



# 2023

## PROGRAMS, CAMPS & ACTIVITIES



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## PROGRAMS, CAMPS & ACTIVITIES

### COMIC CREATION CONTEST

**1000 BOOKS**  
Before Kindergarten  
READING PROGRAM

**100 BOOKS**  
Before Graduation  
READING PROGRAM

**GET A MY Link**  
LIBRARY CARD  
**TODAY!**

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All Ages

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All Ages

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# Programs & Activities

HPL offers many system-wide programs in addition to our more regular events such as storytimes and game nights.

For a full list of events, visit our Events Calendar!

A program can be a single event or a series of events, be a scheduled or a pop-up event, take place inside or outside of a library, or take place online.



Get ready to keep your children entertained and motivated with engaging educational classes, activities, programs, and outreach events.

HPL's free fun activities and programs includes classes, summer reading program, camps, pre-packed activity kits with supplies included and so much more!

All services and privileges that accompany the Houston Public Library MY Link card are free to all residents in the state of Texas.



# Book Clubs

Ages 0 and up!



Do you like good books and talking about books with friends? Join us at a HPL Book Club! Virtual and in-person book clubs meet each month to discuss a selected titles from multiple list or books curated by our librarians.

Select your age below and you will be taken to all of our book clubs for that age group, make your book selection and don't forget to register! Need a [MY Link library card](#)?



Ages: 0-5



Ages: 6-12



Ages: 13-18



Ages: 19 & Up



Search All Clubs





# Kids

Ages 0-9





# 1000 Books Before Kindergarten



Read any book to your child, readers can include teachers, siblings, day care providers, and virtual HPL Storytimes! 1000 Books is a self-paced program.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

- Visit [houstonlibrary.beanstack.org](http://houstonlibrary.beanstack.org) to register.
- Read with your child.
- Log the books read.

## HOW TO TRACK YOUR READING & MILESTONES

- Visit [houstonlibrary.beanstack.org](http://houstonlibrary.beanstack.org) to login or download the [Beanstack Tracker app](#) on your mobile device.
- Log the books read.
- [Log in](#) anytime to track your progress.

## READING MILESTONES

Receive a prize for reaching milestones!

- 250 books read
- 500 books read
- 750 books read
- 1,000 books read







# Teens & Tweens

Ages 10-18





# Comic Creation Contest



[Enter Here](#)

**COMIC  
CREATION**

**WRITE & ILLUSTRATE AN ORIGINAL COMIC  
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN AWESOME PRIZES!**

- Teens can enter alone or in teams of up to four people.
- Artwork- dialogue- plot must be original unpublished content.
- Must be at least four pages, but no more than 14 pages.
- \*One page = one side of paper.
- Two of the first three pages must have at least two cells.

Submissions will be divided into two groups: Grades 6 – 8 & Grades 9 – 12. Judging will focus on 4 criteria.

**Artistry - Plot - Dialogue - Originality**

Entries can be sent by mail or submitted to an HPL location and must be postmarked by 09/30/2022. All envelopes must be labeled:

Houston Public Library

Attn: Youth & Family Services

COMIC CREATION CONTEST FOR TEENS

500 McKinney St.

Houston, TX 77002

Call (832) 393-1313 or email [HPL.Teen@houstontx.gov](mailto:HPL.Teen@houstontx.gov)

# 100 Books Before High School

Grades 6-8

**Register**

The 100 Books Before reading programs challenge middle school readers to read 100 books before entering high school!

This multi-year personal reading challenge is open to all current middle school students. Participants will read and log 100 books over the course of this challenge as well as complete at least 15 mini challenges (designed to get you reading outside your comfort zone!). Titles logged toward the 100 books completion may also count towards the mini challenges.

Prizes range from fun bookmarks and pins to journals, hats and totes and are awarded at registration, 25 books, 50 books, 75 books, and 100 books. When you unlock a level, fill out the prize survey to tell let us know which of the available prizes for that level you want and we will send it to a Neighborhood Library or Central Library for you to pick up.

Reading is reading; whether you're holding a physical book, reading an eBook, or listening to an audio book. It all counts as reading!



# 100 Books Before Graduation

Grades 9-12

**Register**

The 100 Books Before Graduation Reading Program challenges high school readers to read 100 books before graduating high school!

During this multi-year personal reading challenge participants will read and log 100 books as well as complete at least 15 Mini Challenges designed to get you reading outside your comfort zone! Titles logged toward the 100 books completion may also count towards the Mini Challenges.



Prizes range from fun bookmarks and pins to journals, hats and totes and are awarded at registration, 25 books, 50 books, 75 books, and 100 books. When you unlock a level, fill out the prize survey to tell let us know which of the available prizes you want and we will send it to a Neighborhood Library or Central Library for you to pick up.

Reading is reading here too; whether you're holding a physical book, reading an eBook, or listening to an audio book. It all counts as reading!



# ON AIR

## Chapter One with HPL

**Giving you just enough story  
to get you hooked!**

Our Chapter One with HPL podcast features first chapters of books for tweens and teens read by library staff. All titles featured on Chapter One are available at the Houston Public Library!

**Listen**



## Write On! with HPL

**Calling Teen writers!**

This podcast is for you. In each episode Houston Public Library staff will explore different elements, techniques, and exercises to help you improve your creative writing. Stay tuned!

**Listen**





# Adults

## Ages 18+





# Adults

Find upcoming events!

Events



Exhibits

Exhibits





# PROGRAMS FOR GROUPS

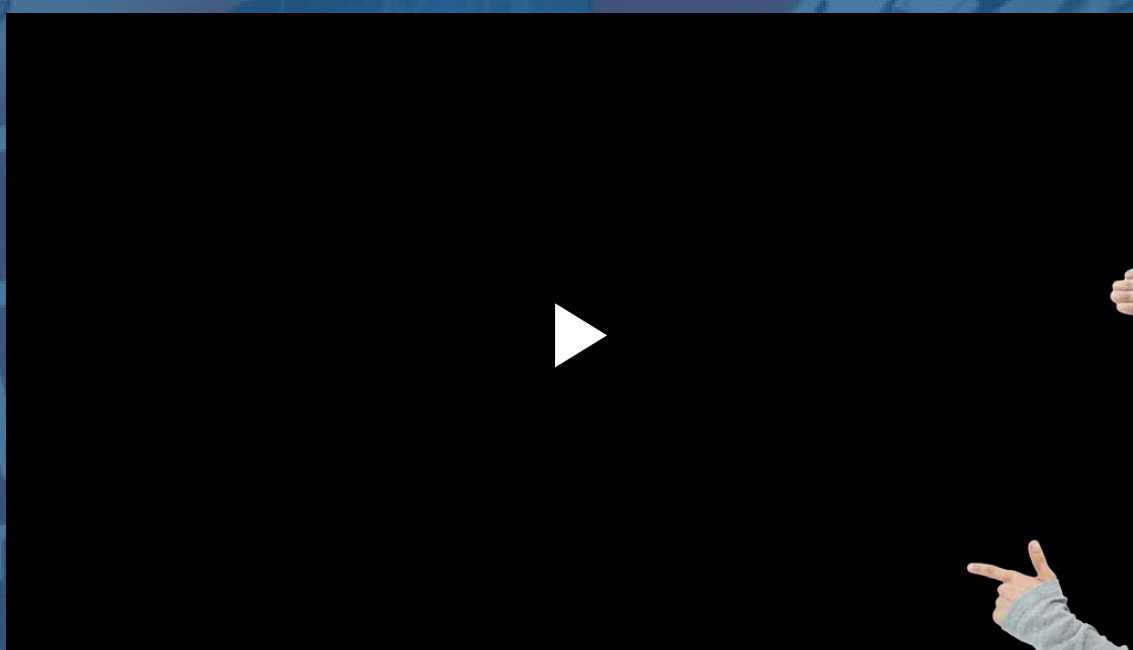


Our programs are provided by the Houston Public Library's Community Engagement Team and may be requested by community groups.

Community Engagement (CET) serves as the outreach service arm for the Houston Public Library, providing library services to the Houston area that range from outreach events, technology training, and classroom instruction.

Want to host a group event for kids or teens? We offer the needed support for you to sponsor your own learning activity for any age group of 6 or more.

Climb aboard one of our mobile libraries to teach students valuable skills in unique learning environments equipped with an interactive technology center for trainings or jumpstart the fun with the mobile gaming cube. Let us bring the classroom to you and create a dynamic educational experience!



## **New Mobile Express**

Jumpstart your next library service with the new Mobile Express! This mobile is well suited for technology training, flexible classroom delivery, and providing library services anywhere.

Dynamic classroom flow coupled with the latest and greatest technology available creates an engaging environment inside. This mobile also has a hydraulic lift making the lab and all it has to offer accessible to everyone who wants to come aboard.





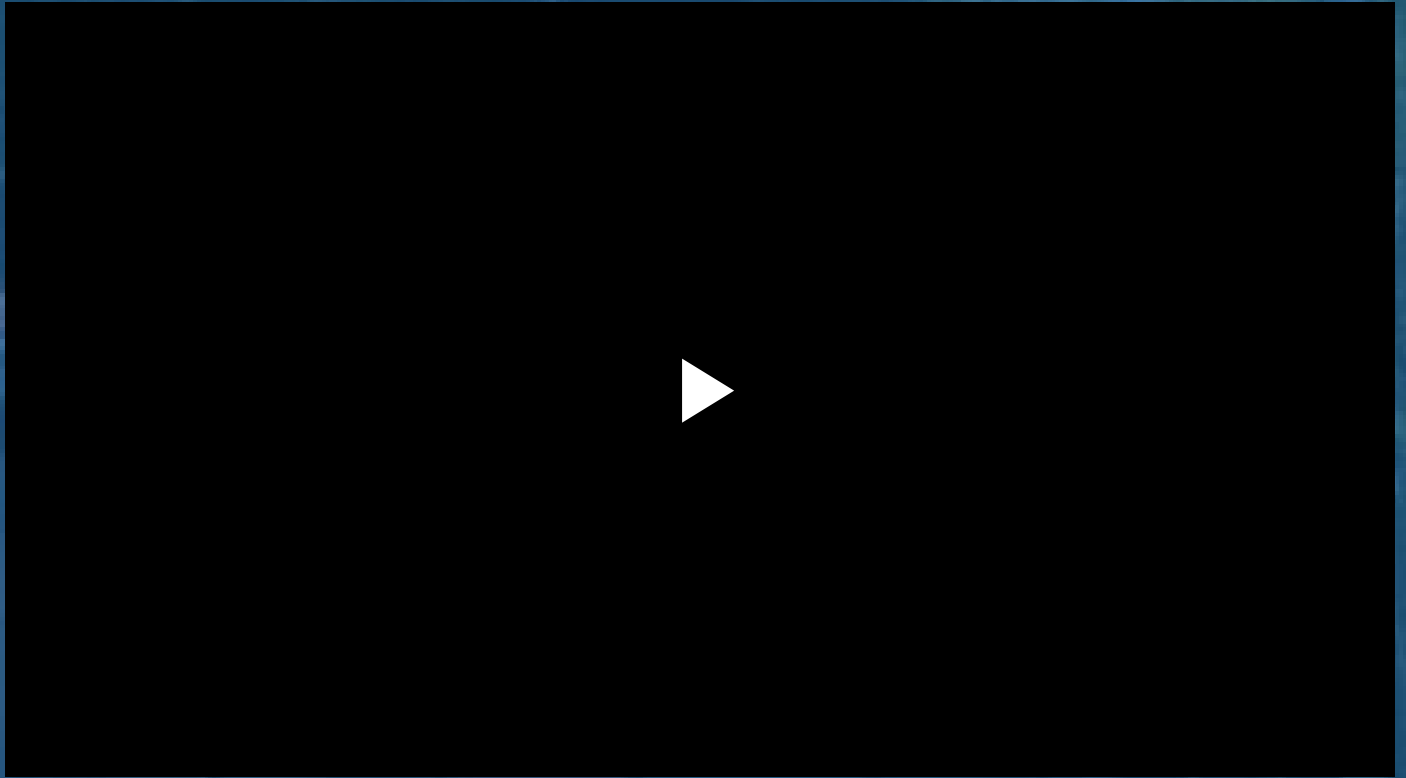
## Gaming Cube

Challenge one another to gaming tournaments in the Mini-mobile gaming Gaming Cube! This mobile is designed to host small groups while they play on the console of their choice. A dedicated table arrangement makes this mobile great for hands on activities and outreach at your events.

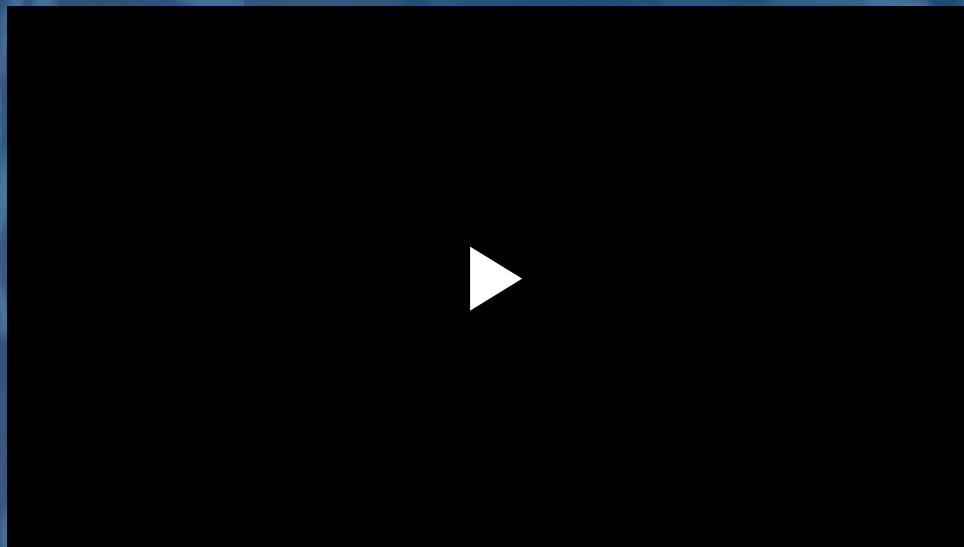


## Improv Puppet Theater





## **Support Fleet**



## **Mobile Express**

Find your next technology class onboard the original Mobile Express! This mobile equipped with 11 desktop computers, and outfitted with webcams and headsets, a high-speed mobile internet connection, wireless printing, two 55" smart TV's (one inside, and one outside), and an Apple TV. This mobile also has a hydraulic lift making the lab and all it has to offer accessible to everyone who wants to come aboard.

# Courses Offered



STEM

LITERACY

CAFÉCOLLEGE HOUSTON

LIFELONG LEARNING

OUTREACH

REQUEST EVENT



# STEM

## Osmos Genius

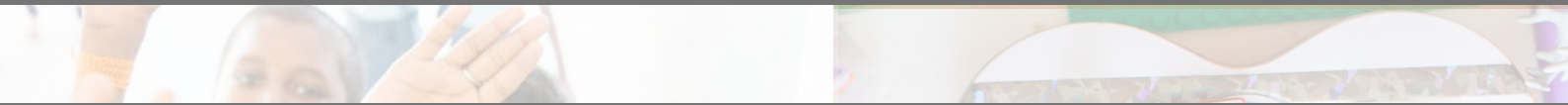
Group size: 10

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal Age: 3-5

Children use tablets to play games that directly correlate with different mathematical objectives. This fun and exciting program is a great way to get your young learners engaged and interested in the world of mathematics while embracing mobile technology.



## Coding Express by Lego

Group Size: 30

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal Age: 3-6

This class teaches students to use computational thinking to develop designs and express ideas as they build a train and tracks. It also teaches coding as students position action bricks to affect the train's behavior.

# STEM

## HPL Astronomy Dome

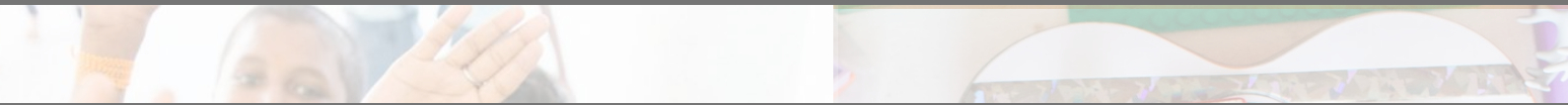
Group size: 20

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal age: 6 and up

Go on a journey through space without leaving the city. Participants will learn about the wonders of the night sky in HPL's portable planetarium dome.



## Circuits & Electricity: Makey Makey

Group size: 20

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal age: 7-9

Turn everyday objects into touchpads and combine them with the internet. It's a simple Invention Kit for Beginners and Experts doing art, engineering, and everything in between.



# STEM

## LEGO Robotics: WeDo

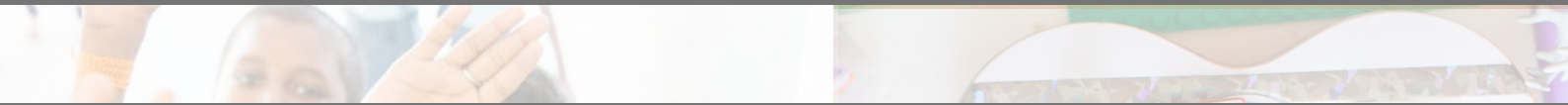
Group size: 25

Duration: 1 -2 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal age: 8-10

Children explore STEM through the manipulation and construction of Lego robots. Children will use iPads and learn basic block coding and command programming to manipulate their new creations.



## Minecraft Education Edition

Group size: 20

Duration: 1 to 1.5 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal age: 8-13

This class encourages children to explore their imaginations, to develop problem solving abilities, to work in teams on a variety of activities and get the chance to apply critical thinking skills by competing against other teams via our Minecraft EDU server.

# STEM

## Coding: Spheros

Group size: 20

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal age: 8-13

Students learn basic coding via the use of a mobile device and a spherical robot, the Sphero.



## Circuits & Electricity: Little Bits

Group size: 20

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal age: 10-12

LittleBits are easy-to-use electronic building blocks that snap together with magnets to make learning about circuitry and electronics exciting and engaging.



# STEM

## Engineering: LEGO Solar Cars

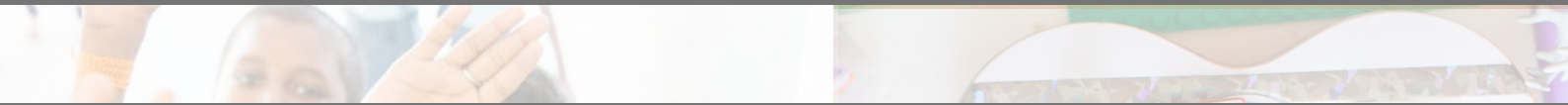
Group size: 30

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 12 and up

This class teaches science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts by using LEGOs to introduce simple machines and renewable resources to Teens.



## Graffiti Art

Group size: 25

Duration: 1 – 1.5 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 12 and up

Students will learn the history of Graffiti artwork and the difference between Graffiti and vandalism. This course highlights where you are able to see graffiti artwork in Houston and includes an activity to teach students to create their own graffiti art on paper.

# STEM

## Light Painting

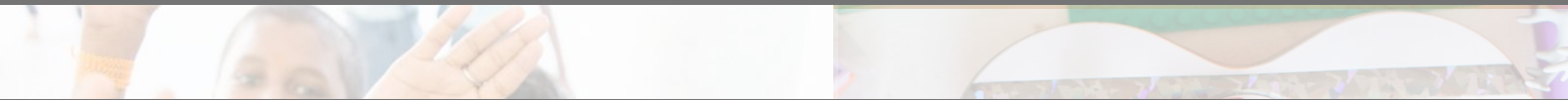
Group size: 25

Duration: 1 – 1.5 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 12 and up

This class teaches students to create works of art with light sources and photo apps on smart devices or tablets. This activity requires a class space without windows that can be darkened entirely.



## 3D Design

Group size: 25

Duration: 1 hour

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 12 and up

Students will learn how to be more than inventors; they will become designers by using various types of 3D modeling software. Students can take their 3D designs to an HPL TECHLink location and print them out at an onsite 3D printer.



# LITERACY

## Storytime with Activity

Group size: 30

Duration: 45 minutes - 1 hour

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 5-7

Students will experience the joy of reading during an interactive story time. Includes songs and fingerplays, and followed by a simple craft to encourage creativity.



## Storytime with Puppets

Group size: 30

Duration: 30 - 45 minutes

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 3-7

Students will participate in an interactive story time, with books, songs, puppets and fingerplays. Themed story times based on cultural observations such as Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month are available upon request.

# LITERACY

## Storytime Fitness

Group size: 30

Duration: 45 minutes

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 3-7

Storytime Fitness includes books that teach the importance of nutrition and exercise interspersed with action rhymes and movement activities.



## Tumblebook Library

Group size: 30

Duration: 30 minutes

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: Families with children ages 3-6

Sample online books and expand early literacy skills through comprehension quizzes and activities. Children and their families will learn how to access Tumblebook Library through the HPL website and continue the fun at home.



# LITERACY

## LEGO Storytelling

Group size: 30

Duration: 1.5 – 2 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 7-14

Children will create characters and backgrounds using LEGOs and the Story Visualizer software, which helps children to present, share and document their tales. They can use a web cam, digital camera, or smart device to take pictures of the images and import them into comic book form.



# CAFÉCOLLEGE HOUSTON

## Financial Aid 101

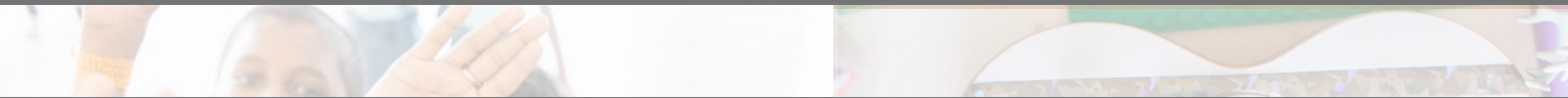
Group Size: 5-25

Duration: 45-60 minutes

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal Age: 15-19

This in-person or virtual session will cover all the types of financial aid available to college bound students. Learn about FAFSA/TASFA, scholarships and loans available to fund your college.



## Resumes & Interviews

Group Size: 5-25

Duration: 45-60 minutes

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal Age: 15-19

This in person or virtual session will cover the types of resumes, the preferred resume for college bound students and tips to ace the college Interview. This session can be tailored for internships or jobs.



# CAFÉCOLLEGE HOUSTON

## **Academic Excellence & College Application**

Group Size: 5-25

Duration: 45-60 minutes

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal Age: 15-19

This in person or virtual session will cover the definition of Academic Excellence and what colleges are looking for in your application. Get tips on how to approach your college search and application and maximize your chances to acceptance.



## **College & Scholarship Essays**

Group Size: 5-25

Duration: 45-60 minutes

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal Age: 15-19

This in person or virtual session will cover what colleges are looking for in your essay. Get tips on how to approach your writing to maximize your chances to acceptance. It's not just about the grammar.

# CAFÉCOLLEGE HOUSTON

## Challenges of First Gen College Students

Group Size: 5-25

Duration: 45-60 minutes

Recommended: 1 Session

Ideal Age: 15-19

This in person or virtual session will break down the many challenges first generation college-bound students face in applying and attending college. If you know the challenges ahead of time, you will be able to identify them and deal with them too. Be prepared for this next stage in your life.



# LIFELONG LEARNING

## Sewing

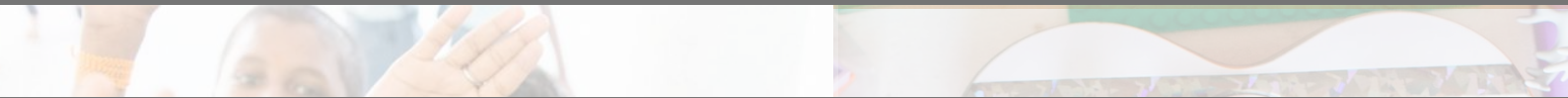
Group size: 10

Duration: 2 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: 14 and up

Learn how to select fabric, prepare it for sewing, thread and operate a sewing machine and finish a project. You will leave this class with a finished object. This course is ideal for smaller groups.



## Citizenship Class

Group size: 20

Duration: 1 – 1.5 hours

Recommended: 5 sessions

Ideal Age: 18+

This class is a month-long class that is designed to guide participants through the naturalization process, prepare students for the interview, and increase their chances of becoming a U.S. citizen. Classes held in English only.



# LIFELONG LEARNING

## English as a Second Language

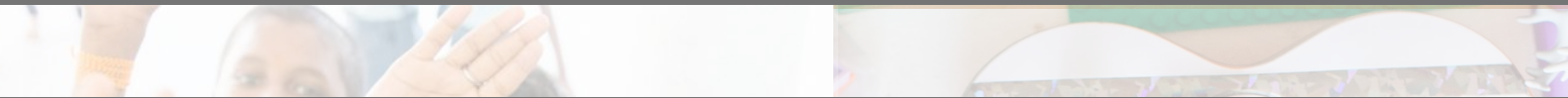
Group size: 20

Duration: 1 – 1.5 hours

Recommended: 5 sessions

Ideal Age: 18+

Classes offered to help non-native speakers communicate in English. Students will explore all aspects of the English language through group and class discussions, dialogue, pronunciation practice, vocabulary, and grammar. Class is delivered entirely in English.



## Computer Basics

Group size: 20

Duration: 1 – 1.5 hours

Recommended: 5 sessions

Ideal Age: 18+

This multi-part course is ideal for beginner to intermediate users who want to expand their technical skills and knowledge. Course options include: Keyboard and Mouse Basics, Windows Basics, Internet Basics, Cybersecurity, Intro to Microsoft Office, and Smart Device Basics.

# LIFELONG LEARNING

## Workforce Development

Group size: 20

Duration: 1 – 1.5 hours

Recommended: 5 sessions

Ideal Age: 16+

This class provides helpful tips for job seekers. Participants will develop skills on resume writing, job searching, and interview techniques.



# OUTREACH

## Book Mobile

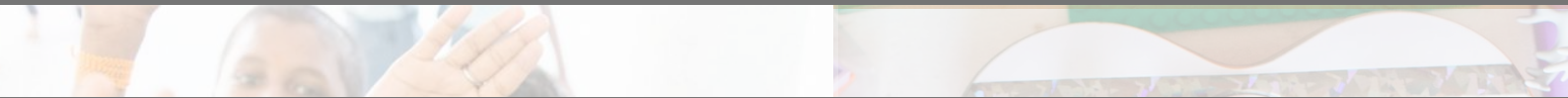
Group size: 15

Duration: 1 – 2 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: All ages

Can't make it to the library? Have the library come to you! Request our library on wheels with books to borrow for all ages. Materials can be returned to any branch of the Houston Public Library.



## Outreach Table

Group size: 50+

Duration: 1 – 2 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: All ages

Request that HPL set up a table or display with information about the library for your fair, open house or other community outreach event. Eligible participants will also be able to register for a library card on site. Gaming Van is available upon request.



# OUTREACH

## Presentation of Online Resources

Group size: 50+

Duration: 1 – 2 hours

Recommended: 1 session

Ideal Age: All ages

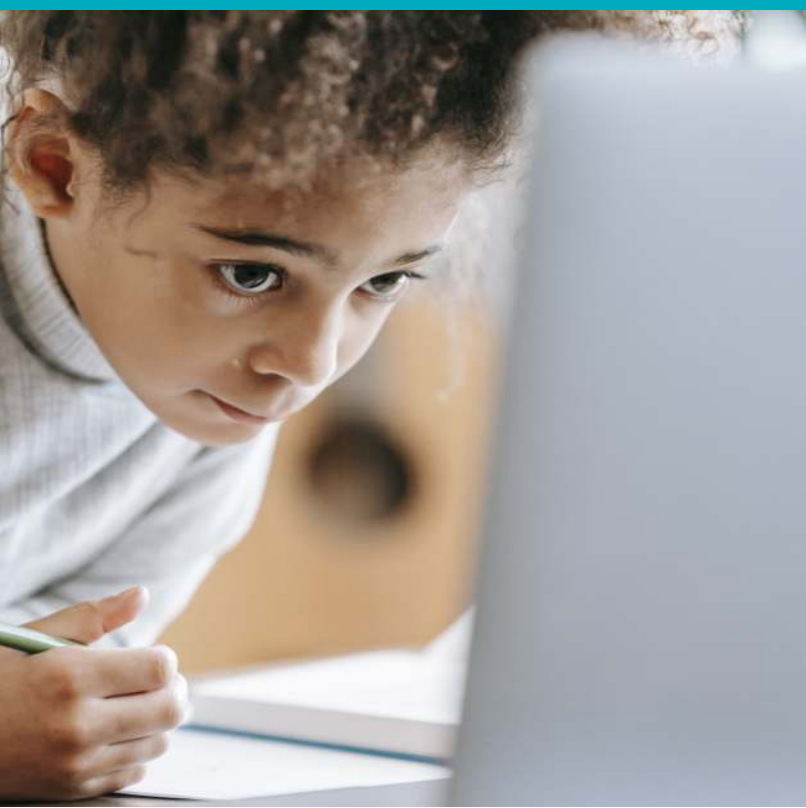
An HPL orientation seminar that introduces participants to the library system through an overview of databases and services like Cafécollege Houston and Learning Express. Eligible participants will also be able to register for a library card on site



REQUEST



# Outreach





# Groomed FOR LITERACY



The Houston Public Library (HPL), Put It In a Book Foundation, Little Free Libraries and Friends of the Houston Public Library partner on a new and innovative program called Groomed for Literacy. Groomed for Literacy aims to

address the literacy gap for underserved youth, with specific emphasis on young boys of color.

**The mission of this program is to support barbers in serving as reading mentors and to distribute books to children in need.**

Groomed for Literacy will increase the books available through the placement of Little Free Libraries stocked with books in barber shops. Supplying the communities in need with books, the program will increase public awareness literacy. Little Free Libraries will contain My Link library card applications and information on the nearest HPL library location and hours of operation.

Youths will be asked to sign in/log in each time they read a book in the barber shop or take a book home. Incentives (i.e., discount/free haircuts, new books for home library, etc.) will be provided by participating barbers and HPL based on books read.





# Camps





**Grades 3 - 12**

Listen to your art! HPL's first ever art camp is designed to expose students to the creative arts. Experts will teach students throughout Spring Break week, concluding on Friday with a showcase performance designed by the students themselves.

This program is generously sponsored by the Houston Public Library Foundation.

**Apply Now Through March 6, 2023!**

**Camp Dates: March 13 - 17, 2023**

**Location: Carnegie Neighborhood Library**

**Schedule** 

Monday | 8 AM - 12:30 PM | Intro & Workshops

Tuesday | 8 AM - 12:30 PM | Workshops

Wednesday | 8 AM - 12:30 PM | 8th - 12th Field Trip

Thursday | 8 AM - 12:30 PM | Practice

Friday | 8 AM - 12:30 PM | Showcase Day



Camp STREAM is absolutely FREE! Questions? Call 832-393-1533

This program is generously sponsored by the Houston Public Library Foundation.

### **What activities does Camp STREAM cover?**

Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math!

- Coding
- Woodworking
- Decorating
- Dissections
- Creative Writing & Financial Literacy
- Laser Cutting
- Game Design
- Crafts

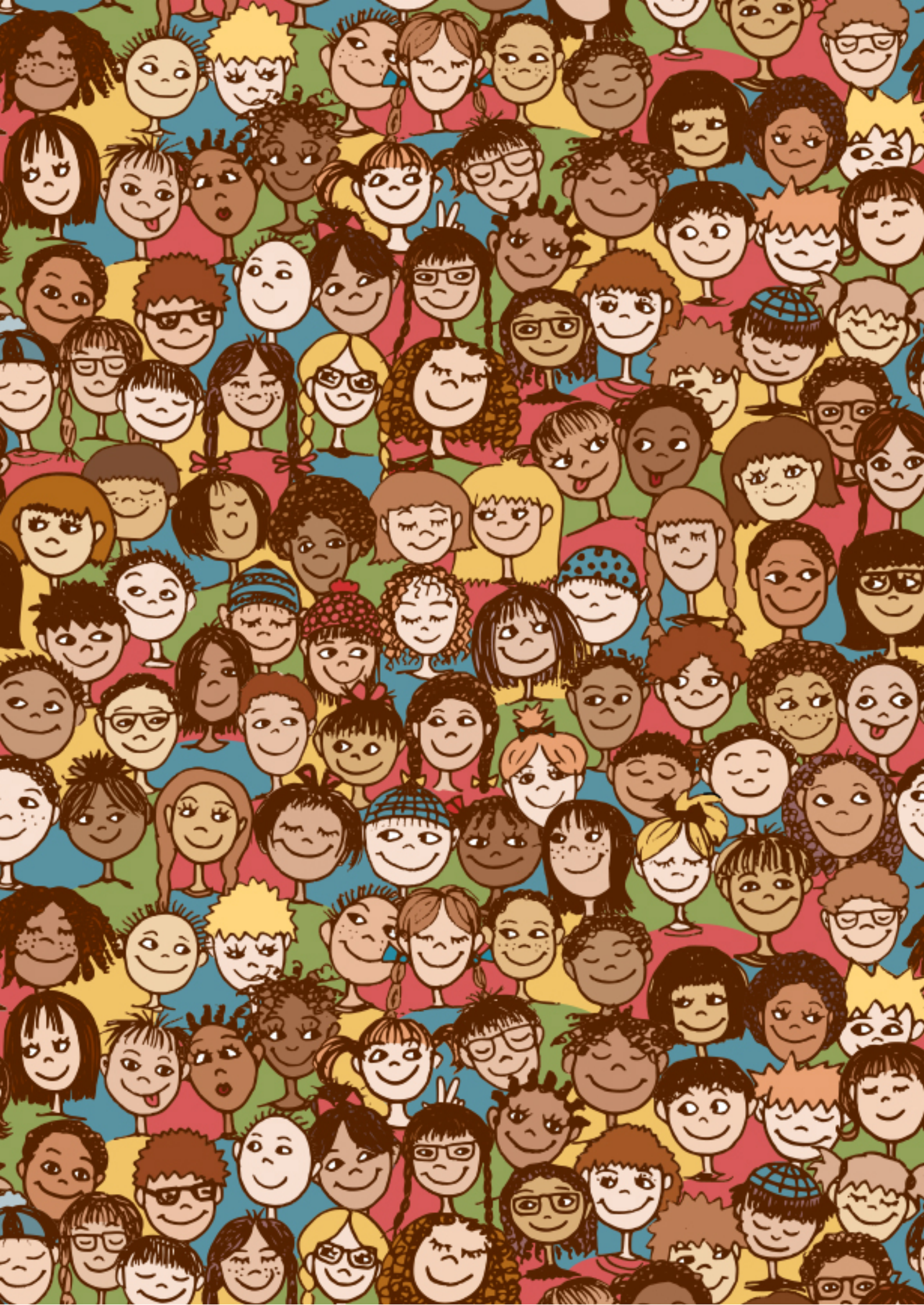
### **Why register my kids to participate in Camp STREAM?**

Not only will campers get to have fun, they'll have the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of each STREAM subject at the end of each day. Benefits of participating in this virtual Camp include:

- Critical thinking
- Decision making
- Problem solving
- Developing creativity
- Group collaboration
- Self-expression

# **Register Now**









Follow us on social media



Houston Public Library 2022