



# CHILDREN’S ROOM USE POLICY

## I. PURPOSE

The Appleton Public Library (“Library”) welcomes people of all ages to use its facilities and services. In an effort to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, and maintain an atmosphere of constructive library use, the following policy regarding appropriate use of the Children’s Room is adopted.

## II. POLICY

1. Intended Use. The materials, services and equipment in the Appleton Public Library Children’s Room are intended for the use of children up to the age of 14, 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.

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2. Appropriate use of the Children’s room includes:

a. Use by children birth to age 14.

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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. Other intended uses include:

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ea. Use by a teacher, day care provider, researcher, etc., in developing curricula or other resources related to children’s literature or materials.

eb. 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.

ec. Tour groups, visiting librarians, library volunteers, teachers, city officials, trades people, or others visiting the Children’s area for business-related purposes.

23. Materials/Computers. ~~Use of materials~~ Materials and/or computers in the Children’s Room that are openly available for viewing by others must be used appropriately for all children using the area, including ensuring that material is only viewable by the intended and consenting person. ~~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.~~

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3. Prohibited Activities. The following activities, in addition to any other activity prohibited by policy, ordinance or statute, are prohibited in the Children’s Room:

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a. Loud, running commentary that is violent, obscene or profane.

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b. Material that depicts sexualized nudity or extreme violence toward people, 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.~~

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4. Enforcement. Staff is authorized to enforce this policy, and may request that any persons using the ~~C~~ehildren's Room~~area~~ inappropriately or not for its intended use leave the ~~area~~Children's Room or the Library pursuant to the ~~Appleton Public~~Library's Security Policy.

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Approved: 04/03\_ ~~re~~Amended: -8/16