

## **Children's Library**

### **Aspirations**

Age appropriate programming areas  
Open Space for learning through play  
Teens with a "space of their own"  
Flexible spaces that can be "owned" & transformed  
Browseable, Child-Friendly shelving

### **Current Challenges**

Lacks natural light  
Moisture, mold issues  
No lines of sight for safety  
Not enough shelving  
Inadequate staff space  
Lack of quiet study areas

**On 11/11/16**, Youth Services Librarian Tricia Allen met with 27 Middlebury Union Middle School students over the course of 2 lunches to discuss the Ilsley Public Library. She presented the Aspirations and Current Challenges for the Children's Library and got the following feedback:

- Teens DO want a "space of their own" where they have their own rules, not children's room rules or adult space rules
- Don't notice lack of natural light, but corners are "dark and scary"
- Want More Chairs/Fun Chairs
- More nooks for reading (Very popular sentiment)
- Want a sitting room/reading room – QUIET (Also very popular sentiment)
- Better signage for different sections ie, elementary, middle school and high school collections
- Separate space for loud gaming/computers
- Computer set aside for quiet work
- Windows for reading
- More color
- Cozy
- Fast internet available on ALL computers
- Don't mess with the garden or parking

**On 11/14/16**, Youth Services Librarian Tricia Allen met with 14 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at Mary Hogan Elementary School during lunch to discuss the Ilsley Public Library. She presented the Aspirations and Current Challenges for the Children's Library and got the following feedback:

- Separation of ages – space apart from “young kids”
- New/Better bathrooms – current are “gross”
- Quiet reading section/space (brought up multiple times/multiple ways)
- Separate space for computers/loud use of computers
- Classroom space with computers for teaching/learning opportunities
- Don't want to have to use adult services – uncomfortable in “their” space
- Food friendly area!
- Older-kid crafting/making space (current craft area is too young)
- Better lighting – youth area past fish tank is dark/sad
- More books/shelving
- KEEP: DCF racks/new book collection (more space to pull out smaller collections)
- Get a pool table (told the students that the Teen Center has a pool table, so this is unlikely)

**On 11/16/16**, Youth Services Librarian Tricia Allen met with 18 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students followed by 18 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Mary Hogan Elementary School during lunch to discuss the Ilsley Public Library. She presented the Aspirations and Current Challenges for the Children's Library and got the following feedback:

- Update the murals/walls/decorations
- Separate spaces for PreK, Elementary, Teens (brought up multiple times/multiple ways)
- More/better bathrooms and water fountains
- Room for More Books (brought up multiple times/multiple ways)
- Space/table for older kid crafts/maker space (brought up multiple times/multiple ways)
- More open spaces
- Quiet Reading Space (brought up multiple times/multiple ways)
- Room to get away from parents
- Separate spaces for ages still accessible by other ages
- More windows
- Food-friendly space
- Keep the fish tank/library pets

- Keep the bathtub/stuffed animals
- Different types of seating – bean bags, couches, bucket chairs
- More self-checks
- Table for group meetings/study sessions
- More computers for different uses
- Kindle station
- More display space
- Accessible outdoor space (treehouse)