

REFLECTION:

I've pulled in the floor plan design assignment from LIS 508 because it was such an engaging assignment and in the end has absolutely tied in to professional activities. I enjoy puzzles and improving layouts and enjoyed the assignment but didn't realize the practical application until I first entered the first school library I was put in charge of. Just as we were ready to begin implementing a huge rearrangement of that library, it was announced that our school was closing and I was being moved to another library. Upon entering that library, I found myself facing the same issues as the first in regards to the location of the picture books and storytime area as well as other space use and flow issues. Now I'm working on another library floor plan in addition to the massive weeding project my new space comes with.

I'm happy to take on the extra labor of rearranging in that the end result is a library that makes sense to me as someone who needs to guide others through it and the resulting spaces provide an optimum experience to my patrons. Also, the surprise kids experience when they come back to school to find a reinvented library helps generate enthusiasm and excitement to explore library materials.

LIS 508 Grenier- Floor Plan Assignment

Libraries are crucial to youth in order for them to successfully transition from adolescents into adulthood according to the Young Adult Library Services Association. In order to best serve this user group libraries need to be "comfortable, inviting, open and have a vibrant and teen-friendly look and feel." In addition, libraries need to accommodate both individual and group activity to facilitate a variety of young adult socializing and learning modes. (YALSA 2012)

In renovating the floor plan of the case study library, I chose to focus on creating an arrangement that allowed staff to easily greet users upon their entering the library and also check materials out to them as they left. In conjunction with the addition of the internet work stations, staff can also easily keep a casual watch on most of the computers for appropriate use. The more distant monitors, although farther away, are visible to the general public and so might inspire users to self-police their internet browsing content.

Relocation of the circulation desk also facilitated the staff's ability to monitor new private and semi-private areas created so users could operate in a variety of individual or group modes. The lounge area, Maker's Space corner, and isolated group table allow for small meetings and study groups while individual chairs and stools placed among the book cases provide for individual and almost private experiences that can still be monitored from the circulation desk. Throughout the library are moveable small tables and chairs that can be arranged to facilitate spontaneous small group and individual needs.

The original floor plan suffered from an unappealing and limiting entrance as well as an excess of "work" space that could only turn into a storage or dumping ground. Expanding the entrance to improve the visibility of the library for those passing in the hall as well as easing traffic flow past the circulation desk help make the library more inviting. The addition of a New Titles informational kiosk that is visible to those passing the library also makes the facility more interesting to those passing by. Reducing the area of the work room and adding counter surfaces increased its functionality and created two new spaces for both group and individual activities and helps address a wider variety of young adult socializing and learning modes.

The center of the library can support a visit from a class or unstructured small group or individual traffic. The round tables can serve as audience space for the presentation area or be folded away to create more formal seating.

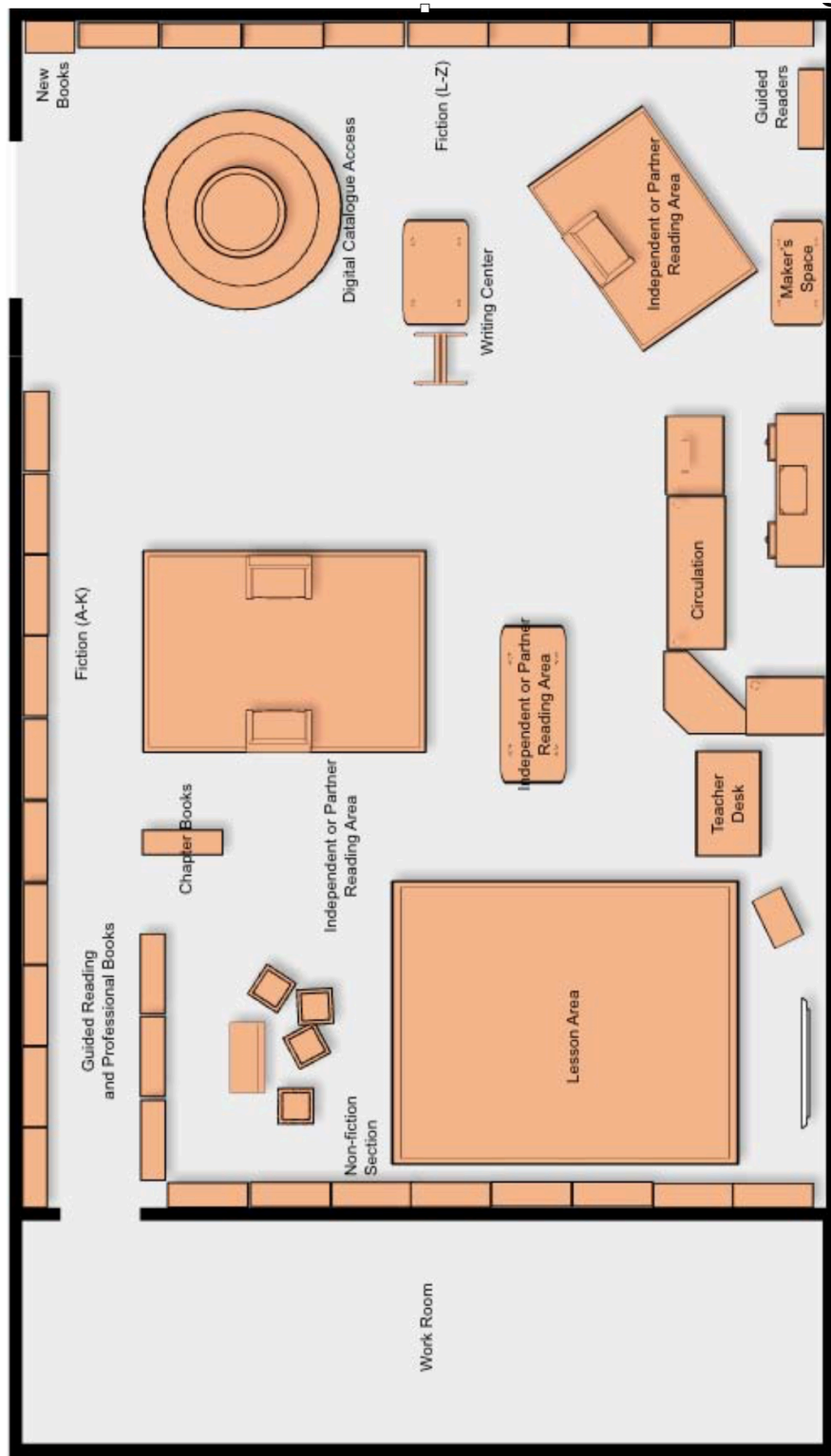
These improvements should help staff to better interact with library users while at the same time providing a variety of opportunities for small group and individual learning and social experiences. By making the facility more welcoming and efficient, this library moves closer towards the YALSA ideal of creating for teens a "deeper engagement" with the library that will help them recognize it as "an essential part of the community" (YALSA 2016).

Works Cited

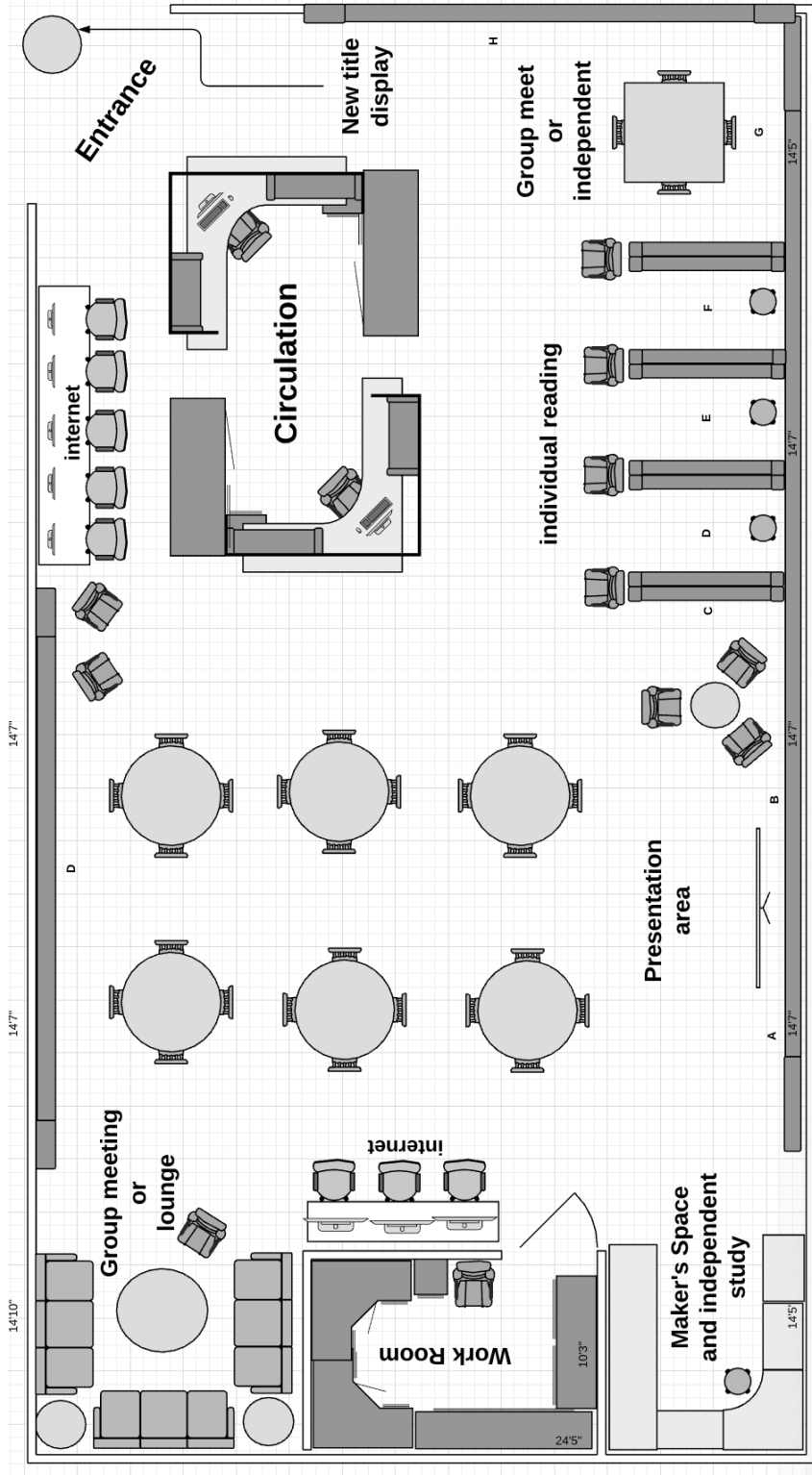
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Case Study Library Floor Plan



Revised Floor Plan



Revised Floor Plan Book Case Section Key

A-B	General Fiction
C	Graphic Novels
D (north)	Non-fiction and History
D (south)	Art and Poetry
E	Realistic fiction
F	Personal/ Mental Health
G	Natural Science
H	Professional, Reference.