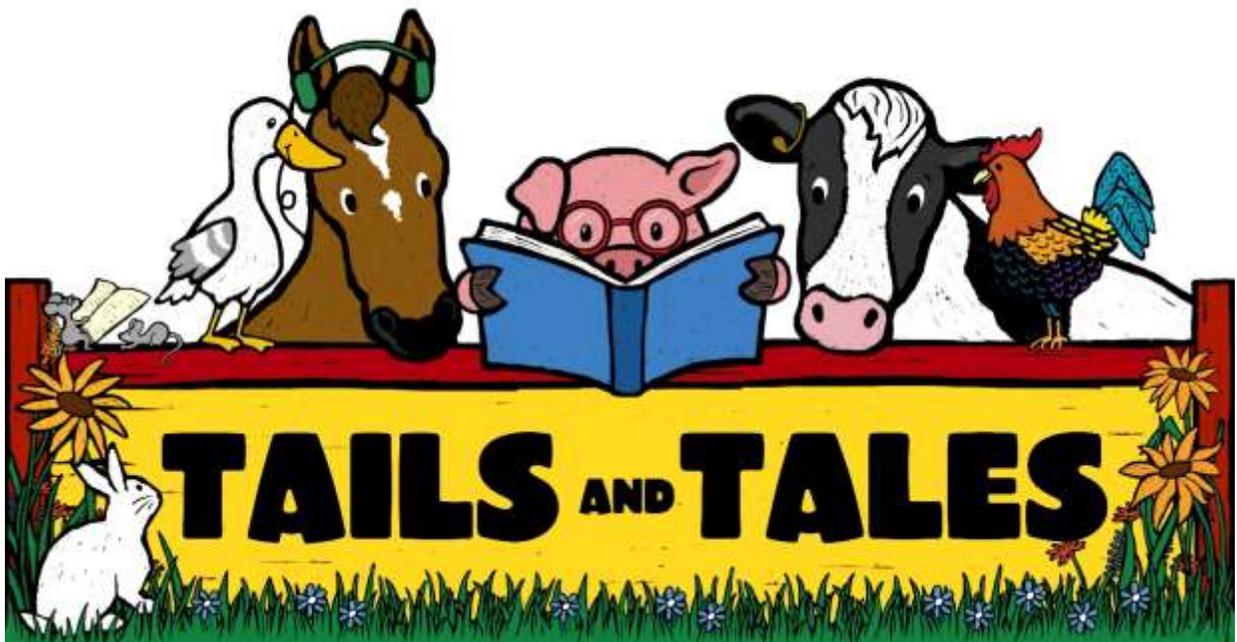




Joseph T. Simpson Public Library
16 N. Walnut Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
www.simpsonlibrary.org

**2021 Beautify the Barriers
Simpson Summer Learning Program
Theme - Tails and Tales**



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Barriers are numbered from left to right starting at the stop sign.



1. Holly Cohick

Bio: Holly Cohick is a Cumberland County graphic designer who has a taste for adventure, enjoys puns, and was born with a passion to create. She does traditional art, digital painting, and photography. To sweeten someone's day she bakes mini sugar cookie masterpieces from scratch. Through childhood she loved to draw animals and has since focused on people portraits. Her inspiration comes from shows and movies, people she admires, and the blessings of daily life. She wants to spread joy and inspire souls by sharing her artwork. You can eat up her colorful Carlisle utility box across from the Hamilton Restaurant called Smorgasboard from the Art While You Wait project. To see what she's got cooking, connect with her on social media at HLCohickArt.

Design: This design concept is a play on words to represent Tails for Tales. "The Tail End" starts a little "fishy" with a mermaid, seahorse, and shark swimming by. Tails of animals make up the calligraphy. It begins with a fox and ends with a hound's joyful tail. Among the hidden creatures is a black cat, lemur, bunny jumping away, yellow duck, piggy tail, and you can't forget the elephant deep in thought. A dinosaur stands behind everything while I imagine the alligator saying 'see you later' as he walks away. The background is categorized into three elements. The first third are swirly water waves. Next is growing greenery for the earth dwellers. The last third ends with a warm fiery sunset. My goal is that readers of all ages will be reminded of a story or make their own narrative of this tail wagging artwork.

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2. Mallory Shelley

Bio: Mallory Shelley is fine artist and proud resident of the Borough of Mechanicsburg. She lives with her partner, Nick Roller, and their daughter Corinne who attends Northside Elementary School. She specializes in figurative drawing and acrylic painting, however is always curious to learn new techniques and experiment with assorted mediums. Mallory is mostly self-taught; however, she did attend Pratt Institute for a year. Observing the work of Salvador Dalí, Claes Oldenburg, and M.C. Escher are what inspire her to think outside of the box. Besides creating art, Mallory relishes the everyday moments spent with her family and two pugs. She also enjoys playing puzzle/board games, researching Mid-Century Modern architecture and furniture design, and also adventuring out into nature! You can view samples of Mallory's portfolio on her website at: www.malloryshelley.com

Design: For this project, my inspiration comes from the time spent at Joseph T. Simpson library. My daughter Corinne and I are regular attendees and check out different events throughout the year. Our favorite is "Tales with Tales", where children have the opportunity to read to therapy dogs. It is a relaxing and happy environment watching children and dogs interact together. Since this theme for the project is "Tails and Tales", I thought it would be great to incorporate depictions of dogs, books, and children with a dream-like background to evoke a pleasant viewing experience.

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3. Trudy Martin

Bio: Trudy Martin is a retired art teacher and kindergarten teacher from Amherst, NY. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Art Education from the State University of New York College at Buffalo. She initially taught K-6th art in Niagara Falls, NY public schools. After starting a family, she was the founder and director of Pendleton Christian Nursery School. In 1982, she became the kindergarten teacher and art teacher K-12th at Amherst Christian Academy in Amherst, NY for 26 years. Trudy and her husband retired and moved to Mechanicsburg to be close to their son. She worked part-time in the Children's Ministry department at Christ Community Church, Camp Hill until 2019. Trudy has done graphic art work for a variety of organizations, mural painting, general and wedding photography, stage design and painting, and cake decorating. She took all the pictures and designed the pages for the school yearbooks. Trudy is the mother of 5 grown children and twelve grandchildren. Education and the creative arts have always been an important part of her life and is excited to have the chance to continue giving to our community.

Design: For my "Tails and Tales" jersey barrier design I've created a scene with animals with interesting tails, browsing books with a border of plants. I picked a chameleon to be next to *Rainbow Chameleon* by Yonzu and a skunk for *Little Skinks Tail* by Halfman. I also included a bookworm and a fairy. Since sloths and elephants are so popular now, I wanted them in the design.

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4. Suzanne Hair

Bio: Suzanne Hair is an artist who lives in Mechanicsburg, PA. she primarily works in mosaic. Her work has been exhibited at Metropolis in Mechanicsburg, The Hive Artspace in York, and the Eye's Gallery in Philadelphia. She has also participated in the Foundry Day art festival in Boiling Springs, the Odd Ones Bazaar at The Millworks in Harrisburg, the Hbg flea, Harvest of the Arts in Carlisle, and the Bazaart holiday art market at the Ameran Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore. View examples of her work at [Instagram.com/broken_art_mosaics](https://www.instagram.com/broken_art_mosaics).

Design: My barrier design features a stack of children's books with tails coming out which correspond to the title of the book. My intention with this design was to show how books come to life for a child. I wanted to create the feelings of the tails coming out of the books to draw the reader in.

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5. Katlyn Baer & Green Ridge Elementary 5th Grade

Bio: Elementary Art Educator, Green Ridge Elementary, Cumberland Valley School District. Katlyn Baer is an art educator passionate about community-based art education. Providing students with learning opportunities outside the walls of a classroom is vital to developing a well-rounded arts education. Collaboration within our larger community fosters deeper connections and understandings to the people around us and prepares students for life and work in the 21st century. Students develop not only artistic skills but also universal qualities that help them in all areas of life including persistence, leadership, collaboration, creative thinking and problem solving, as well as agency, self-discovery, and self-expression. Perhaps most importantly, community-based art projects provide our youth with a platform through which they can share their voice. This is her continued calling as an arts educator, to provide her students with such opportunity to find their voice and be heard.

Design: Green Ridge Elementary fifth grade students worked collaboratively to complete the mural design in connection with Simpson Library's 2021 Summer Learning Program theme, "Tails and Tales". This piece depicts a serene outdoor scene with the Green Ridge Elementary Gator mascot reading alongside the Cumberland Valley School District Eagle mascot with a school of fish just beneath the surface of the water listening in on the tales being read. The mural design was painted on a thin mural fabric with acrylic paints. This allowed the mural itself to be transported between collaborating classrooms, as well as give students that are learning from home the ability to contribute their artistic talents remotely by creating fish on swatches of the mural fabric that were attached to the final design during installation. The mural installation process is similar to hanging wallpaper. Using a gel medium, the mural was attached to the surface of the concrete barrier. The mural fabric's flexibility allows the mural to sit naturally on the barrier's surface, molding to any rough surfaces, and creating a seamless installed mural design.

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6. Olivia Harper Wilkins

Bio: Olivia Harper Wilkins is an astrochemist and artist passionate about communicating science through different media. She is currently based in Carlisle and is a 2015 alum of Dickinson College, where she earned her B.S. in Chemistry and Mathematics. Olivia is a chemistry PhD candidate at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), and she recently moved back to Carlisle to finish up her doctorate degree from Caltech remotely. The media employed by Olivia to transform science into art include acrylic paint, digital painting, and woodburning. She has also written numerous zines to share science, from space science to the chemistry of cooking pancakes. Olivia is writing and illustrating a book about astrochemistry for the American Chemical Society. You can find examples of her work at <http://theskyisnotthelimit.org/sciart> and <https://ko-fi.com/livwithoutlimit/gallery>.

Design: The design is a celestial take on the theme “Tails and Tales.” The design features a comet soaring through space, with its dust tail trailing behind it. In the space next to the comet’s tail are a couple of tardigrades, colloquially known as water bears. Tardigrades were chosen because they are the first animal known to survive exposure to outer space. The tardigrades are seen reading books, perhaps containing tales of space exploration. The book covers shown, which were suggested by different people, are, from left to right: *Clan Apis* by Jay Hosler, *My First Book of Relativity* by Kaid-Salah Ferrón Sheddad, *Astrophysics for Babies* by Chris Ferrie and Julia Kregenow, *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss, *Star Seeker* by Theresa Heine, *The Disorder Cosmos* by Chanda Prescod-Weinstein, and *Volcano: The Eruption of Mount St. Helens*.

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7. Molly Goehring

Bio: Molly Goehring is an artist, illustrator, and designer from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. A recent graduate of Penn State Harrisburg, her work celebrates the concept of imperfection through the inherent drama of color and contrast.

Design: Books have a way of bringing people together, regardless of who they are or where they come from. This design features two very unlikely friends—a cheetah and a fish—coming together to share their love of the written word.



8. Sarah, Chris, Rachel, & Katherine Becking (see #9)

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9. Sarah, Chris, Rachel, & Katherine Becking

Bio: Rachel is a sophomore at MASH whose creativity focuses on scale models and other 3-D objects. Katherine is a senior at MASH who pursues myriad artistic projects, including fiber arts and painting, in her free time. Both have enjoyed various art classes through school. Chris brings construction experience and planning skills to the endeavor. Sarah contributes knowledge of children's literature and a motivation to engage the family in fun service to the community during this challenging season. They are a family team who appreciates public art and Summer Learning Programs, having participated in them all the girls' lives.

Design: We wanted to complement the colors and designs of the copyrighted artwork without repeating the animals or styles. We brainstormed animals with prominent tails and imagined how to feature their interactions with tales. We hope to appeal to children, while highlighting the all-encompassing age range of the Summer Learning Program. Mathew van Fleet's tactile book *Tails*, a family favorite years ago, inspired the pangolin, and the peacock sprang to mind because its tail is gloriously improbable. The pangolin carries a baby on its back and features a book-on-CD, while the peacock image is more abstract and freeform.

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10. Amanda Baca

Bio: Amanda Baca is a high school student at Harrisburg Academy. She has always loved art and is getting better at it by the day. She paints water bottles for school every year, but also likes traditional drawing. She uses an iPad for graphic art. She usually finds ways to include art in her school assignments. Currently her art classes are focusing on photography so she is on her own to learn new techniques.

Design: My barrier has a friendly-looking turtle and two mermaids. I added a lot of bright colors to draw the glancing eye as well as to appeal to younger kids.

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11. Paula Hess Stahl, Mason & Milo Baublitz

Bio: Paula Hess Stahl is a retired local business owner and Interior Designer. She is a Pennsylvania State Portfolio winner Scholastic Art Contest and a National Art Scholarship winner (4 years full tuition) Scholastic Art Contest. For the 2006 Kite Fest she was commissioned to do three large sculptures and two Lamp Post kites. Mason and Milo Baublitz are her significant other's grandchildren who show significant talent and artistic potential that Paula hopes to mentor. Since schools have been phasing out the Arts, she feels it is so important to get the children involved in the Arts at an early age and watch their excitement grow!

Design: Our design consists of a remote library shelf where Mrs. Katt and her three kittens have settled down for the night and she is reading them a bedtime "tale". Listening intently, their little "tails" wag with excitement. Just behind Mrs. Katt, a little mouse is resting on his belly with elbows chin-to-floor while he enjoys the story as well...tail in the air. The book titles showcase Mason and Milo's list of favorites.

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Special Thanks to:

Boy Scout Troup 55, Lemoyne for cleaning up weeds around the barriers in fall 2020.

Trent Mellott for painting the white base coat on the barriers.

Brian Edmondson, owner of Art Depot, Mechanicsburg for offering a discount to the artists.

Jack Winchell, owner of Ritter's True Value Hardware, Mechanicsburg for the donation of buckets.

Buhrig Funeral Home & Crematory and Buhrig's Gathering Place, Mechanicsburg for donating bottled water and the use of their sound system for the reception on June 5.

Andy Hayter for taking photos of the artists with their painted barriers to display in the library.

Brian Gross for allowing his barriers to be painted and straightening one of the barriers so it could be used.

View this information on the library's website

