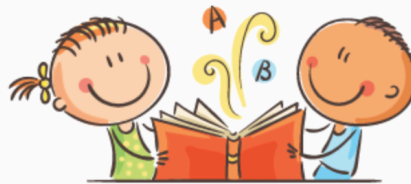


Our Shared Shelf



Give a Kid a Book Program



Give a Kid a Book Supports the We Care Eau Claire Backpack Giveaway

On August 17th, three Friends of the Library volunteers supported the We Care Eau Claire Backpack Giveaway through our Give a Kid a Book Program. It is amazing to see what this group has been able to do to assist families who need a little help before school starts. Not only do they give out backpacks with school supplies to every child, but they also have a large variety of agencies set up to help families. A volunteer walks each family around to the different agencies to inform them about all the different ways they can get help.

In addition to the agencies, there are plenty of fun things for the kids to do. There was the popular face painting, games, and making ornaments for the backpacks. This year we were able to share tables with the library. They were making the ornaments. It was fun to watch the kids decide on colors and how to arrange the colors. Of course, the Friends were there to give out books. Thanks to Cindy Schlosser and Sara McIlquham for helping the kids find the books they wanted. We saw a lot of smiles when the kids found their book.

We gave out 433 books at Back Packs in the Park this year. Since we have turned Give a Kid a Book into a year-round program, we have given out an additional 1,889 books.

Our annual Give a Kid a Book program will be starting soon. We are happy to report that we will be able to continue to support Toys for Tots with books this year. Last year, the Salvation Army informed us they could no longer support Toys for Tots. Through a little investigative work, we found out who is taking over this program, and we have been in contact with them. Watch your email/mail for information on how to support this program.



Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Check out these volunteer opportunities. If you have questions, please reach out to Stacy or Astrid.

- Friends Bookstore Volunteer
[Bookstore Volunteer Sign-Up](#)
- Monster Bash, 10/30/2026 (YS Program)
[Monster Bash Volunteer Sign-Up](#)
- Seasonal Train Exhibit, December 2026
[Seasonal Train Exhibit Volunteer Sign-Up](#)
- Craft Station Monitor, Saturdays, December 2026
[Craft Station Monitor Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

contact: friendsofthelibrary@eauclaire.lib.wi.us or call 715.831.5301

Bookstore Featured Collection

Each month, the bookstore will feature a special collection area. Our featured special collection for October is Spooky Stories. Stop in and check out our collection of Halloween-themed books.



L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library to Alter Operating Hours this Fall

To best serve the community while responsibly managing public resources, the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library will update its operating hours beginning Tuesday, September 8.

Approved by the Board of Trustees in June, the new schedule aligns staffing with peak usage times, ensuring maximum support when customers need it most.

New Library Hours (Effective Sept. 8):

Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Following its 2022/23 renovation and expansion, the library added two new public service points to meet growing community demand. A recent data-driven usage review showed that early mornings (9–10 a.m.) and late Saturday afternoons see the lowest foot traffic. Adjusting these hours allows the library to reallocate existing staff to fully cover all service points during peak times—improving customer care without adding tax-funded positions.

This optimization directly supports the library's 2024–2026 Strategic Plan goals of operational efficiency, responsive service, and responsible stewardship of public funds.

While the hours are changing, the library's focus remains the same: providing knowledgeable, welcoming service while connecting the community with the resources, programs, and opportunities it values.

Connect with us!



Friends of the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library | 400 Eau Claire Street | Eau Claire, WI 54701 US

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