

Children's Room Appropriate Use Policy

Purpose

~~The mission of Children's Services is: "To enrich the lives of children and help them develop a love of learning. Children's Services provides access to quality children's materials and makes information and cultural opportunities available to children and people involved in children's lives."~~ The Appleton Public Library welcomes people of all ages to use its facilities and services. In an effort to ensure the safety and well-being of children, ~~ensure use of Children's Services consistent with their mission~~ and maintain an atmosphere of constructive library use, the following policy regarding appropriate use of the Children's Room is adopted.

Policy

1. The materials, services and equipment in the Appleton Public Library Children's room are intended for the use of children, their parents and caregivers, and others needing children's materials and services for some specific purpose. All other patrons are asked to use the adult areas of the library.
2. Appropriate use of the Children's room includes:
 - a. Use by children birth to age 14.
 - b. Use by a parent or caregiver while attending a child in the library. Parents and caregivers should generally be with the child in their care and assisting the child in using library resources.
 - c. Use by a teacher, day care provider, researcher, etc. in developing curricula or other resources related to children's literature or materials.
 - d. Use by a patron over age 14 when materials suitable to the patron's particular needs are not available in the adult areas of the Library.
 - e. Tour groups, visiting librarians, library volunteers, teachers, city officials, trades people, or others visiting the Children's area for business-related purposes.
3. Use of materials and/or computers that are openly available for viewing must be appropriate for all children using the area. Material that is not appropriate includes but may not be limited to sexualized nudity and/or extreme violence toward fantasy characters, human-like characters or recognizable animals. Loud, running violent commentary and/or use of profane language is also not appropriate in Children's Services.
43. Staff is authorized to enforce this policy, and may request that any persons using the children's area inappropriately leave the area.

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