

Devon Libraries

Services for childminders

Factsheet 30

Devon Libraries can offer childminders a wide range of resources for loan, and our members of staff are happy to provide help and advice.

There is a **special membership ticket for childminders**. It entitles you to borrow 20 books for up to 3 weeks, with no overdue charges on children's books. There are also free reservations on children's books.

You can borrow:

- Board books
- Tactile or touch and feel books
- Picture books
- Collections of action rhymes and poems
- Traditional tales
- Simple illustrated information books
- Stories in dual or other languages
- CDs featuring stories, songs or nursery rhymes.
- Books for special situations such as starting school, new baby etc
- Resources to help children with sight or hearing impairments

You will also have access to:

- Large format books which are excellent for using with a group
- Storysacks, each containing a book, props and sometimes an activity

Visiting the library

You might like to bring your children into the library for a visit, and there may be special events – just ask or look online.

The children you look after can also join the library, with their parent's agreement. They will have their own special under fives membership card featuring a beautiful John Prater bear illustration.

There are no overdue charges on children's books borrowed by under fives on their own tickets.

Just like adults, they can borrow up to 12 books at a time for up to 3 weeks, and they can usually be renewed by phone, online or in the library.

Benefits

It's never too soon to start sharing books with young children, and it has many advantages:

- Improves their language development
- Stimulates their imagination
- Helps them develop concentration
- Is a good preparation for school
- Helps children read sooner
- Helps them build relationships
- Shows that it is an important way to spend time

Books to help you

Libraries have books on childcare and child development which you may find helpful. These can be found in the adult section.

Bookstart packs

All children are entitled to these free packs:

- Baby pack at 9-12 months, given out by health visitors
- Plus pack at 2 – 2 ½ years, again given out by health visitors
- Treasure Chest pack at 3 - 4 years, distributed through pre-school settings

If any children in your care have missed receiving a pack through the normal channels you are welcome to enquire in your library.

Contact details

Address: Devon Libraries
Headquarters
Great Moor House
Bittern Road
Sowton
Exeter
EX2 7NL

Phone: 01392 384315

Fax: 01392 384316

Email: devlibs@devon.gov.uk

Different formats

If you would like a summary of this in a different format such as large print, Braille or tape, or in a different language, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 0845 155 1015 or email customer@devon.gov.uk

Last updated October 2010