

Summer 2026 "Unearth a Story" Programs

Florida Gold Coast Gem & Mineral Society + Library Collaboration Planning Workbook

This editable planning workbook reflects Julio's revised program concepts and adds structured planning fields for scheduling, supplies, staffing, and safety across multiple library branches.

Use this document to align branch managers, confirm scope (total number of sessions), and collect the information needed before finalizing dates and marketing. Overall, Summer Planning Snapshot (Across All Branches)

Planning Decision	Response / Notes
Total scope proposed (4 total split across branches OR all 4 at each branch)	CP and PO interested in all programs; HL interested in Family all ages
Number of participating branches	3; HL primarily interested in "Family" all ages
Single library coordinator (name)	Kathy Echavarria
Branch liaisons (one per branch)	Kathy Echavarria(CP); Nadine Robinson(PO); Mark Patrick
Magazine submission target date (if applicable)	March 2, 12N
Backup marketing plan (website / posters / event calendar)	No submission target date
Julio / club point of contact	
Scheduling approach (standard time slots / branch-by-branch)	Kechavarria@broward.org ; text Kathy Echavarria at 775-901-0596

1. Family Drop-in: "Unearth the Earth!" Discovery Day

Presentation/class first, then stations; include at least 10 rock-forming minerals + 3 common rock types.

Planning Field	Details / Notes
Format	Drop-in, 90 minutes to 2 hours. Short presentation/class, then station rotations.
Learning goals	At least 10 common rock-forming minerals and 3 common rock types; basic mineral ID.
Stations	Touch table (supervised), mineral ID station, fossil station, magnifier/microscope station (if available).
Audience	Families / all ages (child-friendly adaptations).
Volunteer needs	2 to 4 volunteers (more is great).
Library needs	Tables, chairs, signage, optional handout, crowd flow support.
Raffle concept	Optional free raffle for starter kits (if approved).

2. Tween Workshop: "Crack Open a Geode"

Club can provide goggles and tool; supervised geode breaking by experienced adults.

Planning Field	Details / Notes
Format	Registration-based, 45–60 minutes (up to 75 minutes if needed).
Capacity	15 to 25 tweens (adjust by room and staffing).
Flow	Intro -> supervised cracking -> wrap-up observation/labeling.
Audience	Tweens.
Safety	Goggles + controlled cracking method + adult supervision.
Supplies note	Club can provide goggles and tool (confirm quantities).
Funding	Confirm who purchases geodes and replacement PPE.

3. Adult Program: "Hidden Stories Beneath Our Feet"

Include local rockhounding/field trip ideas and ID of at least 10 common fossils (including South Florida fossils).

Planning Field	Details / Notes
Format	45-minute talk + Q&A.
Topics	Local geology; South Florida fossils; ethical/legal collecting; starter tips; mineral ID basics; local rockhounding ideas.
Learning goals	Identify at least 10 common fossils, including South Florida fossils.
Optional display	Specimen table for show-and-tell.
Volunteer needs	1–2 presenters + optional helper.
Setup	Minimal; repeatable across branches.
Raffle concept	Optional starter-kit raffle (if approved).

4. Mini Exhibit: "Unearthed Treasures" Display Case + Pop-up Q&A

May include supervised hands-on element; lapidary artist items (jewelry/decor/paintings) if approved; raffle eligibility ideas.

Planning Field	Details / Notes
Format	2–4 week display + one 60-minute pop-up 'Ask a Rockhound'.
Display enhancements	Lapidary decorative treasures (jewelry/home furnishings/paintings) if available and approved.
Hands-on	Supervised hands-on viewing/touching for selected items only (confirm list).
Volunteer needs	1–2 to set up; 1–2 for pop-up hour.
Library needs	Secure case or supervised table space, signage, display rules.
Raffle concept	Optional raffle eligibility for attending families (if approved).