

September 2024

# PUBLIC LIBRARIES

## Why Are Public Libraries Important?

The [Pew Research Center](#) noted that Americans ages 16 and older felt that libraries played important roles, specifically “95% say that public libraries are important because they promote literacy and a love of reading; 94% say that having a public library improves the quality of life in a community”. Public Libraries support and serve their communities in multifaceted ways.

[Public Libraries Online](#), list multiple reasons why Libraries are “the most important place in town”, some of which include: helping to revitalize neighborhoods and downtowns, they are partners in sustainability, they preserve historic artifacts and records, are community centers for diverse populations and they are champions of youth (teaching life skills, free tutoring/homework help and help with child development).



Public Libraries not only have vast collections of physical books, but they have online books as well. Did you know, that most Public Libraries also have computers and free Wi-Fi making the internet accessible to everyone?

## Benefits of Reading:

With this month’s health education focusing on Public Libraries, it’s a great time to talk about some of the wonderful benefits of reading!

The [Children’s Bureau](#) noted the following benefits of reading to children:

- Improved language, imagination and creativity
- Supports cognitive development and increased concentration
- Helps in developing a bond between you and your child and helps cultivate a lifelong love of reading!

There are also benefits for teens and young adults. [Young Readers Foundation](#) note some of the following benefits: develop critical thinking skills and better comprehension, improves memory and results at school, builds confidence and helps you socialize.

This month we encourage you to read a new book to your family (no matter their ages) and to find and visit your local Public Library!



### Library Resources

- [Find your local library](#)
- [Libby– The Library Reading App](#) (Borrow ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, and more from your local library for free!)
- [Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library](#)

### Resources

- [Pew Research Center](#)
- [Public Libraries Online](#)
- [Children’s Bureau](#)
- [Young Readers Foundation](#)