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

Staff Video
Narrator: Hi, I'm [name removed], the teen librarian here at [name removed], and this is the entrance to our teen room. This is a room that we have especially for teens 13 to 19 years old. We have computers that they can use. It's a typical busy day, so I only have teens here, even though it's a school day, using the computers.

We also have a collection of fiction books that they can come in and check out. All of the newer and more popular books are out on the shelves, but we also have closed stacks where we have additional materials. We have a graphic novel shelf that is available for teens to check out, and we have paperbacks that are popular in series books that also circulate well. [0:59]

We also have media such as audio books and Playaways that circulate very well. Actually the Playaways tend to do a little bit better than the books on CDs, and we no longer have books on cassette, although that… we used to. [1:22]

We have magazines that cover everything from sports and fashion and comics and everything in between.

There's also a study room that we keep closed unless someone needs to reserve it, and if so, they can. [1:43]

And we have a private place that will seat a group of up to six, and we have a gaming room. And in our gaming room we have a wide-screen TV with Xbox, DVDs, [1:58] some comfortable chairs that we open after school or during gaming sessions.

We do have a collection of nonfiction books, but we keep them in a specific place outside the room, just outside the door, so we have more spaces for our fiction and magazines and computers. [2:24]

 We've pulled our nonfiction books out of the adult collection, so the teen collection of nonfiction materials is all by itself away from the children's and away from the adults'.

And so that is our teen collection. Let us know if you have any questions, thanks. [2:45]

[End of Staff Video]

Youth Video

Narrator: Here I am entering the [name removed] Public Library's children's area. In here you'll find books for kids ages 9 to 12, and over here, books and activities for babies and preschool and ages 4 to 8. [0:24]

If we come over here, we're into the teenage area...which has computers, books, a study room,...and a gaming room. [0:50] This wall right here is specifically for anime books. [1:03]

Over here are our fiction books. Here's some more fiction books. Up here are featured books of the month. [1:21]

Down here we have audio books and magazines. There are many places to sit in the… in this library, and we have eight computers for the children to use. In here, people mainly get on the computers and play games or get on Facebook, but some people actually like to come in here and do their homework or read or study. [1:56]

There are also various books on the wall, which are free for the users of the library to pick out and take home. [2:12]

I would… I think, personally, I would add to the library a TV that was on all the time instead of it being off, because some people just want to watch TV, and it's a very big feature, but we could have wireless headphones so you don't disturb others who are studying or using the computer. [2:40]

But I would take away the audio books because I honestly don't think that anyone does listen to audio books anymore, or it's very unpopular. I would, however, add a wider variety of fiction books, because they're personally my favorite. [3:07]

That is my impression of the [name removed] Public Library's teen area. [3:16]

[End of Youth Video]