



Explore Memphis is the Memphis Public Libraries summer learning initiative. This year's theme was "A Universe of Stories". The Library offered engaging programming, various reading initiatives, and connections with outside organizations to promote city-wide exploration. Explore Memphis is presented by TVA with support from Friends of the Library and the Memphis Library Foundation. Our mission is to motivate participants to read and learn during the summer through engaging programs, creative partnerships, and free resources.



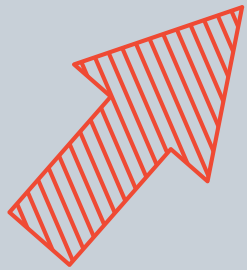
Busy Summers

Active Cardholders +9%

Door Counts +12%

Circulation +17%

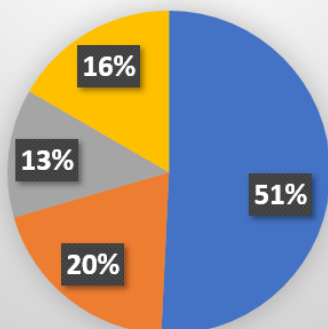
Program Attendance +60%



June and July are our busiest months of the year, and our numbers show increased monthly usage as compared to the rest of the year.

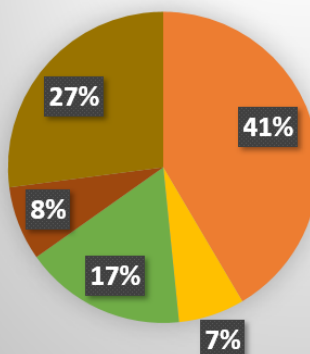
Program Attendance by Type

■ CULTURAL, LIFELONG LEARNING ■ YOUTH STEAM
■ JOB, CAREER, ENTREPRENEURSHIP ■ YOUTH LITERACY



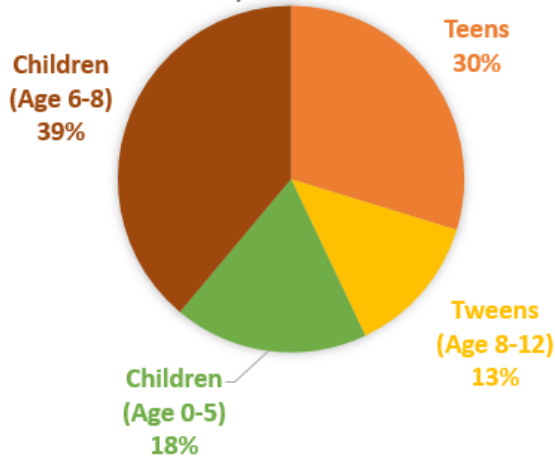
Program Attendance by Age

■ Adults
■ Tweens (Age 8-12)
■ Children (Age 6-8)
■ Teens
■ Children (Age 0-5)



Library programs were attended by close to 40,000 people during Explore Memphis, a 44% increase from last summer.

STEAM PROGRAM ATTENDANCE BY AGE
7,733 TOTAL



The Cornelia Crenshaw Library was surprised when a group of scouts from Sweden participated in their "Make a Planet" program. "From this city, Memphis, we will take with us the friendliness from your library." - Swedish Scouts

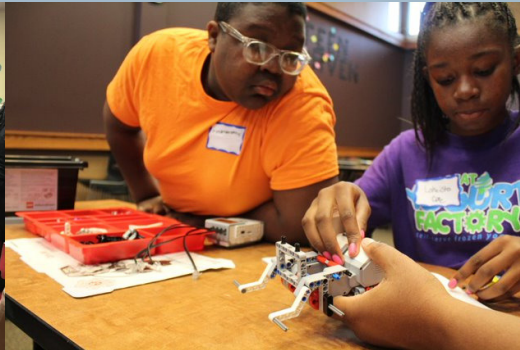


Children interacted with rocks and mineral kits provided by the Pink Palace and also engaged with snakes and other animals with Shelby Forest Rangers.



Keva Planks challenged children, teens and teens to see how high they could go without sacrificing stability.

Children had fun with rollercoaster and Stomp Rocket Challenges while learning about engineering, force, and momentum.



CodeBots and Spheros introduced robotics and coding to young ages, while Lego Mindstorm camps kept Tweens engaged. Finally, teens competed in robotics competitions with CLOUD901's Memphis MechWarriors.



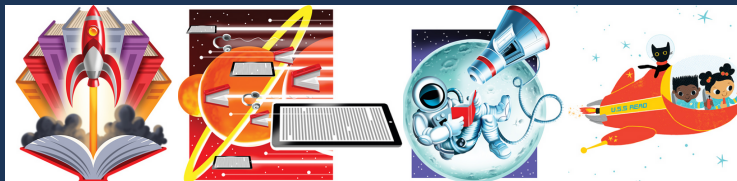
Who knew oreos could teach you about phases of the Moon? Children also made all sorts of slime while Teens worked diligently in CLOUD901's Art Studio



"I'm reading with my kids now because I want them to grow up loving books and learning."

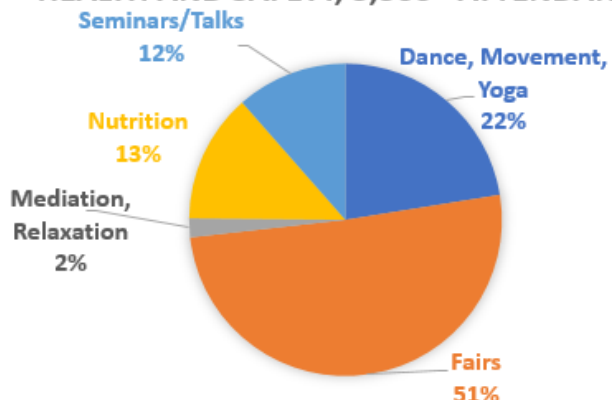
Reading for All Ages

Reading is its own reward; however, during the summer at the library, customers of all ages were eligible to win prizes for logging their reading time. To the right, a young Levi customer claims her new Kindle tablet.



"Reading with my child has helped me love reading again."

HEALTH AND SAFETY, 3,300+ ATTENDANCE



The **Friends of the Library** sponsored a Senior Health Fair, attended by about 1,600 people. Other health and safety programs included numerous "movement" classes, cooking demonstrations, and seminars/classes on safety tips, texting and driving, self care, and more.



"I had a choice of going to get a popsicle at La Michoacana or coming here and I chose the 'Sew What!' Club." - Catherine



Over **1,900** people attended programs aimed at our International community including ESL Conversation Groups, Naturalization Ceremonies, and Cordova's 2nd Annual International Festival.

Outreach

We also ventured outside of the Library over **180** times, reaching over **8,500** people by conducting story times or senior computer classes at Community Centers, visiting schools, festivals, or the **Levitt Shell**.



"I am so thankful to have you here. I walk from home to the Levitt Shell. I enjoy seeing the children come and make things. Plus, I can get a free book!"



MEMPHIS PUBLIC LIBRARIES

By the
Numbers

EXPLORE MEMPHIS '19



On July 22nd, **1,800** children received free ice cream thanks to **Blue Bell Ice Cream**.

Also, in partnership with **Shelby County Schools**, over **15,000** lunches and snacks were given to youth in the library throughout the summer.



The **Memphis Youth Poetry Team**, sponsored by **Friends of the Library** and housed in **CLOUD901**, traveled to Las Vegas for the annual **Brave New Voices** poetry slam festival and came one point from the reaching the finals.



"It was just a very validating moment to see that... Memphis teens, Memphis youth, Memphis poets are worthy of greater things."

Thank you to our partners that offered free/discounted rates to library card holders during the summer!



TVA provided Home Improvement workshops at various locations. In addition, over 16,000 adults attended library programs and received guidance in Business/Nonprofit assistance, legal assistance, job and career, personal finance, music lessons, movie discussions, books clubs, arts and crafts, and more.... To the right, we see the **Cossitt Pop-Up Library** in action on South Main Trolley Night.



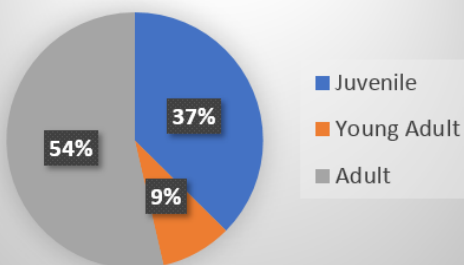
Adults can make slime, too!



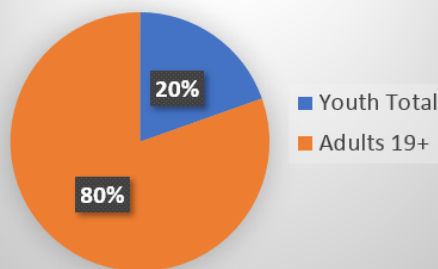
The **Jobs in July Career Fair**, hosted by **JobLINC**, **SHRM-Memphis** and **AJC-Workforce Investment Network**, assisted **3,500** people in applying for jobs. People had the option of taking advantage of free ties, haircuts, resume reviews, and mock interviews prior to venturing into the fair for face to face time with area employers.

Over a quarter of a million items were checked out this summer, with about 56,000 active library cards.

250,265 Items Checked Out



52,000 Active Cardholders



Active Cardholders - Youth

