

What is a toy library?

Play is important for all children and toys help children to play and learn. At a toy library you can borrow toys, games and puzzles cheaply.



Toy libraries are like public libraries; if you join you can borrow toys for a set time and then you return them. But you do pay money to join a toy library. The fee to join can **vary** from library to library. Usually there is a **limit** to how many toys you can borrow at each visit. Most of the toys are **suitable** for pre-school children.

Good toys are expensive and children quickly become bored with them. If you belong to a toy library you can save money but still give your children new toys to play with every week or two.

Toy libraries are not all exactly the same but they do have some things **in common**.

- They have good quality, educational toys.
- They are not expensive.
- The toys are mostly for pre-school children.
- They have a wide range of toys.



Vocabulary

vary – If things vary, they are different from each other.

limit – A limit is the biggest or smallest amount of something.

suitable – Something that is suitable is good or right.

in common – If things or people, have something in common they have something that is the same.

Questions

1. Is it free to join a toy library? _____
2. What can you borrow at a toy library? _____
3. What can you borrow at a public library? _____
4. What are three things that all toy libraries have in common?

5. What varies from library to library? _____



Verbs in the Past Tense

Most verbs in English end in 'ed' in the past tense.

Yesterday I visited my friend.

Finish the sentences. Use the past tense verbs in the box.

borrowed	joined	played	decided
walked	liked	returned	

1. Last week Anne _____ to join the Toy Library.
2. She put her son Jack in the buggy and _____ to the Shopping Centre.
3. Anne _____ the Toy Library. It cost her \$40.00.
4. She _____ five toys for Jack to play with.
5. Jack _____ the toys. He _____ with them for two weeks.
6. After two weeks Anne _____ the toys to the Toy Library.



Some of the most common verbs in English **do not** end in 'ed' in the past. They are called 'irregular verbs'.

Finish the sentences. Use the irregular past tense verbs in the box.

gave	found	paid
made	cost	broke
lost	took	went

1. It _____ Anne \$40.00 to join the Toy Library.
2. She _____ five toys home.
3. Jack _____ a mess with the toys.
4. He _____ a piece of the jigsaw puzzle.
5. He _____ the wheel off the truck.
6. Anne _____ the piece of puzzle under the sofa.
7. She _____ back to the Toy Library, _____ the toys back and _____ for the broken truck.



The Toy Library

Anne **joins** the Toy Library.

She **pays** \$40.00 to join.

She **borrow**s five toys.

After two weeks she **return**s the toys.



Finish the sentences. Use the words in the box.

borrows **return**s **pay**s **join**s

Anne _____ the Toy Library.

She _____ \$40.00 to join.

She _____ five toys.

After two weeks she _____ the toys.



Unscramble the words below.

ayp

obrwor

trenur

ijno

pay _____



Questions

1. What can you borrow at a toy library? _____

2. What can you borrow at a public library? _____

3. Is it free to join a toy library? _____

Find your toy library: www.toylibrary.co.nz

