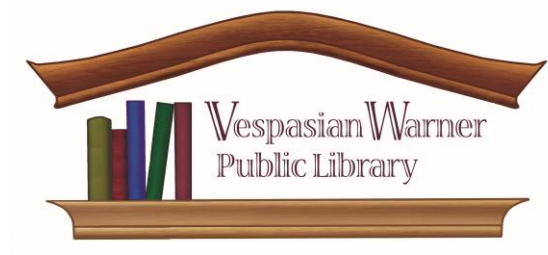




*Minor patrons:* The library strives to be a welcoming, safe place for children. Library staff have many duties to perform in order to serve all patrons in the best way possible. For this reason, the staff cannot monitor the whereabouts or behavior of children in the library. Staff cannot assume the responsibility for children's care when they are in the library. Library staff will render appropriate assistance to an ill or injured child, if necessary, but are cautioned not to otherwise touch or restrain a child in the library.

- 1) Parents or caregivers are responsible for their children's behavior in the library.
- 2) Parents or caregivers must understand and explain the library rules to their children. The rules and policies have been developed to safeguard the collection and ensure fairness for all library users.
- 3) Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by a responsible caregiver over the age of 13 at all times while visiting the library. The library in no way assumes responsibility for any child of any age left unattended in the building.
- 4) All children and teens are to use appropriate language and behavior in the library. Those who do not will be asked to leave.
- 5) Parents are to remove from the library children who are crying loudly or having a tantrum.
- 6) Parents are to set reasonable time limits for their children's library visits.
- 7) A parent or caregiver must remain in the immediate program area during programs if the child is under 5 years of age. A parent or caregiver must remain on library property during programs if the child is between 5-7 years of age.
- 8) Parents or guardians are responsible for the types of materials checked out by their children.
- 9) Children are not limited to materials in the juvenile collection.
- 10) Patrons under the age of 17 may not check out "R"-rated materials unless they have permission from a parent or guardian.
- 11) Parents are financially responsible for any fees, damages to library materials, equipment, or property incurred by their children.
- 12) When the safety of an unattended child is in doubt or the parent or responsible caregiver cannot be located, library staff is authorized to call the police and stay with the child until the police arrive.
- 13) In the event a young person is at the library at closing time, library staff will attempt to contact the child's guardian. If the child does not know his/her guardian's phone



number and the library does not have the phone number on file, staff will contact Clinton police.

14) Under no circumstances will library staff transport children from one location to another.