Sensory Storytime:
Programming for Children & Youth with Sensory Processing Disorders
TLA
April 9th, 2014
2:00 pm - 3:20 pm

Presenters:

- Eileen Lee
  - Children's Librarian, South Regional Library,
    Montgomery County Memorial Library System

- Michelle Lee
  - Library Assistant II, Central Library
    Fort Worth Library

- Jacqui Rash
  - Youth Programming Librarian, Central Library
    Fort Worth Library

Outline:

- Basics of Sensory Processing
- What is Sensory Story Time
- Where to Begin
- Guidelines for Presenters
- Preparing Staff and Volunteers
- Story Time Guidelines for Audience
- Demonstrations
- Large Group Q and A
- Hands-On Activities
What is Sensory Processing?

Sensory processing is how the brain uses information from each of your senses to form an understanding of WHO you are, WHERE you are, and WHAT is happening around you.

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Sensory Processing Disorders (SPD) Definition

For some individuals the process of sensory processing does not happen smoothly. These individuals cannot rely on their senses to give them an accurate picture of the world- which may lead to not knowing how to behave in response to the environment.

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What is Sensory Story Time?

- Similarities to typical story times
- Unique elements
- Beneficial for ALL
Getting Started

- Demand
- Research
- New Program vs. Accommodations
- Sensory Story Time Format
- Cost
- Buy-In
- Advertising & Promotion
- Partnering with other agencies

Recommendations for Facilitators

- Preparing participants with what to expect
- Managing distractibility and impulsivity
- Easing Transitions

Preparing Staff and Volunteers

- Basic Tips
  - Relax
  - Flex your patience muscles
  - Ask if you are unsure

- Brainstorm & Role Play
Story Time Rules

- Timing
- Adult Participation
- Food and Drinks
- Phones
- Behavior

Demonstrations

- Bean Bag Song
- Mockingbird Mimicry
- Social Salutations
- Tactile Accompaniment

Questions
Hands-On Time!