

# Go Green at the library this Libraries Week!

**Use your Library and  
help the environment!**



The beginning of October marks National Libraries Week, a week dedicated to the general awesomeness of libraries and celebrating everything that the library service has to offer.

***“If you do not value  
libraries then you do  
not value information  
or culture or wisdom.”***

**Neil Gaiman**

This year, 2023, the theme is changing to Green Libraries Week and looking at ways libraries help with sustainability and climate change.

Did you know that your library plays a vital role in combating the issues of climate change?

## **1. Generating Awareness**

Libraries are a trusted place to find information about ANY topic and a great place to educate the community about environmental issues.

## **2. Free Resources for All**

The library doesn't discriminate and aims to provide free access to information to any member of college who needs it by being a warm and friendly environment.

## **3. Sustainable Resources**

From electronic resources, the printers defaulting to double-sided printing and the simple fact that a single book can be shared by many, the library services reduce the need for paper and the negative impact paper production has on the environment.

## **4. Keepers of History**

Libraries hold archives containing a vast range of information from the past; a fantastic resource to learn from and plan for the future.

## **5. Hubs of information**

EVERYTHING around you was once just a thought. Reading feeds your imagination, encourages you to think laterally and may just inspire you to find solutions to our current climate crisis...

***“If you want your children to  
be intelligent read them  
fairytales. If you want them  
to be more intelligent, read  
them more fairy tales.”***

**Albert Einstein**

## **6. Plants!**

You may have noticed an influx of plant-life within our library lately. Not only are plants great for the environment and the air quality, the colour green has a calming effect creating a relaxing working area and contributes to our mental health and wellbeing.

## **7. Community**

Libraries are hubs for community action – a warm and welcoming environment that can cater to a variety of needs and users and be used as a central area to focus and coordinate activities/ events from. They also often update their collections resulting in a continual resource of books to recycle into new and exciting projects!

## **Book Recycling ideas**

It's always an idea to donate your unwanted books to a local charity shop or library, but if it is really beyond repair why not have a go at some book crafts?

Seed Bombs – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSb7XgO4-Ug>

Honestly Modern List of crafts – <https://www.honestlymodern.com/sustainable-craft-ideas-creative-things-to-do-with-old-books/>

Book Flowers – <https://www.instructables.com/How-to-Make-Book-Page-Flowers/>

## **Further Reading**

The Wakelet below has loads of interesting links and articles about the importance of libraries and the environment.

<https://wakelet.com/wake/zvd4jQuY6OSjvGC2OWxWB>