

Chatterbooks Volunteer Role at Redbridge Libraries

Do you love working with children and young people and enjoy helping young people to read adventurously and to develop confidence in expressing their opinions?

Chatterbooks are our fun reading groups for youngsters. We chat about books, play games, do quizzes and have fun. Your role will be to assist the staff in creating new experiences for our younger library members and help them to fully enjoy and participate in all reading experiences involved with this activity. You are the go-to person who can do smaller tasks while seeing the bigger picture. You will support your branch library with a variety of duties as outlined below.

Who you are

- You engage well with others and are passionate about books, reading and libraries
- You have a good command of spoken and written English and also possibly a community language
- You are responsible and dependable
- Warm and friendly with children, helping them with your skills, knowledge and approachable personality.
- You enjoy having fun and can engage in a positive way with the children regarding their opinions concerning reading and books.
- You are at least 14 years old. There is no upper age limit for volunteering

As a Chatterbooks Volunteer you will:

- Help with setting up a creative learning space in the library where the activity takes place
- Prepare and organise all the materials needed for the activity
- Welcome children and parents as they arrive making sure that the first time participants are at ease
- Engage children in an informal discussion about their favourite stories and books.
- Chat to children about the books that they are reading and the characters in them
- Support children to participate in the games and quizzes so that they have plenty of fun

Why you should volunteer with Redbridge Libraries

- You will increase your confidence dealing with children in a professional setting
- You will learn skills around customer care, confidentiality and health and safety
- Personal satisfaction at helping someone realise their potential.

Where and when you would be volunteering

- You will volunteer at Redbridge Library running a Chatterbooks session and offering this volunteering opportunity. Please ask staff for details about the programme taking place in individual branches
- You will be required for at least 30 minutes before and after each session for set up and clear up.
- All volunteers are placed initially on a one-month trial basis. Volunteers and activities are reviewed every six months