



Special Needs Programming at the Library

Earl Willis Jr

Special Needs Liaison - Warren County Public Library

Special Needs Liaison at the Public Library?

- To be an advocate for Special Needs patrons who visit the library.
- Help educate staff on the needs of Special Needs patrons.
- Go into the community and bring the library to Special Needs patrons.
- Have programming for Special Needs patrons at the library.

Meeting the needs of the Community

- I was asked by family and caretakers for programming for Special Needs Patrons.
- It's called "Adult Activity Hour" not Story Time.
- We read poetry, and read about a subject for that month.
- At the end of the program we do a craft about the subject we learned about.
- We get to socialize and just hang out in our club.
- We usually have about 25 patrons that show up for the Adult Activity Hour.

Special Needs Programming during Covid-19

There's still a need for programming ...

- Offering Zoom interactions with our patrons.
- I ask what they want to read.
- At the end of the program, they can talk about what's on their minds.
- I make sure I check with the Special Needs contacts and see how they are doing.
- Make sure to have a familiar face and routine of the "old way" of doing things.

Kentucky Derby crafts



We have field trips too!



Some things to keep in mind with Special Needs patrons at the library.

- Everyone wants to belong and feel accepted.
- It's a place to practice social skills and be in the community.
- Compassion and understanding.
- The library is a special place.

Warren County Public Library

Bowling Green, Ky

earlw@warrenpl.org

270-781-4882 - Main Library

270-782-0252 - Bob Kirby Branch

270-563-6651 - Smiths Grove Branch (where I work)



**Thank you to the
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
for sponsorship of this webinar.**

Follow KDLA on Social Media!

@KDLALibDev



KDLALibDev



Visit our [Archived Webinars](#) page!

[Administration](#)

[Adult Services](#)

[Bookmobiles](#)

[Cataloging](#)

[Children/Youth Services](#)

[Collection Development](#)

[Construction](#)

[E-rate](#)

[Employee/Management Resources](#)

[Genealogy](#)

[Legal](#)

[Library Link Up Series](#)

[Local History](#)

[Outreach](#)

[Programming](#)

[Public Relations/Marketing](#)

[Readers' Advisory](#)

[Reference](#)

[School Ready Libraries](#)

[Social Media/Technology](#)

[Summer Reading](#)

[Workforce Development](#)

Thank you for attending!

Earl Willis, Jr.
Warren County Public Library
earlw@warrenpl.org
270-563-6651

KDLA.Certification@ky.gov



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES