Library programs, events, and activities are photographed or videoed for promotional purposes or to document library activities. Notify library staff if you prefer not to be photographed.
ARLS in the Community

Prince George Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 2 at 3 pm
Prince George Parks and Recreation will hold its annual Christmas parade at the 6600 block of Courthouse Rd. Prince George, VA.

Hopewell Christmas Parade and Light Up the Night
Sunday, December 3, 4- 8 pm
Light Up the Night is Hopewell’s largest holiday celebration featuring the annual Christmas parade, grand illumination ceremony, and downtown winter festival. Santa will be at the Hopewell Library on the mezzanine level, an elevator is available. The parade will start at Cavalier Square Shopping Center at 4 pm and end at Ashford Civic Plaza for the grand illumination ceremony.

Dinwiddie Chamber of Commerce “A Winter Wonderland Parade”
Sunday, December 10 at 2 pm
The parade will take place at the Virginia Motorsports Park at 8018 Boydton Plank Rd. There will be arts & craft vendors, bands, civic groups, car and bike clubs, Santa, and more!

Dinwiddie Grand Illumination
Sunday, December 5 at 6 pm
The grand illumination will take place at the Historic Dinwiddie Courthouse located at 14101 Boydton Plank Rd. The Dinwiddie Library will remain open on the evening of the Illumination. Come inside for a take-home craft!

Annual Holiday Open House
Dinwiddie Library
Friday, December 1, 3-6 pm
The Friends of the Library Dinwiddie (FOLD) is delighted to announce its Annual Holiday Open House and Book Sale at the Dinwiddie Library. Join FOLD for an afternoon of holiday cheer, refreshments, door prizes, and an exciting half-price holiday book sale, December 1 - 30.

New at ARLS

Family Resource Collection
Visit our Hopewell library and immerse yourself in our newly updated Family Resource Collection. We understand that each family’s journey is unique. That’s why we’ve carefully curated this collection with updated and relevant materials. The Collection’s easily recognizable spine labels will make it a breeze to find the perfect book for your needs.

Hopewell Library Nursing Mothers’ Room
We’re thrilled to share that the VPFW Nursing Mothers’ Room at the Hopewell Library is now open! Key available at the front desk upon request.

Inside the Nursing Mothers Room, you will find the following amenities:

- Comfortable seating.
- Electrical outlets for breast pumps.
- A changing table for your convenience.
Adult Programs

Holiday Blood Drive
Hopewell Library
**Monday, December 11, 11 am - 4 pm**
Appointments are required and can be made by visiting redcrossblood.org and searching for either the sponsor code “hopewelllibrary” or the zip code 23860.

Southside From The Heart
Join our knitters and crocheters as they create items for local hospitals, nursing homes, and shelters. Crafters of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Contact Cathy if you have questions, cfield@arls.org or 804-458-6329 x1008

Prince George Library
1st, 3rd, & 5th Tuesday From 2-4 pm

Dinwiddie Library
2nd & 4th Wednesday From 1-3 pm

Hopewell Library
1st, 3rd & 5th Thursday From 10 am-12 pm
2nd & 4th Thursday From 5:30-7 pm

SFTH Holiday Party!
Hopewell Library
**Saturday, January 6, 12-2 pm**
Join us to celebrate the holiday season and start the new year off with a bang! We will be discussing goals for the new year both for our personal craft projects and the group. Please bring something to share for the potluck if you can. Never been to SFTH but you are curious? This would be a great meeting to visit!

It’s a Wrap! Holiday Wrapping Station
Prince George Library
**Saturday, December 9, 11 am - 2 pm**
Need a wrapping space away from prying eyes? We will have plenty of wrapping supplies including scissors, tape, ribbon, boxes, tissue paper, bags, and wrapping paper on a first-come, first-served basis; or you can bring your own! There is also some non-holiday wrapping paper for birthdays and those expecting babies. There will be food and drinks available while you work.

Food Drive
**All Branches, January 1st-31st**
ARLS no longer charges overdue fines, but we are continuing our tradition of hosting a food drive in the new year! The USDA estimates that 1 in 9 children go hungry in America right now.

Bring in non-perishables all month long to make a difference in your community! Donations will stay in the county they are donated going to local food banks, The Hopewell Food Pantry, The Dinwiddie Food Bank, and The Prince George Food Bank.
Hopewell Library Book Group
Fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm via Zoom
Email etrop@arls.org to register.
December No Book Group
Jan. 23, First Ladies, by Marie Benedict and Victoria C. Murray
Feb. 27, Golden Spoon, by Jessa Maxwell

Dinwiddie Library Book Group
Third Thursdays at 7 pm.
December No Book Group
Jan 18, Carrie Soto is Back, by Taylor Jenkins Reid
Feb 15, Silver Alert, by Lee Smith

Fitness Warriors Presents: Fitness Fly Wit Ty
Hopewell Library
Mondays, 5:30-6:30 pm
Become a better, more confident you by helping to achieve longevity by incorporating physical fitness into your lifestyle while promising yourself you will!
No class on Dec. 22, Jan. 1, Jan. 15, and Feb. 19.

Chair Yoga and Mindfulness
Hopewell Library
Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm
This adult class is perfect for people at any level of yoga and exercise and is done from the comfort of a chair. It’s completely beginner friendly and focuses on areas such as strength, balance, flexibility, and mobility.

Yoga for Beginners
Prince George Library
Mondays, 11 am-Noon
Receive the abundant benefits of yoga. This gentle class offers flowing movements at a gentle pace with attention to breathing and postures. You will see an improvement in muscle strength, circulation, flexibility, and balance. It is suitable for people of all fitness levels. Please bring a yoga mat to class.
No class on Dec. 22, Jan. 1, Jan. 15, and Feb. 19.

Sit and Stay Fit
Hopewell Library
Wednesdays at 11 am
Join instructor Tyiesha Allen for a 45-minute class designed for older adults focusing on strength, balance, flexibility, and cardiovascular fitness in a safe, supportive environment.

Poetry, Prose, And Pizza
Prince George Library
Thursday, January 25, 5:30-7 pm
Calling all literature enthusiasts and aspiring writers! This family-friendly literary open mic event is an excellent opportunity for writers of all ages to showcase their talents and receive feedback from a supportive audience. The event is proudly sponsored by the Hopewell-Prince George Friends of the Library, a devoted group committed to supporting library programs and fostering a love for reading in the community. To add to the enjoyment of the evening, pizza will be served at 5:30 pm.

Join us for video games at the library!
Hopewell Library
Thursdays, 4 - 6 pm
Calling all gamers! Come join us at the library on Thursday evenings for multiplayer fun on the Nintendo switch. There will be classic Nintendo games to compete to be the best of the best. Meet local gamers, bring your friends, and enjoy our snacks.
Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers Programs

Story Time
Story time programs aim to instill a love of reading by encouraging parents and other special adults to read aloud to children.

Story Time starts at 10:30 am
Hopewell Library: Mondays
Mckenney Library: Tuesdays
Dinwiddie Library: Wednesdays
Prince George Library: Thursdays
Rohoiic Library: Thursdays

Baby & Me
Hopewell Library - Mondays at 9:30 am
Dinwiddie Library - Wednesdays at 10 am
Prince George Library - Thursdays at 10 am
A great introduction for you and your new family member to the wonderful world of books, rhymes, and songs. For ages birth to 24 months old.

Stay and Play
Hopewell Library - Mondays at 10 am
Stay and Play is a drop-in playdate program for children from birth to 24 months. Stay after Baby and Me story time or just come in for the playdate to chat with other caregivers while your baby has fun with our toy collection.

Story Time, Baby & Me, or Stay & Play programs will not be held December 4, December 25-January 5, January 15, and February 19.

Elementary & Tweens

Mystery Movie Monday
Hopewell Library
Mondays at 5:30 pm
What movie will you see? Who knows? It’s a mystery! Join us for an exciting movie and snacks. There Will Be No Mystery Movie on December 4, December 25, January 1, January 15, and February 19.

Classic Movie Saturday
Hopewell Library / Saturdays at 11 am
Join us at the Hopewell Library for a classic film and snacks!
December 9- Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas (PG)
January 6- We’re Back! A Dinosaur’s Story (G)
January 20- The Little Rascals (PG)
February 3- FernGully: The Last Rainforest (PG)
February 17- Spy Kids (PG)

STREAM
Stop by for a science, technology, reading, engineering, art, or math-themed program.

December: Christmas Tree Construction
Using a variety of items supplied, you can either construct your own tree or make an edible version using tasty treats!

Hopewell Library: Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 5:30 pm
Mckenney Library: Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 5:30 pm
Prince George Library: Thursday, Dec. 14 at 5:30 pm

January: Do You Want To Build a Snowman?
If a snowman isn’t your vibe, that’s ok! We’ve got other winter-themed STREAM ideas that may be more your style. Join us and make it a winter wonderland!

Hopewell Library: Tuesday, Jan. 9 at 5:30 pm
Rohoiic Library: Wednesday, Jan. 10 at 5:30 pm
Prince George Library: Thursday, Jan. 11 at 5:30 pm

February: Be My Valentine!
What do you get when you add some STREAM to Valentine’s Day? A whole lot of heart-tastic activities.

Hopewell Library: Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 5:30 pm
Dinwiddie Library: Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 5:30 pm
Prince George Library: Thursday, Feb. 15 at 5:30 pm
Family Craft Night
An evening full of crafting? Family night has never been this fun.

Winter Holiday Family Craft Night
Get ready for the winter holidays with some beautiful crafts you can gift to family and friends. Play with clay, beads, and paint to make gifts your family will love.
Rohoic Library: Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 5:30 pm
Prince George Library: Thursday, Dec. 7 at 5:30 pm

Winter Paint Family Craft Night
Winter is a magical time of year and a great time to explore cool tones and sparkles. Come to Winter Paint Night to make winter-inspired art.
Dinwiddie Library: Wednesday, Jan. 3 at 5:30 pm
Hopewell Library: Thursday, Jan. 4 at 5:30 pm

Valentine’s Day Family Craft Night
Valentine’s Day is right around the corner and what better way to celebrate than to make your best friend a friendship bracelet or a beautiful painting for your mom? Bring the whole family and make amazing crafts to give out as gifts.
Rohoic Library: Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 5:30 pm
Prince George Library: Thursday, Feb. 8 at 5:30 pm

LEGO Club
All Branches at 5:30 pm
Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 27
Whether you are a LEGO Master Builder or a first-timer, this is the place for you! The library will provide the LEGO, while you provide the imagination!
Designed for ages 6 – 12.

Musical Painting
Prince George Library
Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 2 pm
Come rock out to your favorite winter holiday music while painting a masterpiece!

Dinosaur Crafts
Prince George Library
February 17th at 11:00am
Come out to the library and make some adorable dinosaur crafts!!

Teen Programs

Pour Paint Ornaments
Prince George Library
Thursday, Dec. 21 at 5:30 pm
Get ready to Pour Paint some beautiful winter holiday decorations. This trend has been all over TikTok and is a teen favorite at the library. Great for beginner artists, no experience required.

Art Journal Basics
Hopewell Library
Thursday, Jan. 18 at 5:30 pm
Art Journaling is a great way to let your imagination wander and express your feelings on paper.

Paper Lantern Making
Hopewell Library
Saturday, Jan. 20 at 2 pm
Have you ever made a paper lantern? Come and see how to make them. Lanterns will be made into cube shapes. They can be embellished with color, designs, and lightweight decorations. Within each lantern, a tea light will be added. The only limitation is your imagination. Ages 9+.

ARLS Teen Game Night
Hopewell Library
Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 5:30 pm
Give your brain a workout with a variety of puzzles and mental games.

3D Cupcake Painting
Hopewell Library
Saturday, Feb. 10 at 2 pm
Want to make a cupcake you can keep forever? Come paint your own 3D-printed cupcake!

Friendship Bracelets
Prince George Library
Thursday, Feb. 22 at 5:30 pm
This 90s trend is back and in a big way! Make beaded friendship bracelets or keychains. Perfect for sharing with friends.
Brace yourselves for the winter chill!

As snow blankets the town and icy winds whistle through the streets, our library might decide to take a snow day. Don’t risk a trek through the snow without checking in first.

Call 804-458-6329 for information on closures.

Stay warm, stay in the know, and let the library be your haven whether inside or cozy at home!