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NEWS RELEASE

June 11, 2014
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Science-Themed Summer Reading Kickoff Day a Booming Success

ELMHURST, IL — On Saturday, June 7, kids and families from all over Elmhurst streamed into Elmhurst Public Library to sign up for the Summer Reading Program. Sign-ups will continue throughout the summer, but will be especially strong over the next two weeks.

On Saturday, June 7, the Library buzzed with activity. A juggler performed for the crowd, face painters decorated kids' faces, and puppet shows entertained visitors throughout the day. The Kids' Library staff created a flash mob, performing a special summer reading version of the *Frozen* song, "In Summer" ([go to elmplib.org/flashmob](http://elmplib.org/flashmob) to view it). Even Curious George visited!

Already hundreds of kids have begun their summer reading challenge. One young reader, when he heard of the reading requirement for the summer said, "Only 15 hours? I'll have that done by next Saturday!"

Kids who sign up and participate in the challenges get raffle tickets with a chance to earn great prizes, like pizza, frozen treats, books, and other coupons and offers from local businesses.

This summer EPL launched a brand-new program for babies called My First Summer Reading Program. Already, caregivers of Elmhurst's youngest readers have signed their babies up for the program.

To decorate the Kids' Library, staff created a collection of robots using cardboard boxes, foil pans, discarded hard drives, tubing, and more. Each robot developed its own personality—Big Boy has his own “heart”-drive (in place of a hard drive) and a built-in bookshelf. The Mombot has eyes in the back of her head and holds a feather duster.

If you haven't yet gotten in on all of the science-filled fun, stop by the Kids' Library to sign up. The program isn't only for kids. Teens and adults can also sign up and start listening to or reading books to be entered in raffles for great prizes, like eReaders. Teens sign up online; adults can sign up online or on paper. To answer all of your summer reading questions, go to: elmlib.org/summer

The Elmhurst Public Library strives to enrich life in Elmhurst by providing opportunities to explore, learn, and grow. EPL offers the support and resources for Elmhurst residents to develop a love of reading; access information for work and learning; pursue interests that will enrich their lives; understand changes in technology, society and culture; and gather and interact with each other. Elmhurst Public Library is a place for discovery at the heart of the community.

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