
No child should grow up without the magic of books...

Children are delightfully refreshing creatures. They say what they mean. No sugar-coating, no beating around the bush, no political correctness -- they just say what they mean.

Someone once said, "With children comes learning; with age comes understanding." Listen as children tell us what they have learned about libraries. Later they will interpret these youthful experiences, adding depth and detail with each new telling until, as adults, they have grown-up stories. But for now they are kids, telling us the truth. Nothing is more refreshing than to read and listen to the stories our children have to tell.

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My name is Destiny Nichols and I am in the sixth grade at DCMS. I used to hate to read until my teacher, Mrs. Sisson, threw out our reading text books and let us go to the library and pick our own materials to read. Now I read at least five books a week because I can pick anything in the whole library. This has made me a life long reader.

Destiny Nichols

"I like libraries. They are filled with wonderful stuff."

Brad J.

Libraries change a lot of lives. You can be smarter if you read more. For example, Albert Einstein read a lot. He was the smartest man in the world. See if you read, you can be the same. Librarians are nice. They'll help you if you need it.

AJ Machala

As the grandmother of several children, I have learned that libraries do change lives. I've learned that storytime programs, especially for toddlers, have been a big influence in my grandchildren. They learn to appreciate and respect books, the library, and reading. Storytime is fun. Toddlers are surrounded by friends, and they think the person reading to them is owner of all those cool and neat books. Storytime hooks kids on books. The eagerness and enthusiasm on their little faces as they search for their very own book tells it all.

Isabel Leisure and Family

Well, a library has changed my life in a lot of ways. A long time ago I didn't like reading but now I do. Its peace and quiet and you can get your work done or read a book. I like the books they have and I like the funny books. The library is fun to be in.

Tabitha Schlarb

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I like the library because of the computers and the stuff you can look up like the books. The other day I looked up football. It had the way the officials call, what you wear, the equipment, how big the football is, how long the field is. The public library also has very good books. I learned how to draw animals and stuff. I enjoy it.

Kyle Zischron

"I've read hundreds of books, but I find the best books at the library"

Brian N.

The library is such an important part of my family's life. We are a family of six and we visit the library many times a week. We moved to Greenwood about a year ago. Our kids were a little apprehensive about moving to a new place. I assured them that we would settle in quickly. One of the first things we did was to get our library cards.

There are so many reasons we love the library. The books — of course — but we also check out movies, CD's, cassette tapes, and even pictures for our walls. My kids have started as babies with the hardboard baby books and then have moved up to the picture books, then have learned to read with the great selection of easy readers, such as Margaret Hillert books and Dr. Seuss books. My 10 year-old enjoys books on sports and art books. We have also checked out books to help us out in our business and books for fun reading, too.

The video selection at our White River Library is so great! We never go to the video store. They have many of the new releases. We have also checked out movies to help my son in basketball.

We always have two pictures hanging on our walls from the library. People are always commenting on our neat pictures. They can't believe that they are from the library. We also love the music selection. The kids enjoy things like cartoon theme music and new pop music. At Christmas we filled our house with the sounds of music from the library, of course.

To sum it all up, we love the library. As a large family on a budget, we have saved so much money by frequenting our local library. I feel the most important card in my wallet is my library card. The library has enriched my family's life every day.

Judy Ford & The Ford Family

The library is where I go to get away from my troubles for a couple of hours. When you leave you are a better person with a wider word vocabulary.

Sara Holt

One day I was in a library and I took out my first book and I loved it it was fun to read it was called my book about me. it had questions about me and I answered them. That's how a library changed my life I started reading all the time.

William Marcum

My first grade teacher helped me learn to love reading. She let a group of us go up to the library when our work was done. The library was special and fun.

Melanie Bush

Our grandchildren love going to the library with us. Our 10-year-old loves reading old newspapers on micro-film — the older the paper the better. He likes looking at the prices of cars, groceries, and clothing. Our four-year-old likes the children's room and picking her own books for grandma and grandpa to read to her. She likes the toys and the other children in the homey children's room. She really likes the librarian, too.

Catherine McCready

I use my library for many things. When I have work to do at school and I don't have any books, I go to my local library to get books. As President Lincoln said, "Anything I want to know I can find in books." That's the way I feel.

Krista H.

I read a lot more books because of the library.

Rob Prichard

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When I was little, I did not want to learn to read, but every day my mom sat me down and read to me. Then when I was in second grade, I went to the library with my class on a field trip. The librarian showed us how to look up books in the card catalog. From then on, every time we went to the library, I always checked out at least one book.

Now that I am older, I check out at least three or four books, and my mom can't keep me out of a library. Through books I travel to many different places, meet many interesting people, and go on many wild adventures.

Megan Wease

Books have always been of value to me. As a young boy growing up, it was a regular sight to see my father or mother reading. From this, came the joy, pleasures, and reward (mental, spiritual, and financial) that result from continuous learning. The library now enables me to read an almost nightly story to my five-year-old daughter while giving her the pleasure of selecting the books she would like.

Robert E.

How A Library Changed My Life! It made me smarter. Every time you open a book and read. It makes you smarter. I go to the library to help me with my homework. It is somewhere that I can have peace and quite.

Angela Erwin

Frequent use of the library is not only helping my four-year-old learn to read, but is also teaching her about life. Before her first trip to the dentist, we read about it in library books. Before I went back to work full-time, we read stories about daycare. And how fortuitous it was that just before my father passed away we had read a touching story about losing a loved one in *Blow Me a Kiss, Miss Lilly*. The story helped both of us.

Linda C. Nemeth

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I like the library because it has books of all kinds. I like to read books of all kinds. I go to the library usually if I have a project to do or I just want to read for fun. I really like the library.

Lindsey Runnels

I really didn't like reading until I started getting books at the library. Books have given me a greater imagination and I'm always wanting to read another book.

Mike

When my son Alex was diagnosed with optic nerve hypoplasia (a visual impairment), no one could imagine the fear and frustration I felt. The library freed me of my fears and empowered me with knowledge that taught me how to teach and grow with my son.

Cindy T.

I learned how to research and write reports at the library. I like to go to the library and read.

Amanda Yackese

Reading has helped me be able to spell better and understand more things. When I need more to read, the library has the books.

Adam G.

Because of my own love of books and the experiences I have observed in the children I have taught, I have become a strong supporter of libraries.

Dr. Suellen Reed

*Indiana Superintendent of
Public Instruction*