



New Podcast Episodes

The Pathways Through the Prairie podcast features North Dakota librarians and library staff, state government leaders and employees, and interesting North Dakotans to gain insights into their work and roles in their communities.

Episode 27: Colby Braun. Director of the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. 40 minutes.

Episode 28: Molly Herrington. Chief People Officer, ND Office of Management and Budget. 44 minutes.

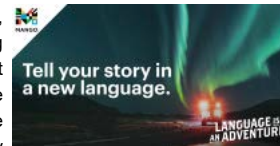
[Listen](#)

Igniting Language Learning with Mango

Submitted by Bethany Rants

Did you know your library card gives you free access to Mango Languages? Mango is an easy-to-use online platform that helps you learn over 70 different languages—including languages like Russian, Arabic, Pirate, Cherokee, German, and Potawatomi.

Whether you're brushing up on Shakespearean English, preparing for a trip to Mexico or Spain, or even learning English as a second language, Mango offers lessons that are fun, interactive, and self-paced. Lessons are designed to be engaging and get users speaking from the beginning and adapts to how you learn, making every user's experience unique to them.



Why try Mango?

- Cultural notes apply context to lessons, creating a deeper understanding
- Differentiating between literal meanings and understood meanings gives users more understanding of idioms, figures of speech, and non-translatable concepts that are unique to each language
- Voice recording and comparison gives feedback on pronunciation to build more confident speakers
- Designed to introduce words and phrases at intervals while continuing to build on previously introduced concepts

This September, as we celebrate **National Literacy Month**, it's a great time to expand your learning. Literacy isn't just about reading—it's about strengthening communication, building bridges, and honoring heritage. Mango is one more way our library helps you do just that.

How to Get Started:

1. Visit <https://connect.mangolanguages.com/ndsl>
2. Log in with your library card number.
3. Choose the language you'd like to learn and begin your journey!

Come explore Mango today and see where language can take you.

[Learn A New Language](#)

Beanstack Reading Challenges

Reading Through the Alphabet

August 18 - September 30

Ages: All

Learners birth through fifth grade read books where the first word in the title starts with each letter of the alphabet. Books do not need to be read in alphabetic order. Reading 16 out of 26 books qualifies as a completed challenge!



Fall Into Reading

August 18 - September 30

Ages: All

Fall brings crisp, new beginnings and all things cozy! Fall into a great book this season and log your reading to earn badges throughout the challenge.



Beanstack

New Items At The ND State Library

Fiction Books



"An Unexpected Grace" by Tracie Peterson & Kimberley Woodhouse; "Bochica" by Carolina Flórez-Cerchiaro; "A Constant Love" by Tracie Peterson; "A Time Traveler's Masquerade" by Sian Ann Bessey; "Of Silver and Secrets" by Michelle Griep



"The Filling Station" by Vanessa Miller; "Shield of Sparrows" by Devney Perry; "The Locked Ward" by Sarah Pekkanen; "An Inside Job" by Daniel Silva; "A Lesson in Propriety" by Jen Turano



"Jenny Cooper Has a Secret" by Joy Fielding; "Not Quite Dead Yet" by Holly Jackson; "The Death Mask" by Iris Johansen; "Happy Wife" by Meredith Lavender and Kendall Shores; "The Perfect Son" by Freida McFadden

Nonfiction Books



"The Small and the Mighty" by Sharon McMahon; "Generative AI and Libraries" by Michael Hanegan & Chris Rosser; "Native America" by Kenneth L. Feder; "How to Menopause" by Tamsen Fadal; "The Idaho Four" by James Patterson & Vicky Ward

Fiction E-Books



"Framed in Death" by J. D. Robb; "We Are All Guilty Here" by Karin Slaughter; "Too Old for This" by Samantha Downing; "Apostle's Cove" by William Kent Krueger; "Forget Me Not" by Stacy Willingham



"The Society of Unknowable Objects" by Gareth Brown; "Dream On" by Jennifer Hartmann; "The Witch's Orchard" by Archer Sullivan; "Once Upon a Time in Dollywood" by Ashley Jordan; "The Book of Heartbreak" by Ova Ceren



"Smuggler's Cove" by Fern Michaels; "Big Nate: No Harm Done!" by Lincoln Peirce; "Stella: Ranch Patrol" by W. Bruce Cameron; "Cupcake Diaries" by Coco Simon; "Love's a Witch" by Tricia O'Malley



"Falling Like Leaves" by Misty Wilson; "Fearful" by Lauren Roberts; "Silver Dew" by Suzi Davis; "Spy x Family" by Tatsuya Endo; "Roar of the Lambs" by Jamison Shea

Nonfiction E-Books

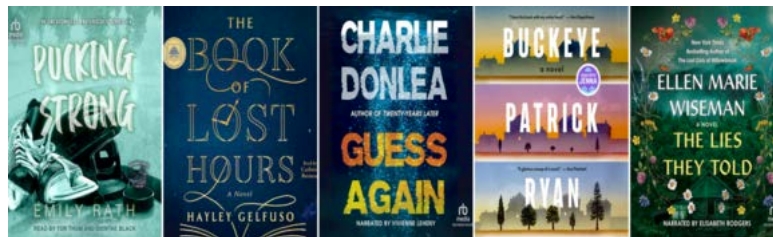


"A Marriage at Sea" by Sophie Elmhirst; "Dinner with King Tut" by Sam Kean; "Sister Wife" by Christine Brown Woolley; "A Sky of Infinite Blue" by Kyomi O'Connor; "On the Ledge" by Amy Turner



"Full of Myself" by Austin Channing Brown; "A Smoke and a Song" by Sherry Sidoti; "Over and Under the Coral Reef" by Kate Messner; "Tonight in Jungleland" by Peter Ames Carlin; "The Story of Jim Henson" by Stacia Deutsch

Fiction E-Audiobooks



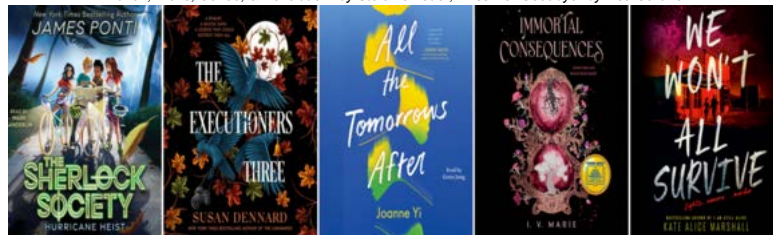
"Pucking Strong" by Emily Rath; "The Book of Lost Hours" by Hayley Gelfuso; "Guess Again" by Charlie Donlea; "Buckeye" by Patrick Ryan; "The Lies They Told" by Ellen Marie Wiseman



"Love at First Sighting" by Mallory Marlowe; "The Incredible Kindness of Paper" by Evelyn Skye; "Warrior Princess Assassin" by Brigid Kemmerer; "You Belong Here" by Megan Miranda; "Wild Reverence" by Rebecca Ross



"The Gilded Heiress" by Joanna Shupe; "The Break-In" by Katherine Faulkner; "When the Cranes Fly South" by Lisa Ridzén; "Love, Coffee, & Revolution" by Stefanie Leder; "Kiss Her Goodbye" by Lisa Gardner



"The Sherlock Society: Hurricane Heist" by James Ponti; "The Executioners Three" by Susan Dennard; "All the Tomorrows After" by Joanne Yi; "Immortal Consequences" by I. V. Marie; "We Won't All Survive" by Kate Alice Marshall

E-Magazines



HGTV Magazine; The Australian Women's Weekly; BBC Top Gear Magazine; Australian Geographic; Kitchens & Bedrooms Quarterly



Time For Kids; Cook's Country; Photography Masterclass; Radio Times; Luxury Travel

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New Items Added to Digital Horizons

A highlight of the items added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.

Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection

- Boy Scout group, 1959
- Helicopter demonstration at Boy Scouts camp, International Peace Garden, 1959



North Dakota Histories

- 50 Years of Service: Farmers Union Oil Company of Carpio, North Dakota
- 50th Anniversary, Farmers Union Oil Company, Aneta, North Dakota, 1930-1980
- Fifty Years of Service: 1931-1981: Farmers Union Oil Company, Embden, North Dakota
- History of Stanton, North Dakota to 1982: In Commemoration of the Centennial
- History of the Buxton Farmers Union Elevator Company
- North Dakota: A Few Facts Concerning Its Resources and Advantages
- Service Record Book of Men and Women of Mercer County
- Washburn, N. Dak. Centennial, 1882-1982: 100 Years on the Missouri



North Dakota Memories

- Hotel Dacotah, Grand Forks, N.D., circa 1897
- Knights of Pythias Band, Grand Forks, N.D., 1891
- Portrait of Christian M. Dahl, circa 1906
- Portrait of Frank J. Viets, circa 1897
- Portrait of William H. Standish, circa 1897
- Union National Bank, Grand Forks, N.D., circa 1897



Political Prairie Fire

- Portrait of George A. Bangs, circa 1917



Punctuation and Grammar 101

September 24 is National Punctuation Day, founded in 2004 by Jeff Rubin, which promotes using punctuation correctly.

Be ready to observe National Punctuation Day by completing the Punctuation and Grammar 101 course on Universal Class! Through 16 lessons, 35 exams and assignments, you will learn about the importance of grammar and punctuation; how symbols shape our words and thoughts; the role of periods, question marks, and exclamation points; how to elevate your writing with commas; the art of apostrophes; the role of colons and semicolons; using hyphens; the role of quotation marks, and more.

In today's digital age, with a vast majority of our communication occurring through written channels like e-mails, texts, and reports, the importance of clear and error-free writing has never been more paramount. Studies show that frequent grammar and punctuation errors can have adverse effects on a person's perceived professionalism, competence, and credibility.

Learn at your own pace with instructors who are experts in the field of English language and literature who will provide feedback to ensure that you grasp each concept thoroughly.

[Start Learning Today](#)

Books to Aid the Back-to-School Transition

Submitted by Kathy Cline

In a June 23 article, Publishers Weekly shared a list of books that can help make the transition back to school a little easier. Publisher Weekly reviews for each of the titles below can be read in the source link provided at the end of this article.

Please note that the content in this article is shared for informational purposes only and is not a recommendation from myself or NDSL.

According to Kirkus, Big Kids by K.L. Going, is "just the right size for easing school anxieties." Through text and digital illustrations this book tells just how "scary" big kids can seem to youngsters. More information about this picture book can be found in NoveList. Visit this link to access short SLJ and Booklist reviews.



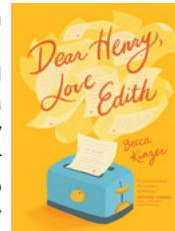
First Day Around the World, an informational picture book written by Ibi Zoboi, takes the reader around the world as children from various cultures experience their first day of school. Use this link to access editorial reviews from SLJ, Booklist, and several others.

[Continue Reading](#)

Book Club Kit

"Dear Henry, Love Edith" by Becca Kinzer

After a short and difficult marriage, recently widowed Edith Sherman has learned her lesson. Forget love. Forget marriage. She plans to fill her thirties with adventure. As she awaits the final paperwork for a humanitarian trip to South Africa, she accepts a short-term nursing position in a small Midwestern town. Henry Hobbes only accepts Edith as a houseguest for the summer for the sake of his niece. He works days and Edith works nights, so most of their communication is through notes. By the time Henry realizes that Edith is the brown-eyed beauty he keeps bumping into around town, her departure is rapidly approaching.



[Request This Title](#)

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www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of Connections, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

Times referenced are Central Time.