Welcome to the Hartford Public Library Barbour Branch In Unity Plaza

A Social Story for Children

A Note to Caregivers:
A social story helps to prepare a child for an experience, and lists the expectations for a certain space. This social story will help a child prepare for a safe and successful visit to the Barbour Branch of the Hartford Public Library.
This is Unity Plaza

The Barbour Branch is in Unity Plaza on Barbour Street. Sometimes the plaza can be busy with cars and people. Be careful in the parking lot!
At The Library

At the library, you can take out books, movies, magazines, learning tablets and more with your library card! Let’s go inside and check it out!
Library Rules

Here are the rules for a fun, safe trip to the Barbour Branch:

1. No running in the library.
2. Quiet voices.
3. Snacks and drinks can be eaten at the group table **only**.
4. **No** eating at the computers.
5. Be respectful; bullying is not tolerated in library spaces.
Meet Barbour’s Librarians

When you come to the branch, you will meet the library assistants, Som and Tania, at the circulation desk.

Ms. Fe is the Children’s Librarian (right). Ms. Irene is the branch manager (left).

Make sure you say hello!
Into the Lobby

When you open the library’s door, you’ll be in the lobby. There is a lot of helpful information here, about events and community organizations.

Check it out!
Security Gates

When you walk out of the lobby and into the library, you will pass through two security gates. Sometimes these make a loud beeping noise when library materials haven’t been checked out.
Adult Computers

These are the adult computers. Sometimes it can be loud in this area, because people talk on their phones or to each other. The computers can be loud, too.
If you have books to return, you leave them here, in the book drop. The librarians will take them to the desk and check them in.
This is where teenagers can sit. They can read books, do their homework, or talk quietly.

The library also has a Switch Cart. You can request to play with the Nintendo Switch at the circulation desk, then plug it into the monitors. We also have headphones!
This is the circulation desk, where you can check out your materials, like books, DVD’s, and more with your library card. If you need a library card, you can sign up for one here, too!

The barcode scanners make a beeping noise when books and other materials are checked out. This is ok!
Youth Computers

This section is for the youth computers. You can play games like Roblox, or listen to music on YouTube. Ask a library assistant at the circulation desk for a pair of headphones!

Children’s graphic novels and DVD’s are also in this section.
Welcome to the children’s section! Here you can look at non-fiction books, picture books, easy readers, and board books. There are fun board games to play, computers with educational games you can use, as well as dolls and a dollhouse.

The big table is where we sit to do special library programs or homework. Join us for a fun time!
Early Literacy Corner

In this corner you can find educational materials that include: Sprout bags, STEM kits, tracing sheets, a matching binder, sensory bins, sight word flash cards, and toys for our young learners.
Bathroom

If you need to use the bathroom while you’re at the branch, it’s right next to the children’s section! When you wash your hands, you wave your hand under the paper towel dispenser, and it will come out automatically. There is a baby changing station in there, too!

If the door is closed, make sure you knock before you go in!
Thank you for taking the time to read this social story.

We hope to see you soon at the Barbour Branch!