

Baby Dragons, Balloon Magic And Other Fun Stuff For Kids

by **Kaimi Rose Lum**

Children, we miss you. We miss the pitter-patter of your feet across the carpet, we miss the conversations that you make up between the crocodile and the hedgehog when you're playing in the puppet theater, we miss your smiling faces.

And we really miss reading to you. Our youth services librarian, Miss Ann, has been working hard to find new fun ways to connect with you, and one of them is using her smartphone to make videos in the children's room that show her reading aloud from a book in our collection.

She has already recorded the first three chapters of a wonderful story about a boy who sets sail for a place called Wild Island to rescue a baby dragon. The book is called "My Father's Dragon" and it was written by Ruth Stiles Gannett. If you would like to see and hear Miss Ann reading this exciting adventure tale, go to snowlibrary.org and click on "Programming for Children." The links to Chapters 1 to 3 are at the top of that page. Chapter 4 is coming soon.

Have you ever made up your own adventure tale? This year's Summer Reading program, which begins on June 30, is a celebration of fairy tales, myths and folklore, and it invites all young people to "Imagine Your Story" as you read. You may register for summer reading by visiting snowlibrary.org and clicking on "Summer Reading 2020 and Program Sign-Up's" at the bottom of the main menu. You'll be able to log the hours that you read using the online form, or you may pick up a paper log at the front entrance to the library. Be sure to tell Miss Ann how many hours you have read by Aug. 13, and remember that all kinds of reading time count, whether you're reading by yourself, with a sister or brother or parent, or even with your pet.

For every five hours that you read, you'll receive a raffle ticket for one of eight great prizes. The more you read, the more tickets you get. This

year, local businesses have donated gift cards for the prizes.

If you participate in either of two Story Walks that will take place in the park and gardens in front of the library, you can write that down in your reading log, too. The first walk, through the pages of "Duck on a Bike" by David Shannon, is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 2. The second walk, through the picture book "Dear Mr. Blueberry" by Simon James, is on Thursday, July 23, also from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Drop by any time during those hours to do the walk. It's an activity for the whole family.

Because the library building is closed to the public, fun programs that you might have attended in the Craine Room in the past, like Jungle Jim's balloon escapades, will not be able to happen

in person. But we have scheduled a few events that you'll be able to view online, including a super-silly balloon magic show that Jungle Jim has recorded especially for Snow Library. It will be available at snowlibrary.org on Thursday, July 9, all day.

There will also be two craft activities that Miss Ann will be able to guide you through on Zoom. Make your own dragon's egg at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 16, and make a "Worry Monster Box" at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6. Supply kits for both activities will be available to pick up at the library's front entrance, and you can register for either activity by going to our website and clicking on "Summer Reading 2020 and Program Sign-Up's."

For more information on children's activities and programs, visit our website, check our Facebook page, or just call the library at 508-240-3760 and ask for Ann. You may also download a copy of the library's summer newsletter by going to snowlibrary.org and clicking on the latest "Snow Globe."

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