



Belleville Public Library & Information Center

221 Washington Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109
973-450-3434
Bellepl.org

Children's Room Policy

For the safety of our children and the comfort of our patrons, The Belleville Public Library strives to create an inviting, fun, and safe environment for children. The safety and wellbeing of children at the library is a serious concern, therefore we ask that a few simple but important rules be followed.

1. Children under the age of 12 years old may not be left alone in the library and must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible caregiver. The adult must be present with the child at all times.
2. The Children's area of the library is reserved for children, their parents, or responsible adult caregivers, and adults interested in children's literature, such as teachers and college students taking children's literature cases. Adults may use the children's or teen area of the library only when accompanied by a child or teen using those areas. Unaccompanied adults who are retrieving materials for research or check out may not remain in the teen or children's areas to review materials, but instead should take them to other areas of the library to review.
 - a. The library reserves the right to determine who can enter and remain in the children's and teen areas of the library. Unaccompanied adults may be asked by staff to use facilities, services, and/or equipment in the adult section of the library.
3. The library must not be considered an alternative to a daycare. Children cannot be left for hours at the library, even if they are older than age 12.
4. Parents, not library staff, are responsible for their children's behaviors in the library. Children who are disruptive will be given one warning and then asked to leave.
5. All programs are free and open to the public. While some programs are open to all ages, others are appropriate for specific ages, audience size and age limits are set due to a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, program content, developmental needs, maturity level, mode of presentation, performer stipulation, safety or room capacity. A parent or caregiver is required to remain with a child or children under 12 years of age during any program. Adults not accompanied by a child or teen are not allowed in youth programs, even if the program is taking place outside of the designated children's or teen areas. Adults who are required to observe youth programs as part of their degree's educational requirements or for other learning and development opportunities may be allowed, at the discretion of the director or designee, to attend after furnishing the application credentials and/or supporting documentation and providing advance notification to the library.

We thank you for your cooperation.