The Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL) service is available to anyone with a visual, physical or reading disability that makes reading standard print uncomfortable. Do you or someone you know read large print books, but even the larger font has started to prove difficult? Do you or someone you know suffer from tremors or Parkinson’s? Do you or someone you know utilize a mobility aid? Did you or someone you know recently have a stroke or debilitating health event? If so, visit www.michigan.gov/btbl to gain free access to more than 100,000 books in audio and braille, delivered to your door or by download. Fill out an application at the website, or call 1-800-992-9012 for more information.
In this edition, we are focusing on MeL’s eResource, PebbleGo by Capstone—a great resource for children Pre-K to 3rd grade. This free database offers children non-fiction, user-friendly articles that can be used for individual use or school research. This database also supports early readers by providing read-along audio and definitions for highlighted words. Each article is conveniently broken down in 5 separate slides with plenty of colorful pictures.

All articles available in this database are found under two main categories: Animals & Social Studies. Under the Animals category, children can easily navigate and open articles about all sorts of different animals grouped under each of their classifications (reptile, mammal, fish, etc.) or browse subcategories such as animal behavior, habitats, dinosaurs and more. Under the Social Studies category, children can find articles on topics such as money, being a good citizen, holidays, jobs in the community and more (including facts on all 50 states). Subject areas outlined by the Michigan Academic Standards for K-2nd grade are all found under the Social Studies category on this database. With over 500 articles on different animals and over 350 articles under the Social Studies category, most will be able to easily find what they are looking for.

How do you begin using PebbleGo? Connect to MeL through our website, open up the eResources tab, click on PebbleGo, and create a username and password to start the fun. It is also worthwhile to note that you can find a great variety of games to enjoy. Also, for each article there is an activity sheet available to download, a video to watch, and other suggested articles. This database is a must for teachers, families with young children, and anyone wanting to enhance any child’s learning experience!

Pam Wright, Assistant Library Director
A New Year, A New Look

The Rawson Library Board recently decided that it is time to spruce up the library with an interior update. Our facility was last renovated in 1997 and has weathered time well, but daily use and wear and tear has begun to show. We are working with Library Design Associates, a company with over 40 years of experience specializing in libraries, to redecorate the library. The Board voted to use funds from our savings to have the building painted, carpeted, and a few modifications made to the layout. One such modification is to move the children’s area away from the busy area by the main doors to the area that currently houses the adult non-fiction, magazines, and large print books. The adult materials will be moved to the south side of the building, and the Young Adult area will be located near the new children’s area. Updates will also be made to the staff work area. It’s all very exciting and will take place in 2023. It is our goal to keep library services as normal as possible during this time, but we know that there will be some disruption. We will keep you posted when any necessary adjustments must be made, and when it’s all done we’ll have a big celebration!

Library Services—How can we help?

- Copies & Scanning up to 11x17
- Notary
- eBooks & eAudiobooks
- Inter Library Loan
- Wi-Fi
- Fax—Send or Receive
- Meeting Room
- Study Rooms

Sure, you might be disappointed but then again… you may end up having a great time with something you would otherwise never have ventured to read.

Inside the cover of each book is a Rate Your Blind Date slip. With each COMPLETED slip that you return, you will be entered into a drawing. One lucky winner will earn dinner for two at the Charmont. Stop by Rawson Memorial Library between February 3 and 28. You might get lucky; if not in love then perhaps in literature!

Clubs & Activities @ Rawson

Please check the calendar of events on the website or follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information.

Lego Club
3:15pm-4:30pm.
Meets twice a month. All ages are welcome; 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Chess Club
3:15pm-4:30pm.
Meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Chess sets provided. All ages are welcome; 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult. No experience needed.

Ravenous Readers Book Club
February 22
The Reading List by Sara Nisha Adams
March 22
The Night Shift by Alex Finlay
April 26
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

Meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. If you are interested in joining this group, stop by the circulation desk or call the library at 872-2856 and ask for Danielle.

Pokémon Club
3:15pm-4:30pm.
Meets on the first Wednesday of each month. All ages are welcome; 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult.
Learn how to play the card game, battle each other, build your own Pokémon deck, trade cards, or show off your collection.
Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY
1  Pokémon Club, 3:15 p.m.
3  Friends of the Library Mtg, 10:00 a.m.
7 & 23  Lego Club, 3:15 p.m.
8  Author Helen Bigelow, 4:00 p.m.
13  Bingo, 12:30 p.m.
18  Library Board Mtg, 11:00 a.m.
21  Chess Club, 3:15 p.m.
22  Ravenous Readers Book Club, 12:00 p.m.

MARCH
1  Pokémon Club, 3:15 p.m.
2  Friends of the Library Mtg, 10:00 a.m.
3  Friends of the Library Mtg, 10:00 a.m.
4 & 30  Lego Club, 3:15 p.m.
5  Library Board Mtg, 11:00 a.m.
15  Library Board Mtg, 9:00 a.m.
18  Library Board Mtg, 9:00 a.m.
21  Ravenous Readers Book Club, 12:00 p.m.

APRIL
5  Pokémon Club, 3:15 p.m.
7  Friends of the Library Mtg, 10:00 a.m.
11 & 27  Lego Club, 3:15 p.m.
14  Library Board Mtg, 11:00 a.m.
18  Library Board Mtg, 9:00 a.m.
21  Library Board Mtg, 9:00 a.m.
26  Ravenous Readers Book Club, 12:00 p.m.

March is Reading Month
During the month of March, Rawson Library invites you to join the Iditaread Challenge and follow the Iditarod race.