

# Odell Public Library OUTREACH



## AUGUST 2026

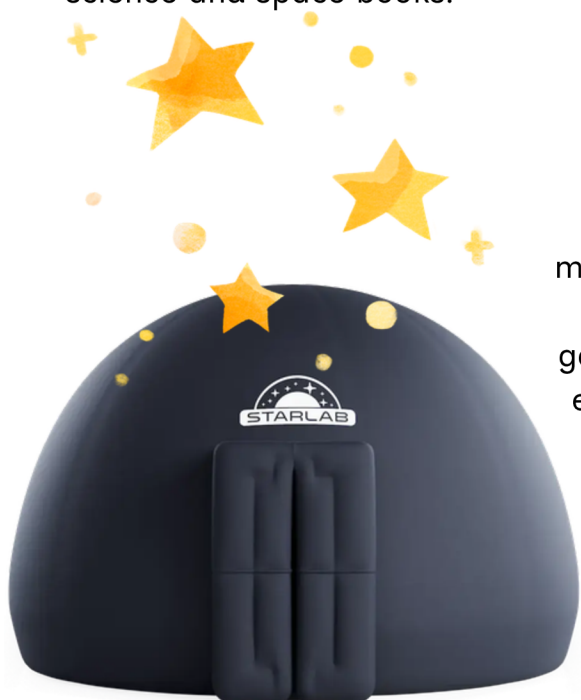
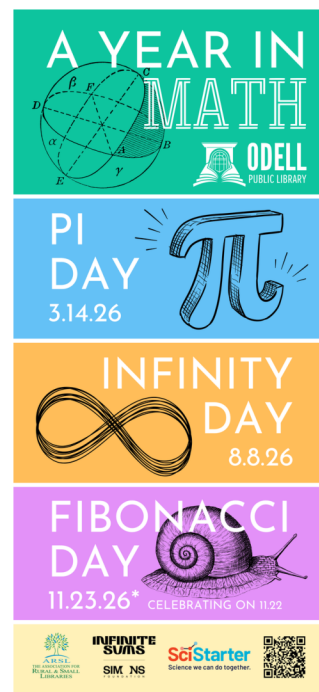
On Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, Odell invites the community to explore the unlimited possibilities of the universe in celebration of Infinity Day! The library will host two science-based events designed to embrace the beauty and creativity in math and science through the lens of our galaxy.

Explore space from 3-5pm in the Community Room at Odell Public Library. This all-ages, drop-in event features SkyLab, Peoria Riverfront Museum's portable planetarium. Their visiting astronomer will present 15-minute shows on the Milky Way Galaxy throughout the program. Shows are best viewed seated on the floor, but several chairs will be available for those with limited mobility. Patrons will also enjoy several hands-on science challenges including a 'Make Your Own Mobius Strip' and 'DIY Infinity Cube' stations. Reward your newfound knowledge by decorating a space-themed sugar cookie from Clinton's Sweetheart Bakery!

All Infinity Day Celebration participants will receive a raffle ticket for completing their space missions. Prizes include 2 unlimited ride passes for the Whiteside County Fair (a \$130 value), a \$50 Olive Garden gift card to enjoy unlimited salad and breadsticks, and lots of great science and space books!

Still curious? Teams of 8 are invited to participate in Odell's "To Infinity & Beyond" Trivia Night at Brick Block Pub! Preregistration is required for this adults-only event; visit [www.odellpubliclibrary.com](http://www.odellpubliclibrary.com) for more information. Come early to eat at 6pm, then enjoy 8 rounds of trivia beginning at 7pm with host Adam Smith. Teams will receive one free mulligan for each player who shows their non-expired library card. Desserts will be auctioned at intermission with funds going towards new early and junior non-fiction books. Come enjoy an evening of trivia, good food with good friends, and some infinity-themed prizes!

These FREE events are brought to you by Odell Public Library, a recipient of the Infinite Sums Rural & Small Libraries Cohort Grant from the Association for Rural & Small Libraries and SciStarter, in partnership with the Simons Foundation.







# SCIENCE • SPACE • DISCOVERY

# INFINITY DAY

## CELEBRATION



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH**  
**3:00 - 5:00 PM**

THE COMMUNITY ROOM | ODELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

- 🚀 PLANETARIUM
- 🚀 GALAXY CRAFTS
- 🚀 SPACE SNACKS

- 🚀 FAR-OUT PRIZES
- 🚀 FREE & OPEN TO ALL AGES!

**1 DAY**

**2 GREAT EVENTS**

**TO INFINITY  
AND BEYOND**  
*Trivia Night*

**SATURDAY**  
**08.08.2026**

**DOORS OPEN @ 6**  
**TRIVIA @ 7**

**BRICK BLOCK PUB**  
**105 W MAIN ST | MORRISON**

**FOOD • DRINKS • PRIZES**  
**QUIZMASTER ADAM SMITH**

BROUGHT TO YOU WITH SUPPORT FROM

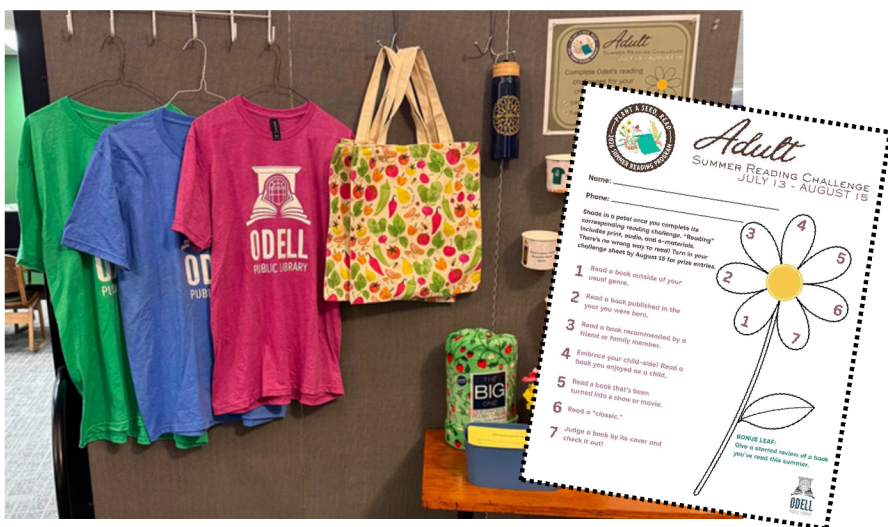
REGISTER YOUR TEAM OF 8 TODAY OR  
VISIT [ODELLPUBLICLIBRARY.COM](http://ODELLPUBLICLIBRARY.COM) FOR  
MORE DETAILS.





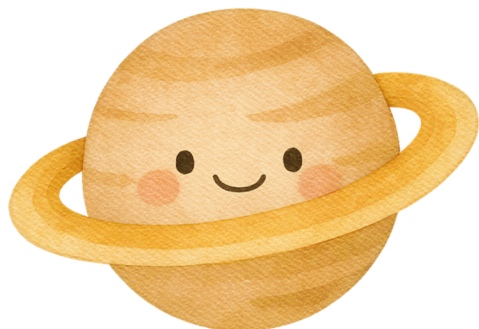
# ADULT SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

**Who says kids have all the fun?** Now through August 15<sup>th</sup>, adults and anyone high school-age and up can read their way to great prizes at Odell! Readers will shade in a petal for each challenge completed, earning a ticket into our grand prize drawings. You could read your way into an Odell tee, cozy up with a fuzzy strawberry blanket, or even score a gift card for books or plants! We can't wait to hear what you're reading this summer! Ask a staff member for more details.



## SCAVENGER HUNT

Complete our monthly Scavenger Hunt to solve the riddle and win a small prize! Thanks to the Odell Public Library Friends for sponsoring our goodies!



## KINDNESS ROCKS

Over 40 patrons of all ages painted messages of kindness at Odell's July 23<sup>rd</sup> program. Patrons could choose to take their rocks home or leave them for Odell to spray coat for outdoor use. The Kindness Rocks project is a global grassroots movement founded by Megan Murphy to spread inspiring words or pictures with others, creating connection and joy.





# BACK 2 SCHOOL | ODELL RESOURCES

As the kids start back to school this month, add Odell to your list of resources. In addition to study tables and charging stations, Odell offers free wi-fi as well as up-to-date public computers. The library even has hot spot internet devices available for check-out. Need something printed for school or home? For a small fee, Odell can print 8.5x11 up to 11x17 pages in color or black and white. Odell library card holders also have access to Educate Station, a free PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. Subjects include English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Emotional Learning, and Art. For our younger learners, ABCmouse.com is always free to use within the library building.

Whether for pleasure or school, remember that Odell has a myriad of options for getting the information you need. In addition to Odell's nearly 30,000 in-house print materials, patrons may borrow items from more than 130 other Illinois libraries at no cost. Odell's inter-library loan system is a great tool to get just the right book, DVD, or even video game. Need it right now? Find e-books and audio books through the Libby and Palace Project apps.

Which brings us to perhaps the very best resource Odell can offer: a free library card for any child within the Morrison school district! All you need is proof of residence and parent/guardian consent. Not sure how to get started? Odell's caring and competent library staff are happy to answer questions or walk you through our resources. Let us help your students learn and grow this school year. Stop in and explore Odell today!



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## DISCOVERY BOOK PACKS

Discovery Book Packs are themed children's literature bundles of 5-7 books, early literacy tips and activities, and an educational toy. Everything is packaged in an easy-grab backpack, with a traditional 2-week checkout. With topics from Art to Unicorns, there's a Discovery Book Pack for nearly any interest. Check one out today!





# ODELL LIBRARY FRIENDS

## BECOME A FRIEND!

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. Email the Friends at [odell.friends@gmail.com](mailto:odell.friends@gmail.com) with any questions or join them at their next meeting!

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST**  
**– 1:00 PM --**  
**ODELL PROGRAM ROOM**



## MICROGREENS

Odell is currently growing:

- Broccoli
- Kale
- Salad Mix
- Radish

Pop them in salads, smoothies, soups, and more for an extra dose of nutrition, especially during the winter months!



**Self-Serve  
MICROGREEN  
SAMPLES**

Help yourself to samples of our fresh microgreens ♡ Check the mini fridge by the front door!

*Excellent source of nutrients!*



*Grown & harvested at Odell Public Library with support from the Ogle County Health Department*



## HAMILTON A HIT!

The Odell Public Library Friends hosted nearly 40 guests in July for a showing of the hit musical “Hamilton.” The film was shown in celebration of America 250, with cake served during intermission. The Friends also provided bottled water and Thicksten’s popcorn for the occasion. Would you like to see more movies at Odell? Submit your ideas to the Friends at [odell.friends@gmail.com](mailto:odell.friends@gmail.com) or speak with any of the Friends. They’d love to hear from you!

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!

# PATRON-LED PROGRAMS

## 2026



### PINOCHLE

**Every Monday**  
**1 - 5 p.m.**  
Odell Program Room

### SCRABBLE

**Every Wednesday**  
**1 - 3 p.m.**  
Odell Program Room



### CHESS



**Paused for Summer**

### CRAFTERS



**Every Thursday**  
**5 - 7 p.m.**  
Genealogy Room  
Bring a project & socialize

### BOOK CLUB

**2nd Thursday**  
**2:30 - 4:30 p.m.**  
Odell Program Room  
(Let the front desk know if you need  
a copy of the month's book)



**AUGUST BOOK: THE BOOK WOMAN OF TROUBLESOME CREEK**

All programs are free and open to the public. Beginners welcome.

Please note that these programs are not run by Odell Public Library,  
though we are happy to host & pass on any questions.

**Come together at your local library!**



# Thank you!

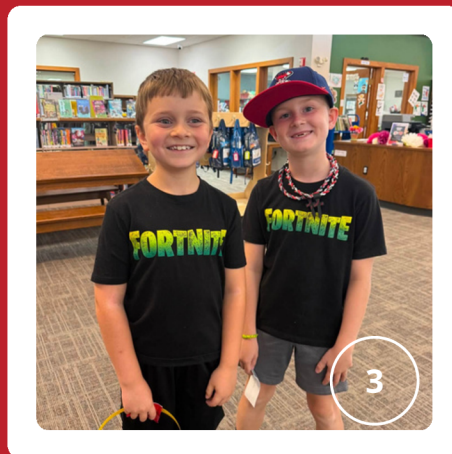
As Odell's Children's Summer Reading comes to a close, we are reminded of what a wonderful community we serve. So many families, volunteers, and agencies support our library programs and we truly could not do this work without you. Many thanks go out to our 2026 Summer Reading Sponsors: the United Way of Whiteside County, Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Morrison Rotary, Morrison CGH, Morrison McDonald's, our private donors, and talented staff and volunteers. Together, we inspired more than 200 local children to explore, read, and grow this summer!

**Thank you!**



A special thank you to all that helped create the SRC Plant a Seed, Read display. With the generosity of many, Odell's garden grows. Dani Mills, Ivy Mills, the Layne family, Libby & Dale Timmons, Jean & Mark Zinnen, Deb Beckstrom, Melissa & Randy Nyboer, Jeff Shoemaker, Samantha Harris, Lorna Temple, the Rider family, Lilly Betzwizer, Cora Yates, Cindy Pelka, Lux Adolph, Kinley Duncan, Halle Schaefer, and many MHS students and Odell staff members. The Odell garden theme was designed and coordinated by Odell's own Amy Shoemaker. Thank you for enthusiastically, and oh, so beautifully, transforming our library this summer!





1) Odell's "Kindness Rocks" program was a hit, with over 40 patrons painting messages on rocks. 2/3/4) Seeing Double? We love it when great minds think alike! L to R: Library staff Lynn and Kristina show off their Summer Reading swag; Brooks & Nolan look ready to play; Volunteers Lorna & Jan are helpful *and* fashionable! Who will twin next?

## MUSEUM & ZOO PASSES

Looking to explore locally? Check out Odell's **Putnam Museum**, **Sawmill Museum**, or **Niabi Zoo** passes and enjoy a day exploring 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

