The primary purpose of the public library is to provide resources and services in a variety of media to meet the needs of individuals and groups for education, information and personal development including recreation and leisure.

The mission and purpose of the public library

De Gruyter
A New Library for Springfield Oregon
Library

noun, plural libraries.

- a place set apart to contain books, periodicals, and other material for reading, viewing, listening, study, or reference, as a room, set of rooms, or building where books may be read or borrowed.
- a public body organizing and maintaining such an establishment.
- a collection of manuscripts, publications, and other materials for reading, viewing, listening, study, or reference.
- a collection of any materials for study and enjoyment, as films, musical recordings, or maps.
- a commercial establishment lending books for a fixed charge; a lending library.
- a series of books of similar character or alike in size, binding, etc., issued by a single publishing house.

Dictionary.com
Library
A place:
where anyone can enter for free
where there are children and adults
where there are places to read and places to study
where anyone can stay all day
where there are books of paper and audio books
where there are musical recordings
where there are movies
where there is story telling and reading out loud
Where there are meeting rooms
where there are computers and internet

A truly public place
“I spent long periods getting my range, as it were, with naive drawings. I drew all kinds of fantastic mountain landscapes, with slopes lit by many suns in different positions, which gradually gave rise to the main idea of the building.”

Alvar Aalto