

The library program children policy document aims to provide a comprehensive and inclusive framework for children participating in the Perth Amboy Free Public library programs, specifically tailored to ensure their safety, engagement, and positive experiences. This policy addresses various aspects of the program, including restroom use, book borrowing, book usage within the library, and more. By adhering to this policy, parents, guardians, children, and library staff can collaboratively create an environment that fosters exploration, learning, and respect for library resources. Together, we strive to cultivate a love for reading, support literacy development, and promote responsible and respectful behavior within the library setting.

# Children's Library Summer Program Policy - Child Participation

# 1. Eligibility:

- a. The summer program is open to children between the ages of 4 and 12.
- b. Children must have parental or guardian consent to participate.

#### 2. Registration:

- a. Parents or guardians must complete a registration form for each child before participating in the summer program.
- b. The registration form must include emergency contact information and any relevant health or allergy information.
- c. The library reserves the right to limit the number of participants based on available resources.

## 3. Supervision:

- a. Children participating in the summer program under years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult or caregiver.
- b. The library staff will provide program-related guidance and support, but caregivers are responsible for the overall supervision and behavior of their children.

#### 4. Attendance:

- a. Regular attendance is encouraged for the full duration of the summer program.
- b. If a child will be absent, parents or guardians are requested to inform the library in advance.

#### 5. Behavior:

- a. Children are expected to follow library rules and regulations at all times.
- b. Disruptive behavior, bullying, or any form of harassment will not be tolerated.
- c. Children who repeatedly exhibit disruptive behavior may be asked to leave the program.

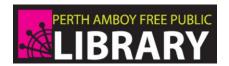
### 6. Care of Library Materials:

- a. Children are responsible for the proper handling and care of library materials.
- b. Parents or guardians will be held financially responsible for any lost or damaged library materials caused by their children.

## 7. Photography and Videography:

- a. The library may capture photographs or videos of children participating in the summer program for promotional purposes.
- b. Parents or guardians who do not wish their child to be photographed or recorded must inform the library in writing.

## 8. Personal Belongings:



- a. Children are responsible for their personal belongings during the summer program.
- b. The library is not liable for any lost or stolen items.

# 9. Emergency Procedures:

- a. In the event of an emergency or accident, library staff will take necessary action to ensure the safety and well-being of the children.
- b. Parents or guardians will be notified promptly in case of an emergency.

## 10. Amendments to the Policy:

- a. The library reserves the right to amend this policy as necessary.
- b. Any changes to the policy will be communicated to parents or guardians in a timely manner.

# Children's Library Summer Program Policy - Library Books

## 1. Access to Library Books:

- a. Children participating in the library summer program are welcome to use and read books available in the library's collection.
- b. Books can be read within designated areas of the library during program hours.
- c. Children may borrow books from the library's collection following the regular borrowing procedures.

## 2. Book Handling and Care:

- a. Children must handle library books with care, respecting their physical condition and the property of others.
- b. Avoid actions that could damage or deface books, such as tearing pages, writing in books, or spilling liquids on them.

## 3. Return and Shelving:

- a. Children should return books to the designated shelving areas or return carts after reading.
- b. Books will only be used for reading.

### 4. Book Limits:

a. The library may establish limits on the number of books that can be borrowed at one time to ensure equitable access for all participants.

#### 5. Noise and Disturbance:

- a. Children should maintain a reasonable noise level while using books inside the library to ensure a peaceful environment for all visitors.
- b. Loud or disruptive behavior that may disturb others or hinder their enjoyment of library resources is not allowed.

# 6. Sharing and Collaboration:

- a. Children are encouraged to share books, reading experiences, and recommendations with their peers and library staff.
- b. Respectful collaboration and communication regarding books are encouraged within the library's guidelines.

#### 7. Bookmarks and Annotations:



- a. Children may use bookmarks to mark their place in a book while reading within the library.
- b. Writing or highlighting in library books is not permitted. Children should refrain from adding personal annotations or markings.

## 8. Assistance and Guidance:

- a. Library staff will be available to assist children in locating books, suggesting appropriate reading materials, and answering questions related to book selection and usage.
- b. Children are encouraged to seek guidance and support from library staff whenever needed.

# 9. Book Availability:

a. Children may find some books marked as reference or restricted for in-library use only. These books should be read within the library and not taken outside.

#### 10. Food and Beverages:

a. No food or beverages, except for water in closed containers, should be consumed near library books to prevent damage or staining.

# 11. Policy Compliance:

a. Children, parents, guardians, and library staff are expected to comply with this policy to maintain a conducive and respectful environment for all library visitors.

# Children's Library Summer Program Policy - Restroom Use

- 1. Supervision and Accompaniment:
  - a. Children participating in the library summer program are encouraged to use the restroom before the program starts.
  - b. Younger children or those who require assistance must be accompanied by a responsible adult or
- 2. caregiver when using the restroom.

## 3. Restroom Locations:

- a. The library will provide clear signage indicating the location of the nearest restrooms.
- b. Library staff will be available to provide directions and assistance if needed.

## 4. Safety and Hygiene:

- a. Children must follow proper hygiene practices while using the restroom, including washing hands with soap and water before returning to the program.
- b. Library staff will ensure that restrooms are regularly cleaned and stocked with necessary supplies.

# 5. Restroom Etiquette:

- a. Children should use respectful behavior and keep noise levels to a minimum while in the restroom.
- b. Children should promptly vacate the restroom after use to allow others to access the facilities.

## 6. Restroom Visits during the Program:

a. Children may request to use the restroom during the program if necessary.



b. Library staff will establish specific procedures to minimize disruptions and ensure the safety of all participants.

# 7. Confidentiality and Privacy:

- a. The library staff will respect the privacy and confidentiality of children using the restroom facilities.
- b. Restroom visits will not be discussed or disclosed unless necessary for the child's safety and well-being.

# 8. Policy Compliance:

a. Children, parents, guardians, and library staff are expected to comply with this restroom use policy to maintain a safe and comfortable environment for all participants.

By participating in the summer program, parents or guardians acknowledge that they have read and understood the Children's Library Policies and agree to comply with its guidelines.

Last Edited: JR 2023