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TABLETOP THURSDAYS: BOARD GAMES AT THE N.J. STATE LIBRARY



Board and table games are in. The popularity of playing board games has increased rapidly in the last five to six years with the hobby game market more than doubling since 2008. Record sales are reported by game retailers, including Amazon. [GenCon](#), a tabletop gaming conference held annually in Indianapolis, attracted more than 55,000 attendees last year.

The old standbys like Monopoly, Trivial Pursuit and Life are great. But nowadays, you're more likely to see titles such as Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, Pandemic, and Dominion on a board gamer's shelf. All games are fun and stimulating, but the newer ones often have interesting themes and gameplay that involves more than circling a board. It's easy to find one that appeals to you because there are plenty to choose from. In addition to being fun, board games are social, and foster memory, attention, language and other cognitive functions. Even more reason to start gaming!

In June, the New Jersey State Library started Tabletop Thursdays because people seem to enjoy playing games. Attendees said they had fun, so we're continuing the summer board gaming series on [Thursday, July 16](#) from noon to 1 p.m. There will be a wide selection of board games to play, including some familiar favorites, and staff on hand to teach you how to play.

Curious as to what games you'll find during July's Tabletop Thursday? Some examples are given below:
(To see a brief overview of how to play the games, click on the link for each game.)

- **[Love Letter](#)**: All of the eligible men seek to woo the princess of Tempest. Unfortunately, she has locked herself in the palace, and you must rely on others to take your romantic letters to her. Will yours reach her first? This deduction card game is quick and fun! Great for beginners.
- **[Lanterns](#)**: The harvest is in, and the artisans are hard at work preparing for the upcoming festival. Decorate the palace lake with floating lanterns using tiles depicting various color combinations of floating lanterns. Receive matching lantern cards and trade them in to make dedications and to earn points. This is a good 30-minute game.
- **[Telestrations](#)**: Each player begins by sketching a word. When time is up, players simultaneously pass their sketches to the next player who must guess what has been drawn. Then they pass their guesses, correct or not, to the next player who must draw the word they see. Think Telephone with illustrations (*hence the name*). It's a fun party game even for non-artists!
- **[Bananagrams](#)**: It's Scrabble without the confines of a board. Players must create their own crossword puzzle grids using letter tiles pulled face-down from the pool. Be the first to use all of your letters to win. This is a perfect game for anyone who likes word puzzles.

Come out and enjoy socializing through playing games. Future Tabletop Thursday dates will be announced on our website at www.njstatelib.org. If you have questions on the program, contact Laura Shiber at 609-278-2640 ext. 158 or email lshiber@njstatelib.org.

LAW LIBRARY EXPANDS WESTLAW COVERAGE

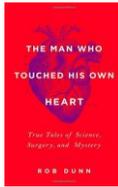
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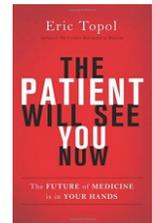
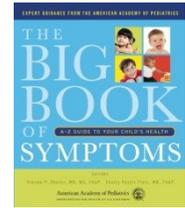


Questions? Contact the Law Department at reflaw@njstatelib.org or 609-278-2640 ext. 102.

NEW HEALTH AND MEDICINE BOOKS AT THE STATE LIBRARY



Interested in health and medicine? New books in the subject have arrived and include: *The Man Who touches his own heart: true tales of science, surgery, and mystery* by Rob R. Dunn; *The big book of symptoms: A-Z guide to your child's health* by the American Academy of Pediatrics, 2014; *Spring chicken: stay young forever (or die trying)* by Bill Gifford; *The patient will see you now: the future of medicine is in your hands* by Eric J. Topol; *Vitamina: our obsessive quest for nutritional perfection* by Catherine Price; *The silver lining: a supportive and insightful guide to breast cancer* by Hollye Jacobs; *The evil hours: a biography of post-traumatic stress disorder* by David J. Morris; *The teenage brain: a neuroscientist's survival guide to raising adolescents and young adults* by Frances E. Jensen; *Medical monopoly: intellectual property rights and the origins of the modern pharmaceutical industry* by Joseph M. Gabriel; *The new vegetarian cooking for everyone* by Deborah Madison; *Bipolar disorder: a guide for patients and families* by Francis Mark Mondimore; and *Are the keys in the freezer?: an advocate's guide for Alzheimer's and other dementias* by Patricia Woodell.



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Questions? Contact the Reference Department at refdesk@njstatelib.org or 609-278-2640 ext. 103.

CONTACT US:

Phone: 609-278-2640
Law: ext. 102
Reference: ext. 103
Circulation: ext. 104

Email:
reflaw@njstatelib.org
refdesk@njstatelib.org
circulation@njstatelib.org

Mary Chute
State Librarian

Colleen Dazé
Chief Deputy State Librarian
Director, State Library Information Center

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