

# Libraries: Outdoor-activities in times of COVID-19

## A selective bibliography

Compiled by Beate Hoerning | May 19, 2021

---

Amling, Katrin (2020):

### Lesung in Gerolzhofen: Über den Garten als Sehnsuchtsort.

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.mainpost.de/regional/schweinfurt/lesung-in-gerolzhofen-ueber-den-garten-als-sehnsuchtsort-art-10495202>

*Abstract: Garten und Balkon – gerade in Corona-Zeiten sind das Erholungsorte, Betätigungsfelder oder gar Sehnsuchtsorte für jene, die weder das eine noch das andere besitzen. Bea Vincent und Laura Windmann bringen in Gerolzhofen bei ihrer Lesung aus "Liebling, ich habe den Garten gesprengt" besonders die heiteren Seiten des grünen Wohnzimmers auf die Bühne im Spitalgarten.*

*Keywords:*

COVID-19 pandemic; Garden; Nature; Outdoor programs; Outdoor public spaces; Outdoor reading; Public libraries

Arapahoe Libraries (2021):

### Outdoor holds lockers.

Online verfügbar unter <https://arapahoelibraries.org/holds-lockers/>

*Abstract: Most library locations of the Arapahoe Libraries offer outdoor hold lockers to pick up books, movies and other held items. When placing a hold, you have the option to select a locker as your pickup location. Choosing a locker allows you to pick up items that are ready any time that is convenient for you.*

*Keywords:*

Arapahoe Libraries; COVID-19 pandemic; Englewood CO; Outdoor book-lending; Outdoor hold lockers; Outdoor services

Bowie, Liz (2020):

### 7 outdoor program tips for libraries.

Online verfügbar unter <https://ideas.demco.com/blog/7-outdoor-program-tips-for-libraries/>

*Abstract: If your library has outdoor space or a local park area available and authorities have determined it is safe to gather, you may be ready to engage some of your community members in an outdoor storytime, art class, or yoga lesson. As always, follow the recommendations of your state and local authorities when deciding whether or not it's safe to hold outdoor programs at your library. Every library's situation will be different, but the following tips can help you plan and keep everyone safe.*

*Keywords:*

COVID-19 pandemic; Libraries; Outdoor programs

Büchereizentrale Schleswig-Holstein (2021):

### Erzählwege.

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.erzaehlwege.de/>

*Abstract: Erzählwege bieten die Chance, mit Geschichten und Themen ins Freie zu gehen. Bibliotheken in Schleswig-Holstein öffnen ihre Türen für Jung und Alt. Menschen gehen hinein – und die Bibliothek geht manchmal auch nach draußen: auf Erzählwegen zum*

*Beispiel. Mit Erzählwegen eröffnen Bibliotheken an verschiedenen Orten kreative Möglichkeiten, um Geschichten und Themen gemeinsam im Freien zu entdecken, zu erleben und zu gestalten. „Wegstationen“ mit Bildern und Texten in vielfältigen Formen – verteilt auf Schaufenster, im Garten, auf dem Hof, im Park, auf dem Spielplatz, im öffentlichen Raum – bringen Menschen in einen lebendigen Austausch miteinander, mit der Umwelt und mit Medien.*

Keywords:

Erzählwege; Libraries; Nature; Outdoor programs; Outdoor public spaces; Outdoor story times; Schleswig-Holstein

Costa, Jamie (2021):

## Libraries plan more outdoor activities as COVID lingers.

Cortland Standard. Online verfügbar unter <https://cortlandstandard.net/2021/03/29/libraries-plan-more-outdoor-activities-as-covid-lingers/>

*Library outdoor activities in the greater Cortland area, NY - a collection of examples.*

Keywords:

Cortland NY; COVID-19 pandemic; Outdoor activities; Public libraries

Des Moines Public Library (2021):

## Outdoor, in-person programming returns to Des Moines Library.

Online verfügbar unter <https://eu.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/2021/04/29/outdoor-person-programming-returns-des-moines-library/4871272001/>

*Abstract: For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic canceled all in-person live library programming, Des Moines Public Library will be inviting guests to join, in person, for a series of outdoor programs throughout the spring and into the summer 2021.*

Keywords:

Des Moines Public Library; Outdoor programs; Outdoor services

Die Rheinpfalz (2021):

## Rhein-Pfalz-Kreis: Bibliothekstage starten: Aktionen und Lesungen.

Online verfügbar unter [https://www.rheinpfalz.de/lokal/rhein-pfalz-kreis\\_artikel,-bibliothekstage-starten-aktionen-und-lesungen- arid,5194996.html](https://www.rheinpfalz.de/lokal/rhein-pfalz-kreis_artikel,-bibliothekstage-starten-aktionen-und-lesungen- arid,5194996.html)

*Abstract: Wegen der Corona-Pandemie sind die Bibliothekstage Rheinland-Pfalz von Ende Oktober 2020 auf Ende April 2021 verlegt worden. Trotz aller noch herrschenden Einschränkungen wird die Landesaktion umgesetzt. Ab heute gibt es auch im Kreis Rätsel, Lesungen und weitere Aktionen – vor allem für Kinder. Darunter sind zahlreiche Freiluft-Veranstaltungen.*

Keywords:

Bibliothekstage; COVID-19 pandemic; Libraries; Outdoor activities; Outdoor programs; Outdoor reading; Rheinland-Pfalz

Dubke, Marita (2020):

## Ein Stück Bibliothek im Park. Ein Praxisbericht zum Einsatz des »bookbike nrw« bei der Stadtbibliothek Duisburg.

In: *BuB, Forum Bibliothek und Information* 72 (4), S. 154–155. Online verfügbar unter <https://b-u-b.de/wp-content/uploads/2020-04.pdf>

*Abstract: Das Kinder- und Jugendliteraturzentrum »jugendstil nrw« bietet Städten im Rahmen eines Förderprojekts das sogenannte »bookbike« zur Nutzung an. Dabei handelt es sich um eine mobile Mini-Bibliothek zur Leseförderung im öffentlichen Raum. Mit ausgesuchten Büchern, literaturpädagogischem Material und vielfältigem Equipment (Sitzteppichen, Kissen, Bänken, Tisch und Sonnenschirm) ausgestattet, soll das bookbike Kindern im Alter von fünf bis acht Jahren die Freude am Lesen ermöglichen. Das Projekt, das durch das Landesministerium für Kinder, Familie, Flüchtlinge und Integration so-wie durch zahlreiche Verlage unterstützt wird, steht unter der Schirmherrschaft von Susanne Laschet, der Ehefrau des Ministerpräsidenten des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen.*

*Keywords:*

Book bikes; Duisburg; Outdoor activities; Outdoor programs; Stadtbibliothek Duisburg

Ford, Anne (2020):

## The great outdoors. Libraries turn to drone delivery, outdoor browsing, and other alfresco services.

In: *American Libraries* 51 (September 14). Online verfügbar unter <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/the-great-outdoors-library-services-covid-19/>

*Abstract: Before the COVID-19 pandemic, students at Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) in Christiansburg, Virginia, got books from their school library shelves. Now they're getting them from the sky. In La Grande, Oregon, Cook Memorial Library (CML) responded to the pandemic first by closing to the public entirely; then, after a few months, opening its book drop for returns; and now, since mid-June, offering curbside service, or "library takeout." Even before the pandemic struck, Lorain (Ohio) Public Library System (LPLS) was hatching a scheme to use the outdoors as a way of attracting more patrons. Now, during COVID-19 times, that plan is proving particularly apropos.*

*Keywords:*

COVID-19 pandemic; Curbside services; Outdoor activities; Outdoor programs; Public libraries; School libraries

Fröhling, Horst (2021):

## Open-Air-Bibliothek kam schon im Corona-Sommer gut an.

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.mainpost.de/regional/schweinfurt/open-air-bibliothek-kam-schon-im-corona-sommer-gut-an-art-10587395>

*Abstract: Diese neue Open-Air-Bibliothek in Bergheinfeld wird rege genutzt - auch von Rathausbesuchern und Touristen. Der Hof wurde mit teils individuell gestalteten Sitzgelegenheiten, darunter einem Strandkorb, mobilen Regalen mit Flohmarktbüchern und Sonnenschirmen ausgestattet, um die Bibliothek als attraktiven Ort zu etablieren.*

*Keywords:*

Bergheinfeld; Bergheinfelder Gemeindebibliothek; COVID-19 pandemic; Open-Air-Library; Outdoor services

Green, Wanda (2021):

## Outdoor Activities in Your Community During COVID-19. Professional Development for Librarians.

Cornerstones of Science. Online verfügbar unter <https://cornerstonesofscience.org/products-services/professional-development-for-librarians/#outdoor>

*Abstract: In this webinar, Wanda Green, Assistant Library Director at the Tom Green Public Library System in San Angelo, Texas, discussed how libraries can do outdoor programs during the pandemic. Green focused on a summer rocketry camp that was part virtual and part in-person. There were challenges and success that Green discussed in detail, but overall it was a doable program and much beloved. Outdoor programming can be important even through the coldest winter months. Fortunately, engaging STEM*

*passive and active programs, such as story walks, story-hour, stargazing, animal tracking, tree identification, etc., are already well-suited for the shorter days of the year, and with the right gear, getting outside and learning outside is not only possible, it's fun and healthy too.*

*Keywords:*

COVID-19 pandemic; Outdoor programs; San Angelo TX; Tom Green Public Library System

Green Schoolyards America (2021):

**National Outdoor Learning Library. Practical resources for taking school outside during the pandemic and beyond.**

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.greenschoolyards.org/covid-learn-outside>

*Abstract: The free online resource library is designed to help schools and districts move their classes and programs outside as a way to address the COVID-19 pandemic — and as an investment in the future of a richer educational environment for children of all ages.*

*Keywords:*

COVID-19 pandemic; Green Schoolyards America; National COVID-19 Outdoor Learning Initiative

Greiner, Aaron (2021):

**How a library is reimagining public Wi-Fi during COVID-19. Project for public spaces.**

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.pps.org/article/how-a-library-is-reimagining-public-wi-fi-during-covid-19>

*Abstract: Like many of their counterparts across the country, in March 2020 the Somerville Library closed due to COVID-19. The resourceful staff quickly implemented curbside pickup and found ways to adapt their services. However, there was one service that proved difficult to offer in a COVID-safe manner—wireless internet access.*

*Keywords:*

Courtyard; Outdoor public spaces; Outdoor work area; Somerville MA; Somerville Public Library

Isimon (2020):

**For a one-of-a-kind Book Club experience, Hop on a Kayak.**

Online verfügbar unter [http://www.ilovelibraries.org/article/one-kind-book-club-experience-hop-kayak?utm\\_source=ILL&utm\\_medium=article&utm\\_campaign=crpares](http://www.ilovelibraries.org/article/one-kind-book-club-experience-hop-kayak?utm_source=ILL&utm_medium=article&utm_campaign=crpares)

*Abstract: During the pandemic, libraries have gotten creative to continue serving their communities while maintaining social distancing. Indoor group activities like book clubs are no longer feasible, so many libraries have switched to online or phone-based conversations. Connecticut's Russell Library has taken a different approach, bringing literary discussions into the great outdoors with their Book Yak on a Kayak event.*

*Keywords:*

Book club; COVID-19 pandemic; Kayak; Middletown CT; Outdoor reading; Russell Library

Kaplan, Melanie D.G. (2020):

How libraries are writing a new chapter during the pandemic. Read about book bikes, bibliophile hotels, outdoor story times, and other ways libraries are reacting to COVID-19.

In: *National Geographic* (September 21). Online verfügbar unter <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/libraries-respond-to-coronavirus-with-book-bikes-and-virtual-festivals>

*Abstract: The article describes ways libraries are reacting to COVID-19, e.g. book bikes, bibliophile hotels, outdoor story times.*

*Keywords:*

Book bikes; COVID-19 pandemic; Libraries; Outdoor services; Outdoor story times

Kelly, Karmen (2020):

Program model: "Imagine Your Story" outdoor no-touch escape room.

Online verfügbar unter <https://programminglibrarian.org/programs/imagine-your-story-outdoor-no-touch-escape-room>

*Abstract: For the past year our library has had a great deal of success with our escape rooms and has planned to continue adding new ones. As the pandemic threatened to bring these events to screeching halt, I knew there had to be a way to build a new escape room and still keep it within the COVID guidelines. Our newest escape room was designed to be entirely quarantine-friendly. The space was built outdoors with sidewalk chalk and uses disposable game pieces and an online form in place of the props and locks you would find in a typical escape room. By designing it this way, there is virtually no risk of contamination and no need to sanitize items between uses.*

*Keywords:*

COVID-19 pandemic; McMillan Memorial Library; Outdoor escape rooms; Outdoor programs; Public libraries; Wisconsin Rapids WI

Lawton, Mark (2021):

The road to normal. Bookmobiles and outreach staffers take on new roles in a year of COVID-19.

In: *American Libraries* 52 (March 1). Online verfügbar unter <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2021/03/01/bookmobiles-road-to-normal-covid-19/>

*Abstract: When Goochland County (Va.) Public Schools abruptly stopped in-person learning at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic last March, school librarians Zoe Parrish, Sarah Smith, and Susan Vaughan worried that their students would be left without access to books. Public libraries had also closed, and the county's inconsistent internet service meant ebooks were not a workable substitute, Vaughan says.*

*Keywords:*

Bookmobiles; COVID-19 pandemic; Goochland County VA; Outdoor services; Outreach; School libraries

Lenstra, Noah (2020):

How public libraries are helping us find nature during the crisis.

Children & Nature Network. Online verfügbar unter <https://www.childrenandnature.org/resources/how-public-libraries-are-helping-us-find-nature-during-the-crisis/>

*Abstract:*

Within days of closing their facilities to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the 17,452 public libraries in communities across the United States started reminding patrons how to utilize their outdoor spaces and services, and their electronic resources, to stay connected to nature. As ubiquitous community institutions full of staff well-versed on the latest and greatest technologies, public libraries have been ideally situated to continue encouraging children and families to get outside and stay active during these trying times.

*Keywords:*

Community; COVID-19 crisis; Nature; Outdoor public spaces; Outdoor services; Public libraries

Peterson, Jennifer (2020):

## Thinking outside: Libraries and placemaking in pandemic times.

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/thinking-outside.html>

*Abstract: As libraries begin to consider offering services and programming in new or reimagined ways, some are looking at how to use outdoor spaces as a way to connect and engage with their communities. From parking lots to baseball diamonds, there are public spaces in every community that can provide ways for people come together, while remaining safely distanced.*

*Keywords:*

COVID-19 pandemic; Libraries; Outdoor activities; Outdoor programs; Outdoor public spaces; Outdoor services

Schmidt, Anne (2020):

## Per Rad: Kostenloser Lieferservice während der Corona-Krise. Stadt- und Kreisbibliothek Sömmerda bringt bestellte Medien zu den Nutzern und übergibt sie kontaktlos.

In: *BuB, Forum Bibliothek und Information* 72 (5), S. 251. Online verfügbar unter <https://b-u-b.de/wp-content/uploads/2020-05.pdf>

*Abstract: Während der pandemiebedingten Schließung der Stadt- und Kreisbibliothek Sömmerda wurde ein kontakt- und kostenloser Bücher-Lieferservice eingerichtet, der mit einem Lastenfahrrad erfolgt.*

*Keywords:*

Book bikes; Book delivery; COVID-19 pandemic; Delivery bicycles; Outdoor public spaces; Outdoor services; Outdoor story times; Public libraries; Sömmerda; Stadt- und Kreisbibliothek Sömmerda

Schwäbische Zeitung (2021):

## Literatur unter Bäumen. Die neue Open-Air-Bibliothek auf der Landesgartenschau in Überlingen.

Online verfügbar unter [https://www.schwaebische.de/landkreis/bodenseekreis/ueberlingen\\_artikel,-literatur-unter-baeumen-arid,11359611.html](https://www.schwaebische.de/landkreis/bodenseekreis/ueberlingen_artikel,-literatur-unter-baeumen-arid,11359611.html)

*Abstract: „Das Paradies habe ich mir immer wie eine Art Bibliothek vorgestellt“, hat der argentinische Schriftsteller Jorge Luis Borges einmal geschrieben. Gewöhnliche Zeitgenossen sehen das Paradies wohl eher als einen herrlichen Garten – mit Bäumen, Wiesen, Blumen, Wasser. Wie auch immer: Bei der diesjährigen Landesgartenschau in Überlingen lassen sich beide Traumbilder aufs schönste vereinen. Bis Oktober erwartet das Publikum hier eine einzigartige Szenerie: eine Bibliothek mit über 1000 Werken der Bodensee-Literaturgeschichte – unter freiem Himmel wohlgemerkt.*

*Keywords:*

Landesgartenschau; Open-Air-Library; Überlingen

Sheehy, Kelly (2020):

## The best outdoor spaces at the Library (according to YOU!).

Online verfügbar unter <https://cincinnati.library.org/blogs/post/best-outdoor-spaces/>

*Abstract:*

Now that the dog days of summer are behind us and autumn is in the air, it's the perfect time to take advantage of pleasant weather by spending time outside at the Library. From StoryWalks® to librarian-led events, outdoor spaces provide a safe space for socially distanced fun, learning, and community. We selected eight beloved branches with outdoor spaces and asked customers on social media to vote for their favorites. While we love them all, the winner of the bracket challenge is...(cue the drumroll please) the Madeira Branch!

*Keywords:*

Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library; Cincinnati OH; COVID-19 pandemic; Outdoor public spaces

Stadtbibliothek Pankow (2021):

## Veranstaltungen im Hof vor der Bibliothek am Wasserturm.

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.berlin.de/stadtbibliothek-pankow/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/>

*Abstract:* Im Hof der Bibliothek am Wasserturm (Stadtbibliothek Pankow) werden zahlreiche Open-Air-Veranstaltungen angeboten - darunter viele Lesungen.

*Keywords:*

Bibliothek am Wasserturm; Outdoor programs; Outdoor reading; Outdoor story times; Public libraries; Stadtbibliothek Pankow

Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung (2020):

## Herne: Stadtbibliothek startet Open-Air-Vorlesen für Kinder.

Online verfügbar unter <https://www.waz.de/staedte/herne-wanne-eickel/herne-stadtbibliothek-startet-open-air-vorlesen-fuer-kinder-id229462288.html>

*Abstract:* Die Herner Stadtbibliothek führt Vorleseaktionen für Kinder durch. Diese finden Open-Air in den Innenhöfen der Bibliotheken statt.

*Keywords:*

Courtyard; Herne; Herner Stadtbibliothek; Outdoor programs; Outdoor story times; Public libraries

---

For searching by tags, see also:

[https://www.bibsonomy.org/user/library\\_outdoor?sortPage=title&sortPageOrder=asc](https://www.bibsonomy.org/user/library_outdoor?sortPage=title&sortPageOrder=asc)

---

Beate Hoernig

Green Library Network

Contact: [bibliografie@netzwerk-gruene-bibliothek.de](mailto:bibliografie@netzwerk-gruene-bibliothek.de)