



D.W. Gets Her Library Card!

by Peter K. Hirsch

Narrator: *The action takes place in the Reading Room of a library. Francine, Binky, and Buster are already there. D.W. walks into the library and goes right to a table on which a Big Book is placed. She is followed by Arthur.*

D.W.: Arthur, look! It's my favorite book! It's big and it's pretty and it's all about frogs! Will you read it to me? Please, please, please, please, please?

Arthur: No, D.W., that's a baby book. I only read books for big kids.

D.W.: Then will you check it out for me with your library card?

Arthur: Are you kidding?? Do you know what would happen if my friends found out I checked out a baby book?

D.W.: What?

Arthur: This!

(Narrator:) *He points to Francine, Binky, and Buster, who go to the center of the room.*

Francine: Hey guys! Arthur checked out a baby book on frogs!

Buster: I guess that makes him a baby!

Binky: Yeah. Or maybe even a baby frog! A tadpole!!

Buster, Binky, and Francine: HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

(Narrator:) *Buster, Binky, and Francine freeze.*



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Arthur: That's what would happen! Sorry, D.W., I can't do it. Now let me read in peace.

(Narrator:) *Arthur picks up a book and starts reading. Buster, Binky, and Francine go back to their seats. D.W. puts the book back on the table.*

D.W.: I wish I had my own library card. Then I could take out this book all by myself and have Mom or Dad read it to me at home.

(Narrator:) *Just then Tommy and Timmy Tibble enter the reading room. Each Tibble holds a library card.*

Timmy Tibble: Let's take out a book on snakes with our library cards!

Tommy Tibble: No! Spiders!

Timmy Tibble: Snakes!

Tommy Tibble: Spiders!

D.W.: Tommy and Timmy Tibble, you have your own library cards? How did you get them?

Tommy Tibble: Should we tell her?

Timmy Tibble: No way! If she gets her own card, she'll take out every book in the library and then there will be none left for us!

(Narrator:) *Tommy and Timmy hide behind a table.*

D.W.: I'll ask Francine how to get my own library card.

(Narrator:) *D.W. goes up to Francine, who's watching a video screen.*

Francine: Hi, D.W.! I'm watching a video about Babe Ruth!

D.W.: You can watch videos in the library?

Francine: Sure you can! Look! He just hit a home run! Listen to the fans go wild!

All the kids (except D.W. and Arthur): HOORAY!!!

Arthur: Shh! Keep it down! I'm trying to read!



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Francine: I love baseball! I'm going to practice my batting right now!

(Narrator:) *She leaves. D.W. goes up to Binky who has headphones on and is humming.*

Binky: Hi, D.W.! This is a great jazz CD!

D.W.: Wow! You can listen to music in the library, too?

Binky: What?

D.W.: *(louder)* I said, "You can listen to music in the library, too?"

Binky: I can't hear you! I'm listening to music!

(Narrator:) *D.W. goes over to Buster, who is snoring loudly.*

D.W.: Hey, Buster. Buster!

(Narrator:) *She wakes him up. He quickly picks up a book.*

Buster: I wasn't asleep! I was studying! Oh, it's only you, D.W.

D.W.: How do I get my own library card?

Buster: Oh, just ask . . . just ask . . .

(Narrator:) *He falls back asleep before he can finish the sentence.*

D.W.: Just ask WHO???

Buster: *(LOUD SNORE)*

D.W.: Will someone please help me get my own library card!!!

(Narrator:) *Ms. Paige Turner approaches her.*

Ms. Turner: I'll help you, D.W. I'm Ms. Turner and I work at the library. All you have to do is sign your name on this sheet of paper.

D.W.: Sign my name? But I can't do that! I've never done it before!

Ms. Turner: Try it. I bet you can do it.



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(Narrator:) *Tommy and Timmy pop their heads up from behind the desk.*

Tommy and Timmy Tibble: We bet she can't do it!

(Narrator:) *Ms. Turner hands D.W. the pencil.*

D.W.: I'm scared! What if I forget my name? Oh, no! I did forget my name!
WHAT'S MY NAME??

All the kids (except D.W. and Arthur): D.W.!

Arthur: Shh! Keep it down! I'm trying to read!

(Narrator:) *D.W. writes her name on a sheet of paper. Ms. Turner hands her a library card.*

Ms. Turner: Well done. Here's your library card, D.W.

D.W.: My very own library card!

(Narrator:) *She goes over to where Arthur is reading and shows him her library card.*

D.W.: Check it out, Arthur. My very own library card. Now I can take this book out without your help!

Arthur: Hey, I know that book! It's called *Hopalong the Frog!* It was the first book I ever took out!

D.W.: You took out a baby book?

Arthur: It's not a baby book. It's a book for big kids about frogs. Listen . . .

(Narrator:) *Arthur opens the book and begins to read.*

Arthur: "Hopalong the frog hopped onto a log, and the log started floating away . . ."

D.W.: Boy, the things a kid has to do to get her older brother to read to her. Sheesh!

The End!