



Our visit to the Betty J. Johnson North Sarasota Public Library

A Social Experience Story

Betty J. Johnson North
Sarasota Public Library

2801 Newtown Blvd.,
Sarasota, FL 34234

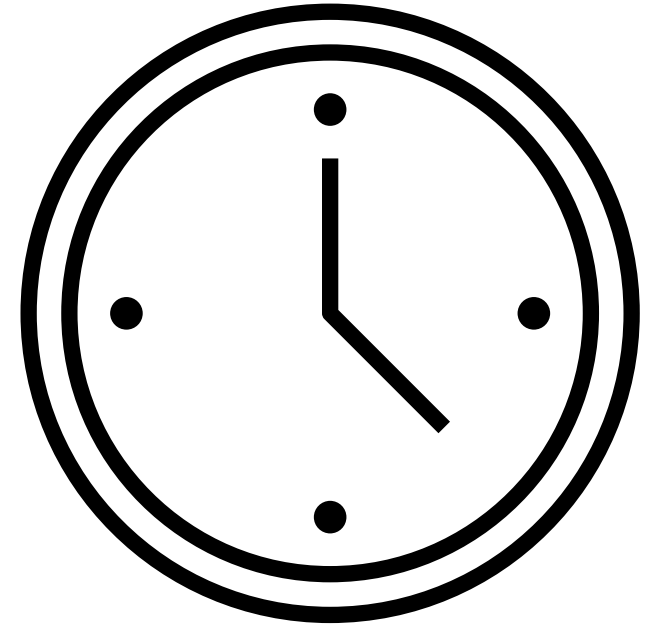
941-861-1377



FIND  **YOURSELF**
AT THE **LIBRARY**

When is the library open?

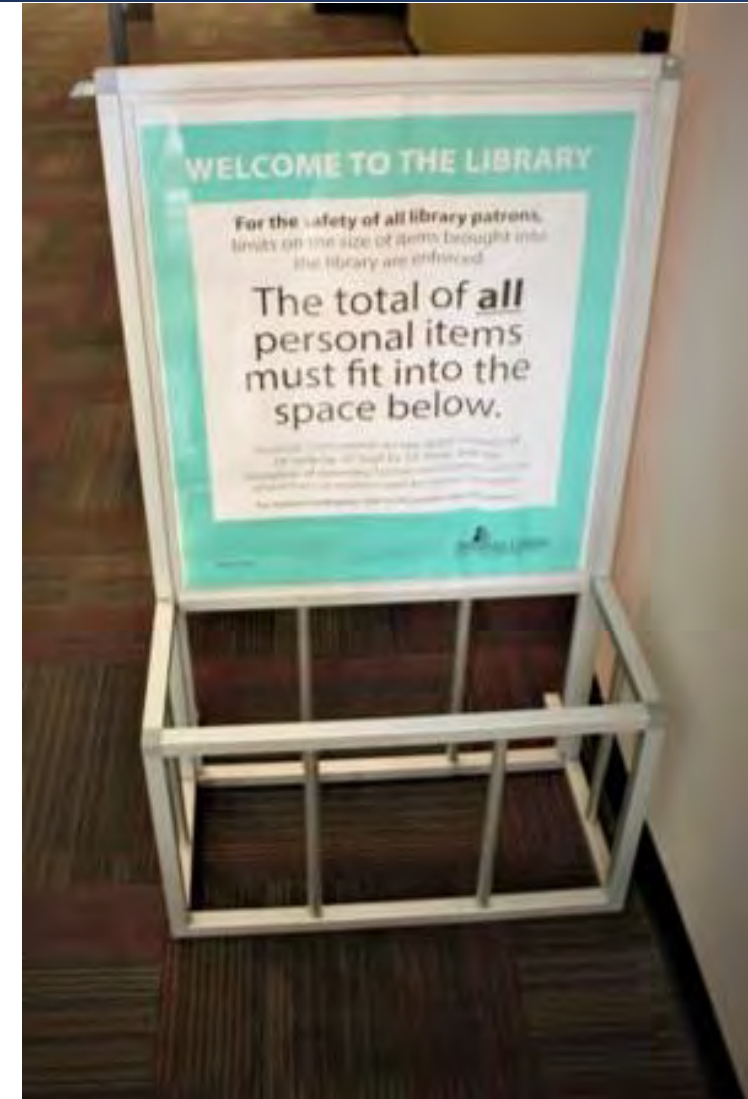
- Monday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Tuesday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Wednesday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



- *Computers shut down 15 minutes before the library closes.

My library has rules

- I will walk calmly in the library.
- I will use a quiet voice.
- I don't eat inside the library, but I can bring a water bottle or a drink with a lid.
- I keep all my personal items with me while I'm in the library.
- I use social distancing at the library to stay safe. I may wear a mask if I want to.



There are two doors I can use to enter the library. These doors are automatic.



I can get a library card and check out books at the circulation desk.

I can bring a photo ID and proof of a Sarasota County address to get a library card. (If I have a Manatee County library card, I can bring it with me and sign up.)

If I am younger than 18, a parent or trusted adult can help me get my own card.

I can use my library card to take most library materials home for 2, 3 or 4 weeks. Some library materials need to stay in the library, and I may use them while I'm here.



There is a self-checkout station I can use if I want to.



I can search for my favorite things.

- I may ask friendly staff for help finding things. Library staff wear blue name tags.
- I may use the catalog computer to find what I want.



When I'm done with library materials

If I look at materials and decide not to check them out, I can leave them on a table.



I will see book displays at the library.

Sometimes there are book displays in the library. I may check these books out too.



I can also find DVDs, music CDs, audiobook CDs, books with Large Print, and puzzles at the library.





The library has special collections. There is an African American Cultural Resource Center. There are books for Spanish speakers too.

The library has magazines and newspapers.

I may look at the newspapers and this month's magazines in the library.

I may check out older issues of my favorite magazines with my library card.



The library may have noise and bright lights.

This library has a very open design. Sometimes it is quiet and sometimes it might be a bit noisy! That's okay, there may be a quiet room available for me if the noises in the big space are bothering me. I will ask the staff for help. I might hear noise from the roof if it is raining or if the AC is running.



The fluorescent lights might be bright in some areas. That's okay, maybe I can sit close to the windows where the natural light comes in if the overhead light is too bright for me.

There are places to sit and read, study, or use a laptop.

I can bring my own headphones if I want to listen to my phone or laptop.



The library has study rooms if I need a quiet place to work or study.

I can sign up at the Circulation Desk to use a Study Room.



There are computers for adults, teens and children.

- I can use a computer with my library card or ask for a guest pass. Sometimes I may have to wait for a turn.
- Right now, some computers are turned off so we can allow for social distancing.
- These are the computers for adults.
- The computers shut down 15 minutes before the library closes.



Library computers don't have speakers. I can bring my own headphones to use on the computers if I need sound.

The library has helpful tools for people with disabilities.

- The library has helpful tools for people with disabilities. This computer has JAWS, a program that can read out loud to the person using the computer. It has magnification software to make things bigger too.
- There are other tools that can read aloud from print materials and magnify things too!
- The meeting room has a hearing loop to help people who are hard of hearing.



The Teen Zone has library materials and computers for young adults ages 13-18.



The Kids' Zone has books and materials for children ages 0-12.



I can see the library alligator! It's not real, so it won't bite!



The Kids' Zone has computers for children under 12. I can also find friendly staff and cozy reading spots.



The library has a Reading Garden. I can ask a staff member to let me in to the garden.



I can put library books and materials on hold online or by phone.

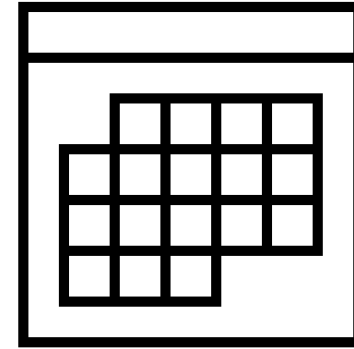
I can pick them up inside from the hold shelf or call to make a curbside pickup appointment.



I can return my materials when due, or ask for more time.

When my books and materials are due, I can return library books and materials through the book drops. There is a book drop outside and one inside.

Sometimes I can renew library materials to get more time. To renew, I can use the library website or app, call the library, or ask library staff to help me.



I can go to the restroom and find water fountains in the front lobby and in the Kids' Zone.

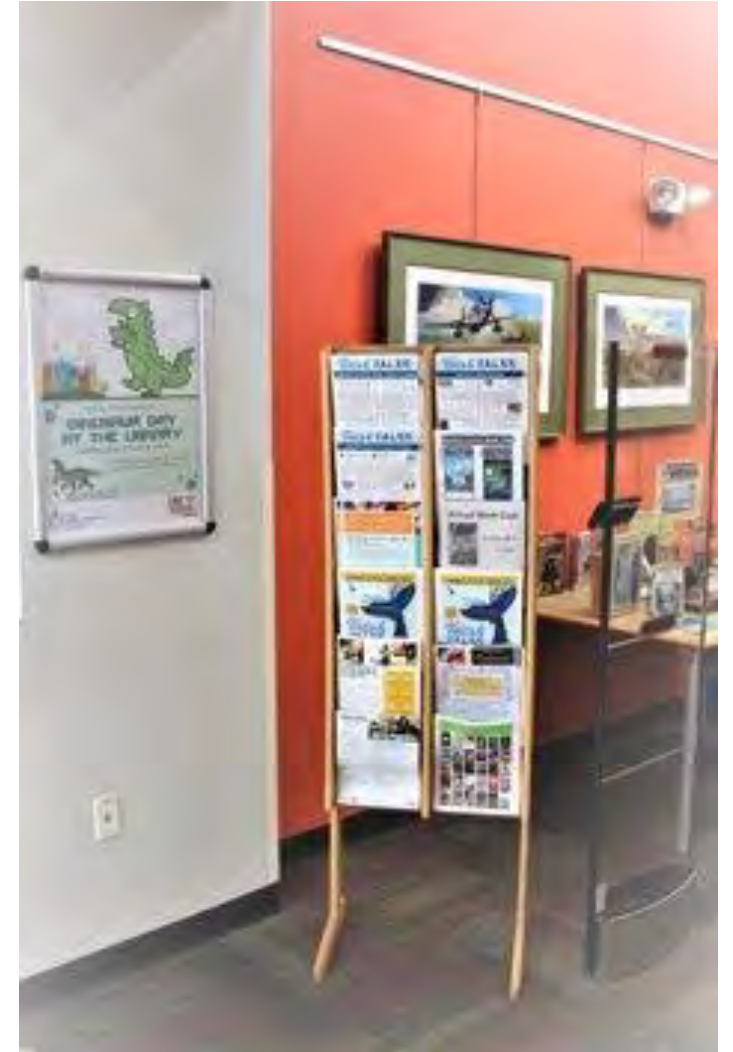
- The restrooms have accessible stalls.
- All of the toilets have automatic flushers and they are loud. That's ok, I may wear my headphones or cover my ears with my hands if the toilet flushes are too loud for me.
- The single stall restroom in the Kids' Zone is for families and all genders. There is a changing station here.



The library has meeting rooms for library programs and group meetings.



- There are flyers I can take to learn about library programs.
- I can also ask any staff member or look online to find out about programs.
- The library sometimes has virtual programs and to-go kits.
- Some programs might require registration. I can look at the flyer or ask staff to see if I should register.



Some doors in the library are Emergency exits.



Staff will tell me if there
if there is an emergency
and if I need to use
these doors.
I will be careful not to
open them without
permission, it might
sound a loud alarm.



There are security gates in the front of the library.

Sometimes the gates beep loudly if someone forgets to check items out. That's okay, staff can help make sure everything is checked out properly.



If I follow the rules I can come to the library as many times as I want!

