

Making Space for Young Adults in Public Libraries [name removed] Public Library

Staff Video

Narrator: Okay, this is the teen librarian, [name removed], doing a video of what the teen room looks like. Right now I'm just scanning our shelves. As you can see, we have a pretty good collection of teen books for this size of library. I served on a reading committee this past three years and was able to get a lot of copies of the new teen fiction books for free, which really increased our size of the collection quite a bit. We also have a manga collection, which is very popular with the teens. We have several series that we try to keep on standing order so that we have all of them. The manga collection is [1:01] especially popular with our teen boys.

We use the wall here kind of as a bulletin board for different teen events going on. Right now, we have all our programs for the teen summer reading program, flyers for them in this space. We also have two tables that are used quite frequently by the teens, and we have some what we thought were really cool S-chairs. We got these about six years ago when the library expanded. They've turned out to be not so cool, as the teens tend to stack them and use them as a climbing...

Also we have these cubes, which they also tend to stack and climb on, so that didn't work out quite as well as we thought. We have a sign-up here, "[name removed] Teen Room." [name removed] is one of the local grocery stores, and they made a sizable donation to the library, and we use that money to purchase teen computers and video gaming equipment to use with teen programs.

Outside of the teen room, on this wall, are the computers. We have eight Internet-enabled computers that are used by the teens when they come to the library. These are dedicated to the teens. They're relatively new computers running on Windows 7. During the summer and school year, these computers are usually busy most of the time. You can also see the wall to the teen room is glass, and I use this space to post the most posters about [3:01] upcoming teen programs, because when the kids are sitting on the computers, this is one way. They usually look up and see what's going on, so I use it as a big advertising place. We also have a couple of tables outside of the teen room, here, that overflow crowd from the teen room will come and sit on.

I'm going back into the teen room. We do not hold any programs in this space. We do have a large meeting room in the back, and that's where we have our programs. We also have a storage back there that keeps our gaming equipment. We have a projector for projecting games on the big board, and we have four small TV's on AV carts that have other games that the kids can play. And that about sums up what our teen room looks like. The next video that you'll be looking at is one created by one of our teens who [4:02] comes to most programs. Thank you very much! 'Bye.

[End of Staff Video]

Youth Video

Narrator: This is the [name removed] Library teen room. As you can see, we have a large collection of books for this size of teen room. . . . We'll come over here. And we have two reading tables. . . . We have manga collection, and it's very popular by the teen boys. They think they're just so awesome, and we try to keep them to keep coming so they can read them all.

Over here, we have the teen message board. It's kind of like a bulletin board where we [57:3] can post teen events that are going on that they want to do. Right now we have our summer reading program; that's what these are. We kind of use it as a message board.

Then we'll come over here and we'll have our teen magazine section. There's not very many, but we're going to add on. These are all the other books.

Then we have our [name removed] Teen Room sign. Grocery stores have contributed a lot of money to help this be possible, and as we've done that, there is... we've used some of the money to buy teen computers. We can use it for the Internet, Microsoft Word; they can do projects, whatever they need to use it for.

We'll come back in the teen room, and we have reading. We have this little relax center that they can go to. We thought these chairs were pretty cool, but they're really hard to [2:03] stack, kind of. And then I don't know what the blocks in the middle are used for, but, yeah, and so this is our rest of our collection of books. Right here we have the young adult fiction. Over here, all of this is young adult fiction. The teen room is for ages 13-17.

Coming over here, coming over here, this is still all fiction, all fiction. Then we have a great view. Oh, that's pretty cool. And then over here, we have more manga books. Up [2:58] here we kind of advertise for some of the fiction books. They're all young adult.

[Pauses]

And this is the [name removed] Library Teen Room.

[End of Youth Video]