

Odell Public Library OUTREACH



IN THE NEWS

Recent changes to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) have raised questions about the potential impact on funding at Odell Public Library. First, know that Odell Public Library is primarily funded by city property taxes. Defunding IMLS will *not* impact this type of funding. Odell also receives a small portion of our budget from the State of Illinois in the form of an annual Per Capita Grant. This, too, will remain in place. That's good news!

Changes in IMLS funding will, however, impact the ability of RAILS (Reaching Across Illinois Library Systems) to serve our community. Among it's many roles, RAILS is the agency that processes, sorts, and ships the materials Odell receives from other libraries in our region. When you check out a book, movie, or video game from another library system – that's RAILS! The ability to interlibrary loan materials is particularly important in rural areas like Morrison where our space and budget don't allow us to fulfill every need locally. That's where RAILS comes in! They provide our patrons access to millions of additional materials and along with it, information, inspiration, and entertainment for our community.

In fiscal year 2025, the Illinois State Library received \$5.7 million from IMLS. Of that \$5.7 million, \$4.3 million is allocated towards Interlibrary Loan services through Illinois Heartland and RAILS. If that funding is eliminated, there will almost certainly be changes to the Interlibrary Loan services utilized by Odell patrons.

Odell Public Library is resourceful and resilient. We have served our community judiciously and with joy for more than 125 years. We are proud of our vibrant, small town library and will continue to monitor and respond to our changing world.

Want to learn more? Explore these trusted sources for more information and advocacy ideas: ila.org/advocacy, ala.org, and railslibraries.org. We hope to see you in the library soon!

How Can You Support the Library?



Check Out An Item

Checkout numbers show the impact of the Library and support funding.



Visit Us

We keep track of how many people walk through the doors, access Wi-Fi, use computers, and attend programs. Add to the count!



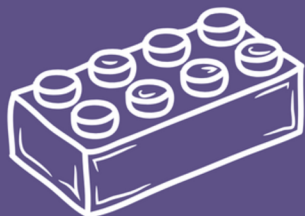
Follow @OdellPublicLibrary on Social Media.

Like, comment, and share posts to spread awareness and boost reach.

MAY 2025 PROGRAMS

LEGO Club

10:30 - 12:00



1st Saturday of
the month

All ages welcome
Come build at Odell!

3rd Saturdays @ Odell

Pokémon Club



10 - 11:30 A.M.
Odell Program Room

Play the card game, trade
with friends, and meet up
with other Pokémon fans!
All ages.



MAGIC
THE GATHERING

12 - 3 P.M.
Odell Program Room
Bring your decks and
play/trade with other MTG
enthusiasts. Ages 10+



May Storytimes



6:30 - 7:00 PM



THURS
01



OUTERSPACE

THURS
08

BUNNIES



THURS
15



BICYCLES

THURS
22

ICE CREAM



THURS
29

NO STORYTIME
SUMMER BREAK
SIGN UP FOR SUMMER READING!

Perfect for Preschoolers!



Stories, Songs,
Rhymes, & Art

Lego
fun!



Please Note: Lego, Pokemon, & MTG as well as our Thursday night storytimes take a break over the summer. Look for special Summer Reading programs all summer long!



Tiny Art Pickup

Tiny Art is available for pick up at Odell! If you were one of the 336 artists who participated in the 2025 Tiny Art Show, **thank you** for sharing your mini masterpieces with our community! The pieces were so creative and unique and enjoyed by many! We plan to host our next Tiny Art event in Spring 2027.

ODELL LIBRARY FRIENDS



The Odell Public Library Friends hosted a well-attended “Fraud Awareness” program on Tuesday, April 29th. Anne West, First Central Bank and Randy Meier, Seniors vs. Crime, presented.

The Odell Public Library Friends are patrons who support the library through fundraising, advocacy, and programming.

Friends have no age requirement or financial commitment; they are simply a group of people who love and support the library!

Does this sound like you?

The Odell Public Library Friends are currently looking for members.

NEXT MEETING



**Tuesday, May 6th
1:00 p.m.**

**Odell Program Room
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

The latest book orders can be found by scrolling to the bottom of Odell's [website](#) or stopping by the circulation desk. You can “Adopt-a-Book” for just \$15 to ensure the first read!



PUZZLE EXCHANGE

Odell now has a great selection of gently-used puzzles available! Patrons are invited to take or donate puzzles at our new “Puzzle Exchange” location in the Young Adult area in the southeast corner of the library. When donating or returning puzzles, please make sure all pieces are included and sealed in a ziploc baggie within the box. This helps us keep pieces contained and tidy. Have fun and puzzle on!



ODELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUMMER READING CLUB

Whether you've been with us for years or are brand new, here's what you need to know about this year's Summer Reading Club: **Level Up! @ Your Library.**

Summer Reading Club is a **FREE 5-week program** that encourages kids to continue reading over the summer break by offering fun and educational enrichment activities. Generously sponsored by the United Way of Whiteside County, SRC is open to children entering preschool through 8th grade.

Registration is REQUIRED by June 1, 2025.

As in years past, materials for an art project, science experiment, etc. will be available for pickup during the week. In addition, we'll have in-person nature programs, a Story Walk, BINGO board, and a few other surprises planned to keep your readers active! The first day for pickup will be **Monday, June 16th**, though families are welcome to stop in any day of the week.



Readers who complete their logs and BINGO sheets will receive ***FREE BOOKS*** at the end of Summer Reading Club and are entered into awesome prize drawings. This program is a great way to get your family comfortable using the library and has been shown to help grow or maintain literacy skills that are often lost over the summer months. Come read, play, and explore at Odell!

**Registration begins
Monday, May 12th**



MAY 2025 | AROUND ODELL



1) Young learners are invited to check out our Springtime Sensory Table in the Children's Area. Kids can scoop soil (beans) and make beautiful floral arrangements! 2) Storytime silliness: design your own underpants! 3) We love to watch kids concentrate! 4) Cora shows off her mega Lego land build!

PUTNAM & ZOO PASSES

Looking to explore locally? Check out Odell's Putnam Museum or Niabi Zoo pass and enjoy a day at this Quad Cities museum on us! Passes are available to adult Odell library card holders on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call us at 772-7323 to reserve your pass!

ALWAYS AVAILABLE

- Odell Play Kitchen & Puppet Theater
- Discovery Book Packs
- Leapfrog Readers
- Hot Spot checkouts
- Free library cards for kids
- Free wi-fi and public computers
- LEGO cart
- Coloring and activity pages
- Access to Ancestry.com
- Educate Station: K-5 Curriculum

