

Social & Emotional Health Programs at Public Libraries: Brought to you by the CCWB

PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE	COST (per location)	FOR MORE INFORMATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS	LIBRARY	LOCATION	SUBMITTED BY
Mindfulness in Early Childhood	Children of all ages can benefit from mindfulness. Learn about the effects of mindfulness on brain function and development while also enjoying the practice. Throughout the workshop, we'll demonstrate different breathing, song, and movement activities that are appropriate for children 1-8 years old to help you implement mindfulness into your daily lives with children.	Early Childhood	Free	www.denverlibrary.org/earlylearning		Denver Public Library	Denver, CO	Natalie Magnatta
Family Yoga & Mindfulness Jars	Connect with your little one through a series of mindfulness activities, fun stretches, and relationship-building partner poses. Learn skills to cultivate mindful practices and make a calming glitter Mindfulness Jar to take the practice home with you. Ideal for ages 1-6.	Early Childhood	Free	www.denverlibrary.org/earlylearning	Must be requested by a library branch or school/classroom	Denver Public Library	Denver, CO	Natalie Magnatta
Trauma Informed Best Practices in Early Childhood	This research-based presentation provides information on brain development and how stress and trauma affect the brain with the goal of creating storytimes and lessons that are responsive to all students. Explore best practices for Trauma Informed / Healing Centered classrooms, including ways to connect with students, soothing songs and energetic activities to help with brain development, and practices to improve self-regulation.	Early Childhood	Free	denverlibrary.org/earlylearning	Must be requested by a classroom/school or library	Denver Public Library	Denver, CO	Natalie Magnatta
Emoji Fun!	Share your emotions using flannel emojis. The kids receive an 8.5x11 piece of flannel for the back, a variety of colored flannel die-cut circles (red = anger, blue = sad, green = jealous, yellow = surprised, happy or ??, etc.) to use however they like, sheet of emoji's w/emotions listed, sharpies to draw faces, yarn to roll up flannel when they're done talking about feelings). Kids can show their families what happened during their day if they can't verbalize their feelings, and/or the emojis can be a starting point to a conversation about feelings. The kids receive a sheet of breathing exercises to try. We will do tree pose and try square breathing. We will have books on breathing, yoga, feelings. The read aloud is "Out of a Jar" by Deborah Marcano. Other books to highlight are "How to Party Like a Snail" by Naseem Hrb about being an introvert, and "I am Okay to Feel" by Jaramo Brown with activities to help express emotions by Dr. Farzana Saleem and Dr. Aubrey Harrison.	K-2nd	Scrap flannel and paper	https://www.wakegov.com/events/k-2nd-emoji-fun-january-10th-2023-0430pm	This program is designed to help children 1) identify emotions; 2) relate their emotions to trusted adults; 3) learn self-care routines such as yoga, breathing, and expressing their feelings.	Wake County/Eva Perry Regional Library	Apex, NC	Linda Griswold
All the Feels	We discussed neuroplasticity-the ability of the brain to retrain itself to replace negative thoughts and patterns with positive ones. We made breathing buddies (large 3" pompons decorated with googly eyes, feet, hats, clothes from scrap flannel) so kids could put them on their stomach to make sure they're breathing from their stomachs and not their chests. The kids made journals (composition books, leftover scrapbook paper, washi tape, packing tape, stickers with encouraging and affirming phrases) and in the back inside cover put sensory materials (scratchy paper, bubble wrap, and flannel) to bring them back to the present moment. The kids were given a sheet of journal prompts to keep inside their journals, as well as a sheet of breathing exercises. As a group, we tried and/or discussed the breathing exercises and other self-care routines in "My Mixed Emotions" by Elinor Green, and we highlighted books on self-care. The kids also made a water bead/balloon sensory toy to take home.	3rd-5th	\$1-50	Linda Griswold. I did this program in November 2022.	I should have bought the journals in the summer when they're very inexpensive. Everything else was leftovers from other programs.	Wake Libraries, Eva Perry Regional Library	Apex, NC	Linda Griswold
Kindness Club	Library program for children ages 5 to 11 to help cultivate kindness in our community! Kids can participate in fun activities, projects, and crafts designed to encourage kindness & help make the world a better place! The program layout is as follows: - Introduction and icebreaker. Usually we go over what is kindness and each child gives an example of an act of kindness they have had done for them or they have done or would like to do. We will put these on a paper chain and display them to see how it grows. - Explanation of project. An example: Making cards for local children in the hospital and learning about giving without the expectation of receiving. - Project time. Time to lay out supplies and allow children to complete projects. - Wrap up. End with sharing time, ideas for future kindness activities, hand out kindness cards at the end (encourage them to leave them around own for strangers or to do an act of kindness of their own and leave a card behind to pay it forward).	Children	Anywhere between free and 75.00 generally	lee.gov.com/library/programs	Our library system has two branches that currently run the Kindness Club program. There are different activities each month and vary by branch. Some examples are painting kindness rocks, making blankets for Project Linus, decorating cardboard boxes or reusable tote bags for food and clothing drives for the locally underserved, or even making vision boards and self-care kits to exemplify kindness to ourselves.	Lee County Library System	Northwest Regional	Kelly Amodeo
School Partnership SEL Display	Our local elementary school has a SEL topic for each month, as many schools do. They share the list with us at the beginning of the school year and we create a book display in our library each month. The school promotes the library display. The sign accompanying the display includes the school logo, library logo, month name, and topic. Because we have the list in advance, it's easy to plan all at once.	Children	Free		A quick and easy school partnership activity.	GCLS - Glassboro Branch	Glassboro, NJ	Cindy Simerlink
Kids' Action Club	The inspiration for Kids' Action Club came during the pandemic when there was so much need and people (especially kids) could feel like there was no way for them to help. The club began as the aftermath of the "Kid President of LPL" election-themed series where kids ran for office and chose a service project that they do if they were elected Kid President. The Kids' Action Club was formed from the group that came to the Kid President series and wanted to help make the service project happen. Our first service project was to raise money for the Lawrence Community Shelter. We raised over \$6,000 through a raffle and the kids really bonded, felt proud and did some concrete good for our community. We're now in our third year of KAC and have had three rounds of elections each fall where we meet local leaders and learn about community organizations making a difference in Lawrence. We've raised over \$3,000 for the humanitarian needs of Ukraine through and art and bake sale (proceeds went to the International Committee of the Red Cross). We've also made hundreds of art kits for youth in foster care, our community shelter, and through the library. Here's our program description: "Do you want to help make life in Lawrence better? Join Kids' Action Club to meet local leaders, meet new friends, and carry out some amazing service projects both big and small. Join KAC and let's see what cool things we can do!"	Children	\$1-50	Library website, by emailing me (Jenny Cook, jcook@lplks.org) or on our website. January's meeting link is here: https://lawrence.bibliocommons.com/events/63693657c811c34100bc41de	We have around 20 kids who are active in the group and some of their parents stay as well. In the new year we'll aim to receive the President's Volunteer Service Award (which comes with a letter from the President of the United States, a coin and a certificate- pretty exciting!).	Lawrence Public Library	Lawrence, Kansas	Jenny Cook
Fun with Fideaux	Dr. Dogs Therapy Group is back to bring in trained therapy dogs for children to read to. Children can practice their reading skills in a non-judgmental environment and make friends with both people and dogs.	Children	Free	https://www.calcasieulibrary.org/		Calcasieu Parish Public Library	Lake Charles Louisiana	Katie Pennington
Cat Tales - A Reading Program for Kids, Cats & Kittens	Breaking news! The library is teaming up with Hobo Hotel for the purr-fect Saturday! Ready to work on your litter-acy and read to cats? Meet us on Saturday, August 13th, for a paws-itively great time! Children in kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to practice their literacy skills while reading to cats and kittens at Hobo Hotel! Join the library at 650 E. School St., Lake Charles, LA 70607. Parking is limited, so registration is required.	Children	Free	https://www.calcasieulibrary.org/		Calcasieu Parish Public Library	Calcasieu Parish Public Library- Louisiana	Katie Pennington
Music & Fun!	Brings children together to meet others and add movement to their day. Covid has isolated us all. This program brings our community together and the music is uplifting and fun! Everyone leave feeling happier and by offering it weekly they make friends. I incorporate shakers, parachute & bubbles to add to the social experience, which lifts their emotions.	Children	Free	Our library website or the Events listed on our Facebook page	It's a fun safe way to make friends and learn about the importance of movement at a young age.	West Lafayette Public Library	West Lafayette, IN	Gail Mesecar
Open Art Studio	Lincoln Library is presenting : Open Art Studio! This opportunity is funded by the Five Town Friends of the Arts, in collaboration with Betsy Graziadei. In light of the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on children and families, this program serves to create opportunity to address health and wellness needs within a community art setting. Kids can visit, observe, or choose to make art with selected materials. An art therapist serves to facilitate participation as they feel comfortable. Participants will be guided with predictable routines and expectations for safe, independent and productive use of art media in the setting. They will be supported in engaging verbally and non-verbally throughout the process that provides the necessary conditions to practice self-regulation, build executive function and communication skills while expressing themselves with their chosen materials.	Children	Free	We held three session in March and April, and invited people on Front Porch forum and through social media and our newsletter.	Betsy Graziadei is a professional Art therapist, so her experience added much to our program. Since the spring when we had her pilot program, we have been doing a close approximation by ourselves in order to continue the work.	Lincoln Library	Lincoln, VT	Wendy McIntosh

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Teen Talk	Teen Talk was not an original idea, it was mentioned during a summer reading workshop and I knew this was the program our library needed for teens in our area. Teen Talk is a one-hour monthly program where teens can come in and sit with programming staff and members of the community. They can talk about whatever they'd like and understand that due to our privacy policy, whatever they say will not leave the room. They also are aware that we are mandated reporters and are required by law to report things such as neglect or abuse. With the full support of our Programming Supervisor, Megan Riley, and our Director, Erin Chesnut, we reached out into the community to find support for this program and found Big Brothers Big Sisters. John Jaramillo from BBBS agreed to come sit in during Teen Talk. I printed out free mindfulness coloring pages and provided color pencils so the teens could keep their mind and body busy while talking. The teens were really nervous at first (We just had two teens to start) but when they got comfortable, they really opened up to us and the teens were very supportive of each other. We initially opened up the program to teens ages 10-19 but after a false-alarm active shooter situation at a local school, we decided to open it up to ages 13-19. Now that we've had a few Teen Talk programs, I now offer stuffed toys to cuddle, fidget toys, coloring books, gel pens, and refreshments. We even had a teen sign up for Big Brothers Big Sisters, which will be very beneficial. I set out a sheet of hotline numbers for them to take if needed and if we feel like a teen is in need of a community resource, we do our best to get it for them. When advertising, we make sure to place a disclaimer. Beauregard Parish Library staff and community attendees are not therapists and are therefore not licensed to provide therapy sessions to attending teens. We are offering teens a space to talk about their issues and can refer them to counselors should the need arise. I do recommend having an adult/teen ratio of 1:1 or at most 1:2. I attempted a Teen Talk alone one month and had 5 teens but felt like I was not able to give them all of the attention they needed.	Teen	\$1-50	https://library.beau.org/new-teen-talk-program/		Beauregard Parish Library	DeRidder, Louisiana	Amanda George, YA Programming Coordinator
Emoji Stress Ball Workshop	Materials: emoji printed balloons, solid balloons, ingredients for your favorite slime recipe, funnels You can either have the teens make the slime in bowls and then force it through the funnels into the solid balloons OR put the ingredients in the solid balloons and then mix them in the balloon by squishing it around (second method recommended). Tie off the solid balloon and put the emoji balloon over it (trimming off the stem is helpful). You can do something similar with ooblek filling.	Teen	\$1-50	contact: ngauvreau@peasepubliclibrary.org	I run this activity around exam time for teens, but it can definitely work at anytime. Both the process of making the ball and then walking away with the finished stress ball have been helpful. You could try running it with younger patrons, but I've found even some of our teens struggle with putting the second balloon over the first, so I wouldn't try with anyone too young.	Pease Public Library	Plymouth, NH	Nicole Gauvreau
Queer Reads	Queer Reads is an LGBTQ-friendly book club for kids 12-18. It's a safe place to share thoughts around books we are reading and to talk about ideas and issues.	Teen	Free	https://www.waterburypubliclibrary.com/queer-reads/	I generally have 12-14 regulars, all kids aged 12-13. Our town only has a population of 5100, so we are blown away by our support. Community members have volunteered food, local teachers have added our info to their school's morning announcements. So many new friendships have formed because of this book club; these kids have found a safe way to gather, have fun, and share experiences. They are so silly and so wonderful.	Waterbury Public Library	Waterbury, VT	Cynthia Ryle
Teen Dungeons and Dragons	Teens in grades 7-12 commit to a three week campaign. I provide character sheets or will help them build a character prior to the first day of the campaign. I purchased a 5 library set of dice for participants to use. Other materials like maps and figurines are handy when it comes to getting the players focused but not necessary. Free resources are plentiful online as well. Most players are new to the game or are using skills they learned during previous campaigns at the library. Role playing games are a great way to provide young people with an outlet to express themselves and slip away from the reality of every day life. Our participants have been able to create a safe community that reaches beyond the library. They have learned together, built social skills, and explored perspectives that they wouldn't have otherwise been introduced.	Teen	\$50-100	Maryjean Riou mriou@hclibrary.us , www.hclibrary.us		Hunterdon County Library System	Clinton, New Jersey	Maryjean Riou
Tiny Canvas Club	This is for ages 10 & up. We have an afterschool Art Program every Tuesday after school. We have an art cart that has watercolors, acrylic paint, oil pastels, alcohol markers, paper, canvases, needle felting kits, embroidery kits, crochet classes, tiny canvases (usually our first program for the year) Playdoh, clay, pottery pinch pots, journaling, Zen tangling, YouTube painting tutorials. Most of the time I give them free play. If we get a new art item we will focus on that for a week. This is a space where the teens can be together in the same space and get comfortable with their own creative abilities and ideas. Ideally, providing snacks every week would be something that I offer in the future but right now they bring their own snacks and we listen to music and create for an hour every week. We then collect all of their paintings and tag them with their names and offer their paintings for purchase in our book fair area. The money they earn then goes back into the art fund and we purchase more supplies for the following year of classes.	Teen	Free	Covington Public Library Facebook Page	We have just finished up our second consecutive year with this weekly program and have kept a steady group of 10-16 kids. I do very little promotion for this program. They invite their friends from school and that is how it has grown the most. I still do a little bit of facebook marketing. This is one of those programs that I don't want to limit space but if it grows too big it will become overwhelming and hard to maintain with supplies and staffing. We have not had to have any registration but I do require them to sign in and out of class so that there is not a lot of running around and goofing off. They are required to finish their projects and then they can sign themselves out when they are ready to leave.	Covington Public Library	Covington Indiana	Kim Kalweit
Babysitting Course	This is an in-depth course with curriculum from 4-H. Instructors must be trained and become 4-H leaders to teach this course. It covers child development, discipline, business basics, emergency response, prevention & preparedness, and more. This course prepares middle school students and older to care for themselves as well as their charges, and also encourages volunteering their time and new skills to those in need, or for community events.	Teen	Free	I've taught this course for 15 years now, first in startism, and now in Portsmouth and trained many NH librarians to run this course as well. You can also check your local 4-H chapter to curriculum resources and training.	It's so much fun!!!	Portsmouth Public Library	Portsmouth, NH	Lucia Von Letkemann
Brain Injury Alliance Safety Presentation for Teens.	Brain Injury Alliance Safety Presentation for Teens.	Teens	Free	Lorraine Bloom (908) 813-3858 lorrainebloom@warrenlib.org	This was a virtual program planned by one of our branches and was held on Zoom. I was not involved in either planning or implementing the program but am sharing the information with their permission.	Warren County Library Northeast Branch	Independence, NJ	Lina Crowell
Winter Wellness Warriors	Our official program description, as featured in our newsletter and local newspapers: "Our new yoga class is a good way to wind down your week and learn lasting habits for a healthier you. This beginner-friendly, all-ages course aims to teach yoga as a form of meditation and self-exploration, while also being beneficial to the body. Come warm up and develop a cozier relationship between the brain, mind, and body, while learning lasting habits and perspectives for a healthier you in the new year ahead."	adults and after school teens	Free	library website www.ruthhughes.org , or call 810-724-8043 and ask for Darryn	This program was designed and is led by Library Assistant Darryn Nacker.	Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library	Imlay City, Michigan	Tracy Aldrich
Medications: Important Safety Information	Fifty-eight percent of adults make some kind of error when taking their medications. Learn about drug interactions, food and drink to take and not take with common medications, the difference between time released medications and those that are not time released and why this is important. Feel more confident about taking medication, keeping arthritis and memory problems from interfering with properly taking medication, storing, traveling with, and disposing of medications as well as how to remember all of your medications at the doctor's office visit. Also learn about one of the library databases that provides consumer information about commonly prescribed drugs.	Adult	This program may have had a fee, but I didn't plan the program, so I don't know.	Debbie Dulepski (908) 818-1280 ext. 302 ddulepski@warrenlib.org	This program was held at one of our branches (contact information above). I am just sharing the program information with their permission.	Warren County Library Northeast Branch	Independence, NJ	Lina Crowell
Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey	The Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey will be presenting a program about Mental Illness and Brain Injury. Learn about how one process affects another. Group participation is welcome. This was a virtual program presented on Zoom.	Adult	Free	Lorraine Bloom (908) 813-3858 lorrainebloom@warrenlib.org	This program was held at one of our branches. I was not involved in either planning or implementing the program but am sharing the information with their permission.	Warren County Library Northeast Branch	Independence, NJ	Lina Crowell
Craft a Meditation Box	An Art Therapist taught patrons how to make and decorate their own meditation boxes and fill them with therapeutic items such as a journal, peppermints, meditation resources, candles, and stress balls.	Adult	\$50-100	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTIzR2KV-HA	Jazmin Farraj came up with this program. She also filmed it and put it on our YouTube so that people can do it at home as well.	Calcasieu Parish Public Library	Sulphur, LA	Erica Didier

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Senior Lunch & Learn	Step out of the house and into the library for our Lunch & Learn program for Seniors 60 years of age and older. FREE lunch is provided along with a 15-30 minute presentation by library staff or community partners. Seniors are also given the opportunity to present if they have a topic of interest they wish to share. An excellent opportunity to meet fellow Grand County seniors and discover something new. Programs are available at all five Grand County Library District locations each month. Due to the Summer Reading Program, please check with your local library to see if Senior Lunch & Learn will be offered during the months of June and July.	Seniors	Free	www.gcd.org , Programs tab	Support for this event is in partnership with the Grand County Library District, Mountain Family Center, and Grand County Public Health with a focus on senior nutrition and isolation. Transportation may be available through Mountain Family Center upon request.	Grand County Library District	Grand County, Colorado	Christine Newell
How to Present Social Emotional Learning in Storytime	Social Emotional Learning (SEL) has always been an important part of education and human development. With the ongoing pandemic and shocking headlines (including a mass shooting in my hometown) now, more than ever, we are prompted to help caregivers and young children learn how to express and understand their emotions. With the overwhelming amount of books in this genre, this webinar will help us choose books that involve SEL learning and also use (just about) any books, music and other storytime material to decipher feelings.	Parents, librarians, and early childhood educators	\$200-500	howardm@boulderlibrary.org	I have presented this at three Colorado conferences and one back east. It has been very well received.	Boulder Public Library	Boulder/CO	Melanie Borski-Howard
Social Emotional Bilingual Storytime	Learn about identifying and controlling big emotions in this Storytime designed for ages 3 to 5 (but everyone is welcome). This is a partnership between the program Kids Connect in the Neighborhood offered by Mental Health Partners of Boulder County and Boulder Public Library	Caregivers of any ages	Free	Program: https://calendar.boulderlibrary.org/event/19981052 Also: kidsconnects@mhcpcolorado.org	MHP is trying to connect free mental health services with caregivers/children in need.	Boulder Public Library	Boulder/CO	Melanie Borski-Howard
[currently untitled]	Caregiver Support Group facilitated by a social worker. Meets monthly.	Caregivers of any ages	Free	library website, social media, local community newspaper, paper.		Walpole Town Library	Walpole, NH	Jane Malmberg
Diabetes Nutrition: Best Practices.	Registered Dietitians MaryKate & Kristen will be presenting health and nutrition information regarding Diabetes. This is an interactive program, designed for learning and asking questions. The Dietitians will be explaining the science behind Diabetic nutrition, the do's and don'ts, meal prep and shopping tips as well.	Multigenerational	Free	Lorraine Bloom (908) 813-3858 lorrainebloom@warrenlib.org	This program was a virtual program held over Zoom by one of our branches. I was not involved in either planning or implementing the program but am sharing the information with their permission.	Warren County Library Northeast Branch	Independence, NJ	Lina Crowell
Walk Into Books, Bourbon County!	Participants are sorted into library-created teams, and families are kept together; friends & relatives who request it are also placed on a team together. Each participant receives a free pedometer & program t-shirt upon signing up. Each member of the winning team receives a book which they choose from a list of prize books that go with the theme. All participants are also invited to a reception after the contest ends and, depending on community interest, a book club meeting at which they can discuss any books related to the contest theme. Registration is completed via Google Forms. Each contest is themed around a story or book series with a local theme. For example, our first story was the first book of The Wizard of Oz series (Walk the Yellow Brick Road) and our second is the Little House series (Walk the Little House trail from the museum in Independence, KS to the rock house in Mansfield, MO), because our library is in Kansas. Contestants report their daily steps via Reader Zone (using their customizable "activity" option) or a customized Google Sheet that's created by and shared with the librarian (the librarian then manually plugs the data into Reader Zone to keep it all in one place). The library announces the current number of reported steps for each team on business days, along with a quote from the book/series. Whichever team completes the goal number of steps first (x miles x 2,000 steps = x steps goal) wins. The librarian then emails winners a list of the prize books available so they can select what they want. Prizes and reception food are provided via grant funds, library programming funds, and community donations. Some community organizations also donate gift certificates, coupons, or free punch cards (these are from the local community center for free entry to the exercise gym). Participants are invited to communicate with one another, name their team, and even organize meetups if they wish via private team Facebook groups created through the library's Facebook page. They're also invited to communicate via the library's private Discord server, where each team has its own members-only channel. We advertise for the program using signs in the library and at local walking trails, free radio spots, free newspaper and online newsletter articles, and social media. For our first contest, we also received digital billboard, boosted Facebook posts, and paid radio advertising as part of a Pathways grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas.	Multigenerational	Cost varies dramatically depending on number of participants, types of prizes offered, and incentive pricing (we buy our custom-made t-shirts from a local shop and our pedometers were paid for by a BCBSKS Pathways Grant with a community partner).	https://fortscott.mycansaslibrary.org/2022/12/12/register-for-our-new-little-house-walking-challenge-here/ and https://www.facebook.com/events/1582905875477274	We had 118 participants in the first contest and are 6 days away from the start of the second contest with 34 participants currently registered. I use the free Google Sheets plugin, Mail Merge, to help me keep in touch with all of my participants and update them on changes to the program. Reader Zone limits all of its data entries to 4 digits at one time on the patron side, so patrons can only enter their daily steps in 4 digit increments. However, they can enter as many times as they need to in a single day. For past entries, they're limited to 4 digits total, so the librarian has to enter any quantities higher than that. Reader Zone is working on an update to increase the limit to 5 digits.	Fort Scott Public Library	Fort Scott, KS	Valetta Cannon
Mindfulness and Movement Yoga Storytime (themed ex. Unicorn)	While I had always wanted to include a yoga type story time, the idea to offer this mindfulness and movement program to our community as a way for them to learn to deal with the elevated stress that they may be feeling as an aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic finally put me into motion. Teaching 2-4 year olds and their caregivers about emotions, along with healthy ways to address these emotions, is so important for our communities mental health and well being. "Use your words" is something many of us say to children who are having feelings that they just cannot verbalize. Mindfulness allows them to learn to use their own mind and body to recognize and respond to these feelings. This program is not a new idea but a combination of many items that come together to create emotional wellness while being physical. Each program includes multiple stories, songs, breathing exercises, yoga poses and affirmations.	Multigenerational	\$50-100	https://www.baycountylib.org/event/mindfulness-movement-yoga-storytime	I decided to provide yoga mats (purchased in sets of 10 from Amazon) and that is where the only cost came in. You could easily ask attendees to bring in a towel or their own mats. PLA just offered Social Emotional Learning in the library which provided resources that I was able to integrate into my program. I also created a circulating Yoga Backpack filled with books, videos, games, yoga mat and other items. There are so many great books and websites that provide tips to incorporate movement, yoga, and mindfulness into storytimes. I have also enrolled to become a certified kids yoga instructor in order to improve the program for our community.	Alice & Jack Wirt Library, Bay County Library System	Bay City, Michigan	Cora Schaeff
Coat Drive	Our official program description from our newsletter: "Do you have spare coats that can be donated to those in need of a little extra warmth this season? If so, please consider bringing in your clean, gently used coats to the library for our annual drive. If you are in need of a coat, these items will be available for free, anytime during open library hours. Take a coat, leave a coat – and we can work together to make this season a little warmer!"	Multigenerational	Free	library website www.ruthughes.org	This program was begun as part of our response to a dramatic increase in unhoused people using the library. It has now run successfully for several years, and we have sometimes partnered with our local DDA to add handmade hats, scarves, and mittens made by local groups to the drive. In addition to rising numbers of unhoused, the area also has high rates of poverty, and the coat drive has helped with that too. Last year, we had a young mother happily find coats and boots for all four of her children at the drive, and this year, in better circumstances, they brought their own items to donate.	Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library	Imlay City, Michigan	Tracy Aldrich
Read to Feed Harrison County Winter Challenge	From January 1 - 31, the Harrison County community is asked to read and log books. The goal is to read 9500 books as a community. If the goal is reached, Harrison County Community Services will receive 100 cases of chicken from Tyson, \$1,000 from Duke Energy, \$200 from REMC, and a \$75 gift from Walmart. Canned food will be collected at all branches.	Multigenerational	Free	www.hcpl.lib.in.us https://hcpl.lib.in.us/read-to-feed-harrison-county-2023/ https://www.facebook.com/hcpl47112/		Harrison County Public Library	Corydon, Indiana	Diana Lasky
First Responder Fall Meet & Greet	Meet & Greet the Independence Twp N.J. First Responders. Interact with our local Heroes. Ask questions. See and touch their vehicles. Learn about what they do for our community, share experiences. Enjoy Fall refreshments and live music by the Stone House Band. Small give-a-way's will be available while supplies last.	Multigenerational	Free	Lorraine Bloom (908) 813-3858 lorrainebloom@warrenlib.org	This program was held at one of our branches. I was not involved with either planning or implementing the program but am sharing the program information with their permission.	Warren County Library Northeast Branch	Independence, NJ	Lina Crowell

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PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE	COST (per location)	FOR MORE INFORMATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS	LIBRARY	LOCATION	SUBMITTED BY
Patron of the Week	<p>It all began at the Bienville Parish Library Ringgold Branch. Branch manager Naomi Wyatt began the patron appreciation program to acknowledge the community's men and women who support the library by utilizing its services. It quickly became a systemwide patron appreciation program! Each time a patron visits the library, his or her name is registered for a drawing. At the end of the week, a name is drawn, and that individual is our Patron of the Week. We show our gratitude with a picture displayed in the library and with their permission on social media.</p> <p>When we draw a name of an individual as our Patron of the Week or Month, we acknowledge those things that are unique about him or her. We want our patrons to know how special they are to the library staff. The people who come into the library are the same people we see in town, run into at the grocery store, and see at church. They are our neighbors and friends. With the continued support of our neighbors and Library Patrons, they make it possible to keep our doors open to serve the needs of Bienville Parish residents! An article explaining the program was published in the local newspaper in October 2022 and online newsletter, Bienville Parish Journal in November 2022.</p>	Multigenerational	Free	Facebook/Instagram - Suzanne DeKeyzer James, Public Relations		Bienville Parish Library System	Arcadia, Louisiana	Suzanne DeKeyzer James
Read to Me: Stories for Seniors	<p>The Read to Me: Stories for Seniors program is a wonderful opportunity for multigenerational programming. We have offered this program with a few format variations. The first series we partnered with a local Girl Scout organization as volunteer readers. The library facilitated zoom sessions and shared digital copies of short, nostalgic books for the girl scouts to read aloud. We invited area nursing homes, adult life day centers and senior centers (via their activity directors) to connect and listen along. The second series we hosted at the library, allowing youth volunteers to pick out their favorite children's book from our collection and then join together in our community room. We again connected to area nursing homes via zoom. We loved watching the residents reactions to hearing the children's voices, listening in on the conversations the stories sparked and the children's pride in reading out loud, connecting and building confidence in their ability to give back.</p>	Multigenerational	Free	smcelhone@catawbacountync.gov		Catawba County Library	Newton, NC	Sarah McElhone
Glenwood Family Fun Festival and Mental Health Fair	<p>This program was a collaboration between the Glenwood Recreation Center and the Glenwood Library for the Greater Glenwood neighborhood. This event took place in September of 2021, at the height of the pandemic, therefore it was an outside event in a grassy field at the recreation center. It was on a Saturday from 2-4 pm. Short enough not to be taxing on the community partners. It was very warm that day. We asked each community partner to provide an activity to engage the children so parents would have time to talk and gather information. Community partners were local mental health programs for adults and children, the local public-school liaison for homelessness, dental health information, children's health care programs, local child development and childcare programs, university psych departments, teen health programs, healthy food programs in the area, programs to assist incarcerated adults and their families, local Greek chapters, and a local mural artist. Entertainment for the event was provided by a DJ, a dance class from the recreation center, and a step team from a local Greek chapter. The skate park at the recreation center provided older students with some WOW moments. We wanted to highlight physical activity as a stress reliever and bring community parenting and mental health resources to one place. The parents were thankful for an afternoon of engagement for their children and the community partners were excited to be able to network with the public and each other. Extra hands for the event were provided by student volunteers from 2 local universities, who assisted with helping unload cars and set up, making and passing out thank you bags to our community partners, popping free popcorn, assisting with games and activities, passing out water, and clean up and break down of the event. Attendance for this event was 160.</p>	Multigenerational	\$1-50	This program was promoted on flyers, social media for library and recreation center, websites, email list serves for library, recreation center, and all community partners. The next event will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 2-4 pm.	It was well received both by community partners and the community. We plan to make this an annual event for the Glenwood community.	Greensboro Public Library- Glenwood Branch	Greensboro, North Carolina	Cindy Dye, Youth Services
Around the World Festival	<p>Join us for an International Festival featuring your neighbors! Greensboro residents from around the world will share customs, clothing, games, toys, and books from their home countries. This event is for all ages.</p>	Multigenerational	Free		https://library.greensboro-nc.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/79117/6186?selcat=25	Greensboro Public Library Central Branch	Greensboro NC	Peter Turner



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