

# Why can't we eat in the library?

## Yes, this applies to adults too!

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The shortest answer to the question is-- BUGS! Insects are attracted to food crumbs and spills, but once in the building, they will happily eat paper, glue and other things, such as leather and cardboard, that hold the collection together. While it is possible to spray for them, it is better not to attract them in the first place. There are a great number of places for small creatures to hide!

The longer answer to the question is preservation of the library and its materials, furniture and floors. Even the most careful reader can spill food or drink on a book or magazine and stain or ruin the pages. Even if dried carefully, they are never the same as before the spill. It is often hard to repair or replace materials if they are ruined, and it costs money that could be going toward new materials.

Please remember not to eat in the library. Thanks!



Taken from a **college** library:

*University of Arkansas Libraries.*

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