

STEAMing into Ringwood Public Library

Science

Technology

Engineering

Arts

Mathematics

STEAM with RPL this summer...

[See our full schedule here.](#)

[Simple STEM video series on YouTube.](#) Projects you can do at home without buying anything.

[STEAM activities on our website.](#)

Watch for *Imagine Your Story* Summer Reading Program STEM Camp: *Mythbusters* in August. Format TBD based on the library's state of opening.

Create your own program at home using...

- our Crazy 8's activities on Google Classroom. Request access at caldwell@ringwoodlibrary.org
- our modified [Space Camp curriculum](#).



DETECTING FAKE NEWS

Fake news has always been a problem. Scientists, for instance, have long battled misinformation on evolution and climate change. With advanced technology, Deep Fakes are a growing concern. Deep Fakes are video clips that appear authentic, but replace the person speaking with another, such as a celebrity or a politician. Here, we'll discuss ways to figure out what's real and what might not be. In spotting a video that's been altered, look for these telltale signs:

- The angle of the camera is straight on or to the side, like a mug shot.
- There are few rapid movements in the speaker's face.
- Areas of the face may appear fuzzy or static, especially around the eyes, teeth or chin.
- There's blotchiness of tone or color.
- The mouth and voice don't quite sync up.
- Shadows appear as the wrong size or in the wrong place.

Recommended Read for YA and Adult:

Debunk it!

By John Grant

A highly readable book that explains how you can weed the misinformation about science from the truth.



To battle fake news and misinformation, verify that a story is from a reputable source, such as an established news outlet, periodical or journal. Though trustworthy sources are inclined to lean one way or another socially or politically, they undergo editorial review where biases are taken into account. If a story seems too good to be true (a cure for a disease) or plays heavily on your emotions (the sad story of a child), you should look for multiple sources of information on the subject. Do not use that story's referenced material, as it will only support it's own agenda. A quick Google search may show there aren't many reputable sources that have picked up on the story. One quick visual cue is that if a story's headlines are ALL IN CAPS!, you may be looking at a story that wants your attention, but may not be truthful. They may be trying to sell you a product or an idea. Be sure to do your fact checking! To learn more, check out youtube.com/takeonfake.

Check out this video on entertaining fakes, keeping in mind that, though the results of Deep Fake technology can be funny, they can also be dangerous, by showing a person doing or saying something they would not likely say or do in real life: <https://youtu.be/ZJrffEfCMrs>

Tech Talk: Technology is playing a big role in how we are going to handle the Coronavirus crisis. Tech usage and development are also being influenced by the crisis. Here's a brief summary:

- As people look for diversions while stuck at home, gaming services and social media have thrived. Nintendo has reported higher earnings. TikTok usage has been on the rise and sports tournaments via online gaming, such as Nascar's iRacing, are providing home entertainment. For more, check out the [May issue of TechLife News](#).
- Other tech-oriented business are not doing so well, such as AirBNB and Uber, as travel has hit an all-time low.
- According to MIT Technology Review, Artificial Intelligence is getting it's chance to prove itself: It's being utilized more in call centers and in detecting deep fake news stories, which especially important now in separating the truth from fiction in battling COVID.
- Though Contact Tracing apps may be a new tool for tracking outbreaks, debates have arisen over privacy concerns.
- Genetic testing companies, such as *23 and Me*, may be able to help figure out the role of genetics on the severity of symptoms in COVID patients.



Scan this QR code to check out [TechLife News](#) on RB Digital>



13 Pyramid

Watch a [video](#) on how to play this card game. You can play solo or with a partner! Practice your math skills adding up to 13!

Set up your cards as shown. To eliminate cards, they need to add to 13. In this setup, A, 2, 10 can be removed OR 6, 2, 5 can be removed. 6, 2, 5 will expose cards in the next row, that can then be used!

There's an app for that...

- **iMovie** (iOS) or **VideoShop** (android) for splicing, editing, and embellishing videos.
- **WHO Academy** (iOS and android) COVID-19 news, webinars, PSA graphics & videos, and more. Geared to health care workers and those with a science background. Some content is now dated.
- **Kahn Academy** (iOS and android) for learning any subject for free. Syncs to your online account.
- **Kahn Academy Kids** (iOS and android) for books and games for up to age 8.
- **Monkey Wrench** (iOS, android, Kindle) a cross between a word search and an unscramble game. Easier to play on a tablet than a phone.



If you have tech questions or suggestions for RPL's STEAM Newsletter, email caldwell@ringwoodlibrary.org.