

**Meeting called to order at 9:32 AM**

**January 2020 TLN YS Committee Meeting Minutes** were approved with a motion by Sara Hodgson (Wixom) and seconded by Erin Look (Auburn Hills).

**March 2020 TLN YS Committee Meeting Agenda** was amended to add a discussion of COVID-19 and how libraries are handling it and to remove the “Working with Your Friends Group” and “Summer Reading Update” discussions with a motion by Lauren Baker (Plymouth) and seconded by Sara Hodgson (Wixom). The amended agenda was then approved with a motion by Jocelyn Levin (Lyon), and seconded by Cathy Gimby (Baldwin).

Jocelyn Levin (LYON) mentioned that the Michigan Library Association Spring Institute Conference is being postponed due to the Governor’s social distancing suggestion of having no gatherings of more than 100 people. For details, check [www.milibraries.org/spring-institute](http://www.milibraries.org/spring-institute). KitLit Con in Ann Arbor has also been postponed. The Adaptive Umbrella workshop has been adapted to a virtual workshop on September 23rd. Registration is free and more details about the day can be found here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/adaptive-umbrella-tickets-75744857909>. There were no TLN updates.

**Serving Adults with Special Needs:**

**Redford** has a group of developmentally disabled teens/adults who have been visiting and volunteering at the library three times a week for the past two years. Their school provides the transportation to the library and they clean books and vacuum. Redford has a sensory-friendly area of the library and has a bin of sensory materials available for patrons to use.

**Plymouth’s** adult volunteer coordinator manages a regular group who bring adults in their care to the library to volunteer. There are also a few caregivers and some developmentally challenged adults who are regular patrons who often ask staff if they can help clean books with disinfectant wipes.

**Wixom** has had some Walled Lake Consolidated Schools’ Life Skills classes visit lately. There are questions as to who at the library should be coordinating groups such as these.

**Baldwin** has developmentally disabled adults who visit to volunteer twice per week. The Youth Services department is not involved in coordinating their work.

**Lincoln Park** has developmentally disabled patrons who often attend regular programming at the library but no formal volunteers.

**Auburn Hills** has AWE computers in their youth area that are very popular with developmentally disabled adults who visit the library. Sometimes a local school district has been dropping in to storytime with developmentally disabled children, but the group often come in just as the program is starting and leave a bit before it ends, so staff has not been able to talk to teachers about other opportunities to serve their group.

**Cromaine** is offering sensory storytime as an event (a few others libraries said they are too). Their teen librarian has scheduled a private program for Freedom Work Opportunities to do storytime especially for their group.

**Baldwin** has had a circulating toy collection for many years and about 4 years ago started consciously adding a number of toys specially designed for children with gross motor needs, sensory needs, among others. The toys work well for children with and without developmental disabilities.

**Bloomfield Township's** similar circulating kits used to be called the Special Needs Collection, but have been rebranded the Accessibility Support Collection.

### **Intergenerational Services: Welcoming Adults with Disabilities at the Library**

Jen Taggart, Bloomfield Township Public Library, Creator of the Adaptive Umbrella Workshop

ALWAYS presume competence – patrons/aides are the ones who will let you know if otherwise

### **Disability Awareness**

DD = Developmental Disabilities

Present before age 18

Lifelong

Often cognitive and/or intellectual and/or physical

Cognitive could be autism, or a neuro-developmental disorder

Cognitive plus intellectual could be Down Syndrome

ID = Intellectual Disabilities

Falls under the DD umbrella

Impairment to cognitive abilities

May have problems with reasoning skills, life skills or problem solving skills

Use Reference USA to find all of the group homes in your service area. You'll be surprised how many there are.

Accessibility is all about letting them know they are welcome in all areas of the library before they even enter the library. We should be making it clear starting with our websites and have an “Accessibility Services” page on our website. It can include “social narratives” to help people prepare for visiting. “Social Stories” were created by a west Michigan teacher to help students become familiar with unfamiliar situations, but they are also great for patrons dealing with PTSD or dementia.

#### Accessibility Tools

- Active Minds is an amazing website and has their own merchant page on Amazon. It is geared toward people with dementia, but their fidgets are great for everyone.
- Springbok Company is great
- Large Print simple word searches
- Simpler adult coloring pages

#### Storytime for Adults

Bloomfield Twp. Public Library adapted their Youth Sensory Storytime to be age-respectful for adult participants. An Adult Services Librarian worked with Jen, who is the Assistant Department Head of Youth Services.

1. Talk about the day’s theme – social skill development
2. Have a visual schedule
3. Yoga and Mindfulness
4. Read picture books with photographic illustrations or otherwise non-babyish styles of illustration, nonfiction picture books are great, Abdo Publishing has some great ones, April Puller Sayre’s are good, Kate Messner has good stories.
5. Short Video – hula dancing was a hit
6. Activity or Craft – they made the Australia Opera House once. Dot markers are great for those with low motor skill abilities

If your visitors want to be in the youth area, welcome them, but they should be equally welcome in adult areas as well.

Check out the Michigan Alliance for Cultural Accessibility

The term “developmentally disabled” is preferred over “differently-abled” or “special needs”

#### Two Big Takeaways:

ALWAYS ASSUME COMPETENCE and BE AGE RESPECTFUL

Jen asked me to also share the link to join the new Accessibility Services listserv,

MiLibAccess <http://lists.mcls.org/mailman/listinfo/milibaccess>

and a few recent posts on accessibility in virtual programming:

<https://adaptiveumbrella.blogspot.com/2020/04/accessible-virtual-programming.html>

<https://www.clel.org/single-post/2020/04/07/What-If-Accessibility-is-a-Right-Not-a-Request>

### Coronavirus

As our meeting progressed, more and more emails came through with libraries closing through April 6 or until further notice or staying open only for curbside pickup of holds. Some libraries are rescheduling programs, others are just cancelling them outright. There was a suggestion to have patrons scan their own library cards at the circulation desk to cut down on staff touching them.

Karen Dobson (Milford) recommended *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean, a nonfiction book about the mystery of the 1986 Los Angeles Public Library fire:

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/39507318-the-library-book>

**Meeting Adjourned** at 11:50 AM with a motion by Jocelyn Levin (Lyon), and seconded by Erin Look (Auburn Hills).

Our next TLN Youth Services Committee Meeting is planned for **Friday, August 8, 2020**, online due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

### In Attendance:

Erin Look	Auburn Hills
Cathy Gimby	Birmingham Baldwin
Nichole Welz	Canton
Maeve Devlin	Hartland Cromaine
Anita Zelman	Lincoln Park
Jocelyn Levin	Lyon Twp
Karen Dobson	Milford
Whitney Schillak	Milford
Lauren Baker	Plymouth
Suzy Migrin	Redford
Janna VanHouten	TLN
Sara Hodgson	Wixom

Respectfully submitted,  
Jocelyn Levin, Lyon Twp.

## **Want to Know More About Serving Adults with IDD in Your Library?** **Check Out These Resources:**

### **General Issues**

**Blog Post** by Tess Pendergrast: “What About Adults with Disabilities in Libraries?”

<https://inclusiveearlyliteracy.wordpress.com/2016/07/03/what-about-adults-with-disabilities-in-libraries/>

### **Sensory Storytime for Adults:**

**Guest Blog post** by Jen Taggart and Ed Niemchak:

<http://brycekozlablog.blogspot.com/2018/09/sensory-story-time-for-adults.html>

**Adaptive Umbrella Blog:** Adults in the Youth Room? Welcoming Adults with Developmental Disabilities in the Library: <https://adaptiveumbrella.blogspot.com/search?q=adult>

### **Next Chapter Book Club:**

**Official website:** <https://www.nextchapterbookclub.org>.

**Webinars:** Literacy and Community Building for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities.

<https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/next-chapter-book-club-webinar.html>

**You Belong @ Your Library:** Programming for Adults with Developmental Disabilities.

<http://programminglibrarian.org/learn/you-belong-your-library-programming-adults-intellectual-disabilities>

**Blog Post:** “Serving Adults with Disabilities at Your Library” by Trinity Lescallett (Tiffin-Seneca Public Library, OH)

<https://ideas.demco.com/blog/serving-adults-disabilities-library/>

**Article:** “Everyone on the Same Page: Adults with Disabilities Find Engagement, Community in Book Clubs” by Alison Marcotte, *American Libraries*, June 3, 2019

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2019/06/03/everyone-same-page-adult-book-clubs/>

### **Other Ideas:**

**Insiders: A Story About Libraries and People Once Outside**, video from Contra Costa County Library, California <http://guides.ccclib.org/insiders>

“District 303 students to run cafe in St. Charles Library” article in the Daily Herald (Chicago area) 1/30/19. <https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20190130/district-303-students-to-run-cafe-in-st-charles-library>

“Services to the Developmentally Disabled” by Leslie Lea Nord (2015)  
<http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2015/01/reaching-out/>

“Aging Out of Sensory Storytime: How Libraries Can Provide Services for Teens and Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum” by Megan Cottrell, *American Libraries*, 4/29/16.  
<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2016/04/29/libraries-autism-services-aging-sensory-storytime/>

Prepared for: Not a Kid Anymore: How and Why to Serve Adults with Disabilities in the Adult Department  
American Libraries Association Annual Conference 2019, Washington, D.C.

# Adult & Teen Sensory Storytelling Program Themes

## Themes

- Music (Jazz, Classical, Opera, Rock, Blues, Folk, Pop, etc.)
- Animals (Birds, Fish, Cats, Dogs, Lizards, Dinosaurs, Amphibians, etc.)
- Space
- Things That Grow
- Government
- Nutrition
- 7 Wonders of the Ancient World
- Seasons
- Earth Day
- In the Garden
- In the Kitchen
- Down by the Pond
- Going Places (Airport, Restaurant, Museum, Nature Center, etc.)
- In the Community (Police Station, Fire House, Library, Post Office, etc.)
- A Day at the Beach
- Countries Around the World
- Our United States
- STEM topics (Water Cycle, Electricity, Engineering/Building, etc.)
- Weather
- Rhythm & Music
- Art/Artists
- Folktales

## Programming Resource Books

- ***Sensory-being for Sensory Beings: Creating Entrancing Sensory Experiences*** by Joanna Grace
- ***Sensory Stories for Children and Teens with Special Educational Needs*** by Joanna Grace
- ***Programming for Children and Teens with Autism Spectrum Disorder*** by Barbara Klipper
- **Adaptive Umbrella blog**  
[www.adaptiveumbrella.blogspot.com](http://www.adaptiveumbrella.blogspot.com)

# Adult & Teen Sensory Storytme Program Themes

## Books

- ***A Butterfly is Patient & A Seed is Sleepy*** by Dianna Aston
- ***I Want to Be an Astronaut*** by Byron Barton
- ***If You Were A Fish*** by S. J. Calder
- ***The Tiny Seed*** by Eric Carle
- ***This Jazz Man*** by Karen Ehrhardt
- ***How the Government Works*** by Jeanne Marie Ford
- ***How Do You Know It's Fall?*** by Allan Fowler
- ***Halloween Is..., St. Patrick's Day Is..., & Valentine's Day Is...*** by Gail Gibbons
- ***Have You Heard the Nesting Bird?*** By Rita Gray
- ***Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building*** by Christy Hale
- ***Colors Everywhere*** by Tana Hoban
- ***How People Learned to Fly*** by Fran Hodgkins
- ***A Listen to Classical Music & A Listen to Jazz*** by Colleen Hord
- ***Rabbit, Nest, & Every Color Soup*** by Jorey Hurley
- ***Trees*** by Lemniscates
- ***Rain Forests*** by Nancy Smiler Levinson
- ***Tap the Magic Tree*** by Christie Matheson
- ***Over and Under the Snow*** by Kate Messner
- ***Italy & the Italians*** by Ed Needham
- ***Oooh! Matisse*** by Mil Niepold
- ***A Visit to England*** by Chris Oxlade & Anita Ganeri
- ***Winter, Winter, Cold and Snow*** by Sharon Palermo
- ***Autumn Leaves*** by Ken Robbins
- ***Why is Blue Dog Blue? A Tale of Colors*** by George Rodrigue
- ***Best in Snow, Rah Rah Radishes, & Thank You Earth*** by April Pulley Sayre
- ***This is the Rain*** by Lola Schaefer
- ***Wired*** by Anastasia Suen
- ***Mr. Brown Can Moo, Can You?*** by Dr. Seuss
- ***My Many Colored Days*** by Dr. Seuss
- ***Arctic White*** by Danna Smith
- ***The Leopard's Drum: an Asante Tale from West Africa*** by Jessica Souhami
- ***In Space*** by Louise and Richard Spilsbury
- ***Hooray for Farmers*** by Kurt Waldendorf
- ***Mama Built A Little Nest & What Will Grow?*** by Jennifer Ward
- ***Bear Snores On*** by Karma Wilson
- ***The Big Book of Bugs*** by Yuval Zommer
- **Non-fiction picture books published by Abdo Kids**
- **First Discovery Music Series**