

**Four County Library System
Youth Services Meeting
12 October 2018 – Oxford Memorial Library**

Libraries represented: EN, BCPL, STA, VE, SP, HART, FE(2), ONA, NO, OX(2), SNB, SID(2), WA, NI, DE, RS (via GoToMeeting), SM (via GoToMeeting)

- **Read for the Record** – October 25 - <https://www.jstart.org/activities-resources-toolkit/>
This is an annual national event led by JumpStart. The link above gives ideas for activities to go along with the book, which this year is *Maybe Something Beautiful*. If you have an event already scheduled for that day, it would be great to include this book and be counted toward the world record!
- **Reading = HOPE x CHANGE** - <http://everychildareader.net/readinghopechange/>
This is a program from Jacqueline Woodson, who is the current National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature. There are downloadable activity guides and suggested reading lists. This is an opportunity to have conversations with children and teens who love to read and want to understand people who come from different backgrounds.
- **Take Your Child to the Library Day** – February 2, 2019 – www.takeyourchildtothelibrary.org
Just an opportunity to celebrate spending family time at the library! This website has a downloadable activity guide, too. Erin from SID shared that she has done it in the past and made the day into a sort of sampler of all of the during-the-week activities that happen for children at the library.
- **Advance copies of books**
Just a reminder that advance copies should not be added to your collections. Publishers provide these as a way to get us (and our patrons) excited about new titles, but they do not want us to add them to be circulated in place (or in addition to) the completed book. Often, the advance copies have mistakes, and the content will sometimes change before the final version of the book comes out.

To recognize an advance copy: Chapter books will almost always say something on the cover and/or the spine about the fact that it’s an ARC (advance review copy)—often it will say what date the official book comes out. For picture books, “F&G’s” (folded & gathered) will have no binding—they’ll be floppy with no cover and unattached pages.

- **Folkmanis puppet order**
A couple of libraries have expressed interest in doing a consolidated order. We would send out an order form for you to return to us, and we would place the order and bill you for what you purchased. If we (as a group) spend at least \$200, we can receive the bulk order price, which is significantly less than the list prices. Consensus was that people would like to order before the end of 2018, so Sarah will send out the information by the beginning of November.

- **Storytime Kits** - http://libraries.4cls.org/4cls/?page_id=1730

Sarah has been working on some new storytime kits. I've got 6 done so far and more on the way. You can see the contents and activities on the intranet (link above), and you can place holds on them in Workflows. If you have any ideas for storytime topics that you'd like to be included, please let Sarah know.

A question was raised about whether these storytime kits are available to be checked out by patrons. At this point, yes, they are available to patrons, with the idea that they might be borrowed by teachers and/or parents. If it starts to become a problem of kits coming back with missing parts, etc., we will revisit the issue and potentially make them available only to member library staff.

- **Summer Reading 2019**

It might be hard to think of it now, but Sarah received the SRP catalogs with next year's theme. She expects to receive the manuals on the USB flash drives in November and will send them out shortly after they arrive. She will send the catalogs at the same time. The Collaborative Summer Library Program online store is open, however, if you'd like to take a look and start placing orders: <https://www.csipreads.org/> A request was made to place a consolidated order for print versions of the SRP manual—information about that will be forthcoming.

SRP Updates from the State Library:

- Over the course of the summer (May 1 to September 30), the myON ebooks usage for the Four County Library System was as follows: 549 books opened and 3,006 minutes read.
- READsquared – this online registration product is available statewide at NO COST to local libraries or systems. Libraries considering R2 for the coming year should sign up NOW to get basic training and gain familiarity with the product, so they will be better prepared to use it for Summer Reading 2019. Sign up for a free R2 account <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/summer/readsquared.htm>
- CSLP is looking for programming ideas for the 2020 manual (theme is fairytales, mythology, fantasy). For more information or to submit an idea, go to <https://www.csipreads.org/2020-idea-submission/>

- **Partnerships and Outreach Workshop** – November 28

Part of the Ready to Read at New York Libraries initiative from the State Library. Many of you have already taken this training, but many have not. Sarah will be reaching out to those who haven't received it to offer them the opportunity.

After this workshop, there will be one more provided with an opportunity for mini-grants with funding from the Family Literacy Grant. The focus for the next three-year Family Literacy Grant cycle has not yet been determined by the State Library. Several people agreed that it might be nice to have a focus on teens, and someone asked if they could let the State Library know what they'd like to see as the topic for the funding. If you'd like to do this, you can contact Sharon

Phillips at Sharon.Phillips@nysed.gov. (Sharon is very busy, but she is also really nice!)

- **Supercharged Storytimes Training**

There will be an online series of trainings called “Supercharged Storytimes” offered through the State Library between now and the end of March. This is a great opportunity to get some new strategies to incorporate into your storytimes, and it will offer continuing education credits for those who need them. The training has been created by Saroj Ghoting, who is a well-respected early childhood literacy consultant and has worked with American Library Association representatives on a number of initiatives. The trainings are free, and the information about registering can be found here: <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/earlylit/ssa/training.htm>

- **Reading Ambassadors** – www.readtogethersb.com

Reading Ambassadors is a program created by the Santa Barbara Public Library for second-, third-, and fourth-graders to train them to be storytellers. The idea is to build confidence in children, especially those who are struggling and/or reluctant readers, by giving them tips about how to effectively share a story with a younger child or a caregiver. The larger goal is to encourage shared reading in families and households. The training is relatively simple and could potentially be offered with both large and small groups. The link above will take you to a website that includes a toolkit with all of the information you might need to replicate this program in your community.

- **STEM for Babies and Toddlers** – www.bklynlib.org/stembabiestoddlers

The Brooklyn Public Library received a grant to create STEM programs for babies and toddlers, and they have made all of their activity plans available at the link above. When they did the program, they would select several activities to set up around the room and let families explore as they wanted to. However, it would be pretty easy to incorporate one or two of these activities at a time into an existing storytime or program. The books that they cited as helping to build these activities have been purchased for the 4CLS professional collection:

- *Baby Steps to STEM: Infant and Toddler Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Activities* by Jean G. Barbre, EdD
- *Loose Parts 2: Inspiring Play with Infants and Toddlers* by Lisa Daly and Miriam Beloglovsky
- *STEM Made Simple: 25 Activities by Preschool Teachers and Science and Technology* by Marcella Weiner

- **Sharing from member libraries**

- **Deposit** – Deb shared that they are starting a Read With Me program, which is similar to the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program. This is for children from infant to beginning readers, and they’ll receive prizes for every 100 books they read.
- **Stamford** – Pat shared that her patrons are enjoying a Melissa + Doug play grocery store that they added to the children’s area. They’re working on making space that will focus on children instead of being a multiuse space.

- Walton – April is looking for ideas about doing escape rooms for teens, and other libraries offered suggestions of staff members to contact. She will also be doing a children’s pumpkin painting program.
- Endicott – Sara-Jo shared that she will be debuting an Expectant Parents Storytime in November, which she hopes will get parents excited to read to their children as soon as they’re born.
- South New Berlin – Robin asked about how to deal with teens who loiter outside the library to use the wifi access. They are respectful when they’re in the library, but they get kind of rowdy outdoors. She wants them to feel welcome at the library, but she doesn’t want them to deter others from entering. Some suggestions included creating an outdoor teen space in a better location, away from the library entrance, and to involve the teens in setting up the space so that they’ll take ownership of it. Robin is also working on the logistics to be a satellite location for the school’s summer lunch program.
- Oxford – Jess shared that the library will be hosting a haunted house on October 27. They will have a party for younger kids in the afternoon with a no-so-scary maze, and then in the evening, there will be a scarier maze for older kids and adults. On Halloween they’ll have candy for trick-or-treaters and include the kids’ maze, as well. Jess also mentioned that Fidelis Care has been great about providing donations for many of her programs.
- Vestal – Anna shared that she is working on a Winter Wonderland storytime, including creating stuffed animals from Noah’s Ark Workshop. The program registration filled up very quickly, so she’s looking to offer the program again in the spring. She is also working on encouraging teens to participate in library programming.
- Oneonta – Kathryn has also used Noah’s Ark Workshop—she said that people love the program, but when the products arrive, check to make sure all the parts are there. Kathryn is working on bringing in teens and encouraging them to be kind and respectful to one another and to the library. She’s having weekly Teen Zone activities, including a writing group.
- Sidney – Heather is working on teen programs. Erin mentioned that she had good luck with getting parents to sign up to provide snacks for children’s programs.
- BCPL – Kelsey shared about a Halloween costume swap that the library is hosting. People are dropping off costumes and will return on a designated day to look through and choose a new costume.

- **Next meeting** – Scheduled for December 7. Location to be announced.