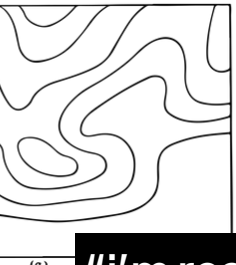
HOW TO BUILD A LIBRARY & SPACE TO BREATHE

pathways to action

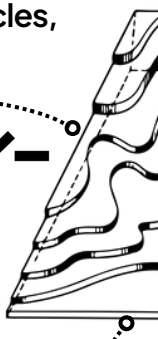
First and next steps in exploring the histories and futures of our local libraries, prisoner solidarity, and abolitionist organising.



"i'm ready to get started!" (5 minutes)

- [ ] Join your local library: it's harder to shut them down if we show how valuable they are to us! bit.ly/4nvymsO
- [ ] Browse this list of things you can do at your library – it's not just books! Access music lessons, academic articles, help with driving theory, and more. bit.ly/42siHm0

"let's dive in!" (20 mins–couple hours)



- [ ] Borrow a book from your local library, or use a resource or service from the above list that you haven't before.
- [ ] Scotland's prison population grows at one of the highest rates in the world. Contact Glasgow Prisoner Solidarity to attend their monthly meetings and get involved with their work. bit.ly/4nFENJX
- [ ] Attend Malik Al Nasir's free talk at the National Libraries of Scotland on slavery, sugar and legacy – exploring how the transatlantic slave trade shaped cities from Liverpool to Glasgow. bit.ly/4nX1MAz
- [ ] Visit the National Libraries of Scotland's 'Dear Library' exhibition, "a love letter to libraries". bit.ly/4ncUdWi

email a photo of your checklist – doesn't have to be completed – to info@takeoneaction.org.uk to enter a prize draw!

"i'd like to read more!"

- POETRY: 'In Wolf's Skin' by Titilayo Farukuoye
- BOOK, FORTHCOMING: 'But We Did: Dismantling Colonialist Myths Towards Collective Liberation' by Titilayo Farukuoye
- ARTICLE: 'Building Abolition from Scotland's history of resistance to the prison' by John Moore bit.ly/4nGivYH
- BOOK: 'Brick by Brick: How We Build a World Without Prisons' by Cradle Community
- REVIEW: 'Edinburgh Slavery and Colonialism Legacy', scroll to page 8: bit.ly/4gv1D4v

"things to listen to?"

- 'Taking Root: Scotland's Green Libraries': a podcast celebrating libraries' essential role in tackling climate crisis. bit.ly/46rIs70
- 'Harm, Punishment, and Abolition with Mariame Kaba' on Finding Our Way podcast bit.ly/46xEkCL

"more things to watch please!"

- 'The Quilters' on Netflix – a short doc about inmates at a maximum-security prison in Missouri sewing beautiful, personalised quilts for foster children.

"let's keep exploring!"

- Explore Edinburgh libraries beyond books: the Edinburgh Library of Things, Edinburgh Tool Library, the Gorgie Dalry Toy Library, Porty Community Energy's cargo bike library, your local musical instrument library: bit.ly/41VbMSb