

# Youth Activities

## June 2026

### ***Patriotism through Literacy***

#### **Build a Brighter Future with a VFW Auxiliary Lending Library!**

Establishing a **VFW Auxiliary Lending Library** in your community is a meaningful way to expand access to books and inspire a love of reading—especially in areas where public libraries may not exist. This initiative empowers Auxiliaries to create and manage lending libraries where children and families can borrow books freely.

Your Auxiliary can work together to decide the best location and approach for your community. With proper approval, libraries can be placed in locations such as:

- 📍 Outside your VFW Post
- 📍 Recreational Fields
- 📍 Moose, Elks, or Masonic Lodges
- 📍 Community Centers
- 📍 City Hall

#### ★ **Why Start a Lending Library?**

By giving children access to books, you help encourage imagination, creativity, literacy, and lifelong learning. Studies show that **61% of low-income families have no children's books in their homes**, which can contribute to lower reading achievement. Your library can help close that gap and make a lasting difference.

#### ★ **Getting Started is Easy!**

- Outdoor library boxes are available through Amazon and other retailers
- Partner with local Scouts BSA or Eagle Scout candidates who may assist while earning badges
- Use the **Patriotism Through Literacy** reading list from the VFW Auxiliary National website
- Work with local schools to provide books for all reading levels

#### ★ **Project Ideas:**

- **Take a Book – Leave a Book** exchange system
- Host youth reading events at your Post
- Invite Scouts, clubs, and student groups to help build and maintain the library
- Share your success using **#auxlendinglibrary**

Together, we can strengthen our communities, support literacy, and invest in our youth **one book at a time.** ❤️💙

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