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Connections

North Dakota State Library

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Your monthly news & updates

Join the State Library and libraries from across North Dakota in a virtual celebration of Summer Reading for all ages! RSVP via Facebook to get event notifications and to find out when we go live to see what the inside of a whale looks like, meet some cute sled dogs, and hear some Native American flute music.

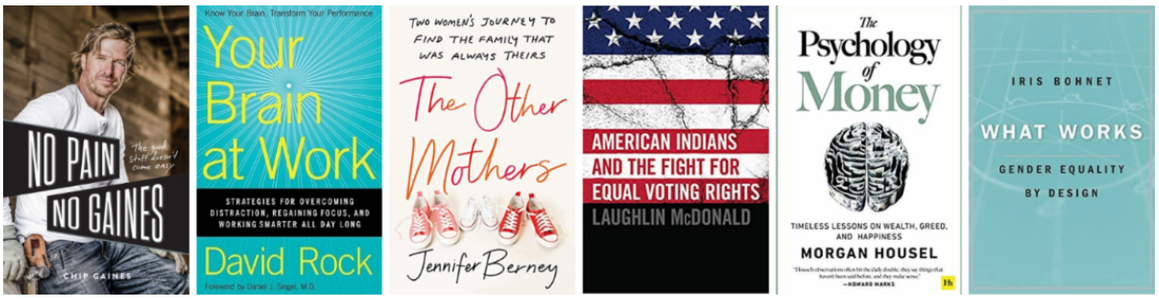
May is Mental Health Awareness month. Talking and sharing about mental health can be tricky, but we're here to help #BreakTheStigma. Lower your stress level by reading a good book and check out the resources and activities located on the State Library's Beanstack app to help on your mental health journey. Log your reading and activities to earn badges all month long.

New Items Available at the North Dakota State Library

Mental Health Awareness Titles on OverDrive

New Fiction Books

New Nonfiction Books

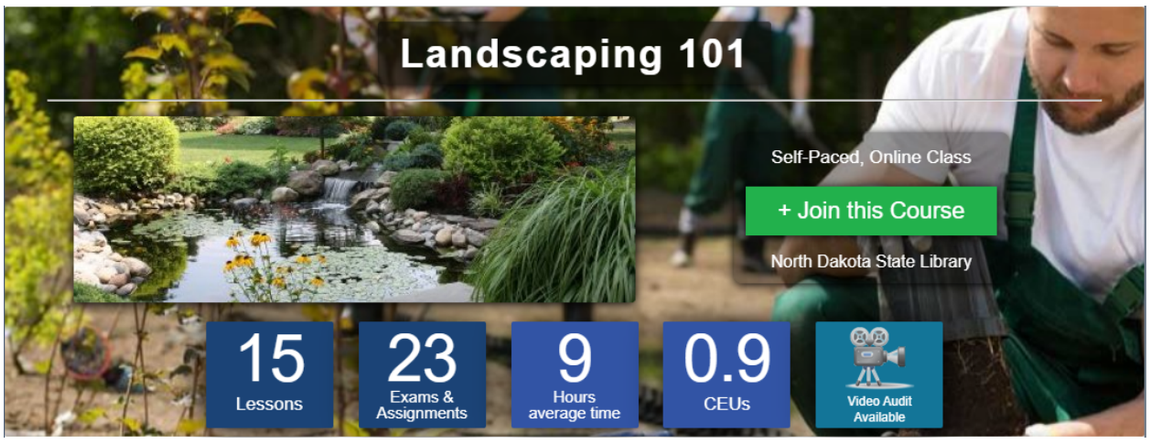


New Fiction E-Books

New Nonfiction E-Books

New Fiction E-Audiobooks

New Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



Landscaping is a multibillion-dollar industry for both sales and service. The popularity is driven by the enjoyment people get from designing and implementing visually appealing landscaping. Landscaping 101, offered through Universal Class, will provide you with a number of tips and techniques to develop your ideal landscape.

Landscaping 101 will help you identify and assess your landscaping needs, understand design principles, and implement your creative idea in your own unique setting. This course will teach you design principles, material application, cost estimation, visual analysis, planting design, hardscape applications, irrigation, water features, design for outdoor living, and business concepts for landscaping professionals. It will teach you the basics of the science of landscaping and show you how to apply your own creativity to transform your yard into a work of art.

This introductory course is divided into 15 sections and is ideal for anyone whether you just want to improve one corner of the yard, or you want to add some flowerbeds, a tree, or shrub here and there -- or you're starting from scratch with a bare lot and need to learn how to start, plan, and finish an entire landscape.

Book Review

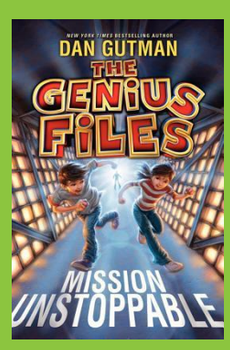
"The Genius Files" series by Dan Gutman
"Middle School" series by James Patterson

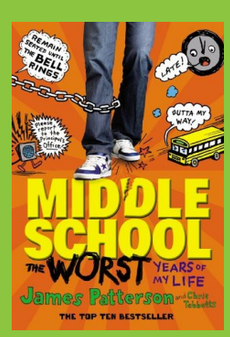
Reviewed by Cindy Olson

Our family has a love for kid's audiobooks! Here are two that we recently enjoyed.

The Genius Files is a five-book series by Dan Gutman about a family with super smart 12-year old twins, Pepsi and Coke, who take an exciting cross-country vacation across the United States. The family uses a Rand McNally road atlas and references Google maps to help the reader follow along on the trip. The stories are filled with fun facts and history about America, along with descriptions of a few weird-but-true tourist attractions along the way. However, with adults always trying to assassinate the twins, and the twins injuring or killing adults in self-defense, this five-book series might not be appropriate for all kids.

Rafe starts 6th grade by trying to break every rule in the school's Code of Conduct handbook! James Patterson's *Middle School* series focuses on the problems that kids face during their middle school years at both school and home. There are crushes, bullying, family problems, and Rafe's biggest pain, his younger sister Georgia!





"The Genius Files" series and "Middle School" series can be found in audiobook and ebook formats on OverDrive

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Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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