



Sensory-enhanced Storytime Volunteer

Position Overview and Impact

Douglas County Libraries elevates our community by inspiring a love of reading, discovery and connection. Volunteers are an invaluable resource in improving the quality of living in Douglas County.

Sensory-enhanced Storytime is an inclusive storytime with enhancements to meet the needs of families with children/young adults on the autism spectrum, or other differently-abled children who are at a pre-school level of development. Sensory-enhanced Storytime Volunteers help us provide a safe and welcoming environment for these families to enjoy Storytime.

Key Responsibilities

- Sets up the Storytime room before the program, and puts the room back in order afterward
- Assists the staff as they tell stories, participates in finger rhymes and activities, and hands out materials
- Vigilantly protects the children and families from the emergency exit door and fire alarm handle
- Presents a positive image of the library in communications and appearance while performing duties in both the public and staff areas

Qualifications

- Compassion and patience
- Experience in working with children and their families
- Excellent customer service, positive attitude, and willingness to participate in Storytime activities
- Ability to lift, push, pull, bend and reach
- Dependability in attending regular assigned Storytimes
- Flexibility in assisting as needs arise
- Age 18 or over preferred
- Background check passed

Training and Support Provided

- Orientation to the library
- Training in storytime procedures
- Training in working with children on the autism spectrum, and other differently-abled children and young adults

Benefits of Volunteering

- Our volunteers enjoy personal growth and interaction, a sense of community involvement, potential physical benefits of activity, work experience, and development of job skills.
- Community volunteers are partners and key contributors to the success and vision of our libraries.
- We provide a safe, pleasant environment and the opportunity to meet people from diverse backgrounds.

Time and Length of Commitment

- Minimum two hours a week for six months. If a volunteer needs a particular shift off, we can schedule a substitute if we are given sufficient notice.
- Shifts generally occur on weekdays.

Staff Connection

- Branch Volunteer Coordinator and/or other assigned staff member

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