



AUGUST 2022 LIBRARY REPORT

STATS (July)

9371 items were borrowed in July, including:

- **3865 books for children & teens.** Over 800 were books for Beginning Readers.

Let's just stop right here and think about this for a minute.

In one month alone, at a time when school libraries are closed, Smithers kids and teens borrowed over 3,800 books from their public library, 800 of which were for kids just learning how to read.

3865 books, at an average price of \$22.00, comes to **\$85,030.00** worth of materials that local families accessed for a nominal fee through their property taxes. That's not counting the 5,506 other items borrowed that month: kids' Technology Kits, magazines, DVDs, books on CD, eBooks/eAudiobooks, plus all of the items borrowed by adults.

In July, an average of **66 items** -- or roughly **\$1,452.00** worth of materials -- was checked out per hour.

There's a lot more happening at the library than kids' books being checked out – free programs for children and adults, computer tutoring, WiFi and public computer access -- but even if lending books to kids that was all we did, funding your local public library would be making a strong investment in the future of your community.

CBC Daybreak North interviewed the director about our experience with the **homeless encampment** beside the library. She reported that overall it has been a positive experience for library staff and seems to be beneficial for our neighbours in the camp. The **BC Library Trustees Association** has asked Wendy to speak to their members on this topic in 2023.

The library's **bookkeeper** has moved on. We are exploring our options.

LEGO Time continues Thursdays from 2:00-4:00.

The **Summer Reading Club** (SRC) wrapped up with a medal ceremony and party on August 12. It's been wonderful to have so many kids trooping through the library again with their arms full of books and a great time was had by all. Thanks to our **summer student Sarah Fillier** for developing and leading this year's SRC, to **Library VolunTeen Soleil** for helping out, and to all of the local businesses who donated prizes and snacks for this year's program.



Lining up for a piece of this beautiful cake from Safeway



Craft station



I heard there were more books under here...