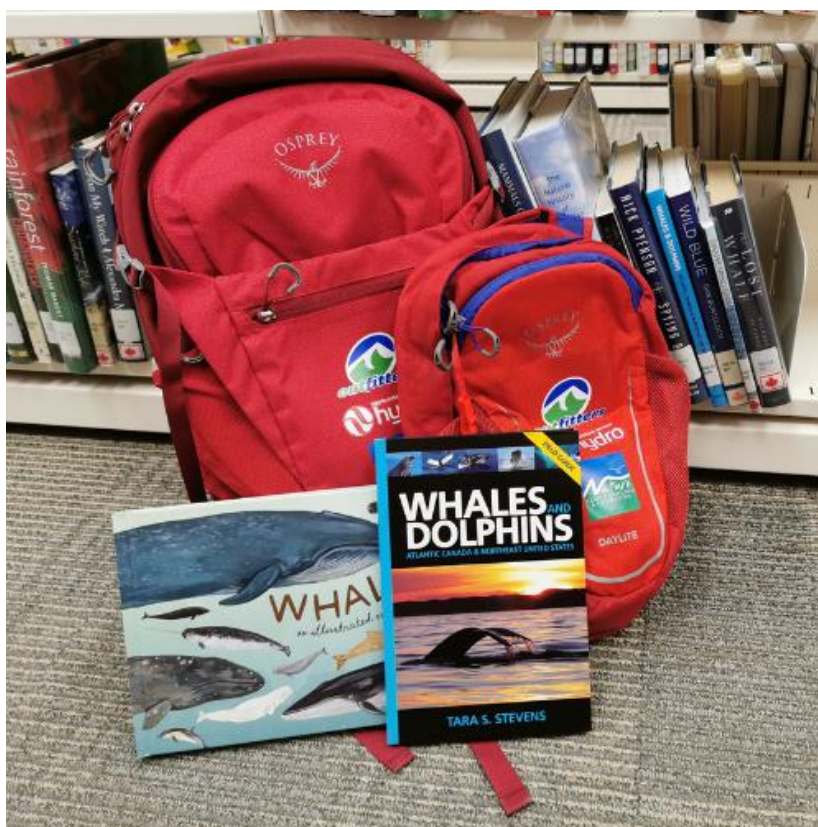


News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

Submitted by Emma Craig, Regional Librarian for St. John's, NLPL

Marine Backpacks Available at NL Public Libraries

On June 8th (World Oceans Day), NL Public Libraries and Nature NL announced the release of their newest borrowable kit for patrons: Marine Backpacks.



Nature NL is a non-profit organization and charity that promotes the enjoyment and conservation of wildlife and natural resources in our province. They previously collaborated with NLPL on the Birdwatching Backpacks, which launched in 2020, which are borrowable kits with binoculars and information about local birds.

The Marine Backpacks have all the essentials within for someone to learn about and observe marine wildlife in NL, such as whales, seals, and sea-birds. These essentials include: binoculars, tips for beginners, visual guides and books for adults and children. There is an Adult and Kids version of the backpacks available to borrow. Nature NL handled most of the creation of the backpacks, with support from NL Hydro and the Outfitters for supplies.

The Marine Backpacks are now available at various libraries on the Eastern coast of Newfoundland where whale-watching and birdwatching is popular. They can be borrowed from the following libraries:

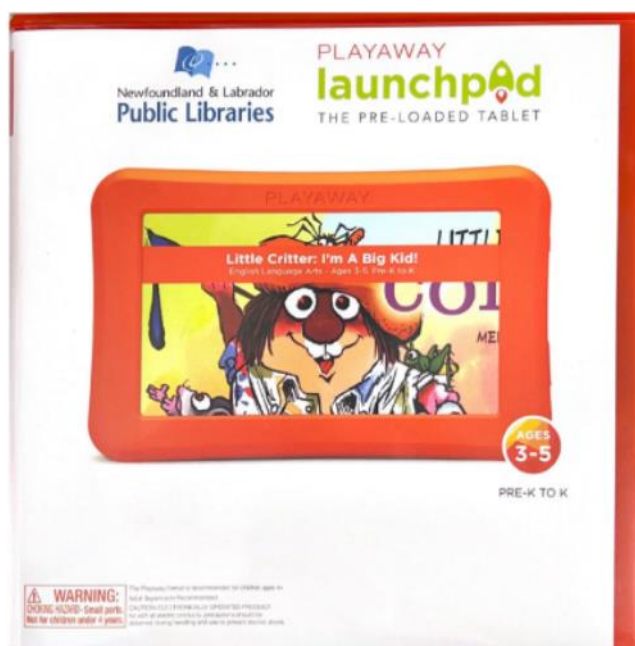
Bonavista, Conception Bay South, Clarenville, Holyrood, Mount Pearl (Ross King Memorial), Placentia, St. John's (A.C. Hunter), Torbay, and Trepassey.

Playaway's Launchpads at NL Public Libraries

Submitted by Chantel Gale, Early Literacy Training Administrator

Scheduled for release on September 3rd, 2024, Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries are thrilled to announce the launch of a new digital resource tailored for young children: **The Launchpad by Playaway!**

The Launchpads are educational tablets specifically designed for young children, featuring pre-loaded ad-free games, stories, and videos. They are durable, secure, user-friendly, and do not require Wi-Fi. Just switch on anytime, anywhere. Families can enjoy story times together, play educational games, and watch enriching videos, turning screen time into a valuable bonding opportunity, all while offering educational content to support early literacy skills.



NLPL is excited to see the positive impact these new tools will have on our communities and look forward to supporting the educational journeys of our youngest library patrons.

Celebrating Bonnie Morgan: Cheers to Her New Position at Memorial University

Submitted by Susan Prior, Manager of St. John's Public Libraries

Newfoundland & Labrador Collections & Services Librarian **Bonnie Morgan** has resigned from NLPL to accept the position of Public Services Librarian in the Centre for Newfoundland Studies at Memorial University.

During her 10 years with NL Public Libraries, Bonnie brought knowledge, creativity and a passion for providing excellent library services to each of the positions she held. Whether working in a sole charge library, delivering a storytime to preschoolers or in the role of a senior administrator, Bonnie consistently demonstrated her strong commitment to public libraries. Among her many accomplishments while at NLPL were successful grant applications to fund positions, such as the

Indigenous Storyteller in Residence and the Digital Literacy & Technology Librarian, as well as securing funding for the “Summer Snacks for Kids” program.



A strong advocate for the importance of NL history and literature, Bonnie raised the profile of the NL collection through partnerships with organizations throughout the province. As a scholar, she found time in her private life to research and write an award-winning book, *Ordinary Saints: Women, Work, and Faith in Newfoundland*.

We were proud to have her as a member of our NLPL team and she will be greatly missed. We wish Bonnie every success as she moves to her new position.