

December 2017  
Commission Report  
Nancy Howe, County Librarian

## Give the Gift of Literacy

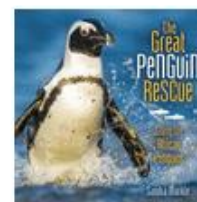
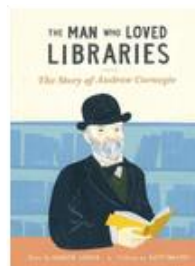
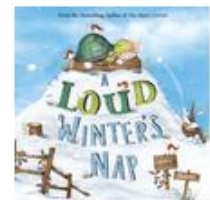
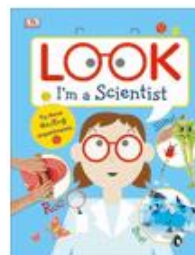
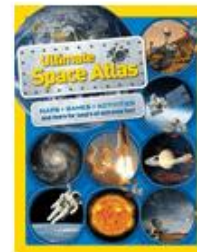
Helpful tips for parents, grandparents and every caregiver.

Holidays are a time for family gatherings, vacation and gift giving. Whether you are looking for a good book for the kids to read during their winter break, or to give as a gift, you can find great book recommendations at the library.

Carry on an old, family tradition of giving books during the holidays or start a new tradition to help grow life-long readers. The gift of literacy is a gift that keeps giving.

Here are our top new book suggestions for the children in your life – if you want more suggestions, be sure to ask your local children’s librarian.

[Click here for our list of recommended books for kids](#)



## Looking for the Perfect Gift?

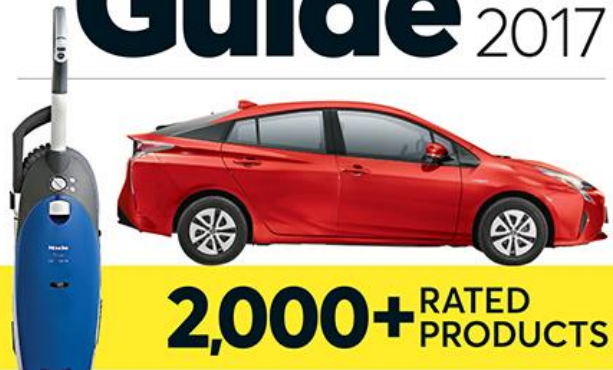
Your library can help!

Whether for the holidays, birthday, or anniversary, sometimes you need a little extra help to find that perfect gift. The library has the *Consumer Reports online* to help you compare prices and find product reviews, ratings, and recommendations.

Thinking about doing something special for the New Year? Compare options and prices. Giving toys to the kids for the holidays? Check out the ratings and reviews for what's popular this year. Is your favorite reading buddy wishing for a new tablet? Consumer Reports has recommendations. You can browse the latest issues for gift ideas or search for something specific. Whether you are looking for tech, toys, or travel, first check the *Consumer Reports* at the library. [Access full copies of the Consumer Reports](#) for free with any electronic device, internet connection and your library card.

CR ConsumerReports™

Buying  
Guide™ 2017



## Digital December

SCCLD has the latest in tablets, eReaders and Library apps to try

If you are thinking about giving a tablet or eReader this holiday season, or maybe want to add that to your own holiday list but aren't familiar with the most popular models, come to the Santa Clara County Library District to try out the latest on our Tech Toolbar. We currently have the Galaxy Tab S3, iPad Pro, and Kindle Oasis. Our Tech Toolbar is a "petting zoo" for new digital devices where you can look, touch and try in a sales-free environment.

Our tablets and eReaders are preloaded with [free library apps](#) for you to try. SCCLD offers OverDrive, Cloud Library, and RBDigital for eBooks and audiobooks, Flipster for magazines, and free online subscriptions to the New York Times and free access to the San Jose Mercury, and Wall Street Journal. You can also stream movies from Kanopy, MediciTV and Overdrive plus download music from Freegal. Looking for ebooks, emagazines and audiobooks in Spanish or Traditional Chinese? The library has these too!

## Great Flicks to Watch with the Family

When it's cold outside, plan some family movie time!

With a [broad range of movies, films and documentaries](#) available in DVD, Blu-ray or streaming video, you're sure to find something available from the library to entertain every member of the family.



## Holiday Happenings at the Library

Calendar of December events at each SCCLD location

We have many fun and free events planned this holiday season. Check them out!

### CAMPBELL:

#### Holiday Bags, Tags and Cards!

Come make holiday bags, tags and cards for everyone! All supplies will be provided for this family craft and all families are invited to craft together.

- Wednesday, December 13, 4-5 pm
- Saturday, December 16, 10-11 am

#### Holiday Puppet Show

The Fratello Marionettes present their puppet extravaganza, The North Pole Review!

- Saturday, December 12, 2pm

## **CUPERTINO:**

### **Design Your Own Holiday Tote Bag**

Have a fun afternoon designing a holiday tote bag. All materials will be provided. Take a break, express your creative side and make a gift for the holidays. For Teens aged 13-18.

- Saturday, December 9, 3-5 pm, Story Room

### **Holiday Origami**

School age children are invited to join us for a holiday origami craft. You must be able to fold on your own.

- Monday, December 18, 4-5 pm, Story Room

### **Felt Creature Winter Craft**

Create a little felt creature and make a snug winter home for it out of a mini altoids box. All materials will be provided. Sponsored by the Friends of the Cupertino Library.

- Wednesday, December 20, 4-5 pm, Story Room

## **GILROY:**

### **Winter Holiday Crafts for Children and Families**

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 12pm-2pm.

### **Drop-In Crafts and Coloring for Children and Families**

Tuesday, December 26 – Saturday, December 30, 1pm-2pm

### **Adult and Teen Crafts**

Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 2pm-5pm.

## **LOS ALTOS:**

### **The Los Altos Library Fourth Annual Story Fest**

Internationally famous storyteller, Joel ben Izzy, along with ten local storytellers will share folk and fairy tales in the great oral tradition. They will entertain audiences with stories relating to the theme of "Truth and Lies." School-age children and adults are invited!

- Saturday, December 2, 1-5:30 pm, Orchard Room

### **Hands-on Science in December**

Children in kindergarten and up are invited to join the fun to explore the fascinating science programs presented by the Children's Discovery Museum.

- Wednesday, December 6, 4 pm "Secret Agent Science"
- Wednesday, December 13, 4 pm "Super Power Science"
- Wednesday, December 20, 4 pm "Wonderland Science"
- Wednesday, December 27, 4 pm "Adventures with Chemistry"

### **MILPITAS:**

#### **Tiny Toots Music Festival**

- Thurs. Dec. 7, 11:00am- Matt Fernald: Golden Acorn Music
- Thurs. Dec. 14, 11:00am- Charity Kahn
- Thurs Dec. 21, 11:00am- Sean Mendelson: Sean's Music Factory
- Thurs. Dec. 28, 11:00am- K and L music and movement

### **MORGAN HILL:**

#### **Holiday Puppet Shows**

The Fratello Marionettes present their puppet extravaganza, The North Pole Review!

- Thursday, December 21, 10:30 am
- Saturday, December 23, 10:15 am

### **SARATOGA:**

#### **Living History: Amelia Earhart**

From the pages of history, aviator Amelia Earhart comes to life and shares her life and flying adventures! Intended for Grades 3 & up.

- Thursday, December 7, 4:00 PM, Orchard Room

For more information about all of our events and the latest updates please visit:

<http://bit.ly/2j47XUt>

## Two Locations to Expand Hours in 2018

### Saratoga and Woodland Libraries to Each Add Six Service Hours

Patrons of the Saratoga Library and Woodland Library can look forward to expanded service hours in the New Year, beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2018. The changes come about thanks to a combination of staff efficiencies, a prioritization of expanded service hours, and additional funds provided by the North County Library Authority (NCLA).

The Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) has enacted these changes following up on its own customer satisfaction survey pertaining to library hours. The additional open hours of service reflect the preferences expressed by their local communities and will provide residents more opportunities to visit the library and access services at times that are convenient to them.

Saratoga Library will add hours on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. They currently are open between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. on those days.

“As a strong advocate of expanding library hours, which has been a popular request by our library patrons, I am very pleased and excited to see this materialize,” said Saratoga Mayor Emily Lo. “Our community will enjoy and greatly benefit from the additional hours of services on weekdays.”

Woodland Library will begin offering hours on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They currently are closed on Sundays.

“NCLA is glad to be able to respond to the community’s desire for Woodland Library to be open on Sundays. My family has been involved with Woodland since its inception in the 1970s and it’s nice to see this neighborhood branch library thriving, loved by the local community, and now soon to be available for the public to enjoy seven days a week,” said Suzanne Epstein, President of the North County Library Authority.

In the customer satisfaction survey, community stakeholders in both Los Altos and Saratoga responded to SCCLD about their preferences for which specific hours to expand at their local libraries. The proposed schedules were a direct response to our customer satisfaction survey, in which:

43% of Saratoga patrons expressed a preference for increased hours on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

38% of Saratoga patrons expressed a preference for increased hours on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

77% of Woodland patrons expressed a preference for increased hours on Sundays from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Visit [www.sccl.org](http://www.sccl.org) for more information about the schedules for all of our locations.

## **Shopping for Literacy**

Get a jump on your holiday shopping – and help the SCCLD Foundation at the same time! Just head to Talbot’s in the Westfield Valley Fair Mall on Friday, December 8. A percentage of all purchases that day will go directly to the foundation to help support our Reading Program and Bookmobile – both of which affect the lives of people throughout the district. This is a win-win, and a wonderful way to start the season by giving the gift of literacy!