

From page: Youth Grant Application Form 2024

Librarian's Name: Jayme Coonce
Position: Children's Librarian
Library Name: Falls City Library and Arts Center
Phone: 402-2452913
Address: 1600 Fair Avenue
City: Falls City
Zip: 68355
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Project Title: Traveling Tales

1. Selected Category of grant project:

Funds will be used to purchase supplies to allow our Children's Librarian to act as a traveling story teller and visit local day care providers and preschool centers and provide a time of reading, playing, and creating.

2. Goal(s): (State at least part of the goal quantitatively and/or in terms of children's behavior.)

The Falls City Library's operating hours are Monday-Wednesday 9am-6pm, Thursday 9am-6:30 pm, and Friday 9am-5:30pm. These hours severely limit the opportunity for the working families in our community to take part in the children's programs we provide - current offerings include an infant/toddler story time on Wednesdays at 11am AND 5:15pm, an afterschool program for grades K-5 on Tuesdays at 3:30pm, and a new preschool story time on Thursdays at 5:30pm. I have been told by many parents that they would love for their children to participate in some of these programs, but the parents' work schedules are prohibitive. This is where TRAVELING TALES comes in. Traveling Tales will allow us to reach as many of our community's young children as possible to instill the love of reading, learning, and creating by bringing our story time programs to local day care providers and preschools. According to our local Chamber of Commerce, Falls City currently has 14 day care/preschool providers. I have contacted each of these and 10 have responded as of this writing. Those that have responded have expressed an enthusiastic interest in participating in the program. A total of 186 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers may be reached via these 10 providers alone. (Current total attendance for our current children's programs average the same 30 children - ages 0-7 - each week.)

3. Description of program or activities:

Interested day care and preschool providers will be invited to sign up for Traveling Tales visits. Initially, we plan to visit each of these providers 1 time per month with a goal of 2 visits per month after the first 6-12 months. Our long-term goal is increasing the offering to weekly visits once the program is established and efforts to secure volunteer storytellers are successful. Each visit will last 30-60 minutes and will include reading at least 3 books, playing/participating in an activity or game, and completing 1 craft - all related to a specific theme. With this plan in mind, I would like to assemble 25 tote bags that will contain the materials and supplies for each theme.

Initial themes - Space, Day and Night, Fairy Tales, Mermaids and Pirates, Growing Things, Music, Sports, Manners, Ocean, Farm Time, Autumn, My Body, Numbers, 5 Senses, Zoo Visit, Opposites,

Shapes, Colors, Summer, Dinosaurs, Spring, Winter, Earth Day, Insects, and Halloween

Upon successful implementation of this program, I anticipate expanding the themed offerings to include - Apples, Owls, Bears, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Forest Animals, Pets, Snowmen, Arctic Animals, Valentine's Day, Community Helpers, Dr. Seuss, Birds, Bees/Honey, Weather, St. Patrick's Day, Ladybugs, Camping, Sharks, Fire Safety, Transportation, Robots, Picnic Fun, July 4, Ice Cream, Emotions, Veterans, Gingerbread Fun

A detailed inventory of each of the initial 25 themed tote bags follows -

Space - On the Launch Pad by Michael Dahl, Denise Shea; Sheep Blast Off by Nancy E. Shaw; Life on Mars by Jon Agee; Learning Resources Outer Space Activity Set; Solar system felt story pieces

Day and Night - Hooray for Today! by Brian Won; What the Sun Sees, What the Moon Sees by Nancy Tafuri; Little Owl's Night and Little Owl's Night by Divya Srinivasan; mini barn owl finger puppet

Fairy Tales - Hansel and Gretel by James Marshall; Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Tiger Tales, Kate Daubney; Three Little Pigs by Tiger Tales, Ag Jatkowska; felt/flannel story board set of 4 fairy tales

Mermaids and Pirates - How to Be a Pirate by Sue Fliess, Nikki Dyson; Goodnight Pirate by Michelle Robinson, Nick East; The Mermaid by Jan Brett; How to Catch a Mermaid by Adam Wallace, Andy Elkerton; pirate themed sensory bin treasure game

Growing Things - The Little Gardener by Emily Hughes; Growing Vegetable Soup by Lois Ehlert; Lola Plants a Garden by Anna McQuinn, Rosalind Beardshaw; Flower Garden by Eve Bunting, Kathryn Hewitt; Educational Insights plush vegetable garden/pretend food

Music - Play This Book by Jessica Young, Daniel Wiseman; Kat Writes a Song by Greg Foley; HipHop Lollipop by Susan Montanari and Brian Pinkney; 27 pc wooden music instrument set

Sports - Goodnight Football by Michael Dahl, Christina E Forshay; Froggy Plays T-ball by Jonathan London, Frank Remkiewicz; A Ball for Daisy by Chris Raschka; inflatable 5foot football and baseball toss/target with balls

Manners - Mouse Says "Sorry" by Michael Dahl; Hippo Says "Excuse Me" by Michael Dahl; Bear Says Thank You by Michael Dahl; Are You Quite Polite by Alan Katz

Ocean - I'm the Best Artist in the Ocean by Kevin Sherry; Over in the Ocean by Marianne Berkes; Hooray for Fish by Lucy Cousins; water/ocean animal beads with animals

Farm - Punk Farm by Jarrett J Krosoczka; Farmer Duck by Martin Waddell, Helen Oxenbury; Click Clack Moo by Doreen Cronin, Betsy Lewin; Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown, Felicia Bond; step by step 40pc farm puzzle; felt/flannel board farm set

Autumn/Fall - We're Going on a Leaf Hunt by Steve Metzger, Miki Sakamoto; Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf by Lois Ehlert; Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert; sensory bin filler includes leaves, pumpkins, tweezers, clips

My Body - It's Okay to be Different by Todd Parr; Here are my Hands by Bill Martin Jr, John Archambault; From Head to Toe by Eric Carle; Bend and Stretch by Pamela Hill Nettleton, Becky Shipe; Learning Resources Human Body Activity set

Numbers - Chicka Chicka 1, 2, 3 by Bill Martin Jr, Michael Sampson; Pete the Cat and his Four Groovy Buttons by James Dean, Eric Litwin; Let's Count Goats by Mem Fox, Jan Thomas; Frog balance counting/STEM toy

5 Senses - Five for a Little One by Chris Raschka; My Five Senses by Aliki; The Listening Walk by Paul Showers, Aliki; Sense and Grow textured bean bags

Zoo - Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear? by Bill Martin Jr, Eric Carle; Dear Zoo by Rod Campell; My Heart is Like a Zoo by Gladys Rosa-Mendoza; FRUSE safari/wild zoo animal set of 12

Opposites - Opposnakes by Salina Yoon; Eric Carle's Opposites by Eric Carle; Big Bear Little Chair by Lizi Boyd; Bendon TS opposites puzzle with case

Shapes - Shape by Shape by Suse MacDonald; Mouse Shapes by Ellen Stoll Walsh; Color Farm by Lois Ehlert; Educational Insights shapes beanbags set of 8

Colors - Put Me in the Zoo by Robert Lopshire; Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert; Butterfly Butterfly by Petr Horcek; Counting Wild Animals matching/color sorting STEM game

Summer - Summer Days and Nights by Wong Herbert Yee; Summer Beat by Betsy Franco, Charlotte Middleton; Mouse's First Summer by Lauren Thompson, Buket Erdogan; 60pc set reusable water balls; 4 big bubble wands for making giant bubbles; WOWmazing bubble refill powder mix

Dinosaurs - Dinosaur Stomp! by Peter Curtis, Jeanne Willis; One-osaurus, Two-osaurus by Kim Norman, Pierre Collet-Derby; Here We Go Digging for Dinosaur Bones by Susan Lendroth, Bob Kolar; dinosaur felt board story figures

Spring - Spring in the FOrest by Rusty Finch, Cottage Door Press; The Very Hungry Caterpillar's First Spring by Eric Carles; A Little Book About Spring by Leo Lionni, Julie Hamilton; Learning Resources grow it deluxe 17pc garden

Winter - Bright Winter Night by Alli Brydon, Ashline Lindsay; Winter Sleep: A Hibernation Story by Sean Taylor, Alex Morss; There Was an Old Lady who Swallowed Some Snow! by Lucille Colandro, Jared Lee; 22pc snow toss game

Earth Day - I am Earth: An Earth Day Book for Kids by Jaems McDonald, Rebecca McDonald; Earth Day Every Day by Lisa Bullard, Xin Zheng; Happy Earth Day! by Deborah Hopkinson, Jennifer Zivoin; Adventerra Games respect the earth toddler puzzles

Insects - ABC Bug Book for Kids by Jessica Lee Anderson; Going on A Bug Hunt by Sydney M Kendall-Gardiner; Hello, World! Backyard Bugs by Jill McDonald; 14pc big bugs large insect toys

Halloween - Five Little Pumpkins by Tiger Tales, Lucy Barnard; The Wheels on the Bus at Halloween by Sarah Kiele; Don't push the Button by Bill Cotter: pin the eye on the monster game; Halloween bingo game

Other supplies needed include the tote bags and the tags for labeling, and crafting supplies to include construction paper, glue sticks and crayons. A complete inventory and prices will be forthcoming.

4. Detailed time line for completion of the project (be very specific with dates and what you

plan to accomplish by each date, etc):

With the understanding that recipients will be announced by December 31, 2023, and the timely receipt of grant funds, I anticipate purchasing all required elements (tote bags, books, games/activities, craft supplies, etc.) by January 31, 2024 with expected receipt of items by February 15, 2024. Day care and preschool providers will be formally invited to participate in Traveling Tales on February 1, 2024. We will have a sign-up form and contact sheet to be shared with each of the providers. Tote bags will be labeled and books and games/activities organized within each tote immediately upon receipt of the ordered items. The accompanying craft items will be organized and compiled for each theme by staff and volunteers with expected completion February 28, 2024. Traveling Tales will officially be active effective March 1, 2024.

5. Identify youth service need on which this project is based:

I have been told by many of the parents of young children in our community that they would love for their children to participate in one or more of our weekly children's programs, but their work schedules don't allow time to pick up their children from day care/preschool and make it to any of the programs we currently offer. This is where TRAVELING TALES comes in. Traveling Tales will allow us to reach as many of our community's young children as possible to instill the love of reading, learning, and creating by bringing our story time programs to local day care providers and preschools.

6. Plans for finding staff and time for this additional project:

Traveling Tales will be offered on days and times that will not conflict with current program offerings. The available themes for Traveling Tales will coincide with the themes already scheduled for in-library offerings so the only additional preparation will be to ensure enough craft materials are prepared. We are fortunate to have a regular group of middle school patrons and retired persons patrons who have offered to help assemble these materials. Additional volunteers will be sought as needed.

7. Means of evaluation/Measures of success both outputs and outcomes. Output measures are quantitative and include statistics such as number of youth attending program, books circulated, number of programs held, etc. Outcomes are related to the question of whether or not your effort made a difference and if so, what that difference was. Outcome measures might include changes in attitude or behavior; documentation of knowledge acquired, etc.

The immediate goal of this program is to double the number of children participating in library programs. With just the preliminary projection number (again, 10 of the 15 contacts responded as of this writing) of 186 children reached monthly by Traveling Tales alone, our anticipated output will be closer to increasing our reach by 6 times. As children are more exposed to library staff and other programs and offerings, we anticipate an increase in the number of children participating in other library programs and because of this increase in attendance, an increase in the number of books and other materials checked out is expected.

8. Approximate date to begin project:

Announcement and signup offering to begin February 1, 2024 with visits beginning March 1, 2024

9. If awarded a grant I would be willing, if asked, to make a presentation at a state or system youth event or via teleconference. Please indicate in the box Yes or No:

yes

**Nebraska Library Commission Youth Grant Program
PROPOSED PROJECT BUDGET**

| | |
|--|--|
| Describe each expenditure below | round figures to the nearest whole dollar amount |
| Contracted Services | 0 |
| Library Materials | 1536 |
| Personnel Costs | 0 |
| Program Materials-Supplies | 113 |
| Training | 0 |
| Equipment | 0 |
| Promotion | 0 |
| Other | 0 |
| Estimated Total Project Budget | 1649 |
| Amount being requested as a grant from the Library Commission: | 1236 |
| Cash <i>(must total at least 10% of the grant amount requested above.)</i> | 413 |
| Other Local Match | 0 |
| Total Local Match <i>(must total at least 25% of the Estimated Total Project Budget above.)</i> | 413 |

10. Contracted Services (paying any person not on the payroll for services necessary to the project):

11. Library Materials (includes anything that will be added to the library's collection):

Books, games/activities (NOT crafting supplies), tote bags, and tags will be needed to compile and organize the materials to travel to the various day care and preschool providers. Each tote and it's inventory will be catalogued as a single item.

12. Personnel costs (paying any person who is on the payroll for work directly related to the project):

13. Program Materials/Supplies (include here any items that will be essentially expended or used up during the program. Prizes and items meant as mementos of an event, should be included here.):

crafting supplies to go along with each theme are included here. Items include construction paper,

glue sticks, and crayons. Staff and volunteers will utilize our current file of sample crafts to create a sample and prepare the items necessary to complete each themed creation.

14. Training (for any person necessary to the success of the program):

15. Equipment (include here any non-expendable item that will be retained and used by the library):

16. Promotion (include costs of advertising, printing of flyers or posters, design of promotional items. Giveaways, items of little value meant as advertising, should be included here.)

17. Other:

Certification:

Applicant Agency/Library: Falls City Library and Arts Center

Name of Library Director/Authorized Representative: Allie McCann

Official Title of Director/Authorized Representative: Jayme Coonce