Libraries are... teaching people basic skills

It’s helping with my job searching which pleases the Jobcentre. [...] I am now able to spot the word ‘cleaner’ and if there is a phone number I can call them to ask about the job. I couldn’t have done this on my own before.

Project participant, Norfolk libraries

Libraries

→ helped people to improve their digital skills so they can look for work, access services and apply for jobs online

→ developed reading skills in one-to-one coaching sessions or shared reading groups

→ provided advice, support and access to tools for people starting and running a business

71%

... of participants reported feeling very confident in using a tablet device after taking part in the course

Barnsley

84%

... of participants felt that their skills had increased

Big Ideas Generators, Greater Manchester

54%

... of parents agreed that attending Story Makers sessions helped their child learn new words

Tameside

Increased confidence

82%

... said reading made them feel good

Shared Reading Groups, SW Region of Readers

80%

... in engaging with literature, meeting new people and making new friends when participating in activities

Barnsley

50%

... access to employment opportunities

Increased reach

60%

... 60% of attendees were women and 30% from BAME communities

Big Ideas Generators, Greater Manchester

70%

... of participants of low reading ability reported that their reading had improved significantly

Shared Reading Groups, SW Region of Readers

RESULTS FROM LOFE-FUNDED LIBRARY PROJECTS

Libraries are teaching people basic skills.
Libraries are... helping people explore things in different and creative ways

Libraries

→ created gaming hubs teaching young people to create games using specific software

Libraries

→ created dedicated arts spaces to exhibit participants’ work

Libraries

→ ran arts based activities and workshops on creative writing, photography, drama and poetry

Libraries

→ developed skills in art, design, photography and music, as well as coding

Libraries

→ ran projects focussed on local history and civic engagement through a creative exploration of the local area

We saw results in

... increased engagement with creative and cultural activities

Almost 100%

... of participants with special educational needs or learning disabilities fed back that they had enjoyed looking at and reading the books as part of the Books Beyond Words reading groups

Harrow

83%

... of participants said that they had more confidence after taking part in the project

Middlesbrough

67%

... of participants reported feeling a stronger connection with their local community than before

Middlesbrough

Storysmash helped me find my love for coding again and it’s definitely helped me be more social, even if it was daunting at first.

Nottingham

Sense of place

Participants reported a greater appreciation for their local area

Lewisham
Libraries are... designing spaces and schemes for people to be creative and try new things.

**Libraries**

- created inclusive spaces which support people with special educational needs or learning disability
- co-designed spaces and co-produced activities with communities
- provided access to a range of technologies and training, such as digital photography, coding, animation, robotics and iPad loan schemes

**Accessible**

... activities were provided, which helped these participants overcome the perception that they would not be welcome in libraries

**30% increase**

... in first time engagement with creative and arts activities by participants

**I want to become a computer expert.**

Participant in Kent's Digital Dens

**71%**

... of participants felt that having access to this technology had been beneficial to their wellbeing

Barnsley

**I want to tell people about coding and how fun it is.**

Participant in Kent's Digital Dens

**67%**

... of participants reported that they had increased skills as a result of taking part in the project

Merton

**RESULTS FROM LOFE-FUNDED LIBRARY PROJECTS**

**LIBRARIES OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE**

**INNOVATION FUND**
It has been the best thing I have done for my mental health and confidence.

Project participant, Bournemouth

Libraries ran activities which increased social contact and built connections between people working together.

Libraries created wellbeing boxes which helped increase people’s knowledge on how to support their own and their families’ wellbeing.

Libraries worked with communities and partners to design spaces that support health and wellbeing.

Reduced social isolation

... by providing opportunities to meet new people from the local area.

93% of self-reflection sheets showed that the co-production sessions improved participants’ knowledge on how to support child development.

Helped

... health providers better engage with customers.

I have a reason to leave the house.

Project participant, Bournemouth

95% of participants strongly agreed or agreed that the project had increased their wellbeing.

84% of participants said that the project had enabled them to improve contact with friends and family.

I’m more mindful to [take] a few minutes of quiet to listen to my child playing. [...] I don’t need to control the situation, just enjoy the process with her.

Project participant, Staffordshire

Libraries provided people with a space to meet and spend time with others.

93% of participants said that the project had enabled them to improve contact with friends and family.

Hampshire

Sandwell

Staffordshire

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