

What Can You Do at the Library?



A library is a place where you can explore your interests, learn amazing things, and spark your imagination. Here are ten great things you can do at the library.

1. Read

At the library, you have hundreds of books at your fingertips. If you want to read something different, try a magazine or a newspaper.

2. Get help from a librarian

Tell the librarian what kinds of things you like to read about. Chances are, they can recommend a perfect book for you!

3. Research

When you have to do research, start at the library! You can use the catalog to find books on your topic. You can also use the internet if your library has computers available.

4. Listen to a story

The librarian may read aloud to you, or you and a friend might be able to read to each other.

5. Try different kinds of books

Some days, you're in the mood for an adventure story. Other days, you may want to read about a famous person or event. The library has all types of books for you to try.

6. Learn something new

Want to learn the names of the birds in your yard? Find out how to plant a vegetable garden? Master a new computer skill? Go to the library!

7. Relax in a quiet space

Sometimes you just need a little quiet time. At the library, you can find a quiet space and curl up with a good book.

8. Make a book club

Books are more fun when you can talk about them with friends. Ask your teacher or the librarian if you can start a book club with some classmates.

9. Do homework

Libraries are quiet. They have lots of tables and chairs. It's a perfect place to do your homework!

10. Learn about faraway places

Look at maps. Find photos in books. You can visit a faraway place right from your library.

What are two things you like to do at the library? Write them below.

1.

2.

Types of Books at the Library



Do you like stories about animals? Space ships? Magic? Sports? No matter what kind of books you like to read, you can find them at the library. Here are some popular types of books.



Fiction

Fiction books are made-up stories about people, places, science, history, mysteries, and more.



Nonfiction

Nonfiction books are based on facts. They are about real people, places, things, and events.



Biography

A biography is a story about a real person's life. A biography is written by an author, not by the person it is about.



Autobiography

An autobiography is a story a person has written about their own life.



Poetry

Poetry is written in verses that may or may not rhyme. Poetry can be funny, sad, silly, and even scary!

Book Hunt

Explore your library. Write down the title of one book for each category. If you have trouble finding them, ask the librarian.

Fiction

Nonfiction

Biography

Autobiography

Poetry

DOING RESEARCH AT THE LIBRARY

Do you have a report to do? The library is a great place to find information on any topic! Following these steps will help you do your research, and find the information you need.

STEP 1: SEARCH THE CATALOG

The catalog is an online list of everything in the library. You can search it by topic, title, or author.



STEP 2: FIND YOUR BOOKS

Each book has a call number in the catalog. This number is printed on the book's spine. A call number is like an address that tells you where a book is. Signs on the shelves show which numbers are in each section.



STEP 3: USE THE INTERNET

You might not be able to find everything you need in books. You can also do research on the internet at the library. Ask the librarian to help you find the information you need.



STEP 4: TAKE GOOD NOTES

Use note cards or a notebook. Write down the facts you want to include in your report. Organize them by topic if you can. Having good notes makes writing a report much easier.



GIVE IT A TRY!

Choose a topic. Then use the catalog to find three books about it. Use the numbers in the catalog to find each of these books in the library. Ask a librarian for help if you need it.

TOPIC _____

Book 1 title _____

Book 1 number _____

Was this book hard to find? _____

Book 2 title _____

Book 2 number _____

Was this book hard to find? _____

Book 3 title _____

Book 3 number _____

Was this book hard to find? _____

Know Your Library Manners

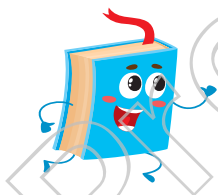
It's important to use manners wherever you go. For example, you need to be quiet at the movie theater and take turns at the playground. There are also specific manners you should use when you're at the library!

Using these manners will help you be an excellent library user.



Use your inside voice

The library is a quiet place. Be respectful of others who are reading or doing work. It's okay to talk to your friends; just keep your voice quiet.



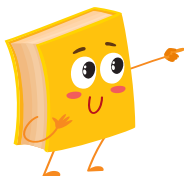
Return your books

Be sure to return your books on time. You can even return them early! Others may be waiting to check them out.



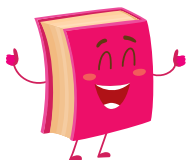
Clean up after yourself

Put away any materials you've used. When you clean up after yourself, you help make the library a nice place for others.



Put books on the cart

When you are finished with a book, put it on the librarian's cart. They will put it back in the right place.



Don't eat or drink

Spilled food and drinks can ruin books and other library items. Never take food or drinks into the library.



Take care of the books you borrow

Use a bookmark. Don't write or draw in books. When you take care of the books you borrow, others will have a chance to enjoy them too!



Wait your turn

When you want to check out a book, the librarian may be busy or there may be a line. If that happens, just wait patiently.

Can you think of any other library manners?
Write them below.

TOP 10

Ways a Librarian Can Help You

Librarians are trained library experts! Here are 10 things a librarian can do to help you when you visit the library.

1. Find a good book

A library has all kinds of books on all sorts of topics! A librarian can help you find a book that will be just right for you.

2. Use the catalog

Your library probably has a catalog. A catalog is an online list of every item the library has. A librarian can help you learn to search the catalog for what you want or need.

3. Borrow items

When you borrow an item from the library, you get to keep it for a week or two. When the time is up, you return it. A librarian will help you borrow and return items.

4. Expand your horizons

A librarian can help you explore new topics, learn about new places, and develop new interests.

5. Use a computer

Many libraries have computers for using the internet. A librarian can help you find the information you want online.

6. Find answers to questions

Need to know where to find nonfiction books? Can't find what you're looking for? A librarian will be happy to answer all your questions.

7. Start your research

You might have to write a short paper or do a group project on a specific topic. A librarian can help you find books, or show you how to do an internet search.

8. Get to know the library

Libraries have more than just books. You can read a magazine, use a computer, or find a quiet spot to do your homework! A librarian can help you learn all your library has to offer.

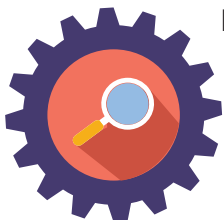
9. Feel welcome

Librarians like helping young students, and when you visit the library often, the librarian gets to know *you*. They learn what you like and can recommend books for you.

10. Learn to love reading

Sometimes you just need a little help finding a book you will enjoy, or a topic that's interesting to you. A librarian can help.

EXPLORE YOUR LIBRARY!



How well do you know your library? Be a library detective! See how many things on this list you can find. Write your answers on the lines.

1. What is the librarian's name?

2. Find a book written by an author whose last name starts with *M*.

3. Use the catalog. Write the title of a book about a dog.

4. What is the title of a nonfiction book in the library?

5. What is the title of a fiction book?

6. What is the title of a chapter book?

7. What is the title of a picture book?

8. How many computers does your library have?

9. What is one library rule?

10. How long can you borrow a book?
