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By *efardoux*

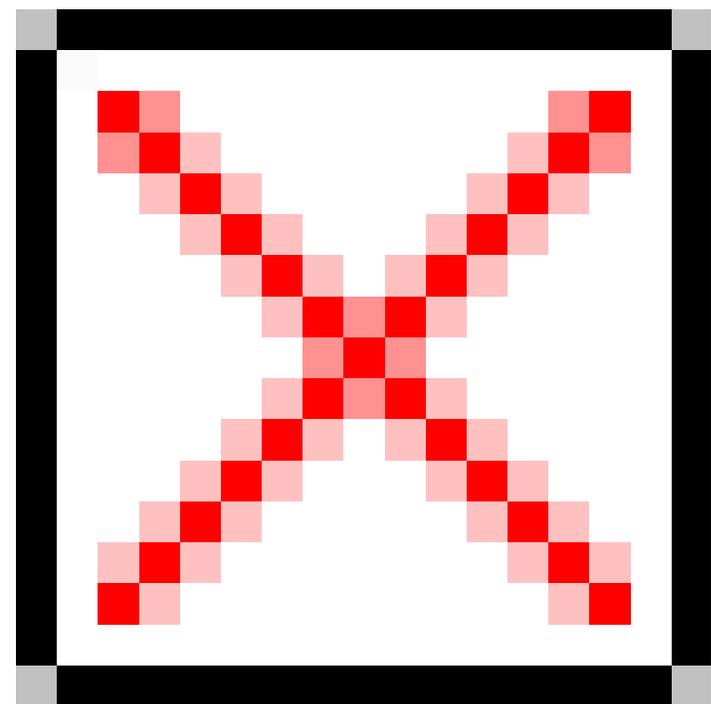
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Half Way through Summer Reading?!

What a great (and fast) summer this has been! We've had programs from around the world, hundreds of reports given on books read - both in person and online... and of course lots of prizes earned. We gerbils have expanded our social media horizons to include both Instagram and Vine - check us out there under our handle, @librarygerbils - or of course follow all our posts in one place on our Facebook page.

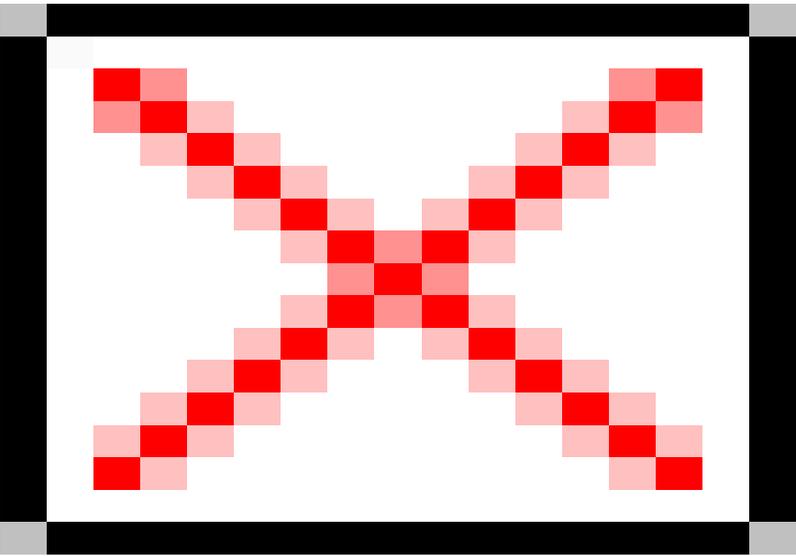
Here are a few highlights from our Summer so far:

In the first week of Summer Reading, we had dancers from the **Ballet Folklorico** company in Milwaukee perform a terrific cultural program of Mexican dances. A few lucky audience members even got to learn a traditional Mexican dance (though don't confuse it with the Mexican Hat Dance; even though it sounds the same, the two are very different!).



Check out more photos from the Ballet Folklorico [here](#).

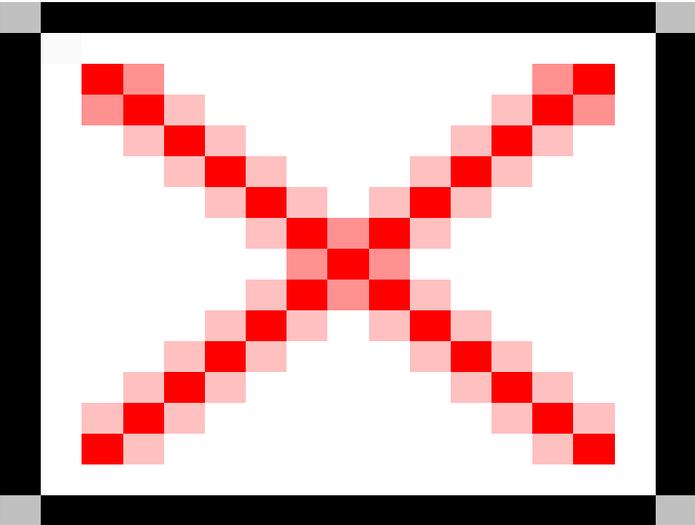
We had an **Italian Cooking Workshop** presented by Chef Chuck Gallo from Sunset Foods, where kids learned how to make a delicious Italian appetizer - bruschetta!



Check out more photos from the Italian Cooking Workshop [here](#).

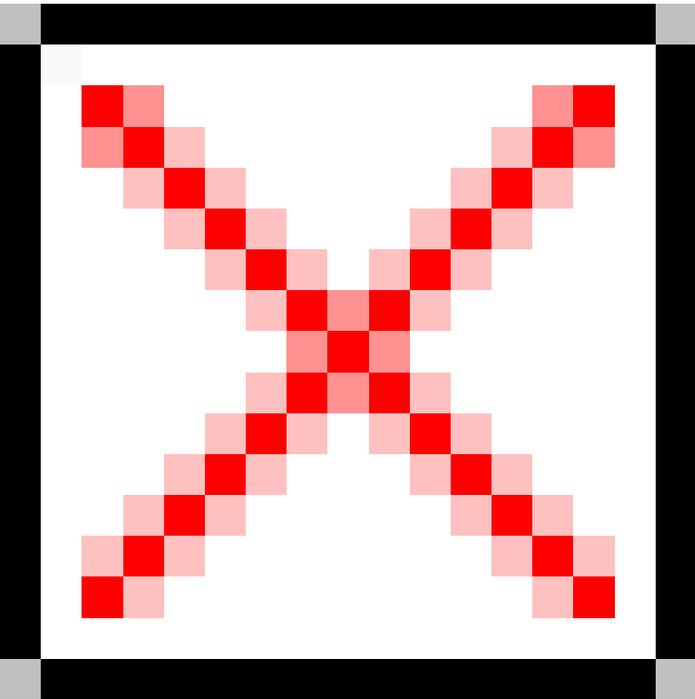
The Asiafantasia storytelling program was also great fun - check out photos [here](#)!

Patrons learned some great kung-fu moves at our **Kung Fu Demonstration for Families** program:

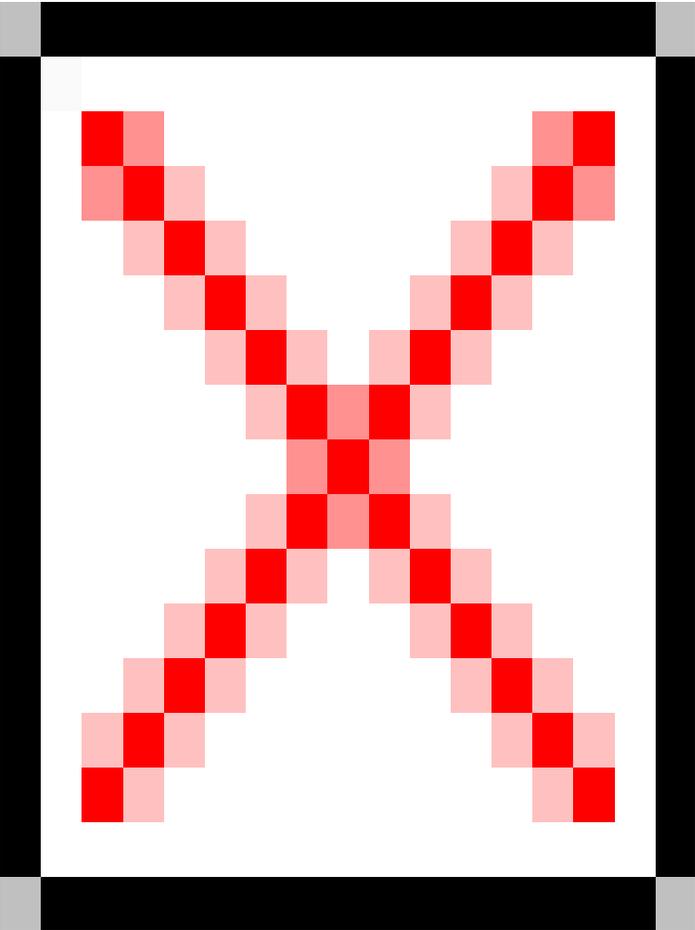


See more Kung Fu photos [here](#).

Of course, Summer Drop-In Chess has been a blast so far - please stop by Saturday mornings until the end of Summer Reading (July 27) from 10:30am to 12pm!



Most recently, our librarians and staff marched in the Highland Park 4th of July Parade, which celebrated the Library's 125th anniversary as well as our country's birthday! Here is one librarian's dog who came out to celebrate:



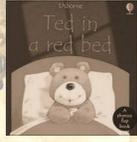
[Here](#) are some more 4th of July parade photos.

Finally, we want to celebrate our Readers of the Week so far - they've read some great books!

PRE-K-K READER OF THE WEEK

MAGGIE C.
AGE 4.5

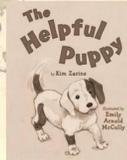
BOOKS MAGGIE
RECENTLY ENJOYED



K-5 READER OF THE WEEK

JENNA A.
GRADE 2

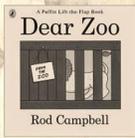
BOOKS JENNA
RECENTLY ENJOYED



PRE-K-K READER OF THE WEEK

SABRINA P.
AGE 4

BOOKS SABRINA
RECENTLY ENJOYED



K-5 READER OF THE WEEK

JENNY N.
GRADE 4

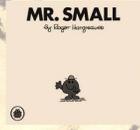
BOOKS JENNY
RECENTLY ENJOYED



PRE-K-K READER OF THE WEEK

COOPER K.
AGE 3 1/2

BOOKS COOPER
RECENTLY ENJOYED



K-5 READER OF THE WEEK

BIANCA D.
GRADE 4

BOOKS BIANCA
RECENTLY ENJOYED



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