
Building Community Through a Multilingual Storytime: Year 1 Report

The 4 F's of Active Reviewing by Jackie
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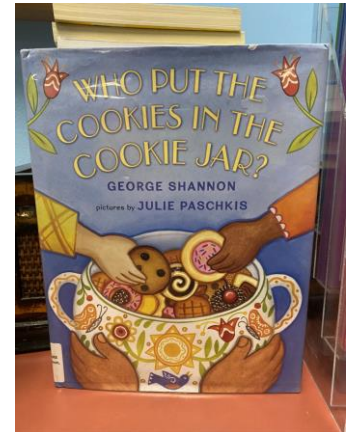
1. Intro

What are the 4 F's of Active Reviewing?

- **Facts**
An objective account of what happened.
- **Feelings**
The emotional reactions to the situation..
- **Findings**
The concrete learning that you can take away from the situation
- **Future**
Structuring your learning such that you can use it in the future

The Facts

- Languages and cultures spotlighted in a once a month program:
 - Storytelling Event with Patrick Mitchell (September) Adults: 1, Children: 2
 - Spanish/Puerto Rican (October) 20 total
 - French/France (November) 49 total
 - Swedish/St. Lucia Day (December) Adults: 19, Children: 33
 - Mandarin Chinese/Chinese New Year (January) 48 total
 - Hindi/India/Diwali (February) Adults: 21, Children: 26
 - Tagalog/The Philippines (March) Adults: 14, Children: 10
 - Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (April) Adults: 8, Children: 10
 - Arabic/Saudi Arabia/Ramadan (May) Adults: 13, Children: 18



ALSC Core Competences

“**Social Awareness:** Social Awareness is the ability to embrace diversity, offer compassion, and empathize with individuals from different backgrounds or cultures. Read-aloud exercises are an excellent way to teach the critical SEL concepts of community and diversity. Read-aloud exercises expose children to different people and their various circumstances. They teach that communities are made up of all different people and that diversity is something to celebrate.”
(Core Competency #3)



Tip

It is best to align our programs with established best practices and look to at things like the ALSC core competencies as guiding principles of these practices.

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- **Mission Statement:** Through exposure to books/stories in languages other than English, we hope to build community by seeing the commonalities across cultures, learning new things together, and enlarging our capacity for empathy and respect for others.
 - **Vision:** Be intentional in including stories from native speakers of languages from within our own community.



Tip

We created mission and vision statements early on to help guide our program moving forward.

Feelings

- Words we would use to describe the experiences we have had: heartwarming ,fun, magical, special, educational, connected
- A warm and welcoming space for presenters and participants





Personal Feelings

The Hindi/Diwali storytime was a personal favorite. We had a whole family come in, mom+dad+twin kids.



Findings

→ **Timing**

We found that Saturday mornings worked better than Wednesday evenings for involving the whole family.

→ **Variety**

We found that our most successful and engaging programs featured a number of elements.

→ **Individualization**

We found that it worked based to create individual posters/flyers for each program rather than lump them together.



Findings (cont.)

→ **Word of Mouth**

We also found that the readers were the best connections to the community in advertising events.

→ **Authenticity**

It is good to have any books, better to have books from people with a connection, and best to have books by authentic representatives.

→ **Contact**

We found great value in taking the time to sit down with the presenter in advance to review the program plan.

Future (Year 2 Goals)

*Plan ahead as much as possible.


*Run program from October to May.

*Book displays in advance.

*Use both social media and community boards.

*Spotlight new languages not done in year 1.

*Special thank you to presenters.

A young child is peeking over a table covered with various books. The child's face is visible in the center-right of the frame. The books on the table include titles like 'DADAJI'S', 'Hindi', and 'THE WHEELS ON THE TUKTUK'. The background is filled with more books, creating a library-like atmosphere.

Conclusion: We hope to continue to build on the success that we have had and to use this as an opportunity to make the library an even more warm and welcoming space for all members of our community.

References

- University of Edinburgh. (2018) The 4 f's of active reviewing.
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