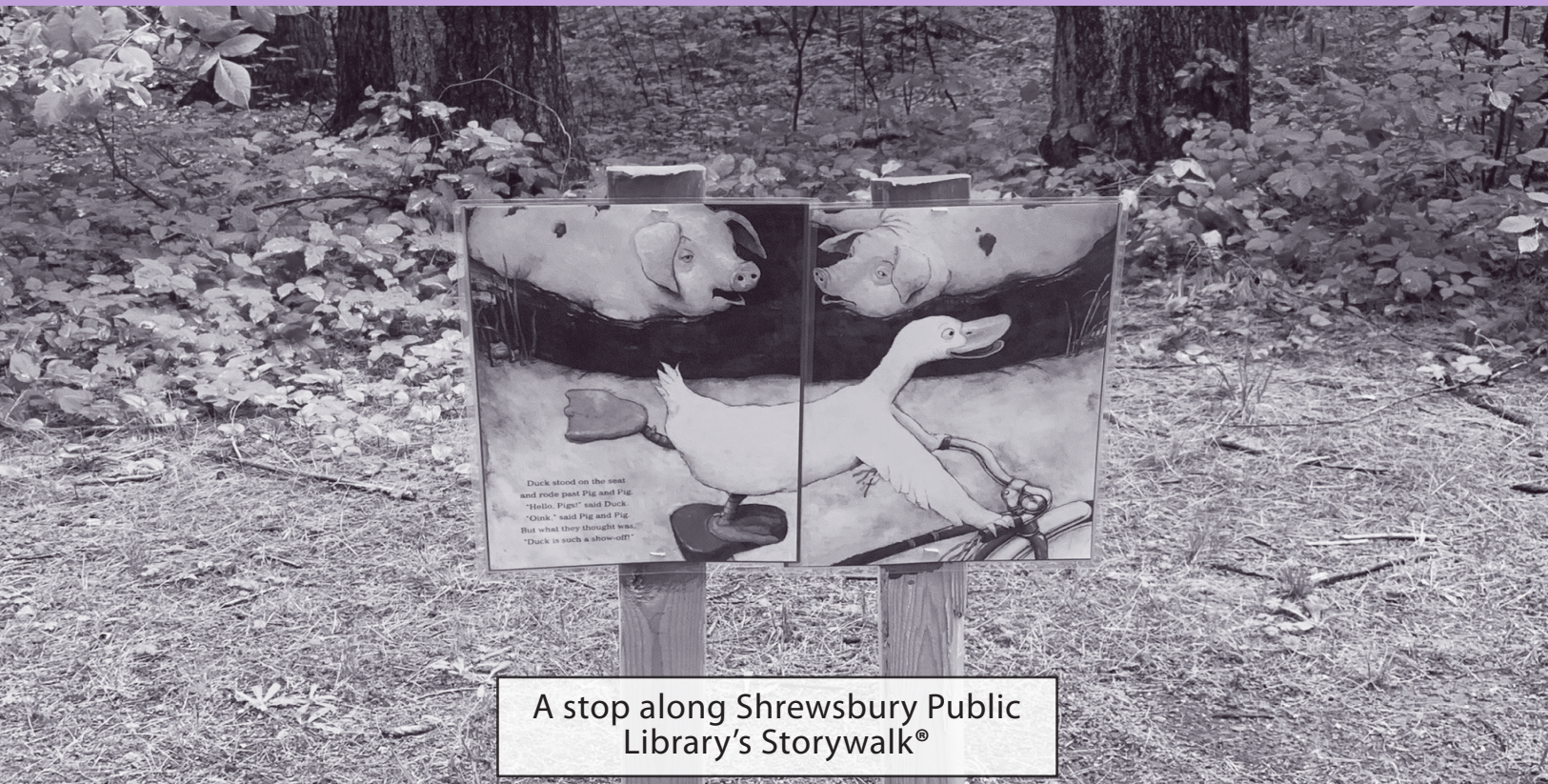


# CHAPTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY - WINTER 2020-2021



## ***A letter from Library Director Priya Rathnam:***

Holiday season is upon us! Celebrations will be muted this year as we follow safety guidelines and protocol and avoid large indoor gatherings. It makes me sad that we could not welcome veterans to the library for a reception on Veterans Day or celebrate the traditional Holiday Open House that children and families would enjoy with chief guest Santa! But the spirit of the holidays cannot be dimmed if all of us send positive vibes and thoughts of peace into the universe and collectively wish for a healthy and happy 2021!

Our library staff continue to spread joy by sharing their gifts and talents through the programs they plan, and their creative expressions through the electronic content they prepare and share on social media. Hope you enjoy these offerings on the library's YouTube channel and on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We are constantly evaluating and purchasing new books, audiobooks and DVDs on a diverse range of subjects that you can

request and borrow from the library. We are happy to provide personalized reading and viewing recommendations for all ages through our new concierge reader's advisory service.

It's almost time to ring in the New Year, and if you need help making and keeping your New Year's resolutions, look no further than the Reference and Research page on the library website! If you wish to learn a new language, access Mango Languages; for genealogical research, seek out Ancestry.com; to hone your computer and technological skills, access Universal Class. Join our book clubs, genealogy club, or knitting club and enjoy the virtual socializing opportunities. The library continues to be a multidimensional resource for fun and thoughtful learning! So, get on board with us and let's discover, explore, and grow together!

Sincerely,

Priya Rathnam

## The Difference Between Being “Not Racist” and Antiracist:

### Talk by Prof. Ibram X. Kendi

Wednesday, January 13th, 7:00 P.M.

We're very excited to share that the Shrewsbury Public Library Foundation will be sponsoring the first in a series of talks by distinguished authors. Mark your calendars! Professor Ibram X. Kendi will join us for a 45-minute “In Conversation” followed by a 15-minute Q&A. Registrants will receive an invite to the Zoom webinar.

Ibram X. Kendi is the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University and the founding director of the BU Center for Antiracist Research. Kendi is the 2020-2021 Frances B. Cashin Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University. He is the author of many books, including *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*, which won the National Book Award for Nonfiction, and three #1 New York Times bestsellers, *How to Be an Antiracist*; *Stamped*; *Racism, Antiracism, and You*, co-authored with Jason Reynolds; and *Antiracist Baby*, illustrated by Ashley Lukashevsky. For more information on this speaker please visit [www.prhspeakers.com](http://www.prhspeakers.com)



## THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY SPONSORS

*The Board of Library Trustees is very grateful to the generous donors who have sponsored Sunday hours since October 4th, 2020. We're hoping to be able to provide library services on Sundays through May 23rd, 2021.*

### **Providing four Sundays are:**

- *Dr. B. Dale and Mrs. Melanie Magee*
- *Olive I. and Anthony A. Borgatti, Jr., Donor-Advised Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation*

### **Providing two Sundays are:**

- *Dean Park Pizza and Grill*

### **Providing one Sunday each are:**

- *Maureen Fujimori in honor of Eileen Mooney Evans*
- *Pam Osborn in memory of Harry Der Harootunian*

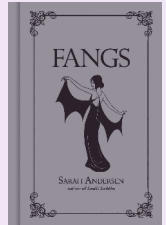
- *In memory of James A. Heedles*
- *In loving memory of Buckie Somers*
- *In memory of Marsha Williams*
- *The Bachini Family in memory of Ruth Seward*
- *Friends of the Library in memory of former library director Bonnie O'Brien*
- *John P. Collins and Nancy Hughes in memory of Dr. John P. Collins*
- *Shrewsbury Nursing and Rehabilitation Center*
- *Southgate at Shrewsbury*
- *Shrewsbury Rotary Club*
- *Shrewsbury Garden Club*
- *Selectman Beth Casavant*
- *The Del Dotto grandchildren: Drea, Dylan, and Devin*
- *Olivia, Peg, and Don Harbert*
- *Kathleen and David Rocheleau*
- *One anonymous donor*

# STAFF PICKS

## Amanda:

### **Fangs by Sarah Andersen** (graphic novel)

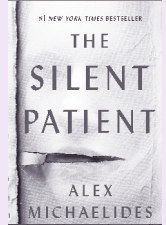
Fangs chronicles the sweet, funny, adorably awkward love story between a charming werewolf and a 300-year-old vampire. It offers a fresh, relatable take on the "opposites attract" concept, and uses gorgeous gothic illustrations to bring its storyline to life.



## Anjana:

### **The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides** (book)

It was a gripping, psychological thriller that I enjoyed reading. It kept me hooked till the end.



## Kim:

### **Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Who Helped Win the Space Race** (movie)

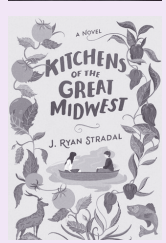
It was a very inspirational and women empowering movie. Great to watch with the whole family! (My sixth-grade daughter noticed all the injustices these women had to face. They were incredibly intelligent, strong, amazing women.)



## Mary Clare:

### **Kitchens of the Great Midwest by J. Ryan Stradal** (book)

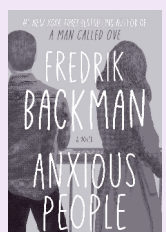
A delightfully comforting story of family, food, and a young woman, Eva Thorvald, growing up to become a culinary star. Each chapter tells the story of a single dish and character, capturing the flavor of the Midwest, the rise of foodie culture, and the ways food creates community and a sense of identity.



## Monika:

### **Anxious People by Fredrik Backman** (book)

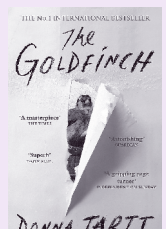
An original story that made me often laugh out loud, about a crime that never took place, a would-be bank robber who disappears into thin air, and eight extremely anxious strangers who find they have more in common than they ever imagined.



## Sharma:

### **The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt** (book)

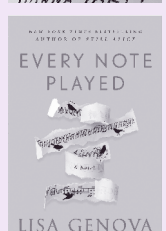
*The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt, winner of the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, is the coming-of-age story of Theo Decker and a fascinating cast of characters. Through perfect prose, you become transported and feel as though you have actually lived with Theo in Manhattan, outside Las Vegas, and in Amsterdam, and survived, having been greatly enriched by it all.



## Yingdan:

### **Every Note Played by Lisa Genova** (book)

*Every Note Played* is a beautifully written fiction book by Lisa Genova. It is heartbreaking but also uplifting; I found myself experiencing all the intense emotions during the journeys of the characters.



Looking for more recommendations, reviews, curated lists, or staff picks? Visit our Goodreads for in-depth staff reviews, Instagram for "librarian recommends" selections, and Pinterest for staff picks and curated lists.

**Goodreads:** <https://www.goodreads.com/user/show/114280719-shrewsbury-library>

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/shrewsburylibrary/>

**Pinterest:** <https://www.pinterest.com/shrewsburypubliclibrary/>

# ADULT SERVICES & PROGRAMS

## Ask a Muslim Anything with Robert Azzi

*Tuesday, January 12th  
7:00 P.M.*

“Ask a Muslim Anything” is a program presented by noted speaker, photojournalist, and Exeter, NH resident Robert Azzi. He finds that most people – even those critical of Islam and Muslims – are willing to listen and engage with Muslims in small scale or one-one-one conversations, particularly if that engagement occurs in what are perceived to be safe places: houses of worship, libraries, schools, civic organizations, etc. Azzi speaks not as a scholar or academic, but as a neighbor, fellow citizen, and person of faith. Nothing, except disrespect, is off the table.

## Yoga with Bindu

*Tuesdays, January 19th & 26th, February 2nd & 9th  
9:00–10:00 A.M.*

Hatha yoga brings a physical, emotional, and spiritual awareness to one's body and mind. It also helps to relax your mind and relieve stress. In these classes, led by regular yoga instructor Bindu Gupta, participants will use yoga poses and breathing techniques to strengthen their body and mind.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library

## Virtual 3D Modeling Class

*Monday, January 18th  
6:00 P.M.–7:30 P.M.*

Learn how to use Thingiverse to customize and design a cube to be part of our community art project 01545Together! Participants will receive credit toward printing a design. Participants must have the ability to create an account and use a computer. Participants need internet access and a mouse.

## Virtual Talk by Dr. Cinzia Pica-Smith on Interracial Friendships

*Wednesday, December 9th  
7:00–8:00 P.M.*

Dr. Cinzia Pica-Smith is the Associate Professor of Human Services and Rehabilitation Studies and is also the Director of the Women's Studies Program at Assumption University. She will give a presentation on the importance of interracial friendships. After a 30-minute presentation, she will answer questions from the public.

## Peace of Mind Meditation

*Thursdays, December 10th, January 14th, February 11th,  
7:00–8:00 P.M.*

Meditation is a tool that can be used to manage emotions and feelings and allow practitioners to experience inner peace. This three-session series will instruct attendees in raja yoga meditation that will allow practitioners to understand their thinking patterns, remain mentally grounded during difficult times, and become more resilient throughout life changes. Attendance at all three sessions is not required.

## Winter Hair Accessory Take-Home Craft

*Tuesday, December 15th  
10:00 A.M.*

Make a Poinsettia and a holly berry hair accessory in a few easy steps! All supplies and instructions will be provided in a convenient take-home bag. Depending on the weather, the

bags will be left on a table in front of the library or placed inside the library.

Please limit one bag per person; available until supplies run out. All materials are provided except the hot glue gun.

Questions? Contact Suzanne at sgorum@cwmares.org or 508-841-8609 x2

## Winter Reading for Adults

*Monday, January 4th–Friday, February 26th*

Winter blues? Participate in our 8-week-long Winter Reading program!

Submit the title/author of a book or audiobook you've read to enter our weekly raffles; we will also have a grand prize raffle at the end! Prizes are gift cards.

How to Participate:

Option 1: Fill out our online form. The link can be found under the “Winter Reading” section of our website, or under the “Winter Reading” event on our Facebook page.

Option 2: Call the Reference Desk at 508-841-8609, x2, to submit your entry over the telephone. If you leave a voicemail, please include your name, title/author of the book, and your telephone number.

Homebound patrons will receive paper entry forms delivered with their items.

Questions? Contact Suzanne at sgorum@cwmares.org or 508-841-8609, x2.



## Building Information Literacy in a Digital World

***Mondays, February 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd 6:30–8:00 P.M.***

Every day we are bombarded with information from a multitude of sources. It can be overwhelming! This four class course will go over how that information finds you and how you can verify what you're reading. Learn how to build your information literacy in our increasingly digital world!

## 01545Together Community Art Project

Show us your Shrewsbury and help us build our tower! This winter, SPL is building 01545Together – a community art project to create a growing block tower as diverse and creative as the Shrewsbury community! As we receive blocks, we will begin building our creation where you can see it in the library window, along with showcasing it on our social media.

So, show us your Shrewsbury! Is it a park? A feeling? A hike? A building? A club you're part of? An event? A view? Decorate a cube (or other building block shape) under 4"x4"x4" with that in mind and bring it in to us. Use your favorite art medium to create your cube (Do you sculpt? Crochet? Reuse or upcycle?) or contact us to pick up a cube to decorate! We can't wait to see what your Shrewsbury looks like!

To submit: Please create/ decorate/design a cube (no bigger than 4"x4"x4") and fill out the submission form available on our website.

We are running a few programs to help inspire you!

***January 20th, 3:00 P.M.–4:30 P.M.***  
3D Modeling Class for Grades 3-5

***January 18th, 6:00 P.M.–7:30 P.M.***  
3D Modeling Class

You can also check out our YouTube channel for decoration ideas in January.

## Get Organized with Bullet Journal

Trying to get organized? See our Bullet Journal program for teens and adults under "**Teen Programs**"

## English Conversation Circle

English Conversation Circle is on Zoom! Two weekly sessions are offered on ***Tuesdays from 4:00–5:00 P.M. and on Saturdays from 10:30 A.M.–12:00 P.M.*** These sessions are for adults who wish to practice their conversational skills. The facilitators make the sessions engaging, interactive, and fun! To register for the classes, send an email to [splreference@cwmars.org](mailto:splreference@cwmars.org). This program is funded by a grant from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

## Memory Café

Our virtual Good Day Memory Café meets on the ***first and third Friday of the month from 2:00–4:00 P.M.*** A memory café is a welcoming place for people at early stages of Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia AND their care partners. Facilitators and volunteers enliven the meetings with conversation, music or other activities to entertain guests. To receive a Zoom invite for this meeting, please email [cbudge@cwmars.org](mailto:cbudge@cwmars.org). This program is funded by a grant from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

## #01545Writes – Pen Pal Project

Take a break from screens this winter and put pen to paper to make a new friend! SPL's all ages pen pal project, #01545Writes, is running all winter! Tutorials and writing prompts will be available on our social media. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/2IbiltI> and we'll match you up with a pen pal! You will receive a letter writing kit filled with envelopes, stamps, stickers, and more to help you get started. Letters can be mailed to or dropped off at SPL, and we will forward them on to your pen pal. Your personal contact information will only be used by the library in order to forward your letters. Connect with someone new!

**All library programs are currently conducted virtually, so advanced registration is required. Please register at the library's website (<https://tinyurl.com/yb8usugx>) or call 508-841-8609, and an attendance link will be e-mailed to you before the start of the program.**



James Perlman joins the Shrewsbury Public Library team as our new Electronic Resources Librarian. James has extensive experience in libraries and library IT support, as well as networking and computer systems. James comes to us from Harvard University, where his most recent role was as a Cataloging Assistant for the Fine Arts Library Visual Collections Department. James earned his MLIS from Simmons University in Boston in the spring of 2019.

# Children's Room

## Weekly Storytimes

Join us at 10:00 A.M. on Facebook Live for the following programs:

**Book Beats: Tuesdays**

**Babies, Books, & Bubbles: Wednesdays**

**Wiggle Words: Thursdays**

## Special Storytimes

December Holiday StoryPalooza! Visit our YouTube channel all month long to see the children's librarians reading their favorite holiday stories.

## Pajama Storytime: Winter Edition

*Tuesday, January 19th.*

The children's librarians are back for songs, rhymes, fingerplays, and bedtime stories. For preschoolers and their grownups. Sign up for the children's e-newsletter to get first access to the storytime video, along with other fun links to activities you can do at home.



## Take-Home Kits

Celebrate the winter holidays with take-home craft kits for:

Hanukkah

Winter Solstice

Christmas

Kwanzaa

New Year's Day

Chinese New Year

Valentine's Day

Kits will be available curbside starting at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays; dates TBD.

Thank you to the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library for sponsoring the supplies.

## Programs

Button up and get outside! **StoryWalk**® continues in December. Visit Lake Street Park to walk along and read a classic winter picture book, *The Mitten* by Jan Brett.

## "Computer Science Week" Coding Program

*Tuesday, December 8th*  
*6:00 P.M.*

Miss Diana will be leading a virtual coding program for kids grades 1–3. Registration is required.

## Teach Your Baby Sign Language Virtual Class

*Thursday, January 7th*  
*6:00 P.M.*

Learn how to teach your baby American Sign Language in this introductory class taught by Sheryl White, founder and owner of Baby Kneads. Space is limited and registration is required. This program is funded by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Library.

## 01545Together! Community Art Project

*January 2021*

Help us build a castle-like structure with cubes designed with the theme "Show Us Your Shrewsbury!" The children's department will be providing a limited number of cardboard cube boxes to registered participants.

Also, the library is offering a Virtual 3D Modeling Class on January 20th at 3:00 P.M.. Learn how to use Thingiverse to customize and design a cube to be part of our community art project. For Grades 3–5 with adult supervision. Registration is required.

For more information about children's programs call 508-841-8609 x4 or e-mail [splkids@cwmars.org](mailto:splkids@cwmars.org)

## Virtual 3D Modeling Class for Grades 3–5

Wednesday, January 20th  
3:00–4:30 P.M.

Learn how to use Thingiverse to customize and design a cube to be part of our community art project 01545Together! Participants will receive credit toward printing a design. Attendees must have a parent or guardian available to help with creating an account and computer usage. Participants need internet access and a mouse.

Unusual times call for unusual library programs. This February keep your eyes out for **Not Your Average Celebrations** on random days throughout the month.

## “In the Car” Audiobook Club

Wednesdays, December 30th,  
January 27th, & February 24th  
7:00 P.M.

Listen to an audiobook together as a family (in the car...or at home!). Then join us on Zoom at the end of December, January, and February to have a group discussion. Space is limited to 15 families. Books selected will be for children in grades 3–5. Registration is required. Register for one or for all!

For more information about these programs:

Sign up for our children’s services e-newsletter <https://bit.ly/3gQ5edS>

Register for programs at our online events calendar <https://bit.ly/3iz89YT>

Follow us on Facebook <https://bit.ly/2PLwfU7>

Need more storytimes? Check out the Shrewsbury Public Library YouTube channel and subscribe today! <https://bit.ly/2XQTe4o>

## Not Your Llama’s Storytime for Teens and Tweens

Wednesdays, 1:00 P.M.

<https://bit.ly/2IzPCip>

Storytime isn’t just for little kids – Annie Lee will be reading excerpts from young adult novels while you take a break from your Wednesday work. Listen to old favorites as well as new releases. Each video will also have an activity prompt WHICH IS TOTALLY OPTIONAL. No assignments here, just fun!

## December Vacation Virtual Escape Rooms

December 24th–December 31st

We’re bringing the puzzles to you with our Virtual Escape Rooms! With easy and difficult options, these online puzzles games will be available anytime from Thursday, December 24th–Thursday, December 31st. Those who finish will be entered to win a \$10 Amazon gift card! For grades 5–12. No registration required.

## Get Organized with Bullet Journal

Saturday, January 9th, 2:00–3:00 P.M.

Was your New Year’s Resolution to get organized? Start off on the right foot with this introduction to the Bullet Journal Method. This adaptable, modular system can help you set goals, prioritize tasks, and be mindful and intentional when planning your day, week, and beyond. For grades 7 and up (adults are welcome). Registration required starting December 28th.

## Liked That? Try This!

We’re launching a new service for all ages to help you find your next favorite book! Fill out a simple online form (or call the library) and our brilliant staff will use their expertise to give you a list of titles we think you’ll enjoy. For more detailed information call or check our website and look for “Liked That? Try This!”

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
609 Main Street  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit #192  
Worcester, MA 01613

# CHAPTERS

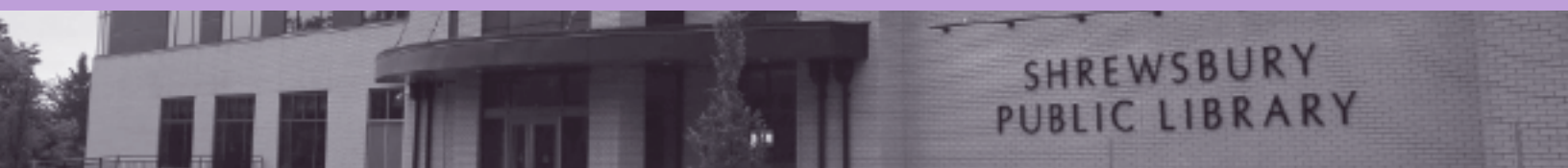
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY - WINTER 2020-2021

ECRWSS  
Resident Customer  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

See library website  
for full hours of library  
services

### Contact Information

Phone: 508-841-8609  
Fax: 508-841-8524  
[www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library](http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library)



## FREE THROUGH THE LIBRARY!

The aptly named HelpNow gives students help right when they need it. Whether it's live tutoring, collaborative virtual study space, or writing assistance, HelpNow provides students with the virtual tools they need to navigate the new educational landscape.



Need help downloading ebooks, researching for a project, or understanding social media? Niche Academy has dozens of tutorials on how to use the library's free online resources!

Have some spare time while stuck at home and interested in learning a new language? Mango Languages is here to help! With over 70 languages to choose from and crafted lessons to guide you from beginner to master, Mango is a linguist's dream come true!



**MANGO**

<https://shrewsburyma.gov/373/Reference-Research>