



Parent and Caregiver Guide to Helping Your Child Use the Library

Geauga County Public Library includes materials in our collections to meet the needs of all the people in the communities we serve. We have an obligation to have something for everyone in our collections. We also understand that every family is different and what is helpful for some patrons may not be useful for others.

It is the parent or caregiver's right to discuss with your child what is and is not appropriate for them to read, view, and listen to, in keeping with your family's values and interests. We encourage you to browse the library's collection together and/or to monitor and discuss the selections your child makes.

Our librarians are here to provide wonderful customer service and to help you find materials for you and your family. Information about using our library collections is provided below for those who would prefer to browse without staff assistance.

Juvenile Collections

The collections at our libraries are organized by age group to provide patrons an easy way to browse materials. From there, items in the collection are separated by format.

Our library uses spine label stickers to separate items into different reading levels.

Materials designed for our youngest patrons, aged birth to five years, have the following labels:

- BB – Board books
- JE – Picture books

Materials for early readers have the spine label "JER." Those stickers are further divided into the following categories:

- Blue Label – for the Pre-Emergent Reader with few words, larger print, and larger images.
- Green Label – for the Emergent Reader with more text on each page and support from images.
- Purple Label – for the Early Fluent Reader with longer words and more challenging story structures.
- Orange Label – for the Fluent Reader.

Chapter books, non-fiction, and other juvenile materials are marked with either a large red “J” sticker on the spine or have a “J” at the beginning of the call number.

Children’s non-fiction materials are divided into two sections: discovery and non-fiction. Discovery books have a green circle sticker on the label near the call number. These non-fiction books are written for younger readers.

Graphic novels in the juvenile collection have a yellow graphic novel spine label.

DVDs and Blu-Rays

Juvenile movies have a “J” sticker on the spine label.

Family movies are rated G or PG with a “soft” subject matter. If any movie in a series is considered for ages 8+, the whole series will be in the adult section.

Teen Collections

Items in the Teen (or Young Adult) collections contain materials for middle school and high school teenagers, generally between the ages of 12 and 18.

Teen fiction materials have “YA” on the spine label. Non-fiction teen materials have a “Y” in front of the call number.

These materials may contain topics and themes reflecting the experiences of a more mature audience.

Adult Collections

Items in the adult collections are intended for ages 18+. Adult items include fiction, graphic novels with a red spine label, non-fiction, DVDs, audiobooks, and Playaways. These materials often do not have a prefix or spine label to indicate the audience.

Your Child’s Library Account

As a parent or guardian, you decide what works best for your family. Each member of the family can have their own library card, or all family members can use one card. If you would like multiple family members to use one library account, let our Circulation staff know. They will put a note on your card that easily permits family members to check out materials on the card.

You can access your juvenile child’s library card online using the library card number (or username) and the account PIN. If you need to update your PIN, our employees can help with that. You can access our catalog at https://search.clevnet.org/client/en_US/qc-ac/.

Reading Recommendations

We are here to help you navigate the library's collections so you can find something that matches your child's reading level and interests.

You may visit or call one of our libraries to receive personalized recommendations for you or your family.

Additional Resources

In addition to the library staff, you can use the following resources to find reading recommendations.

- **NoveList K-8 Plus:** An online resource provided by the library to find books by topic, genre, and similar titles or authors: [NoveList K-8 Plus](#)
- **Common Sense Media** is a non-profit organization which rates and reviews movies, books, podcasts, and more. The library is not affiliated with Common Sense Media, but recommend the website for parents who are interested in media ratings based on age appropriateness: [commonsensemedia.org](https://www.commonsensemedia.org)
- If the library does not own an item and you would like us to purchase it, please fill out the [Purchase Request Form](#).

Questions?

We're here to help you utilize the library for your needs. Stop by any of our libraries to speak with the staff or call the Administrative Center office at 440-286-6811.