The Future is Now with Libraries
By Adrianna Nader
Why are libraries important to the world?

Some people do not have the opportunity to go to the library, pick up a book and read. We are lucky to have the privilege to go to the library and learn. The library gives us the opportunity to learn about any subject we choose.

“Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improve our quality of life. Libraries change lives for the better.” - Sidney Sheldon
Why are libraries important to you and your classmates?

To me a library means a place where people of all kinds can learn. It means a place where people can learn about any topic they choose. Libraries inspire people to read and learn more. The library is important to me and my classmates because they help us learn new things. Libraries are the places where people can imagine anything.

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”- Dr. Seuss
How are libraries important to the future of North Carolina?

Libraries are important to the future of North Carolina because the children that go to the library today, could be the Albert Einstein’s and Malala’s of tomorrow.

“The National Literacy Trust says that children who go to a library are twice as likely as those who don’t, to read well. It is not just picking up a book. It is the social experience of reading, talking about the books, browsing and comparing what you have read with family and friends. Librarians are gatekeepers in that process. They open doors to new worlds, new possibilities. They ask library visitors to evaluate the information they offer. Most importantly, they give access to narratives. Children and adults do not just need information to thrive as thinking beings, but stories. Libraries are the temples of story.”-Alan Gibbons
Libraries have impacted me personally because as a baby my mother started to read to me. When I was a toddler she started to take me to the library. She took me to story time at the library and let me pick out books. When there was a special event at the library we would be there. Sometimes we would be at the library for hours. Sometimes my mom would have to drag me out of there! At home my parents would read me bedtime stories. Mom always read me as many as I wanted, no matter how big my stack was. Because of those trips to the library early on in my life, I developed a lifelong love of reading. My mom says I started memorizing books at just 18 months old. I started reading in kindergarten. From then on, it seems like I have always had a book in my hand! With reading as my passion, I can get a lot of opportunities in life. Without all those trips to the library early in my life, I may not have reached so many goals in reading. As someone once told me,

“First you learn to read, then you read to learn!”
What do people think about libraries?

“I think that libraries are the great keepers of knowledge, and knowledge is flowing through the air. Libraries have the books that help you learn.” - Jamie (aka, my mom), Age 31

“I like the library, because there are a lot of interesting books and people learn new things from the books they read.” - Jasmine, Age 9

“I like the library because there are books you can read and also fun activities.” - Leah, Age 9

“Libraries are great because they have a ton of great books to read. Libraries are a really great resource for studying too!” - Audrey, Age 12

“I think that libraries are educational for kids and adults. They help us learn new things. Libraries are also a great place to read.” - Leah, Age 11

“I cherish the library because I have many fond memories taking my kids there- whether for story time, special events or just to get stacks of books. Even though I don’t always enjoy carrying arm fulls of books out of the library... or paying those hefty overdue fees... I am so glad to have a house full of readers. They have practically grown up in the library! Someday when my kids are all grown up, I will look back on these library trips with fondness. In fact, I will miss the days of Dr. Seuss, Llama Llama, and Elephant and Piggy! Reading to my kids has been one of my favorite parts of being a mom.” - Vishi, Age 10
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