

Let's Meet a Librarian | Lesson Plan

How do librarians help our community?

Students will understand the important role of librarians as community helpers through the story of *Otto's Tales: Let's Meet a Librarian*.

Learning Objectives:

- Explain what a librarian does.
- Describe how librarians help their community.
- Identify ways in which they can interact with librarians and utilize library resources.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Library:** A building where materials such as books, music, films, and other media are available for the general public to study, read, or borrow.
- **Librarian:** A person who is specially trained to work in a library and assists others in finding information or using the resources available at the library.
- **Illustration:** In books, it is a drawing or visual depiction that explains or shows what is happening in the story.
- **Genre:** A category or type of literature. Common examples include fantasy, history, mystery, etc.
- **Fiction:** A story created from the imagination involving people, events, and places that are often made up.

Educational Standards: CCRA.R.1, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.L.6, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.R.7

Academic Subject Areas: America, American Values, Character Development

What You'll Need

- Video: *Otto's Tales: Let's Meet a Librarian* (Click [Here](#))
- Book (optional): *Otto's Tales: Let's Meet a Librarian* (Purchase [Here](#))
- Coloring Page: *Otto's Tales: Let's Meet a Librarian* (Click [Here](#))
- Pictures of common items found in a library, such as books, shelves, computers, and a librarian

Lesson Plan (45 mins.)

Warm-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Begin by telling students that they will be playing a game called *Where in the Community?* Explain that you will show them pictures of items that are commonly found in this local community location.



2. Show students pictures of books, shelves, computers, and a librarian. Ask them to analyze the pictures and share where they think those items can usually be found. Write their responses on the board.
3. Once they've made their guesses, reveal that today they will be learning about people who work in libraries called librarians.
4. Activate prior knowledge by asking students what they already know about librarians:
 - What are their job responsibilities?
 - What tools/materials do they use for their job?
 - Can you think of a time when a librarian helped you find a book or information?
 - What are ways they can help the community?
5. Use their responses to introduce the video *Otto's Tales: Let's Meet a Librarian*.

Watch and Complete: (25 mins.)

1. Show the video *Otto's Tales: Let's Meet a Librarian* to the students.
2. Pause at opportune moments in the video to ask questions and check for understanding of key vocabulary words and their meaning.
3. Encourage students to identify what librarians do to help us.
4. Discuss what Otto and Smidge learned while visiting the library, focusing on understanding and appreciating how librarians help introduce readers to the many adventures of reading, help people find books, help people learn new things, and organize literacy-related events like storytime sessions.
5. If using the book, guide students through a discussion of the illustrations, asking them to describe and interpret different scenes.

Wrap-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Allow time for the students to color the *Otto's Tales: Let's Visit a Librarian* coloring page.
2. Assess comprehension and encourage storytelling skills by asking students to retell the story in their own words.
3. Use guiding questions that assess understanding of the story's themes, such as the importance of librarians as community helpers. Questions can include:
 - What do you think makes a good librarian?
 - If you were a librarian for a day, what would you do to help people?
 - How do you think librarians help our community?

Extension Activities:

1. Invite a local librarian to visit for a Q & A session.
2. Arrange a field trip to a local library, or reserve some time in your school's library.

Don't have time for the complete lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 mins.)

After watching the video, distribute the coloring page and allow students to discuss one thing they appreciate about librarians and why they are important in the community.