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Do you ever need peace and quiet? How about a place to study or a place that is accessible and has lots of great resources to use in person or online? Or maybe you are looking for a place where you can sign up for educational activities for free! Well, to get all those things and more, all you need to do is stop by your local library.

Every week, my family and I go to the library for different activities. My little sister attends classes at the library and learns about reading, she does crafts, and plays educational games. I go to the library to have a quiet place to read and do my homework. On the weekends we go together as a family and find movies and books to enjoy. The library gives people all of this and more. Libraries are great because they are educational, they offer free resources, they are a place to relax and unwind, and they promote family time for all ages.

Libraries are amazing educational spaces. Libraries are educational because they can offer you media resources, books of all kinds such as: magazines, audio books and just regular hardcover books. Another thing I would like to add on is they also have educational activities and clubs. Some educational activities my local library offers are STEMonade stand group, Brain Bytes with math puzzles to solve, or the Hovercraft construction activity. Overall, libraries offer great educational resources to community members in the area.

Also, libraries are important because they are free and accessible. All of the library's resources are free to anyone. For example, no one has to pay for getting books and other reading materials like using a computer for studying, researching on the internet, or doing educational activities that are offered. The only thing you may pay for in a library is to use the printer, but it only costs a little bit of money. Libraries are also very accessible. For instance, libraries are for anyone in the community. They have family activities, educational activities, and anyone of all ages can borrow the books, movies, and videos. Since these resources are all available in your community and are free, they especially help people who sometimes cannot afford these resources and supplies. So, if a person needs those materials they know where to borrow them from and it's free and people can find them nearby.

Furthermore, libraries are important because they promote family time for all ages. For example, the library offers family activities like The Family Engineering Night where from ages 1 and up can participate. This means a little sister or brother, parents or even grandparents can attend too if they want. Another example I have is the mother-daughter or guy's reads book clubs that create family bonding time. The reading occurs at home so you can snuggle up in your favorite reading spot and do family reading time. The meetings can be online or in-person at the library. It's educational and counted as family bonding time. Even I signed up for it and my mom and I read the books together at home and attend the book talk meetings. My dad and my sister play or

read in the library together while my mom and I are at our book club. It's so much fun! These are just several examples of family activities for all ages and it is also something to do on a rainy or cold day with the family when we can't play outside.

Moreover, libraries are important because they offer a great space to relax and unwind your mind. For example, libraries are a really quiet place. They have comfortable seating such as bean bag chairs, mini couches, bouncy ball chairs, little kiddie chairs for younger kids, and even rocking chairs. People can pick their comfortable spot and can read, do their homework, or just sit and relax. Another thing libraries provide for relaxation and silence is a quiet studying room where you can study in silence or as a small group and not disturb anyone else. Libraries also have computer rooms where people can use one of the library's computers to print or do homework and it is super quiet, so you don't have to listen to loud noises when you work. Most libraries also have outdoor spaces that include benches, tables and sun-shades. So, when it is a nice day in the summer or spring or anytime it is nice outside and you don't want to spend it indoors, you can have a nice space outside to do your work and get some fresh air all at the same time!

In conclusion, libraries are resourceful, free, accessible, educational, and used for quiet work time. In this essay, I wrote about libraries because they are wonderful places that have always included everyone in their free activities, and they were always open for feedback to help people in the community. They also always have free resources that are shared. So, I thought I'd bring attention to how wonderful libraries are, because imagine if we had no access to libraries! How would we get our books and where would we get all those good resources like reading materials, computers, audiobooks and so much more? Overall, libraries are useful resources that can be used in person or online and available to anyone in the community. We are so lucky to have libraries in our life!

Author's Note:

Amelia Fullerton is a 9-year-old writer who has published several stories, one about her sister and a narrative writing piece based on her life. She has always loved reading and writing from a young age and enjoys spending most of her time in the library with her nose in a book. That is how she got inspired to write this opinion essay on libraries. Her mom has written many articles and a book, so Amelia has learned a lot from her mom. Amelia also has a little sister. She currently lives in Morton Grove, Illinois and attends Park View Elementary School.