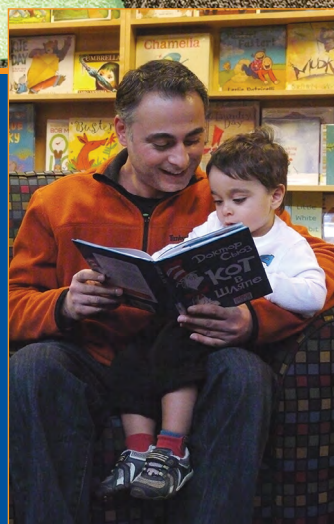


Welcome to the Youth Services Rooms

at the West Bloomfield Township Public Library



The Library is a Family Place

Early experiences lay the **foundation**
for later **success** and lifelong **advantages**

Smart Start

Children begin to learn language and develop social, emotional and motor skills at birth. The Library is a place for children of all ages to learn, starting at birth.



Parents are a child's first teachers

Grandparents and other caregivers are important, too. Family engagement is critical to developing a child's brainpower and academic success.

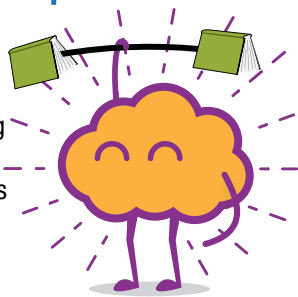


Children learn from their **environment** and **experiences**

These shape a child's brain and capacity to learn.

The Library partners with parents to develop children's brainpower

The Library provides a stimulating environment and interactive learning experiences for children and their parents. Together the Library, parents and other caregivers help children grow up reading and learning.



A child's brain is **92% formed** by age 5

Experiences at the Library help babies' brains grow.



Children learn by **doing** and **playing**

The environment in the youth rooms is based on research about how children learn. Spaces are designed to encourage active exploration and purposeful interaction with parents and caregivers. The environment encourages children to discover, play and learn.

The Library becomes a child's first classroom.



6 Spots with engaging, hands-on learning experiences

- The portal entrance
- LearningScape for Zero to Three
- Puppet stage
- Play areas
- Activity Center
- Touch 'N See boards

Place and Learning Center



The Library is a place for programs

Children can develop literacy skills and learn about science, math, music, art and more during interactive Library programs. Learning opportunities include storytimes, book clubs, playgroups, Summer Reading, concerts, STEAM-related activities and special events like the Library Learning Day.



The Library is a place for play dates

Meet up with other families. Use educational games, toys and play areas to help children develop language skills, learn to cooperate and collaborate, stretch their imaginations, become self-confident, and practice skills like impulse control and self-monitoring.

A place for parents to learn, too

The Library has services and resources parents can use to help their children Grow Up Reading™.

A Parent Teacher Collection at the Main Library provides information to help parents, caregivers and teachers achieve their child-rearing goals. Programs for children and families give parents the chance to socialize and network, learn from each other, and meet early childhood and health care professionals who speak informally on a variety of topics.

The Library has also developed a series of resource materials that parents and other caregivers can use to help children enter school ready to learn how to read and improve reading skills and academic achievement throughout their elementary school years. Ask at the Library for copies.



By the Book

Children can find books and magazines to match their age and interests.

Board Books

Picture Books

Easy Readers, grouped into four reading levels

Fiction and nonfiction books for elementary students

Graphic novels

Magazines

Media, too

DVDs

Music CDs

Educational games

Read-Along kits

Discovery Tablets

The Library is family-focused and activity-centered,
a place **where children can Grow Up Reading™**

Main Library Youth Room



The Library's Youth Rooms offer opportunities for active learning and meaningful interaction between child and adult.

Children – with their parents, grandparents, teachers and other caregivers – use the rooms' interactive environment and learning experiences to develop:

- Language, literacy and communication skills
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) skills
- Problem-solving strategies
- Imagination and creativity
- Social skills like cooperation and collaboration
- Executive function skills like working memory, mental flexibility and self-control
- Motor skills and coordination



The interactive activities in the portal encourage children to explore, experiment and discover. Hands-on stations rotate, so check often for new activities that help develop language, STEAM and motor skills.



Babies and toddlers can manipulate objects to learn about their world and develop motor skills at the LearningScope.



The puppet stage encourages imagination, creativity and role-playing, which help children learn vocabulary, grammar and conversational turn-taking.



Play is an important way young children learn. Children use the play area, along with their imagination and a rotating mix of "real life" objects, for unstructured play that helps them learn how to articulate ideas, express feelings, practice life skills and play with others. This is a great place to meet for play dates.



At the Learning Tree, children can use magnetic letters to practice the names and sounds of the alphabet. Magnets of different shapes can be combined to "tell a story" with a beginning, middle and ending, an important sequencing skill good readers need.



Library programs use books, rhymes, songs, fingerplays, games and dramatic play to help children learn cognitive, motor and social skills.

Use the Activity Center for unstructured creative play when it's not being used for programs.



Recite Mother Goose rhymes while searching for 20 nursery rhymes tiles. Rhymes help children hear the same and different sounds that make up words, an important early literacy skill.



Take the reading experience outdoors and read in a relaxed, casual environment.



Library iPads offer apps for a variety of developmental stages and learning styles. Children can develop STEAM skills, as well as sharpen critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. Each workstation has seating for parent and child, making it easy for parents or caregivers to participate in a child's learning experience.



Spots around the room encourage families to sit and read together. Reading aloud to children is the single most important activity in developing reading readiness skills and a love of reading.



The activity table combines hands-on learning and cooperative play in an interactive, table-sized device.



Children can develop self-reliance and independence by using their own "My First Library Card" to check out materials.



Learn more about child development and how to create an effective learning environment with resources in the Parent/Teacher collection.

Westacres Branch Youth Room



The Activity Center, LearningScape, puppet stage and other features in the Westacres Youth Services Room offer endless opportunities to learn while playing. The Library becomes a classroom where children of all ages can take advantage of developmentally-appropriate activities and educational games that help develop a range of skills.

Parents can promote and reinforce their children's learning experiences at the Library through talking, singing, reading, playing, writing and counting.

While you're in the Youth Room, talk to your child about what he or she is doing and introduce new words. Encourage your child to make predictions, express ideas and feelings, solve problems independently, use imagination and be creative. Read together and let your child choose books to check out.

The hands-on learning experiences and the meaningful interactions with parents or grandparents help prepare children for success in school and life.



The Activity Center offers opportunities for children and caregivers to interact and learn with educational and developmentally-appropriate toys and activities. The LearningScape helps children ages birth to three-years-old learn about concepts and develop gross and fine motor skills. Children can use the puppet stage and dress-up clothing for creative, dramatic play that develops language and social skills.



Children can develop reading, math and critical thinking skills using educational games on iPads.



Hands-on learning activities include a puppet stage to stimulate imagination and creativity, hopscotch tiles to learn colors and numbers while having fun practicing gross motor movements, and activity tables and interactive displays to develop critical thinking skills.



The Touch 'N See board, puzzles and other learning materials help children make observations, learn about cause and effect, make predictions and analyze results. These cognitive skills help children learn about the world and increase background knowledge, as well as vocabulary.

Special Library Programs and Events for Families



The Library's annual Summer Reading and Summer Challenge programs offer something for every interest, age and reading level, including a "Read to Me" program for babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

Reading over the summer helps elementary students maintain important skills acquired during the school year and return to classrooms in the fall better prepared to continue learning.



The Grandparents Day Celebration brings entire families to the Library to enjoy activities and time together.



Character Month features popular characters – like Curious George, Paddington and Amelia Bedelia – from children's literature. Enjoy an interactive storytime featuring books, crafts and games during this month-long family event.



At Library Learning Day, children – along with their parents, grandparents or caregivers – move from one learning activity station to another while having fun and making memories.

Helpful Staff



Knowledgeable youth services staff provide interactive learning experiences, engaging and developmentally-appropriate programs, technology, collections of books and other resources for a variety of reading interests and reading levels, and help finding books for even the most reluctant reader.

Use Library websites and online resources to help children Grow Up Reading™ and excel in school.



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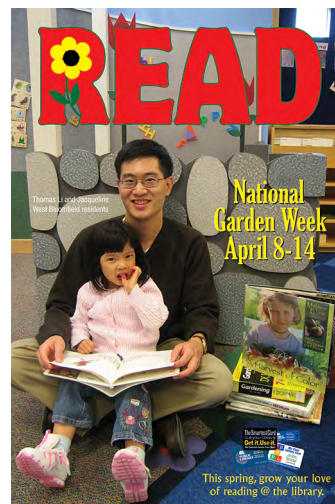
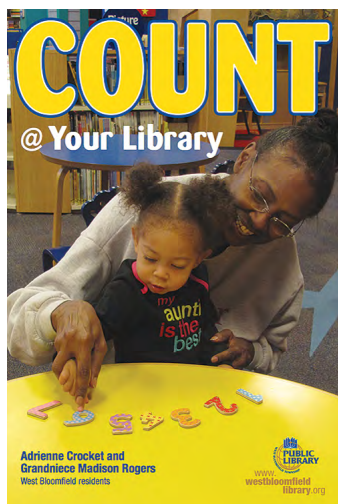
The Library has created a special website for parents, teachers and caregivers who want information, ideas, materials and other resources to use to help nurture young children's growth into proficient learners and readers. Go to www.growupreading.org.



A website for K - 5 students offers homework resources, games, reading suggestions by age and grade, links to websites recommended by youth librarians and the Library's early childhood specialist, information about school reading programs, and the "Ask a librarian" service. Go to www.WB-Buzz.org.



Family Place Libraries™
Building Foundations for Early Learning




WWW.
westbloomfield
library.org



West Bloomfield Township Public Library

Main Library

4600 Walnut Lake Road
 West Bloomfield, Michigan 48323
 Telephone: (248) 232-2250 • Fax: (248) 232-2295
 TDD: (248) 232-2292

Westacres Branch

7321 Commerce Road
 West Bloomfield, Michigan 48324
 Telephone: (248) 363-4022 • Fax: (248) 363-7243

HOURS OF SERVICE:

Monday-Thursday	9 AM – 9 PM
Friday & Saturday	9 AM – 6 PM
Sunday—Main (School Year)	Noon – 8 PM
(Summer)	Noon – 5 PM
Sunday—Westacres (Year round)	Noon – 5 PM

Call a librarian:

Main Library Adult Services Information Desk (248) 232-2290
 Main Library Youth Services Information Desk (248) 232-2250
 Westacres Branch Information Desk (248) 232-2420

Email a question:

Main Library Youth Services wbyouth@wblib.org
 Main Library Adult Services wbref@wblib.org
 Westacres Branch wacref@wblib.org

Text the Library (248) 648-3368

Text the Library catalog find@wblib.org

Renew materials (248) 232-2210
 or www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org and click "My Account"

Mobile catalog m.wblib.org

