Wide variety of summer fun in store at the library

With summer holidays fast approaching, the Medicine Hat Public Library is busy preparing for a summer of exploration and play. From baseball players reading books to mad scientists creating aliens, there's something to inspire every child at the library.

Our programming allows all children the opportunity to express their creativity, let their imaginations flourish, and make new friends as we play games, make crafts, and most importantly—read! This year’s TD Summer Reading Club is all about play, and we have developed many diverse themes to engage children of all interests. This year’s themes include Mystery Madness, Blast Off with Science and Around the World (in 80 Pages). Each week has a different theme, and children are welcome to come to any and all weeks that appeal to them. Each week runs one or more programs for your child to choose from.

Returning again this year is our highly popular Book Buddies program, which pairs younger children with older ones for reading activities, and encourages children to develop a love of reading. In addition, this program includes crafts, activities, games, and special guest visits.

This summer will also see the return of our Crafters and Creative Kics programs. Has your child always wanted to learn how to build things with clay or dreamed of creating their own comic book? If so, our Crafters program is a perfect fit. With Crafters, children put on their creative hats and explore, engaging with them-related books and crafts. The Creative Kics program emphasizes activities like puppet shows, scavenger hunts, and games as ways to express oneself and bring out your imagination.

New this year, the library will be offering full lunch supervision for children in our programs, meaning your child can choose to participate in both morning and afternoon activities without interruption.

Summer camps are not the only way to enjoy the library this summer. We also host preschool workshops, Monoporeads, and Tween Nights.

The first and last week of our summer activities will feature drop-in programs, meaning no registration is required. With its 100th anniversary this year, the Medicine Hat Public Library will be hosting a big birthday bash on Aug. 21. Join us in celebrating the end of our summer and 100 years of community, learning, and fun.

For more details on our programs and information on how to register, please visit http://mhpl.shortgrass.ca/. We're looking forward to a great summer with you!

This column was compiled by Library summer students Michael Tschritter, Maeghan Jerry, and Liam Gale.