Syracuse University  
Center for Digital Literacy  

Impact of New York State’s School Libraries on Student Learning & Motivation  

*STUDENT SURVEY*  

PLEASE READ THE DIRECTIONS BELOW CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY.

Thank you for taking part in this survey. We appreciate the time you will take to complete it.

There are four parts to this survey:

- **Part I** asks about ways in which your school library has helped you.
- **Part II** asks you to rate the importance of things your school librarian does.
- **Part III** asks you to remember certain situations in the school library.
- **Part IV** asks some questions about you.

The survey will take about 30 minutes of your time. Your participation is voluntary and you may stop and choose to withdraw from participation at any time.

You should not write your name on the survey. You will not be asked to say anything you do not wish to say. You will not be graded on the survey and your answers will not be shown to anyone at your school.

Try to answer every question. Your answers are very important to us. What we learn from your answers and those of other students will help your librarians and teachers plan better school libraries throughout New York State.

If you have any questions about the study or this survey, please contact Research Associate Jaime Snyder at jasnyd01@syr.edu.
PART I

INSTRUCTIONS

We want to find out about the help you get from your school library (the school librarian, the school library, library resources).

To answer these questions, please think of all the times that you have used the school library, as well as the classes that you have had in which the school librarian has helped you.

For each statement, put an \( \textbf{X} \) in the box next to the response that best answers the statement.

Please mark **only one \( \textbf{X} \)** for each statement.

If you do not know the best response, or if the statement does not apply to you, put an \( \textbf{X} \) in the box marked **I don’t know**.

Here is an example of a completed item:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The school librarian has helped me learn that research takes a lot of work.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o A. This is always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \textbf{X} ) B. This is usually never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o C. This is sometimes true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o D. This is rarely always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o E. This is never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o F. I don’t know.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now it is your turn. On the following pages, please read each of the statements carefully and put an \( \textbf{X} \) in the box next to the response that best answers the statement.

Be careful **not** to skip any statements.
The following statements are all related to FINDING INFORMATION.

(Please choose only one response for each statement.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. My school librarian helps me learn how to find the information I need to complete assignments or class projects.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o This is always true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o This is usually true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o This is sometimes true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o This is rarely true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o This is never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o I don’t know.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. My school librarian helps me learn how to find information when I am curious or just want to know something.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o This is always true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o This is usually true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o This is sometimes true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o This is rarely true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o This is never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o I don’t know.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. My school librarian helps me learn that asking the right questions will help me get the information I need.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o This is always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o This is usually true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o This is sometimes true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o This is rarely true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o This is never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o I don’t know.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. My school librarian is an expert at helping me find different kinds of resources (such as books, videos, Web sites, etc.).

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

5. My school librarian helps me find information that is useful to me.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

6. My school librarian helps me learn different ways to find the information I need.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

7. My school library is a valuable place for finding the information I need.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.
The following statements are all related to USING INFORMATION.

(Please choose only one response for each statement.)

8. My school librarian helps me learn how to organize the information I find.

   o This is **always** true.
   o This is **usually** true.
   o This is **sometimes** true.
   o This is **rarely** true.
   o This is **never** true.
   o I don’t know.

9. My school librarian helps me learn how to select just the right information that I need to solve my problem or answer my question.

   o This is **always** true.
   o This is **usually** true.
   o This is **sometimes** true.
   o This is **rarely** true.
   o This is **never** true.
   o I don’t know.

10. My school librarian helps me learn how to blend new information with information I already know.

    o This is **always** true.
    o This is **usually** true.
    o This is **sometimes** true.
    o This is **rarely** true.
    o This is **never** true.
    o I don’t know.
11. My school librarian helps me learn how to take the information I have found and create something new from it.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

12. My school librarian encourages me to share with others the information that I find.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

13. My school librarian helps me know the best way to let others know what I have learned from my research.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is always true.
- I don’t know.
14. My school librarian helps me know how to communicate what I have learned in a variety of formats (such as a paper, a poster, a multimedia presentation, etc.).

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

15. My school librarian helps me learn how to create something new (such as a poem, a drawing, or a video) based on what I have read.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

The following statements are all related to EVALUATING INFORMATION.

(Please choose only one response for each statement.)

16. My school librarian helps me recognize when I need information.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.
17. My school librarian helps me recognize when the information I find is just the right information that I need.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

18. My school librarian helps me understand whether the information I find is the best information available.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

19. After I have completed a research task, my school librarian encourages me to think about new or different ways to look for information the next time.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

20. My school librarian helps me to learn how to tell the difference between fact, opinion, and point of view.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.
21. My school librarian helps me to learn how to identify information that is not true or not appropriate for my research topic.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

22. After I have completed a research assignment, my school librarian helps me to know if I have done a good job.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

23. My school librarian helps me to recognize whether I have found enough information about my research topic.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

24. My school librarian helps me to know which information resources (books, Web sites, etc.) are the best ones for my project or assignment.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Options</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25. My school librarian shows that he or she is an expert in using computers.</td>
<td>- This is always true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- This is usually true.</td>
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<td>- This is sometimes true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- This is rarely true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- This is never true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- I don’t know.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26. When I use the Internet for my school work, my school librarian has taught me to give credit when using other people’s ideas.</td>
<td>- This is always true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- This is usually true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- This is sometimes true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- This is rarely true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- This is never true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- I don’t know.</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27. My school librarian shows my teacher how to do new things with computers.</td>
<td>- This is always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- This is usually true.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- This is sometimes true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- This is rarely true.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- This is never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- I don’t know.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
28. My school librarian acts as a role model to my teacher when using computers.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

29. My school librarian uses computers when teaching me research skills.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

30. My school librarian helps me learn how to use computers.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

31. My school librarian helps me learn when it is appropriate to use computers for my assignments or projects.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.
The following statements are all related to RESPECTING OTHER PEOPLE’S IDEAS.

(Please choose only one response for each statement.)

32. My school librarian helps me learn to respect the ideas of others.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

33. My school librarian helps me learn to respect everyone’s right to read, write, view, listen to, and share information and ideas.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.

34. My school librarian helps me learn that all people should have equal access to information.

- This is **always** true.
- This is **usually** true.
- This is **sometimes** true.
- This is **rarely** true.
- This is **never** true.
- I don’t know.
35. When I am looking for information for an assignment or class project, my school librarian helps me to find resources that show different ways of thinking about things.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

36. My school librarian helps me to find reading material that interests me.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.

The following statements are all related to HOW MY SCHOOL LIBRARIAN HELPS ME.

(Please choose only one response for each statement.)

37. I feel that my school librarian provides me choices and options.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38. I feel understood by my school librarian.</td>
<td><em>This is</em> always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> usually true.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> sometimes true.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> rarely true.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>I don’t know.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. My school librarian shows confidence in my ability to learn</td>
<td><em>This is</em> always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>research skills in the school library.</td>
<td><em>This is</em> usually true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> sometimes true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> rarely true.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>I don’t know.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. My school librarian encourages me to ask questions about things I</td>
<td><em>This is</em> always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>am curious about.</td>
<td><em>This is</em> usually true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> sometimes true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> rarely true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> never true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>I don’t know.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. My school librarian listens to how I would like to do things.</td>
<td><em>This is</em> always true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> usually true.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> sometimes true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> rarely true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>This is</em> never true.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>I don’t know.</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
42. My school librarian tries to understand how I see things before suggesting a new way to do things.

- This is always true.
- This is usually true.
- This is sometimes true.
- This is rarely true.
- This is never true.
- I don’t know.
PART II

INSTRUCTIONS

Below is a list of ten things that school librarians might do. First, read the whole list of ten things carefully. Then go back and rate each activity on how important you think it is, from 1 (LEAST IMPORTANT) to 10 (MOST IMPORTANT).

- If you think the activity is the most important thing your librarian does, then select 10.
- If you think the activity is the least important thing your librarian does, then select 1.
- If you think the activity is somewhere between least important (1) and most important (10), select the number that you think most closely matches its importance.
- If there are any activities that you don’t think your school librarian does at all, then select zero (0).

Please read all of the statements below before selecting any numbers.

1. Works with my teacher to teach me research skills.

   LEAST IMPORTANT  | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  MOST IMPORTANT
   -------------------|-------------------
   0                  | 0

2. Keeps the school library a quiet place to work.

   LEAST IMPORTANT  | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  MOST IMPORTANT
   -------------------|-------------------
   0                  | 0

3. Helps me use computers.

   LEAST IMPORTANT  | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  MOST IMPORTANT
   -------------------|-------------------
   0                  | 0

4. Tells teachers and students about new resources and activities in the library.

   LEAST IMPORTANT  | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  MOST IMPORTANT
   -------------------|-------------------
   0                  | 0
<p>| | | | | | | | | | | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Motivates me to read.</td>
<td>LEAST IMPORTANT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td>MOST IMPORTANT 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Encourages me to use the Internet in appropriate ways.</td>
<td>LEAST IMPORTANT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td>MOST IMPORTANT 0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Keeps library books in order.</td>
<td>LEAST IMPORTANT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td>MOST IMPORTANT 0</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Encourages my teacher to use computers in my classroom.</td>
<td>LEAST IMPORTANT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td>MOST IMPORTANT 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Provides resources for teachers to use to teach and students to use to learn.</td>
<td>LEAST IMPORTANT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td>MOST IMPORTANT 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Helps my teacher learn to use computers.</td>
<td>LEAST IMPORTANT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td>MOST IMPORTANT 0</td>
<td></td>
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PART III

In the space provided below, we’d like you to tell us about a specific time when you received help in the school library.

This might have happened a long time ago or very recently. It might have been related to a school activity or assignment or something you just wanted to know.

Please tell us as much as you can remember about the event and give details, such as:

• When did this happen?
• What was it that you needed or wanted to know or be able to?
• What help did you get and from whom?
• What did you learn and what did it allow you to do?
• How did you feel about the experience?
• What else can you tell us about this event?

Please write your response in the space below.
**PART IV**

Please provide us with the following information about you and your school.

1. **Put your school’s name in the box below**

2. **Put the name of your school district in the box below.**

3. **What is your age in years? (Please enter it in the box below.)**

4. **I am a:**
   - Boy
   - Girl

5. **My background is: (Check all that are true.)**
   - African American or Black
   - Asian
   - American Indian or Alaska Native
   - Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
   - White
   - Hispanic or Latino/Latina
   - Other____________________
   - I do not know
6. What grades do you usually get on your report card?

- A. All “A”s (or “4”s)
- B. Mostly “A”s and some “B”s (or “4”s)
- C. Mostly “B”s and some “C”s (or “3”s)
- D. Mostly “C”s and some “D”s (or “2”s)
- E. Mostly “D”s and “F”s (or “1”s)

7. Typically, how often do you visit your school library?

- Every school day.
- Three or four times a week.
- One or two times a week.
- One or two times a month.
- One or two times a year.
- Never.

8. Typically, how often do you visit your school library to do research or to work on a school assignment?

- Every school day.
- Three or four times a week.
- One or two times a week.
- One or two times a month.
- One or two times a year.
- Never.
9. Typically, how often do you visit your school library to read a book or a magazine?

- Every school day.
- Three or four times a week.
- One or two times a week.
- One or two times a month.
- One or two times a year.
- Never.

10. Typically, how often do you visit your school library to use a computer?

- Every school day.
- Three or four times a week.
- One or two times a week.
- One or two times a month.
- One or two times a year.
- Never.

Thank you for completing this survey. Your answers will help us know more about what how students are using school libraries.