



## **November STEM Events**

Nov. 8 is National STEM Day, but Peoria Public Library has STEM/STEAM events planned all month - from exploring our actual universe to visiting a virtual one. STEM is the acronym for science, technology, engineering and math. STEAM incorporates art. The argument for STEM/STEAM education is that more of it needs to be incorporated into our everyday. This month, join us for a variety of STEM programs that are both educational and entertaining.

Pick up an event calendar at any PPL location or visit our website for a full list of STEM events. Below are some highlights:

**Thursday, Nov. 4** — Join us for a delicious STEM activity of making candy animals. (4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Lincoln Branch) Geared to grade schoolers.

**Monday, Nov. 8** — We're welcoming Robot Casserole for National STEM Day! Come learn more about Peoria's Robotics Team! (6:30-7:30 p.m., North Branch)

**Monday, Nov. 8** — Build a Racetrack — and race. We're using foil and other household things. (5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Lincoln Branch) Children of all ages.

**Tuesday, Nov. 9** — Storytime STEM at Lincoln Branch. (4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Lincoln Branch) Ages 6 to 11.

**Tuesday, Nov. 9** — Is there iron in your cereal? Come do magnet experiments with us. (4:30 p.m., to 5:30 p.m., Lincoln Branch) Ages 6 to 11.

**Saturday, Nov. 13** — Tech Take Apart (and reassembly?) (3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Lakeview Branch) Ages 11-18.

**Monday, Nov. 15** — Let's explore electricity with our Squishy Circuits (play dough). (5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Lincoln Branch) Children of all ages.

Thursday, Nov. 18 — Experience VR! Staff from University of Illinois will demonstrate virtual reality at Lincoln Branch. MUST register: 497-2600. Ages 12 to 18.

Friday, Nov. 19 — Create emojis and then send them into space. (4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Lincoln Branch) Ages 12 to 18.

**Sunday, Nov. 21** — Use math & engineering to create a large-scale Book Domino Chain after-hours at Lakeview Branch. MUST register: 497-2200. Ages 11 to 18.

Monday, Nov. 22 — SPACE: Rediscovered. Learn about what makes up our universe. (4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Lincoln Branch.) Children of all ages.

**Tuesday, Nov. 30** — Did you know there's a planet that rains glass? Learn about the new planets NASA has found. (4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Lincoln Branch) Ages 12-18.



## Peoria Public Library announces Media Literacy Partnership

Peoria Public Library and Peoria Public Schools announced a new partnership during Media Literacy Week (Oct. 25-29) to teach all ages how to be wiser consumers of media.

"It's one of the greatest ironies of this century that while the amount of information available to us increases exponentially, our ability to discern what is bad information gets worse," said Peoria Public Library Executive Director Randall Yelverton. "We must get better at recognizing misinformation. That's where we - libraries and librarians - can help."

Illinois is the first state in the nation to make media literacy education mandatory for high schoolers, beginning next school year. Working together now - in advance of the new curriculum - as well as offering programs for younger students will help our community become more discerning digital citizens. Peoria Public Library is working with trusted nonprofits focused on media literacy instruction, including the Center for News Literacy and the Freedom Forum, among others. The library will also offer this programming to local nonprofits. Peoria's Boys & Girls Club has already expressed an interest in partnering.

PPS superintendent Sharon Desmoulin- Kherat said media literacy is more important now than ever with apps like Facebook and Snapchat that spreads so much information rapidly.

"Talking about pros and cons, responsibilities," she continued. "I think it's exciting, and it's very timely and very, very well needed."

Learn more and find fact-checking links and reputable sources of news on <a href="Peoria">Peoria</a>
<a href="Public Library's website">Public Library's website</a>

Upcoming Media Literacy Programs:

Media Literacy & Movie Messages — 4 p.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, Lincoln Branch

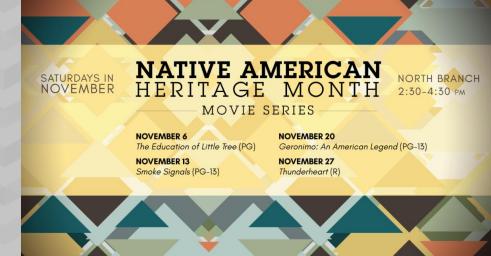
We're putting popular culture — movies — under the microscope. Let's flex our critical thinking skills to dissect themes, discover hidden messages and maybe even create our own scripts. Geared to ages 6-11.

Fighting Fake News: How to Outsmart Trolls and Troublemakers — 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Thurs., Nov. 18 Virtual Event

Freedom Forum, a nonpartisan national nonprofit focused on First Amendment freedoms, will explore what qualifies as "fake news." Can you easily fall for fake information?

They'll use case studies from real life to show the challenges of today's media landscape and give you an easy-to-remember strategy for staying a step ahead. For students and adults alike.

Join this virtual program here



## **November Author Events**

Peoria Public Library is partnering with other Illinois libraries to host three virtual, author events this month.

Wednesday, Nov. 10 from noon to 1 p.m. - "The Man Who Lived Underground": A Discussion (Virtual event)

Malcom Wright, grandson of Richard Wright, will discuss his grandfather's powerful novel about police brutality. The discussion will also be led by Farah Jasmine Griffin, Chair of African-American and African Diaspora Studies at Columbia University and Director of the Institute for Research in African American Studies. Register here

Monday, Nov. 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Q&A with Sam Quinones (Virtual event)

Los Angeles-based freelance journalist Sam Quinones will discuss his new book, "The Least of Us: True Tales of America and Hope in the Time of Fentanyl and Meth." Register here

Sunday, Nov. 21 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - An Afternoon with Pultizer Prizewinning Photojournalist Lynsey Addario (Virtual event)

Pultizer Prize-winning photojournalist Lynsey Addario will share her work and experiences covering Afghanistan for 20 years. Register here

