

## Caring for your library books.



Books are the best inventions because they are small enough that you can take them anywhere and they are the best way of telling the world about new facts. However they are vulnerable to damage and must be taken care of when handling. Here are some tips on how to best look after the books that you have borrowed from the library or that you have at home.

- Keep books out of strong lights. If you leave a book on the window sill in your bedroom you will notice that the pages will have turned a dark yellow/orange colour this is because of the strong sunlight.
- If you leave a book in a really hot and dry room the pages will start to fall out because the paper has become very weak.
- If you leave a book in really damp place the book will start to go mouldy and things might even grow on it!
- This tip is will be your librarian's favourite. It is extremely important that books are left standing upright on shelves otherwise the book might become deformed at the spine and the cover may come loose. Remember to put books back correctly on the shelves.
- When you put a book into your schoolbag it is a really good idea to keep it in a plastic bag or a polly pocket. Protecting it this way will mean that the book will not get dirty or damaged.
- When handling the books in your library you should make sure that your hands are clean. Nobody wants to read a dirty grubby book.
- When reading the books in your library do not place them flat on the table as you will break the spine and pages may start to fall out.

Finally, enjoy all the books in your library but remember to take care of them so others can enjoy them too.