

NEWSLETTER

SEEDS TO STARS

OCTOBER 2026

Welcome to your adventure, Library Legends



Fact of the Month

According to Google there are more public libraries in the U.S. than Starbucks locations. The American Library Association lists 16,568 public libraries and branches across the U.S. Starbucks locations total around 14,606 nation wide.



Reading Challenge Corner

Can you read 10 books this month? Complete our reading punch card to exchange for something from the prize box. Punch cards are entered into a monthly giveaway!

This Month at the Alden Public Library!

Spooky Season is here at the library. Be sure to stop in and see all of our seasonal decorations here at the library, made by our very own Assistant Director, Erin. While you are here, be sure to check out Halloween/Fall themed books and movies.

Our Maker Space corner has a brand new challenge. During the month of October you can create your very own monster. Be sure to stop at the front desk for a prize after you have finished and named your monster. Limit 1 prize per month. We have take and go craft bags in the Maker Space corner as well.

NEW MOVIES THIS MONTH:

- Supergirl (PG-13)
- Minions & Monsters (PG)
- Toy Story 5 (PG)

Newborn - PreK Reading Recs:

- *Counting Stars*
- *The Little Mermaid*
- *Eating Well!*
- *Nighty-Night*
- *Snuggle Puppy*
- *Baby signs*
- *Peppa's First Pet*
- *ABC's of Kindness*
- *Blue Hat, Green Hat*
- *Fast Train, Slow Train*



Kindergarten - 3rd Reading Recs:

- *The Sandman*
- *Hoot & Peep*
- *No Bears*
- *Chicken Dance*
- *Wiggle*
- *Love from Bluey*
- *Count Your Chickens*
- *Color Zoo*
- *Crafty Chloe*
- *Warning! Do Not Touch!*

Updates & Announcements

The best way to keep up to date on what is happening at the library is to follow us on Facebook and sign up for our newsletters!

Find us on: <https://www.facebook.com/aldenpubliclibrary>

STORY TIME

at the Library!

Every 1st and 3rd Thursday morning
from 10:00 to 10:45am!
(for kids ages 0-5, siblings welcome)

Join us for songs,
stories, and fun! This
lively story time builds
early literacy skills and
joy in reading.

Dr. Grace O. Deane
ALDEN
Public Library

A cartoon illustration of a woman with long brown hair, wearing a pink shirt, sitting and reading a green book to four children. The children are sitting on the floor around her, looking at the book.



Lisa Liittschwager, Director

A Message From the Library



The library is always looking for feedback from our young patrons. If there is a book, book series, movie, or game that you would like to have at the library, please let us know.



Library Legend Tutoring Services & Book Review

Isaac Smith is a Junior at Iowa Falls/
Alden HS and is offering tutoring for
high school (Juniors and below) for
Math and Science help.

Contact Isaac at
isasmith@students.ifacadets.net to
set up a session.

Isaac is currently reading
Thunderhead by Neal Shusterman



Children's Corner

It's more than play...

Our children's section is filled with activities that help young children build muscles that help them grow and learn. Fine motor skills activities build the hand strength, dexterity, and coordination children need for daily tasks like writing, feeding, and dressing.

- Jumbo Farm Counters
- Math Learning Games
- Wooden Letter Blocks
- Sorting & Stacking Toys
- Girly Girl Lacing Cards

Parents and Guardians of children not yet in Kindergarten must remain with their children at all times while visiting the library.



Library Legend of the Month

4th - 6th

Book Recs:

- *Dog Squad (series)*
- *Magic Bone (series)*
- *Ramona's World*
- *Crenshaw*
- *Bad Unicorn*
- *Moo*
- *Hoops*
- *Kid Athletes*
- *BIRDS*
- *Falling Up*

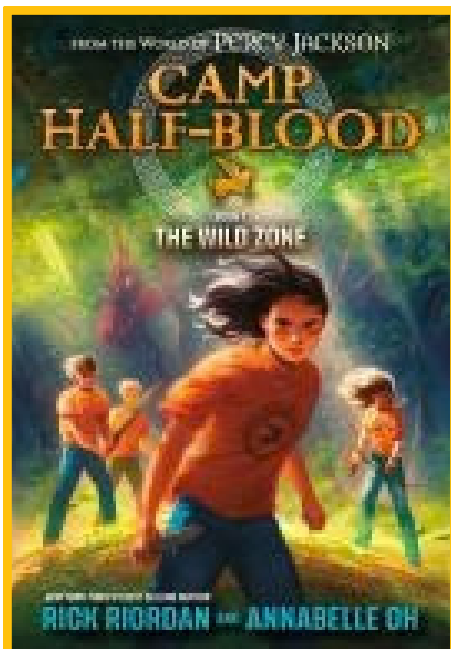
Percy Jackson Fans

The newest Percy Jackson book is here!

Camp Half-Blood: The Wild Zone

You can find it in the Junior Fiction new book display or ask at the front desk.

Did you know that The Wild Zone takes place at the exact same time as The Lightning Thief? While Percy, Annabeth, and Grover are away on their big quest to find Zeus's master bolt, the rest of the camp is still busy training—and getting into plenty of monster-sized trouble of their own!



Tech of the Month



Teen Zone Tech of the Month:

MergeEdu Cube

Instructions for use located next to the cube.

Teens & Young Adults Book Recs:

- *The Book Thief*
- *My Deer Friend Nokotan*
- *Deadly Education*
- *The Last Graduate*
- *The Golden Enclaves*
- *Friendship to the Max*
- *Beware the Kitten Holy*
- *Scythe*
- *Thunderhead*
- *The Toll*

Library Hours & Contact



515-859-3820



www.alden.lib.ia.us



danielle@alden.lib.ia.us

2026

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

OCTOBER

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

Dr. Grace O. Doane Alden Public Library

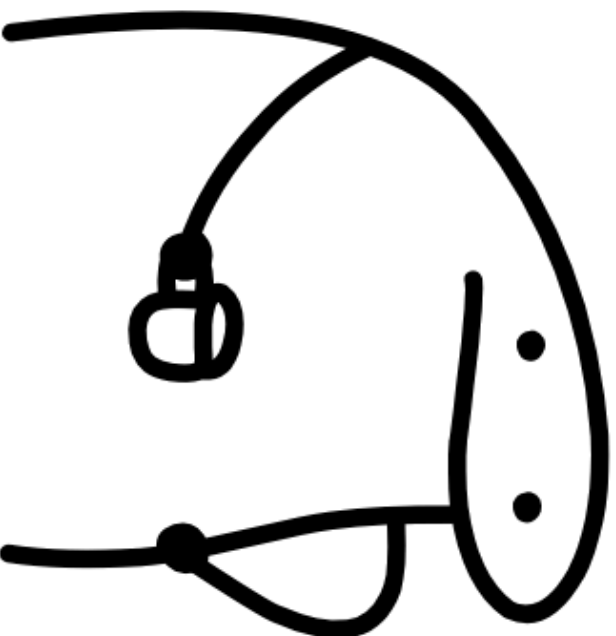
P.O. Box 78 - 1012 Water Street

Alden, IA 50006

Phone: 515-859-3820

ASP email: danielle@alden.lib.ia.us

			1 10:00 - 10:45AM 0-5 Story Time	2	3
		6 3:30 - 4:30PM LEGO Day 	8 3:30 - 4:30PM Hardin Co. Soil Conservation		
4	5			9	10
		13 3:30 - 4:30PM Pollinator Helpers	15 10:00 - 10:45AM 0-5 Story Time 3:30 - 4:30PM Pollinator Helpers	16	17
11	12				
18	19	20 3:30 - 4:30PM Local Agriculture Connects People	22 3:30 - 4:30PM Red Clover Farms Sam Renaud	23	24
25	26	27 3:30 - 4:30PM Amazing Trees	29 3:30 - 4:30PM Amazing Trees	30	31



CAMP HALF-BLOOD DEMIGOD QUIZ

Demigod Fun Fact: The new book The Wild Zone takes place at the exact same time as The Lightning Thief! While Percy is away on his quest, the rest of the camp is busy getting into monster-sized trouble!

1. Poseidon is the mighty god of the sea and the father of Percy Jackson. What is his famous three-pronged weapon called?

- ☐ Lightning bolt
- ☐ Trident
- ☐ Golden bow
- ☐ Winged sandals

2. Ares is the fierce and hot-tempered Greek god of war. Which tough and aggressive animal is famously sacred to him?

- ☐ Dolphin
- ☐ Owl
- ☐ Wild boar
- ☐ Peacock

3. If you encounter a Gorgon like Medusa, who has live snakes instead of hair, what happens if you look directly into her eyes?

- ☐ You start speaking ancient Greek
- ☐ You turn into a fluffy cloud
- ☐ You turn into solid stone
- ☐ You instantly turn into a frog

4. Hermes is the speedy messenger of the gods and the patron of Cabin 11. What special items allow him to fly through the air?

- ☐ A magical invisible cloak
- ☐ A pair of winged sandals
- ☐ A golden chariot pulled by dragons
- ☐ A pair of mechanical metal wings

5. Zeus is the king of Olympus and ruler of the sky. What powerful animal is his primary sacred symbol?

- ☐ A majestic eagle
- ☐ A roaring lion
- ☐ A venomous serpent
- ☐ A swift white horse

Return to the library by October 31, 2026 for a prize.

Name: _____ **Grade:** _____