

Babytime Boredom

Building Culturally Responsive Programming for Ages 0-3



Who We Are



Annamarie Carlson



Sarah Simpson

Public Libraries



Schoenbaum Family Center



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHOENBAUM FAMILY CENTER



Westerville
Public Library

BABYTIME BOREDOM | APRIL 2024

Outline

- **Research & Literature**
- **Storytime Inclusion**
- **Beyond Storytime Programs**
- **Family-Led Programming**
- **Additional Resources**



Research & Literature

What does culturally-responsive practice look like?

Weaving aspects of children and caregiver identities represented in the community into library programming and materials. These aspects may include race, ethnicity, chosen gender, ability status, linguistic profile, family structure, housing status, and cultural identity (Todd, 2021).



Research & Literature

“Reality pedagogy recognizes that academically rigorous teaching and learning are **deeply personal**; it begins with the understanding that a school's approach to teaching is unlikely to meet student needs unless students' cultures, backgrounds, and experiences are reflected in the curriculum. When students see themselves in the curriculum, they develop stronger relationships with both their teachers and peers—and with the content as well.”

–Dr. Christopher Emdin, *Seven Cs for Effective Teaching*



Research & Literature

Questions for reflection when developing culturally engaging, relevant, and empowering library spaces and programs:

- 1) Who are the families in our community?**
- 2) Who is reflected in the library's programming and materials?**
 - Also considering who/what may be overrepresented or incorrectly represented
- 3) How can library staff move further towards CRP? (Todd, 2021)**



Research & Literature

Strategies for moving further to CRP in libraries:

- Library programming and materials will be reflective of the families in the community, as well as the other larger communities in which we hold space.
- Library programming and material-selection will be informed by funds of knowledge. **Funds of knowledge** are the experiences that children have accumulated in their households with siblings, peers, friends, communities, and parents (Amaro-Jiménez & Semingson, 2011).
- By incorporating funds of knowledge into library programming and material selection, the intention is that families will feel affirmed, represented, and valued.

Research & Literature

When we reference families, **we are including the many groups of related and unrelated individuals that make up the caring group of people who consider themselves the family of a child.** By parents and caregivers, we are referring to the adults who care for children and teens and fill a parenting role. These include grandparents, foster parents, adoptive parents, kinship caregivers, and other adults.



Research & Literature

What if my community is not very diverse?

When your regular storytime practice incorporates songs, rhymes, and stories that amplify marginalized voices, you are referencing the larger communities in which we hold space such as county, state, country, and global.



Storytimes



Passive Examples of Practice

- Labels in multiple languages
- Family photos in storytime
 - Incorporate families in your community into storytime images or slide show.
 - Update frequently and ensure proper permissions are taken that align with your library's policy.

bolsas de frijol **sacchetti di fagioli**
bean bags ছোট খেলার বস্তা
мешки с фасолью বীন বৈশ
豆袋



Baby Storytime Environment

- Storytime Schedules
- Multi-lingual literacy labels
 - Table, light switch
 - Sign in station
 - Nametags
 - Toy bins
 - Puppets



Courtesy of Dilshad Toliver, I/T Teacher ASR

Baby Storytime – Heritage Months

- Storytime Themes
- Displays
- Resource sharing
 - Invitation to community service organizations
- Storytime guests
- Could include secular holidays with family partnership (Lunar New Year, Kwanzaa, Juneteenth, Pride)



Active Examples of Practice

- Land acknowledgement
 - Check with indigenous organizations for verbiage and preferences for inclusion in programming such as written or verbal.
- The importance of names in brain development, literacy, and culturally responsive practice
 - Choo Choo Song
 - [Hi, Hey, Hello](#) by Lindsay Müller
 - [Hello Friends](#) - Jbrary



Nursery Rhymes

- Mother Goose - French/English Origins
- Weren't always written for children
- Dark - and sometimes racist - origins:
 - Baa Baa Black Sheep - medieval wool tax
 - Ring Around the Rosie - Bubonic Plague
 - Rock-a-Bye Baby - Glorious Revolution
 - Eenie Meenie Miney Moe - racist language
 - Mary Mary Quite Contrary - Bloody Mary
 - Humpty Dumpty - dead king/war
 - Shoo Fly Don't Bother Me - racist language
 - Shortnin' Bread - racist language
 - Ten Little Indians - racist language
 - Goosey Goosey Gander - religious persecution
 - Here We Go Round a Mulberry Bush - female prisoners
 - Five Little Monkeys - racist language
 - Do Your Ears Hang Low - racist language



Nursery Rhymes

- Concept of short rhymes for children exists around the world
- Opportunity to expand your repertoire of rhymes/songs beyond the English tunes
- vimeo.com/channels/embracingdiversity

- Whisky
Il Ragnetto
Whisky il ragnetto, sale la montagna,
la pioggia lo bagna e Whisky cade giu', giu', giu'.
Ma ecco che esce il sole e Whisky si e' asciugato,
risale la montagna e va sempre piu' su, su su.
Su sulla montagna, c'e' una casetta,
con una stregghetta che se lo vuol mangiar: gnam!gnam!
Ma Whisky e' molto furbo e scende la montagna
e va dalla sua mamma, che non lo lascia piu', piu', piu'!



Baby Storytime Activities

- Start small
- Nursery rhymes in other languages – King County Tell-a-Story Database
- Puppets and animal sounds in English and Other Languages
 - Old MacDonald Had a Farm in Italian



Nella Vecchia Fattoria

Nella vecchia fattoria ia ia oh!

Quante bestie ha zio Tobia ia ia oh?

C'e' il cane: BAU! cane: BAU! ca-ca-cane: BAU!

Nella vecchia fattoria ia ia oh!

Quante bestie ha zio Tobia ia ia oh?

C'e' la pecora: BEEE! pecora: BEEE!

pe-pe-pecora: BEEE!

Nella vecchia fattoria ia ia oh

Literal translation

On the old farm how many beasts have the Uncle Tobia?

There is the Dog: BAU! dog: BAU! Do-do-dog: BAU!

On the old farm how many beasts have the Uncle Tobia?

There is the sheep: BEEE! sheep: BEEE! sh-sh-sheep: BEEE!

Baby Storytime

The best strategy for success in creating a culturally responsive storytime: **building community connections through family partnerships.**

What does this mean? Consistently extending invitations to families to partner on incorporating rhymes, songs, and books that are culturally significant



Beyond Storytimes





STEM & Science Time

- Explore age-appropriate steam concepts
- Think about the toys you put out and the kind of play that is the “default” in your space
- Invite community groups to host a table at these events



Open Play

- Explore gross motor, fine motor, and sensory play.
- Think about the toys you put out and the kind of play that is the “default” in your space.
- Invite community groups to host a table at a play event



Pint-Sized Paint Party

Explore paint through messy and clean stations.



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Baby Olympics

- Stations representing different sports for babies to play
- Include video clips of Olympics or information on international champions of different sports
- Sports that aren't such central parts of culture in the United States





Baby Prom

- Dance party for kids and their adults
- Look at your music selections for storytimes and other play programs - who are your top artists?
- Doesn't have to be prom themed – trying a “Magical Ball” this year





Baby Resource Fair

- Invite community groups to a fair for new or expecting families.
- Share resources with your community while starting to build stronger connections with these groups.

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Search the by

Books, Movies & More Services Events

LIBRARY CLOSED - The Library will be closed Monday, January 15 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Heritage Month Celebrations

Embark on a journey with us to better understand yourself and others. Take time this month to celebrate and learn about the **histories, contributions, and current experiences** of those around you.

The stories highlighted here act as windows into other cultures and mirrors of our own experiences. *Source: By Rudine Sims Bishop, The Ohio State University, "Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors" originally appeared in Perspectives: Choosing and Using Books for the Classroom. Vol. 6, no. 3, Summer 1990.*

Black History Month (February) >

Upcoming Events >

FEB 1	Periodic Table of Black History Feb 1st 12:00pm - Feb 29th 12:00pm Westerville Public Library, Usiooam
FEB 3	Sweet Fire: Author Visit with J.P. Mitchell (Ages 2-8) Feb 3rd 2:00pm - 3:00pm Westerville Public Library, Usiooam

Heritage Months

- Way to make representation library-wide
- Displays, booklists, themed programs
- Passive Activities - PBS can be a great resource for printables



My Family & Me Fabric Book

- Celebrating your family's structure, culture, traditions
- Requires a bit of leg work in terms of getting photos and books assembled beforehand
- Materials: stiff felt, Cricut easy press, heat transfers, and baby-safe [binder rings](#)





Book Bundles/Book Giveaways

- Create book bundles for families on request.
- Think about the titles you include - who is represented?
- Books in other languages
- Books that reflect family culture





Family Yoga

- Certified instructors from culturally-responsive centers/organizations
- Yoga is a global practice
- Builds social-emotional skills for small children and their caregivers
- Careful to make a distinction between [cultural appreciation](#) versus [appropriation](#)





Author Visits

- Support and promote local authors
- Representation from your community
- Social justice in storytime
 - Innosanto Nagara – author of *A is for Activist* and illustrator of *Together*

Family- Led Programs



- Saraswati Puja
- Lunar/Chinese New Year
- Hispanic Heritage Month Storytime (staff-led)
- Pride Storytime





Saraswati Puja

- A Hindu celebration of the goddess of literacy and the arts, Saraswati
- Circle-time exploration of family's celebration of Saraswati Puja and craft





Lunar New Year

- Celebrations are not monolithic – this is important to consider for holidays such as Lunar New Year which are celebrated in many countries and regions
- Highlights the traditions of enrolled families



How to Get Started

Forge community connections first,
and then shift to a younger
audience focus.





ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Find Partner Organizations

Start conversations with community stakeholders:

- School District
- Universities/Colleges
- ALA-Affiliated Associations, AILA, CALA, REFORMA
- Local Cultural Organizations





Talk to Your Families

Build Connections During “Downtime”:

- Take advantage of before and after storytimes and playtimes
- Ask about kids ages, experiences, and favorite things to do at home





Talk to ELL Families

Get out into the community and connect with ELL families:

- Attend new parent meetings at local schools
- Look for English Language classes and meetings in the community
- Talk to the organizations already serving those communities





Invite People to You

Extend the invitation:

- Offer to host community group meetings (such as ELL meetings) at the library
- Offer tours for families new to your community
- Be willing to put money behind your efforts





Family-Led Programs in our Public libraries

- Not quite there yet, but it's a work in progress
- Reminder that forging these connections can be hard
- Bilingual Storytimes with local university
- Presence at monthly ELL meetings
- Library Tours designed for New Americans





BREAD

PAN | ROOTI | रोटी | PÃO




Next Steps

While working on those family & community connections:

- Expand your music playlists
- Examine coloring pages and activity sheets (PBS!)
- Provide crayons and coloring tools representing a variety of skin tones
- Add labels to toys, storytime items, and other common objects in multiple languages





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उत्साहजनक खबर! तपाईंको वेस्टरभल लाइब्रेरी कार्ड यसमा समावेश गरिएको छ। तपाईं निम्न प्रयोजनका लागि यो कार्ड प्रयोग गर्न सक्नुहुन्छ:

- बढीमा 5 वटा पुस्तक, मुभी, म्युजिक एल्बम आदि घर लग्न
- लाइब्रेरीबाट सिधै आफ्नो विद्यालयमा नि:शुल्क डेलिभरी गराउन
- लाइब्रेरीको कम्प्युटर प्रयोग गरी इन्टरनेट चलाउन
- होमवर्कसम्बन्धी सहायता प्राप्त गर्न
- शोध गर्न र इबुक डाउनलोड गर्न
- विभिन्न कार्यक्रमको लागि दर्ता गर्न
- ... अन्य विविध कुराहरू गर्न

होमवर्कसम्बन्धी सहायता

आफ्नो कार्य गर्ने, अध्ययन सुरु गर्ने र शोध अनुसन्धान गर्ने सहायता प्राप्त गर्नुहोस्।

सोमबार, बिहिबार दिउसो 4-सँझ 7 बजेसम्म बालबालिकाको क्षेत्रमा रहेको सुरुमा आउनेलाई प्राथमिकता दिइने प्राथमिक र निम्न माध्यमिक विद्यालयका विद्यार्थीहरू

नोट: यो कार्ड वेस्टरभल नगरको स्कूल डिस्ट्रिक्टको सहकार्यमा जारी गरिएको हो। थप जानकारी लागि westervillelibrary.org/school-card हेर्नुहोस्।

Next Steps

While working on those family & community connections:

- Expand your toys and games to represent your diverse communities
- Talk to the groups already using your meeting rooms
- Attend community and school district meetings
- Translate print materials & hire interpreters (\$\$\$)

Additional Resources

Learn More: Research & Resources

Discover resources and research on culturally responsive library programming.



Print Resources

Counterstories from Culturally Responsive Teachers

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1063061.pdf>

Creating a Culturally Responsive Early Childhood Classroom

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/creating-culturally-responsive-early-childhood-classroom/>

Culturally Responsive Librarians: Shifting Perspectives Toward Racial Empathy

<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/opis-2022-0140/html>

Family Engagement that Breaks Through

<https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Ohio-State-Family-Engagement-Summit-2022-Pushor-PPT.pdf>

A Guide for Culturally Sensitive Care (Chapter 6)

<https://openlab.bmcc.cuny.edu/ece-209-seminar-spring-2022-j-longley/wp-content/uploads/sites/2154/2021/09/tguidesensitivecare.pdf#page=83>

Katy Transforms Storytime: Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy in the Community

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/14687984221124185>

Keeping the Joy in Storytime: Dismantling Racism in Storytime Songs

https://www.urbanlibrariansconference.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Keeping_the_Joy_In_Storytime_ULU_2021_Conference_Presentation_1.pdf

Let's Talk About Race in Storytimes




<https://www.alastore.ala.org/raceinstorytimes>



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Toys

Developmental Age	Toy Type	Suggested Choices	Price Range	Manufacturer	Vendor
18 months +	Blocks	LEGO World People DUPLO Set 	\$\$\$	LEGO	Various
18 months +	Dramatic Play	International Foods - Pretend Groceries 	\$\$	Kaplan	Kaplan
18 months +	Dolls	Miniland Dolls (Down Syndrome, Hearing Aids, and more) 	\$\$\$	Miniland	Amazon

Annamarie Carlson
acarlson@westervillelibrary.org

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PLA Conference 2024

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simpson.962@osu.edu

Musicians and YouTube

Diversify Your Kids Music Playlist

Discover kids musicians from traditionally marginalized communities. Songs perfect for storytime are included below the artist's name.



[123 Andres](#) | [YouTube](#)

Count with Me
Feelings Song
Hola, Amigo - Hello Friend
Shapes are Everywhere

[Aaron Nigel Smith](#) | [YouTube](#)

Animal Song
Everybody Loves to Dance
Itsy Bitsy Spider
Simon Says

[Alina Celeste](#) | [YouTube](#)

Clap Hands
(Many rhymes on YouTube)

[Alphabet Rockers](#) | [YouTube](#)

Alphabet Rockers ABC
Countdown Boogie Down
Go!

[Anthony Broughton](#) | [YouTube](#)

[Ants On a Log](#) | [YouTube](#)

[Asheba](#) | [YouTube](#)

Go Itsy
Twinkle Twinkle

[Baila Baila](#) | [YouTube](#)

Baila Baila
Hola
Maracas
Shake Shake

[Big Don](#) | [YouTube](#)

If You're Happy and You Know It
Let's Dance
Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

[Blazer Fresh](#) | [YouTube](#)

Banana, Banana, Meatball
Clap It Out

[Brother Yusuf](#) | [Spotify](#)

Shake It

[The Bruces](#)

[Cantare](#) | [Spotify](#)

[Culture Queen](#) | [YouTube](#)

I Like the Me I See
Super Shaker Song

[Desmond Dennis](#) | [YouTube](#)

Baby Shark
BINGO Was His Name-O
If You're Happy and You Know It
Itsy Bitsy Spider
Old MacDonald Had a Farm
Teddy Bear
Wheels on the Bus

[Divi Roxx Kids](#) | [YouTube](#)

Ready Set Go!

[Eddie Peoples](#) | [YouTube](#)

[Ella Jenkins](#) | [YouTube](#)

Head and Shoulder
Hickory Dickory Dock
Play Your Instruments
Stop and Go
Teddy Bear
You'll Sing a Song and I'll Sing a Song
...and more!



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Questions?



Contact Us



Sarah Simpson

Family Education and Literacy Specialist

Email: simpson.962@osu.edu
Phone: 614-247-7772



Annamarie Carlson

Youth Services Manager

Email: annamariec@westervillelibrary.org
Phone: 614-259-5026

