

Monticello Library America 250

In partnership with the Monticello America 250 committee.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

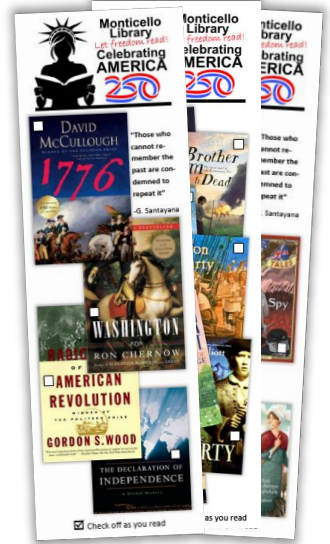
- **“1776” Book Discussion** hosted at the Monticello Library on February 17, 2026 led by local educator Linda Boyle.
- **America 250 Display** of important events and people from February to December on loan from Linda Boyle.
- **The Pen Is Mightier** Writing a Revolution is a Utah State Capitol traveling exhibit will be at the Monticello Library from August through October, exploring how Revolutionary-era, ink-based communication tools shaped history. The exhibit includes an interactive look and find activity.
- **The Old Spanish Trail Discussion & Hike** is a historic 2,700-mile pack mule route. It crossed high mountains, deserts, and canyons through six states including Utah facilitating trade in wool and horses. In 1776, the Dominguez-Escalante expedition explored a route that passed through parts of what is now San Juan County, Utah, mapping the region while seeking a path from Santa Fe to California. They traveled north through western Colorado, passing the San Juan Mountains and crossing the Dolores River into Utah near present-day Monticello.

Activity: The library will host an event to teach about the trail on May 15, 2026 and the next morning there will be a community five-mile hike on part of that trail.

- **America 250 Reading List Bookmarks** for grade-schoolers, teens and another one for adults on display. These bookmarks feature books available to check out from our library.

CHILDREN ACTIVITIES

- **Star Spangled Banner Story & Activity** - The Star-Spangled Banner is the 30 x 42-foot "Great Garrison Flag" that flew over Fort McHenry in September 1814, inspiring Francis Scott Key to write the U.S. national anthem. Key was on a mission of mercy to secure the release of Dr. William Beanes, who had been taken prisoner by the British. Beanes was



Bookmarks



America 250 Display

released but the British feared Key and his companions knew too much about their attack plans for Baltimore, so they were detained on their own vessel, the Decatur, during the battle. After a harrowing night of bombing, Key looked out at the "dawn's early light" and saw the American flag—a huge 30x42-foot garrison flag—still flying over Fort McHenry, signifying victory. Key began writing the poem on the back of a letter while still on the ship.

Activity – Kids will hear the Star Spangled Banner story then spread out to the size of the original Banner to get a feel for how large it was. The kids will also make a flag bead pin and several other projects as a Summer Reading activity.

- **Library Pioneer Day** – Kids will get to participate in pioneer activities like churning butter in a jar, crafting corn husk dolls, and playing classic games such as sack races, hoops and sticks, and Button, Button, Who's Got the Button as another Summer Reading activity.