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## PAUSE & PONDER

**“Strive Not be a Success, But rather to be of Value.”**

— **Albert Einstein**

**Merry Christmas to you all!!  
May the New Year bring Good  
Health, Peace, Positivity and Love!!**

**Happy 2021!!**

**Wear a Mask, Stay Safe!!**

**\*Readers Please Note\***

**Click on the “Title” of each News to  
continue to Read further**

### **The changing role of medical librarians in a COVID-19 world**



“Health librarians really need to have a broad picture of the health environment to have an impact and connect all the dots,” says Gemma Siemensma, Library Manager at Ballarat Health Services (BHS), Australia. Librarians “need to continue to excel in reference consultations and literature searching to advanced forms of evidence synthesis and critical appraisal,” she adds...

Source: [OUP Blog, 04 Dec 2020](#)

### **Why Some Libraries Are Ending Fines**



When I was a kid, the sin of returning books late to the public library populated a category of dread for me next to weekly confessions to the Catholic priest (what can an 8-year-old really have to confess?) and getting caught by the dentist with a Tootsie Roll wrapper sticking out of my pocket. So decades later, when I heard about libraries going “fine-free,” it sounded like an overdue change and a nice idea...

Source: [The Atlantic, 04 Dec 2020](#)

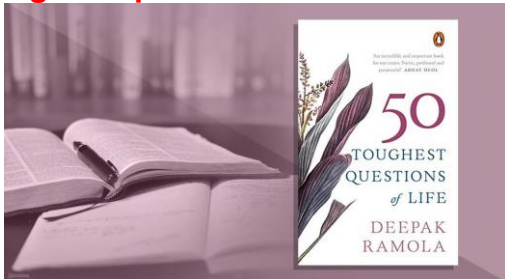
### **The value of libraries**



A proposal to divert 40 percent of the tax revenue dedicated to the New Orleans Public Library to other programs is on the ballot on December 5. New Orleanians should vote NO on Parishwide Proposition No. 2, known as the Libraries and Early Childhood Education Millage...

Source: [The Lens, 03 Dec 2020](#)

## Book seeks to answer life's 50 toughest questions



What is your life lesson? On a scale of 1 to 10, how much have you loved people and yourself? Does the world offend you or amaze you?...

Source: [The Indian Express, 03 Dec 2020](#)

## Reading relapses



It's here, an uncertain end to an unsettling year. I should be taking stock of 2020 to prepare my year-end lists, but as I look over my bookshelves, all I can see are regrets: books left unread or half-read, books I ought never to have opened, books I loved and couldn't write about, books to which I will never be able to do justice as a reviewer. So I decided to begin December with a prep column for 2021. I'm often asked, "How do I read more?" or "How do I jumpstart a lapsed reading habit?" No one answer could suit everyone. But I offer a condensed list of suggestions below. Some or all of these ideas may make you a happier, more fulfilled reader in the coming year...

Source: [Mumbai Mirror, 03 Dec 2020](#)

## 5 ways reading benefits your health — and how to make reading a daily habit



From picture books and poetry to memoirs and newspapers, reading is a lifelong habit that can have powerful benefits for your health.

Here are five proven health benefits of reading and tips to read more:

1. Reading strengthens connections in your brain
2. Reading prevents age-related cognitive decline
3. Reading reduces stress levels
4. Reading may even help you live longer
5. Reading improves memory and concentration...

Source: [Business Insider India, 01 Dec 2020](#)

## The Making of the Modern Librarian: The Value of School Libraries

A virtual reality field trip. A lesson on how to create a podcast. A tutorial on how to create a paper circuit board that uses LED lights. For a new generation of educators, these pursuits have something in common: They're all appropriate learning exercises that can take place in the school library. Makerspaces, or library media centers that encourage collaboration and support student invention, are on the rise across the United States...

Source: [eSchool News, 01 Dec 2020](#)

## 50+ Alternative Careers for Librarians



My first semester of library graduate school couldn't have started better. I had a coveted internship working in the reference department at my alma mater university. I had moved away from a non-library job and was looking forward to one day working in a library full time. Then a depressive episode hit. The depression was nothing new; I had bipolar disorder and had endured many depressions before. But something about the acute crisis I was living through that fall made it clear working in a library full time likely wouldn't be the best option for me. I would be permanently unable to work in person as my condition worsened. Still, I wanted to stick to finishing my degree, even if I had to get a little creative to use it...

Source: [Book Riot, 30 Nov 2020](#)

## Andhra Pradesh Minister starts campaign to promote reading habit among students



Education Minister Adimulapu Suresh launched 'We love reading' campaign

during a programme held to mark the Constitution Day at Venkateswara Vignana Mandiram here on Thursday. Speaking on the occasion, he said the concept of 'We love reading' is the brainchild of Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. It intends to inculcate the habit of reading among students at an early age...

Source: [The New Indian Express, 27 Nov 2020](#)

## Books by bike: Sri Lankan man runs mobile library for kids



During his leisure time, Mahinda Dasanayaka packs his motorbike with books and rides his mobile library across mostly muddy roads running through tea-growing mountain areas to underprivileged children in backward rural parts of Sri Lanka.

Having witnessed the hardships faced by children whose villages have no library facilities, Dasanayaka was looking for ways to help them. Then he got the idea for his library on wheels...

Source: [The Indian Express, 27 Nov 2020](#)

## How to remain threat-free in an increasingly IoT-driven world



The world we live in today looks drastically different than it did 10 years ago. The catalyst and driver of this large-scale change, undoubtedly, is technology. More specifically, ubiquitous innovations such as the Internet of Things (IoT), have changed almost every aspect of our lives, making things easier, more organized, and fast-paced. All major industries including manufacturing, mining, telecom, retail, logistics, education, and healthcare have witnessed transformation at the hands of IoT, making it an intrinsic part of our everyday business conversations...

Source: [Express Computer, 26 Nov 2020](#)

### **GitHub shares 'greatest hits' open source repositories with historic libraries**



Barely 12 months after launching an initiative to preserve open source software for future generations, GitHub is now sharing these collections with major libraries around the world.

The GitHub Archive Program include the GitHub Arctic Code Vault, which stores 186 reels of piqlFilm and 21 terabytes of repository data, deem under the frozen Arctic ground.

Now, GitHub is donating a collection of 17,000 'greatest hits' repositories in England, Egypt, California, and in GitHub headquarters...

Source: [bizEDGE, 26 Nov 2020](#)

### **Public Libraries Are Guiding Companies To Information They Need In Coronavirus Crisis**



The resurgence of Covid-19 across the country means business leaders have a continuing need for timely, accurate, and reliable information to help their companies and organizations survive in the months ahead.

Fortunately, thousands of public libraries coast-to-coast offer access to important and reliable sources of information and insights that can help businesses survive — and compete — in this challenging environment...

Source: [Forbes, 25 Nov 2020](#)

### **Higher education scenario – some observations**

In the background of the presently active discussions on the state of higher education in the country,

especially in the context of the New Education Policy, I would like to make a few remarks from personal experience. Earlier in this forum, I have discussed the 'ageing' of Indian universities<sup>1</sup>. The history of Indian universities – some based on indigenous Indian 'values', and most others modelled after the British system, their decay and the concomitant prominence of research institutions – but how ageing has afflicted even the latter – have all been the subject of the previous essay...

Source: [Current Science, 25 Nov 2020](#)

### **For a Hefty Fee, Nature Journals Offer Open-Access Publishing**

The academic publisher Springer Nature announced that, starting in January, authors whose articles are accepted into a *Nature*-branded journal will have an open-access option for €9,500 (approximately \$11,300 US)...

Source: [The Scientist, 24 Nov 2020](#)

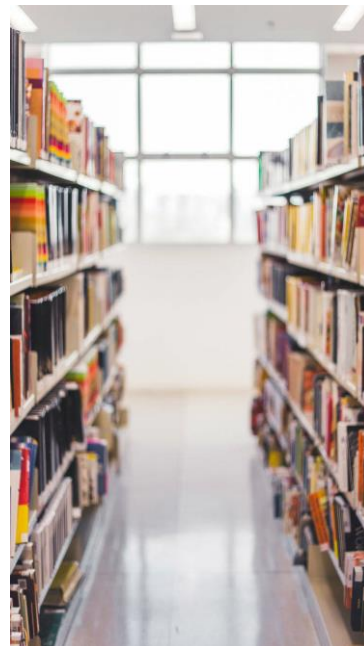
### **MKU gives free access to digitised books**

Madurai Kamaraj University has made available for free 1,296 which were digitised from its library. The Dr TPM Library has initiated the digitization work for rare books in Tamil and English literature published 60 years ago, taken from MKU

Library, with the support of Directorate of Public Libraries. The digitization work covers rare books, select distance education lessons and MKU publications etc...

Source: [Times of India, 23 Nov 2020](#)

### **Incredible Libraries from around the world**



Source: [Times Travel, 20 Nov 2020](#)

### **Libraries play a vital role in learning process**

Learning is a continuous process throughout our life. Libraries play a vital role in the learning process, starting from a young age of life to higher education, research and beyond. Libraries are gateways to knowledge and heritage and hence, also referred to as knowledge resource centres. Libraries support literacy and education. Libraries help to transform the lives and empower the people and communities with knowledge...

Source: [City Today, 19 Nov 2020](#)

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