

Book Care Guide

Book care is very important, especially for books that belong to a library. Make sure to take care of library books so that they are around a long time for hundreds of readers, like you, to enjoy. Read through this guide to learn (or to refresh your mind!) about how to take care of a book so it can be loved for a while.

It is important to remember how to take care of a book. It is even more important to remember to actively take care of a book.

Although taking care of personal books is good, it is really good to take care of books that are not your own, like a library book or a book borrowed from a friend.

One wouldn't want to walk around with dirt—stained clothes. Likewise, a book doesn't want to walk around with dirt—stained pages. Taking care of a book is like taking care of one's own body. Handle it with care so that it is around for along, long time.

Handle with Care: handle a book with care, no matter the age of it. Some books are really old, so be careful with those! But there are also books that are on the new side, but have been loved by many readers before you. Regardless of the age of the book, always take caution when caring for one so that it can be around for a long time!

No Food or Drink, please! When reading a book, try to keep it away from food and drink. No one likes crumbs down their shirt — a book doesn't like crumbs in it's pages! Keeping drinks away from books help to prevent accidental spills. Much like how you don't like wet socks, a book doesn't like wet pages!

No Sticky , wet or dirty hands! It is good practice to wash and dry your hands before picking up that great read. Having clean hands help keep books clean.

Keep your book in a safe place: Have little brothers or sisters that like to touch everything? Or maybe you just got a new puppy that likes to chew on everything. Keep your books away from grabby little hands and slobbery mouths! Keep your book high enough for you to reach it easily, but out of reach of anyone shorter than you. Don't be afraid to ask a parent/guardian to keep your

book on a high shelf for you when you aren't reading. Or keep your books in a dresser drawer or a bed-side table drawer when not being read.

Use bookmarks! Dog ears are for dogs, not books! Using a bookmark safely marks your page as well as keeps the pages fold-free!

Do not repair books by yourself! The library has special tape and glue that has to be used to repair books . Regular tape and Elmer's glue will not do!

If something happens to a library book in your care contact the library! Accidents happen and things get misplaced, but contact your library when these things happen so we can take care of it!

Don't fold over the covers or pages of the book: Some readers like to fold their book so that they can easily handle it with one hand. But with library books, it isn't a good idea. Folding over the pages breaks down the spine and eventually pages will start to pull out. Prop the book covers up instead to minimize the opening angle of the book.

Ask for a library bag for your library books: the library has some neat bags that you can use to keep your library books separate from your school books and your personal books. It also keeps them safe from the weather and makes for easy travel!