

City libraries host holiday programmes for children

Prashalan Govender

Libraries in the city are ready to host their annual December holiday programmes in which children can participate for safe, educational fun.

The Northdale Library, the Woodlands Library and the Bessie Head Library all have holiday programmes line up for children.

The Northdale Library began its programme on Tuesday with Sanele Tshabalala from S'fundimvelo, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife's environmental education programme about conservation. He quizzed the children on the big five, South Africa's national animals, and conservation.

The children were all involved in the session, audibly gasping as they caught their breath from the speed at which they raised their hands when Tshabalala asked who could tell him about the animal on the R10 note.

"It's one of the greatest things to do — engage with the youth and instill values like taking ownership of our environment," Tshabalala said.

Library manager Reshma Prem said the

December programme is always a blast as the children and the staff have fun too.

"It gets the children on holiday away from their screens and has them engage with other children, and participate in educational activities like playing Scrabble," she said.

Yesterday the library had Christmas craft activities. Today's activity is titled "Fun with the Fire Department".

Prem said that on Friday the library will host Kimbo the Clown and provide the children with a meal.

The Northdale Library's programme runs from 10.30am until noon.

Another library programme taking place this week is at the Woodlands Library. The programme started on Monday and will conclude until Friday. The activities run from 10am until 11am.

Yesterday the library hosted a scavenger hunt and author detective game. Today various games are planned and tomorrow there will be a talent show.

Later this month, the Bessie Head Library will start its holiday programme on December

17, from 10.30am to 11.30am with the Mindful Art Society facilitating art activities.

The next day, the Msunduzi Museum will be at the Bessie Head Library with games and arts and crafts while the last two days of the week will showcase exotic animals on December 19 and a movie morning on December 20.



Nasimara Osman (9), left, Sanele Tshabalala, and Kiaav Munesary at the Msunduzi Northdale Library's December programme on Tuesday. Photo: Prashalan Govender