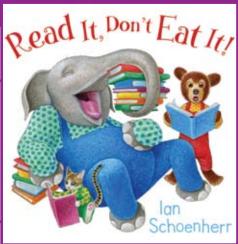
About the Book

What should you do with a book? Read it, don't eat it! Celebrate books and reading with this charming picture book—perfect for reading aloud—about the things you should (and shouldn't!) do with books.

Library Activities



Story Time Finale

Make Read It, Don't Eat It! the final book at your story time on a regular basis. If your listeners are old enough, encourage them to participate in the story by giving each child a turn to read one "rule" from the book out loud. When the story is finished, invite children to check out books to take home, reminding them: "Read it, don't eat it!"

Rules of the Library

There are lots of important rules to remember about caring for a library book: "Don't leave it in the rain or sun. Please return it when you're done." And the list goes on! Give children paper and crayons or markers. Ask them to think of their own library rule or pick their favorite from *Read It, Don't Eat It!* Then have them write down the rule (or have a grown-up write it for them) and draw a picture illustrating it. Collect all the rules and make a bulletin board for your library.

Learn about the Library

After reading *Read It, Don't Eat It!*, ask children to share what they know about libraries. Do they know what fiction and nonfiction books are? Do they know how books are organized on the shelves? Take them on a tour of the library and show them where everything is. Books, DVDs, magazines—everything has its place! If the children are old enough, show them how to look things up in the catalog and then find them in the library.

Check It Out

The American Library Association sponsors Library Card Sign-Up Month every September. Have children help support this initiative by encouraging others to sign up for library cards. Ask children to choose quotes from *Read It, Don't Eat Itl,* such as "Don't overdue it, just renew it" or "Share with a friend, a sister, a brother. Now go and get out another." Then have them create posters using the quotes as slogans for Library Card Sign-Up Month. Make sure all your Library Card Sign-Up Month supporters have library cards, too!



Six Easy Ways to Love Library Books



Library books are easy to love! Match each rule for the proper care of library books with the corresponding illustration from *Read It*. *Don't Eat It!*

No dog-ears, please.

Rips and tears won't magically heal.

Don't censor, delete, or deface.

Be careful with it at the pool.

Don't leave it in the rain or sun.

Please return it when you're done.



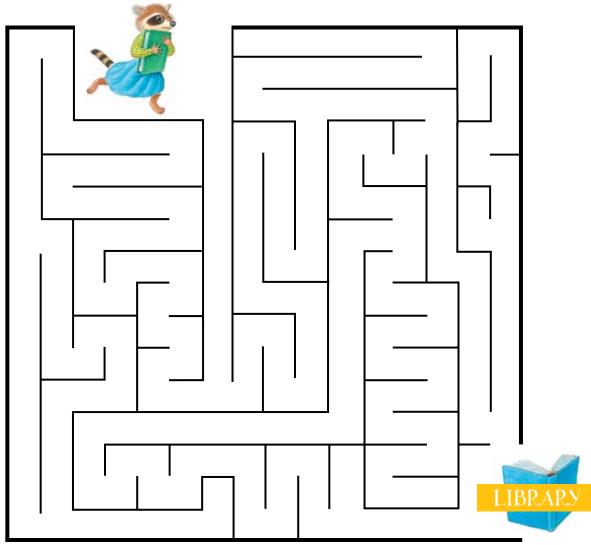






Please Return It When You're Done!

Is there anything more fun than borrowing a book from the library? Just make sure you return it when you're done! Help the raccoon from Read It, Don't Eat It! return her book before it's overdue by getting her through the maze to the library.



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Memory by the Book

Remembering how to treat library books and how to behave while at the library should be fun! After copying this sheet onto a piece of card stock, cut out the squares along the dotted lines. Mix up the pieces and lay them facedown for a game of memory, matching each library rule with the corresponding illustration from *Read It*, *Don't Eat It!*

