

Beloit Daily News
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I love playing games – board games, card games, trivia games, and even puzzles and crosswords. I love playing them for a few different reasons. One, they help keep the mind sharp. Believe me, as middle age starts creeping up, I need all the help I can get to keep the wheels turning. Two, playing games is fun, especially if you are playing with family and friends. Three, I'm very competitive and love the feeling of crushing my opponents. Is it wrong for a Children's Librarian to enjoy crushing the competition? And finally, I love playing games because I cheat. Is it wrong for a Children's Librarian to admit she cheats?

Okay, there is really only one game I "cheat" at. That game is Trivial Pursuit and I don't really see it as cheating, even though my family and friends would beg to differ. When I was a kid, in order to expand my knowledge on a variety of topics, I would read the questions and answers on the Trivial Pursuit game cards. I mean really, what kid didn't read the Trivial Pursuit cards? Is it my fault that I memorized most of those answers? Is it my fault that my family and friends were still willing to play with me? Nope. Not my fault. And needless to say, I crushed them.

If you love playing games of all kinds like I do, come to the Beloit Public Library on Thursday July 13th from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for Summer Library Club Game Day. We will have all sorts of fun and games for the whole family. Kids 12 and younger can enjoy board games, block games, video games, Legos, and even create a game to take home.

For more information on this event and other library events, be sure to visit us online at www.beloitlibrary.org, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. In the meantime, check out these books coming soon to your Beloit Public Library:

Beasts from Bricks: Amazing Lego Designs for Animals from Around the World by Ekow Nimako. The book presents illustrated step-by-step instructions for building 15 animals from around the world: Africa, Europe, Asia, Antarctica, Oceania, Central/South America, the Caribbean, and North America. Each set of instructions includes entertaining and educational information about the animal's characteristics and habitat. Also included is a bonus gallery of Nimako's more complex, large-scale animal designs. (Book Description)

Behave: The Biology of Humans at Our Best and Worst by Robert M. Sapolsky. From the celebrated neurobiologist and primatologist, a landmark, genre-defining examination of human behavior, both good and bad, and an answer to the question: Why do we do the things we do? (Book Description)

Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, and Getting It Done by Andrea Gonzalez and Sophie Houser. Perfect for aspiring coders everywhere, Girl Code is the story of two teenage tech phenoms who met at Girls Who Code summer camp, teamed up to create a viral video game, and ended up becoming world famous. The book also includes bonus content to help you start coding! (Book Description)