Welcome to the
White River Branch
of the
Johnson County Public Library

Social Story for Children

Note to Caregivers:
The purpose of this social story is to help prepare children for a visit to the Johnson County Public Library. Reading this before you visit the library will help your child gain familiarity with the library so they feel comfortable while they visit.
This is my library.

It is the White River Branch of the Johnson County Public Library. I can go to the library to borrow books, movies and more.
This is the entrance to my library.

When I walk into the library, the doors will open automatically.
This is the lobby of my library.

I walk through the lobby to go into the library.
If I need to use the restroom before I go inside the library, the restroom is on the right side of the lobby.

The lights come on automatically when I enter.

There is a restroom in the Children’s Department of the library, too. It is a family restroom and only one family can go inside at a time.
At my library, the books for children are on the left. This is the children’s area.

There are many books in my library. They are neat and organized and all have space on the shelf where they belong. My library has rules. I will talk quietly. I will walk. I will stay with my grown-up.
This is the children’s desk at my library.

This is where the children’s librarians work. The librarian wears a nametag. The librarian is very helpful. I can ask the librarian to help me find a book or movie. The librarian likes answering my questions.
There are many chairs at my library.

When I find a book I like, I can sit in a chair and read it. Sometimes, when there are lots of children here, the children’s area can be noisy and busy. People are talking and playing.
These are toys at my library.

I can visit a quieter space if the library gets too noisy. I can also ask the children’s librarian for the sensory kit. The kit includes an essential oil diffuser, calming essential oil, CD player, CD with calming music, sensory tunnel, pressure mesh vest, eye mask, sensory brush, room divider for privacy, and tips for calming strategies. Noise muffling headphones for adults and children are also available at the desk.
There are some decorations at my library.

My library has colorful kites hanging from the ceiling. There is also a large, green dinosaur. I know that it is just pretend. I can look, but I don’t touch.
My library has computers.

I can use some of the computers to find books and movies at the library. On the children’s computers, I can play games with my grown-up.
This is the program room at my library.

On special days, there are storytimes at the library. When it is time for storytime, this is where I will go. The librarian will read to me and we will sing songs together. Storytime is fun and sometimes it is noisy. Sometimes my library has other programs in this room, too.
I go to the Welcome Desk at my library.

When I am ready to leave the library, I need to bring the items I want to borrow to the Welcome Desk. I will use my library card to check out my items. Sometimes there is a line and I will be patient as we wait our turn.

I can use the self-checkout machine to check out my own things. Every time I scan a book or movie, it will make a beep. The librarian can also check out my books. I will hear lots of beeping sounds at this desk.
This is the book return at my library.

This is where I return my materials at the library. When it is time to return my materials, I will put them carefully in the return slot at the Welcome Desk. There are return slots outside, too. They are near the parking lot and I can return my items here on days when I’m not going inside.
I am ready to go home.

Sometimes when I leave the library, I will hear an alarm beep. It is loud, but I don’t have to worry. It means that someone forgot to check out a book before they left.
I had fun at the library.

I will come back soon when it is time to return the items I checked out and find new books and movies. I hope to visit again soon!