	1,247	607	78	128	1,104	3,202	1,485	143	142	125	—	8,650
Non-Circulating	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	—	6
Interlibrary Loan	2	6	0	1	2	11	13	0	1	0	0	—	36
Periodical	99	180	236	7	36	184	294	45	72	28	6	—	1,187
Fiction Juvenile	797	2,434	1,801	228	836	3,708	16,294	584	482	435	180	—	27,779
NonFiction Juvenile	570	1,904	1,155	154	520	1,899	7,303	517	415	358	122	—	14,917
EASY	1,746	5,112	3,114	435	1,355	5,363	25,118	3,232	1,465	1,074	306	—	48,320
Fiction Young Adult	195	778	604	128	133	1,024	3,609	84	220	96	48	—	6,919
NonFiction Young Adult	16	58	41	10	33	94	228	5	6	11	2	—	504
Subtotal YS Print	3,324	10,286	6,715	955	2,877	12,088	52,552	4,422	2,588	1,974	658	—	98,439
Total Print Books	5,131	17,011	10,603	1,467	3,916	19,950	70,631	6,404	3,631	2,983	1,154	—	142,881
Audio Book Adult	20	89	91	15	0	232	308	143	16	8	2	—	924
Audio Book Juvenile	54	177	179	3	30	280	323	35	27	9	3	—	1,120
Video Adult	270	865	424	86	63	933	1,760	271	274	36	106	—	5,088
Video Juvenile	131	463	430	46	104	604	1,749	248	174	65	41	—	4,055
Total A/V	475	1,594	1,124	150	197	2,049	4,140	697	491	118	152	—	11,187
Adventure Passes	8	50	18	4	13	51	65	0	10	4	0	—	223
Seed Library	5	44	1	0	0	0	80	0	0	3	2	—	135
Puzzles and Games	0	36	126	3	5	57	461	4	10	0	4	—	706
Total Realia	13	130	145	7	18	108	606	4	20	7	6	—	1,064
Total Hard Copy	5,619	18,735	11,872	1,624	4,131	22,107	75,377	7,105	4,142	3,108	1,312	—	155,132
Ebooks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15,217	15,217
Downloadable Audio	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22,401	22,401
Downloadable Video	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	0
Downloadable Magazines	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4894	4,894
Total Downloadables	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42,512
Total Circulation	5,619	18,735	11,872	1,624	4,131	22,107	75,377	7,105	4,142	3,108	1,312	42,512	197,644
Internet and WiFi	405	1,945	367	252	129	1,413	2,884	0	300	203	253	—	8,151
Circulating Technology	0	31	0	0	0	9	14	0	1	0	0	—	55
Total Computer	405	1,976	367	252	129	1,422	2,898	0	301	203	253	—	8,206

Lifelong Learning Programs	Batesburg-Leesville	Cayce-West Columbia	Chapin	Gaston	Gilbert-Summit	Irmo	Lexington	Mobile Library	Pelton	South Congaree-Pine Ridge	Swansea					SYSTEM TOTALS
Adult Onsite Programs (18+) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	3	27	10	10	3	9	16	0	17	4	3	—	—	—	—	102
Adult Onsite Attendance (18+) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	29	203	62	9	25	63	175	0	107	22	29	—	—	—	—	724
General Interest Program (Formerly known as All Ages/Mixed Ages In-House/Internal)	3	2	7	3	1	2	4	0	3	2	6	—	—	—	—	33
General Interest Attendance (Formerly known as All Ages/Mixed Ages In-House/Internal)	31	51	389	7	6	88	28	0	27	60	19	—	—	—	—	706
High School OnsitePrograms (grades 9–12) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	2	2	4	3	2	4	2	0	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	25
High School Onsite Attendance (grades 9–12) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	6	9	22	11	4	24	19	0	7	5	22	—	—	—	—	129
Middle School OnsitePrograms (grades 6–9) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	2	2	5	1	2	2	5	0	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	25
Middle School Onsite Attendance (grades 6–9) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	13	15	30	21	12	13	21	0	3	6	17	—	—	—	—	151
Children OnsitePrograms (grades K–5) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	6	11	7	10	8	6	17	0	6	5	6	—	—	—	—	82
Children Onsite Attendance (grades K–5) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	164	634	316	118	214	475	876	0	287	225	91	—	—	—	—	3,400
Preschool OnsitePrograms (ages 3–5) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	7	11	7	6	5	5	19	0	5	5	2	—	—	—	—	72
Preschool Onsite Attendance (ages 3–5) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	73	182	156	27	29	191	671	0	82	68	4	—	—	—	—	1,483
ToddlerTime OnsitePrograms (ages 1–3) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	5	4	8	0	3	3	20	0	5	0	2	—	—	—	—	50
ToddlerTime Onsite Attendance (ages 1–3)(Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	168	97	256	0	22	98	858	0	74	0	0	—	—	—	—	1,573
Lapsit OnsitePrograms (ages birth–3)(Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	0	4	4	0	0	1	11	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—	20
Lapsit Onsite Attendance (ages birth–3) (Formerly known as In-House or Internal Programs, Not Including Outreach)	0	77	48	0	0	17	419	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—	561
Adult Offsite Programs (18+) (Formerly known as Outreach or External Program)	2	2	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	1	—	—	—	—	12
Adult Offsite Attendance (18+) (Formerly known as Outreach or External Program)	30	50	13	0	18	23	6	65	0	0	25	—	—	—	—	230
Children/Teens Offsite Programs (Formerly known as Outreach or External Program)	1	6	2	1	0	4	31	3	0	3	0	—	—	—	—	51
Children/Teens Offsite Attendance (Formerly known as Outreach or External Program)	12	185	22	9	0	84	826	30	0	51	0	—	—	—	—	1,219
1:1 Training Sessions	0	6	0	0	0	12	1	0	1	0	1	—	—	—	—	21
Adult Self-directed, Indirect, or Passive Activity Participants	0	108	2	0	0	75	130	0	7	0	24	—	—	—	—	346
Youth Services Self-directed, Indirect, or Passive Activity Participants	0	0	22	6	0	130	355	0	28	0	77	—	—	—	—	618
Book Drop Offs	81	0	25	46	80	7	0	56	0	0	50	—	—	—	—	345
TOTAL # PROGRAMS	31	71	55	34	25	38	126	5	40	23	24	—	—	—	—	472
TOTAL # PARTICIPANTS	526	1,503	1,314	202	330	1,076	3,899	95	587	437	207	—	—	—	—	10,176
Resources Used												Electronic Resources				SYSTEM TOTALS
Adult Books	1,721	6,675	3,797	512	1,021	7,786	18,391	1,941	991	988	496	—	—	—	—	44,319
Children's/Teen Books	3,324	10,286	6,715	955	2,877	12,088	52,552	4,422	2,588	1,974	658	—	—	—	—	98,439
Downloadable Reading	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,111	—	—	20,111
Magazines, Newspapers	99	180	236	7	36	184	294	45	72	28	6	—	—	—	—	1,187
Downloadable Watch/Listen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22,401	—	—	22,401
Adult Audio Books	20	89	91	15	0	232	308	143	16	8	2	—	—	—	—	924
Children's Audio Books	54	177	179	3	30	280	323	35	27	9	3	—	—	—	—	1,120
DVDs	270	865	424	86	63	933	1,760	271	274	36	106	—	—	—	—	5,088
Children's DVDs	131	463	430	46	104	604	1,749	248	174	65	41	—	—	—	—	4,055
Database Searches*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43008	—
TOTAL CIRCULATION	5,619	18,735	11,872	1,624	4,131	22,107	75,377	7,105	4,142	3,108	1,312	—	42,512	—	—	197,644
Individualized Assistance	Batesburg-Leesville	Cayce-West Columbia	Chapin	Gaston	Gilbert-Summit	Irmo	Lexington	Mobile Library	Pelton	South Congaree-Pine Ridge	Swansea	Email	Chat	Admin		SYSTEM TOTALS
Total Reference Transactions	686	1,310	659	89	409	1,151	1,694	2,161	268	55	65	0	2	10	—	8,559
Notary Service	48	155	29	19	0	78	165	0	40	6	5	0	0	0	—	545
InterLibrary Loan (ILL) Incoming	0	14	0	0	0	19	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	—	70
TOTAL ASSISTANCE	734	1,479	688	108	409	1,248	1,890	2,161	308	61	70	0	2	16	—	9174
Other Library Uses																TOTALS
Door Counter	2,311	10,695	6,609	1,023	1751	12,524	23,163	1,065	2,122	1,382	824	—	—	—	—	62,542
Total Meeting / Study Room Use	7	242	14	7	0	345	302	0	8	7	4	—	—	—	—	936
Total Meeting / Study Attendance	28	409	37	14	0	642	803	0	18	42	4	—	—	—	—	1,997
Total Computer Use	200	939	154	107	25	647	736	0	65	66	77	—	—	—	—	3,016
WiFi	205	1006	213	145	104	766	2148	0	235	137	176	—	—	—	—	5,135
New Cards Issued	56	215	70	45	38	169	624	16	53	26	20	—	—	—	—	1,332