

## Books and Water Don't Mix!

Unfortunately, water/liquid accidents are the number one reason that the school library needs to charge families for book damage. Wet books begin growing mold within 48 hours. Books with significant damage, or **ANY** evidence of mold, have to be thrown away because of the health risk. Families are responsible for the replacement price if a book has to be discarded.

Here are some tips to avoid accidents:

- Books absorb water like a sponge. Children often don't notice that something is leaking inside their backpack because a book absorbs the moisture so well!
- Remind your child to **never** put water bottles or wet lunch items inside their backpack if they are also carrying library or textbooks.
- Consider giving your child a large ziplock-type bag (gallon or larger size) to carry their books inside their backpack. It's a great way to keep things safe.
- Remind your child to never leave books outside.
- Remind your child to be especially careful on rainy days.

### If a library or school book gets wet:

- **Bring the book back to the library immediately.** The librarian knows how to dry books properly and minimize the damage.
- **Give the book directly to the librarian (or your child's teacher). We will not be angry.** Sometimes accidents happen. We will be very glad that you were responsible enough to tell us!
- Do not return wet books in the classroom. Bring it to the library.
- If the damage is minor and the book is still usable (as determined by the librarian), families are only charged part of the replacement price instead of the full amount.

Thank you!

