

Library Focuses on Children's Books

Kris Wiley for The News-Review

Roseburg Public Library patrons love their children's books.

In fiscal year 2024-25, children's books accounted for 51% of the library's physical circulation. Since the library opened in 2018, there has been a 4% increase in children's circulation.

Items in the Children's Room, which consist of board books, picture books and easy readers, made up 26% and junior books 25% of circulation last year.

In real numbers, that was 19,755 and 18,803 checkouts, respectively.

Youth Services Librarian Aurora Ropp dedicates a good portion of her workload to collection development, which involves reading reviews, watching videos and researching online, in order to curate a supply of books for a range of ages and interests.

Last year, the library purchased 710 books for the Children's Room and 830 books for the junior section. Those items checked out 1,800 and 1,300 times, respectively.

Junior graphic novels were especially popular. The library added 180 titles, and they checked out 600 times. Overall, 1,700 junior graphic novels circulated nearly 4,500 times.

Kids also gravitate toward the annual Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) titles. OBOB is a reading comprehension program that challenges youth to form teams and participate in a question-answer competition.

The library places a special label on these books and shelves them separately. A booklist is available on the library's online catalog at roseburg.biblionix.com. Patrons may place holds by logging in with a valid Roseburg Public Library card; the default password is the 10-digit phone number used to create the card.

Friends Book Sale Next Week

The Friends of the Roseburg Public Library will hold their Fall Book Sale next week in the library's Ford Room, 1409 NE Diamond Lake Blvd.

Sale hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5 and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6.

This will be a bargain sale with gently used books, including antique books and library withdrawals. Most books will be priced at 50 cents, and on Saturday, books will be offered for free. Music CDs, books on CD and DVD movies will be 50 cents, and mass

market paperbacks will be 25 cents each. Colorful handcrafted book bags will be available for \$5.

After the book sale, the free clearance event will continue inside the library at the Friends Book Store.

Anyone wishing to help with the book sale, please email friendsroseburglibrary@gmail.com. Volunteers always are needed to help with set-up Wednesday, Sept. 3 from 2-4:30 p.m. and take-down Saturday, Sept. 6 from 2-4 p.m.

Next Week's Library Events

Wednesday, Sept. 3, 12 p.m. – Umpqua Haiku

Thursday, Sept. 4, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. – Friends of the Library book sale

Friday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. – Friends of the Library book sale

Saturday, Sept. 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – Friends of the library book sale (free day)