



# North Branch MARCH 2026

Submitted by: Kristin Graf, Bina Williams, and the North Branch staff

March 2026

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 69 Number of visitors: 5622	Number of questions answered: Total 4106 Ref 1961 Directional 1647 Technical 498
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 98971 Total Added: 270	
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 4144 (38% of BPL total) In-house: 1272 Grand total: 5416 Passes 5 (Beardsley Zoo)	
Public Internet Usage Total:	Public computer Users for the month: 742 Total Wifi connections n/a	
Room Usage by outside groups TOTAL	Room use: Bookings, 7 Attendance: 135 Study room uses 78 Attendance: 95	

Programming Programs Attendance:	<p>Virtual:</p> <p>5 Mindfulness: 25</p> <p>In person off-site</p> <p>1 Watermark Book Discussion 16</p> <p>In person on-site: Regular programs</p> <p>1 Adult book Discussion: 14</p> <p>1 Bport Community Historical Society 25</p> <p>1 Books-In-Between 2</p> <p>4 DIG Chess 20</p> <p>4 E Sports: 60</p> <p>4 Gifted Girls: 87</p> <p>4 Little Bears: 60</p> <p>2 Little Hands 4</p> <p>9 Mah Jongg 88</p> <p>4 Playtime 20</p> <p>4 Yoga Saturdays: 148</p> <p>In Person Onsite</p> <p>4 Tax AARP 143</p> <p>3 Quilting/Sewing 23</p> <p>3 Crochet 34</p>	<p>4 Computer Classes 40</p> <p>21 Class Visits 188</p> <p>4 AARP Tax 148</p> <p>1 Safe Drive AARP 10</p> <p>1 Lawyers in Libraries 15</p> <p>1 Literacy Volunteers 12</p> <p>1 Scavenger Hunt 41</p>
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Other Services	0 Digital Navigator: 0 Notary 15 appts: 23 people 20 docs Coloring sheets: 250 Info Tables: 0 Passport: NA ILL requests for BPL system patrons: 4 patrons/ 6 items requested 0 Tests proctored: 0
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached N/A
Staff Dev and "outside" meetings	

*"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'"*

*— Robin Williams*

And party we did across the city. 65 third grade classes with about 1425 students total visited our five branches in the month of March. At North, we had 17 classes with \*\*\*\* kids come to North. Some days, we had four classes in two time blocks. For each visit, we divided the groups into two. Group A would meet with Bina in the children's area where she took them through the wonders of the library using the script that Kristin had made. She then read them *The Frog Prince, Continued* by Jon Scieska, illus. by Steve Johnson after telling a brief recap of the Frog Prince. The next part of that session was for each child to pick out a book to check out. Dana created library cards for each school so we can track the books without the teachers having to use their own cards. She gave each teacher a list of the books their class took out. Meanwhile, Group B met with Paula in the community room for crafts. She created a clever bookmark using our new Cri-Cut machine. Each kid chose an animal to put together.. They also colored pages we printed out for them with spring themes. A few groups had time to play with legos. The first groups were a little rough as we fine-tuned our system of delivery but by March 31<sup>st</sup> we were cooking with gas! We took lots of pictures and Dana came up with the idea of posing the classes in front of the mural. (We did this with the last few classes when the weather was nice!)

How did it go? We noted that many of the teachers had great classes and were engaged in what we were doing. Some teachers did not know about the trip until the buses showed up. One teacher was completely disengaged with his class who were fairly unruly. Some classes had several adults with the teachers while some were solo. Two special needs groups came along for the trip which we didn't mind—we just wish we had known ahead of time to prepare something meaningful for them.

Note to selves: There is no way to have enough Dog Man or Wimpy Kid books for that many kids in one month!

Kudos to Dana and Paula for their hard work on each visit. Library Assistants Lynn and Ilesha helped a lot with questions, scanning in house use, and generally keeping the ship afloat while Dana, Paula, and Bina were busy with the kids. Biggest Kudos to Joe who had to put away all the books that were NOT checked



out! And to Miracle for doing all the adult page duties.

A big shout-out to Monika, David, Luis, Ilesha, and Lynn who kept the adult section covered and offered excellent customer service. Bernard lent a hand with getting the rooms ready and cleaning up afterwards. We have missed Kristen whose recovery had some bumps along the way. We all are looking forward to her return. It just ain't the same without her!

And to quote Art Linkletter, "Kids say the darnedest things!"

Funny question: "Do you own Duolingo?"

Scary question: "Do you have any books about war?" "Which one?" "World War III.' ACK!