



# Stories in the Old Schoolhouse 2018 Children's Summer Program

Tuesdays at 10:30 am  
July 3 through August 28

Spend an hour at Old York's historic York Corner Schoolhouse, hear a story, and afterwards enjoy a related activity, followed by fun and games in the school yard. The program features books that bring history alive, and teach children about life in Maine, New England, and beyond.

Admission: \$5 per child per session (ages 4 and up) / free for members, and children under 4

Recommended for children ages 4 to 10. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, so be sure to email Kathleen Shea at [programs@oldyork.org](mailto:programs@oldyork.org), or call 207-363-4974, to reserve your spot!

## Program Schedule

### July 3

***Independence Cake: A Revolutionary Confection Inspired by Amelia Simmons, Whose True History Is Unfortunately Unknown* by Deborah Hopkinson (author), Giselle Potter (illustrator)**

Celebrate American independence with a story inspired by the childhood of Amelia Simmons, author of the first American cook book, published in 1796. Before then, all the cookbooks printed and used in America were British. After the story we will visit historic Jefferds Tavern to sign the Declaration of Independence and try some Independence Cake.

### July 10

***The Lobsterman* by Dahlov Ipcar (author and illustrator)**

This story of a day in the life of a lobsterman's son, working with his father, is a staple of Maine children's literature. As Larry and his father get their boat and traps ready for the busy summer season of lobstering, Larry builds his own trap, and makes his first catch! After the story we will meet some real lobsters and learn about this curious sea creature and the people who fish for them.

### July 17

***Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey (author and illustrator)**

Enjoy this classic Maine story about Sal and her mother, picking blueberries on Blueberry Hill on a bright summer day. Find out what happens when Sal and her mother meet a mother bear and her cub preparing for their long winter, and then help make blueberry jam in historic Jefferds Tavern.

### July 24

***Basket Moon* by Mary Lyn Ray (author), Barbara Cooney (illustrator)**

A young country boy grows up playing among the ash, oak, hickory, and maple trees surrounding his home, hoping to follow in the footsteps of his father, who makes baskets to sell in the big city. But, what happens when he realizes that the city folks do not view him or his family as he does? Meet a real-life basket maker after the story, learn about the importance of basket making in Maine, and make your own paper basket.

### **July 31**

***The Bear that Heard Crying* by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock and Helen Kinsey (authors), Ted Rand (illustrator)**

In 1783, three-year-old Sarah Witcher, became lost in the deep woods of New Hampshire. She was protected by a bear until her rescue four days later. After this fictionalized retelling of an extraordinary true story, learn some interesting facts about bears, and go on a “bear hunt” of your own.

### **August 7**

***Hello Lighthouse* by Sophie Blackall (author and illustrator)**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in a lighthouse, surrounded by water? In this story, see how the daily life of a lighthouse keeper and his family unfolds. Days and seasons pass, and the keeper writes every detail in his logbook. Afterwards, visit the museum gallery and learn about a real family of lighthouse keepers who tended the Boone Island Light in York.

### **August 14**

***I Am Birch* by Scott Kelley (author and illustrator)**

A birch tree is an unlikely champion and protector of the forest in a story inspired by the legends of the Wabanaki tribes of Maine. As rumors of coming cold and darkness spread through the woods, chaos and fear grow, and the animals begin to panic. The birch, however, is firmly rooted, and gently helps to put the animals’ fears to rest. Learn about trees and creatures of the forest following the story.

### **August 21**

***A Fine Dessert: Four Centuries, Four Families, One Delicious Treat* by Emily Jenkins (author), Sophie Blackall (illustrator)**

It’s blackberry season, and this is a story about blackberry fool—a simple dessert made with berries, sugar, and cream. Tracing the recipe from its origin in England to the American colonies, and finally to modern-day California, we learn how food, technology, and even families have changed throughout American history. We will have fun making and sharing our own blackberry fool in historic Jefferds Tavern after the story.

### **August 28**

***Ox-Cart Man* by Donald Hall (author), Barbara Cooney (illustrator)**

This classic story follows a family through the New England seasons. In the fall, the ox-cart man packs the goods his family has produced during the year and travels to Portsmouth market where he sells his goods, one by one—even his beloved ox. He buys provisions for his family, returns home, and the cycle begins again. After the story, explore the Ox-cart man’s house to find the things his family made and grew all year long.