Introducing Students to the Public Library

Purpose: To introduce student to their neighborhood branch of the public library, to help them familiarize themselves with the organization of materials in the library, the search strategies, and procedures for checking out books and materials. This activity also makes students aware of the large variety of material available in the library.

Directions:

• Using the local phone book or the internet, provide students with a list of all the branches of the public library and their addresses and phone numbers.
• Students are to visit the branch of the public library closest to their home.
• Students must fill out the necessary papers to acquire a library card.
• If students already have a library card, then can skip the above step.
• Students must explore the library to answer the questions on the attached handout.
• Instructors can offer extra credit for those who actually check out books.

Adapted from Heather Severson, Pima Community College.
Assignment: Visiting the Public Library  Name____________________________

For this assignment you will have to visit the branch of the public library closest to you. You will have to get a library card and complete the assignment below as you browse through the various sections of the library. If you need some help finding your way, check at the information desk.

1. Fill out the application for a library card. You will need to bring a picture ID. Your driver’s license is the best one. You need some proof of your current address if you use an ID other than your license. (20 pts.)

2. Go to the 7 DAY EXPRESS section. Skim through the books that are available and write the title and author of one book. (2 pts)

3. Go to the hardback FICTION section. Write down the title of a book by each of the following authors: (6 pts.)
   Anne Rice_______________________________________
   Sue Grafton_______________________________________
   Michael Palmer____________________________________

4. Go to each of the sections listed below and write the title and author of any book in that section that gets your attention. ( 8 pts.)
   MYSTERY___________________________________________
   WESTERN___________________________________________
   BIOGRAPHY_________________________________________
   SCIENCE FICTION____________________________________

5. Go to the MAGAZINE section. Write down the name of two magazines there that you have never heard of before. ( 2 pts.)

   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________

5. Go to the NEWSPAPER section. Write the name of an out of state paper.(1pt)

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6. Go to the **PAPERBACK** section. (Use any section: mystery, romance, general fiction). Browse through the books. Write the title and author of two books you find interesting. ( 2pts.)

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7. Go to the **NONFICTION** sections listed below by call numbers. Write the general category of books found under those call numbers. ( 4 pts.)

507 __________________________________________________________________________

636 __________________________________________________________________________

748 __________________________________________________________________________

941 __________________________________________________________________________

8. Go to the computer in the library. Check to see if this library has THE HOLY BIBLE. Write down the call number for it. ( 2pts.)

Holy Bible _______________________________________________________________________

9. Go to the **VIDEO** section. Browse through the videos. Write down the name of two videos you find interesting. ( 2 pts.)

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10. Go to the **TALKING BOOK** section. Browse through this section. Write the title of an interesting book. ( 1pts.)

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11. If you checked out any books, write the title(s) here. ( ex. credit pts.)

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