

Rally in a Box

We challenge everyone everywhere to empower themselves and hold their own library rally. Don't feel intimidated! It doesn't have to be huge. If one person stops and asks what's going on, that is a success! If ten people stop, then you have scored a victory and made an impact in the community that you serve.

5 Rules

- No trashing the mayor (we may all want to, but it doesn't do us any good)
- No trashing the library director (again, not gonna help)
- Don't obstruct anything (roads, entry to library, etc.)
- Don't work the rally on work time (ask your individual manager for suggestions)
- Bust your ass: either do the work and hit it hard, or step aside

5 Tools

- Facebook for communications
- Flyers to spread the word
- Talking points to keep you focused
- Checklist so you don't forget anything
- Camera so you can share it

5 Talking Points

- Libraries help small businesses and job-seekers
- Libraries are the community cultural storehouse
- Libraries are cost effective and preserve community households' savings
- Libraries help kids and teens
- Libraries are democratic—everyone benefits from them

5 Activities

- **Clasping hands around the library:** Get the whole crowd into it! Find anyone you can to help—HUG your library and keep it safe! Do it even if you don't have enough to surround it!
- **Children's rally:** Let the little ones take charge! Make it a munchkin rally with tiny signs, and get the bigger kids to be your readers.
- **Mini Read-In:** Put up a sign, open a book, start reading, invite your friends, repeat! We did ours for 24 hours but you can do an hour, two, four, or more.
- **Mini-March:** March around the exterior of the library - not just once, but for a set amount of time. Patrol the perimeter, be loud, be proud, hold up your signs and protect your library like soldiers on watch!
- **Library Art Quilt:** Create and display a children's art "quilt" of paper art stapled together. Get all the kids to create art in support of the library for a few days. Staple them all together and see (and photograph) how big a space it fills! Bring it outside and show the world how much you love your library!

5-Point Checklist

- **Get the OK:** Permission from library branch manager and if necessary, the library's government affairs office
- **Tell The World!:** Make flyers & post on bulletin boards and around neighborhood
- **Include your allies:** Notify Friends group & any potential supporting organizations or groups in the neighborhood (local schools, etc.)
- **Don't overlook the obvious:** TELL YOUR CUSTOMERS
- **Prep:** Have all of your supplies ready to go - petitions, camera, sunscreen (you don't want Lauren's trucker tan!), signs, t-shirts, buttons, talking points, paper megaphone (rolled up card stock), courage, friends ♥