

The best thing about my library is me. On one ordinary day in August, I represented only one visitor, but the purpose of my trip was duplicated by dozens of others. Like most, I checked out books and coveted being number one on waiting lists for favorites. I appreciate that my library displays new titles and through the Friends of the Library often has multiple copies. I watched as browsers picked up and paged through best sellers and literary prize winners. There were flyers with previews of all the great activities coming up in the library and a whole wall of local community events.

I used the computer to look up titles I wanted to order and watched as others did job searches, homework, and research on a variety of topics. I saw groups of eager, teens working with a tutor in the study room and a group of preschool children having story time with an animated volunteer reader in our adjoining community room.

Last year, I enrolled my grandson in a summer reading program and he was able to attend a great presentation with live insects. This year I saw some of my neighbors children, absolutely mesmerized, at a magic show that was part of a summer event.

Before I left the complex, I stopped in at the used bookstore run by volunteers from the Friends of the Library. For a small space it was well stocked and full of other shoppers. I found the perfect detective book for a quick read for only 25 cents. For every book I buy or donate the money comes back to my library.

Interesting to note that the day was August 9, 2010; approximately 776 people visited my library and one of them, thankfully, was me!