



PROGRAMMING FOR ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Why and How



Agenda



Barriers to and benefits of programming for adults with developmental disabilities



Creating a culture of Inclusion



A sampling of programming ideas



Best practices



More about our book



Contact us

SECTION ONE: BARRIERS AND BENEFITS



What are Developmental Disabilities?

Umbrella Term:

- Manifest before the age of 22
- Are lifelong
- Characterized by functional limitations
- Include Intellectual Disabilities, autism and others





Library Barriers to Programming

- Low attendance numbers
- Concerns about extra work
- Lack of ties to the community
- Lack of Expertise



Societal and Attitudinal Barriers

- Implicit Bias
- Medical model of disability
- Low expectations of people with DD

It's the Law:



Americans with Disabilities Act

The DD Act

The Developmental Disabilities Assistance
and Bill of Rights Act of 2000

Breaking Down Barriers



“We are becoming champions for accessibility and we become more aware.” Renee Grassi, Dakota Library in MN

We all benefit



“...do not underestimate the ability of people with intellectual disabilities’ capacity to learn and to also teach you something.”

--staff Contra Costa County Library (CA)

SECTION TWO: CREATING A CULTURE OF INCLUSION



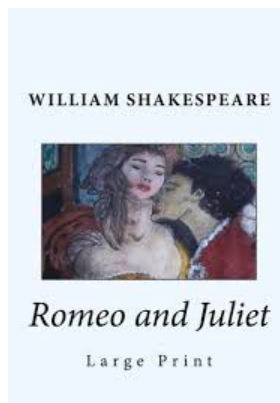
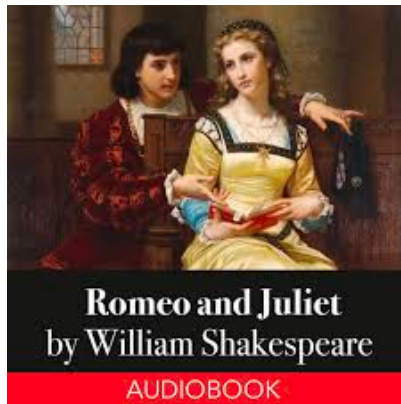
Universal Design for Learning



Multiple Means of Representation and Engagement

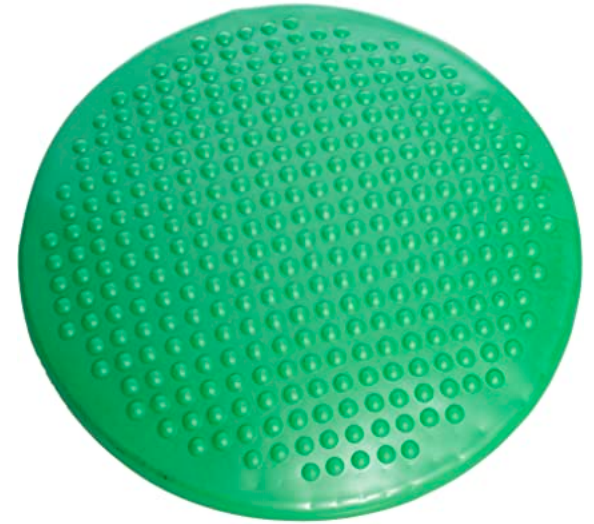


Multiple Means of Representation and Engagement



Sensory Tools: Sensory Seeking

- Fidgets
- Resistance
- Movement





MULTIPLE
INTELLIGENCES
THEORY
PROVIDES A
CHECKLIST

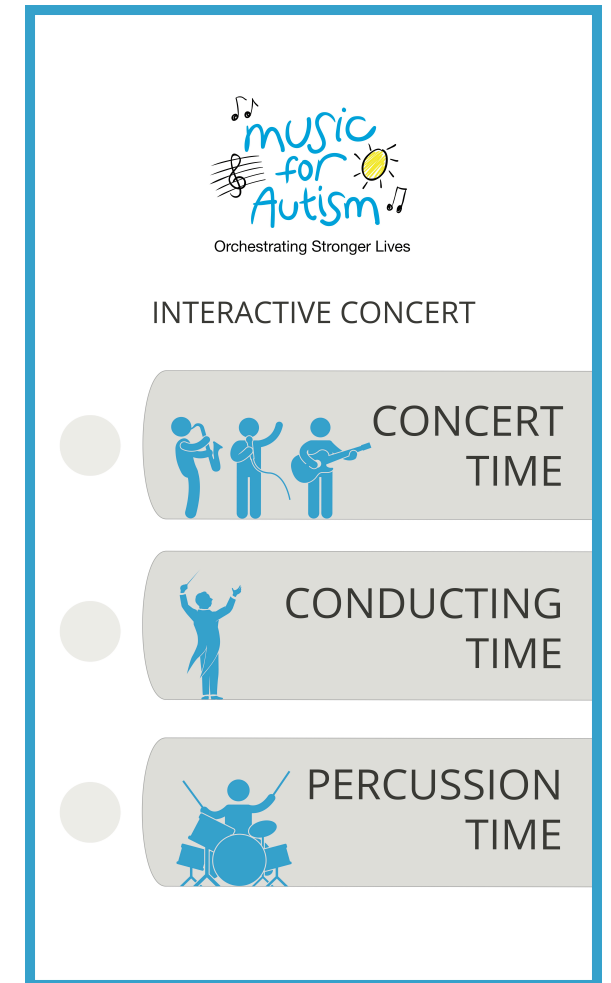
Sensory Tools: Sensory Avoiding

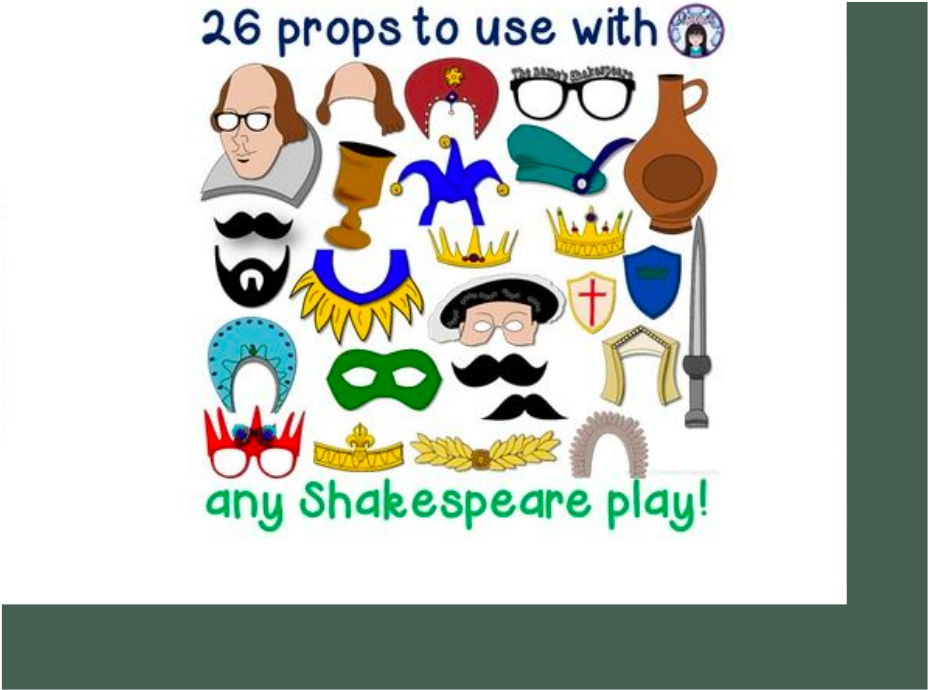
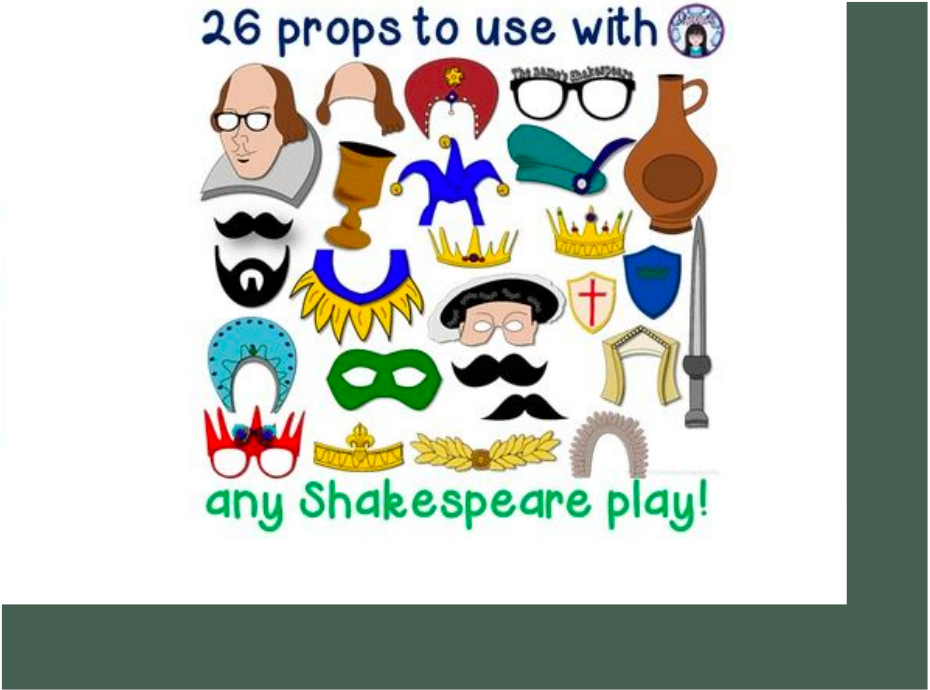
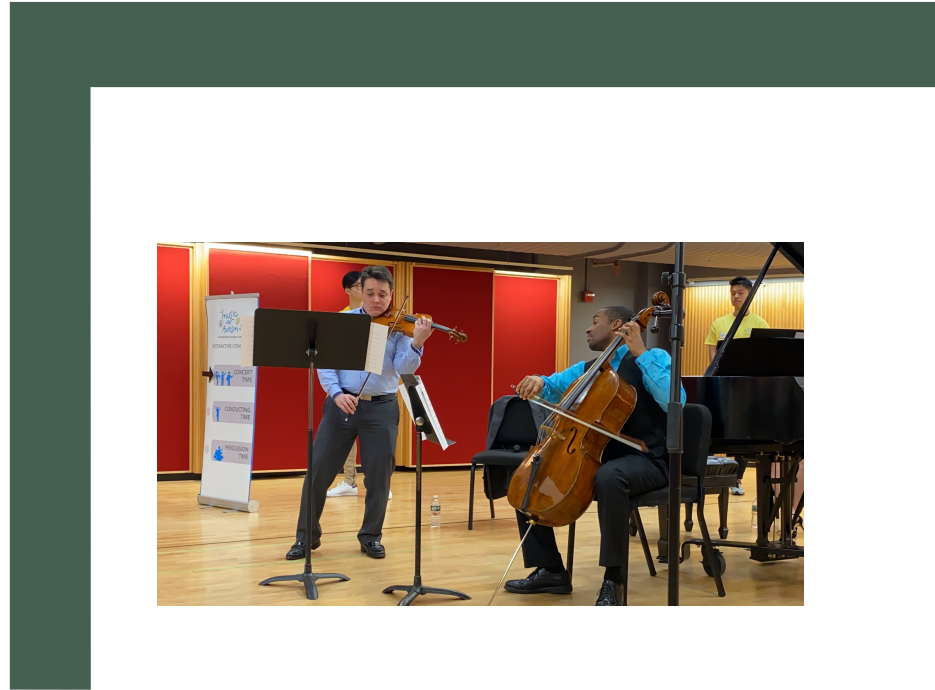
- Noise cancelling headphones
- Sunglasses, baseball caps
- Quiet space



Sensory Tools: Structure

- If multiple sessions, use same structure each time
- Announce structure at the beginning and reinforce throughout
- Make implied structure explicit





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Administrative Support





SECTION THREE: SOME PROGRAM IDEAS



Library Tours

- Be interactive and hands-on
- Be aware of how you communicate
- Incorporate visuals, predictability
- Show where to go with questions
- Focus on adult areas and services
- Cover library rules and behavioral expectations





SENSORY FRIENDLY MOVIES

Food and Cooking Programs

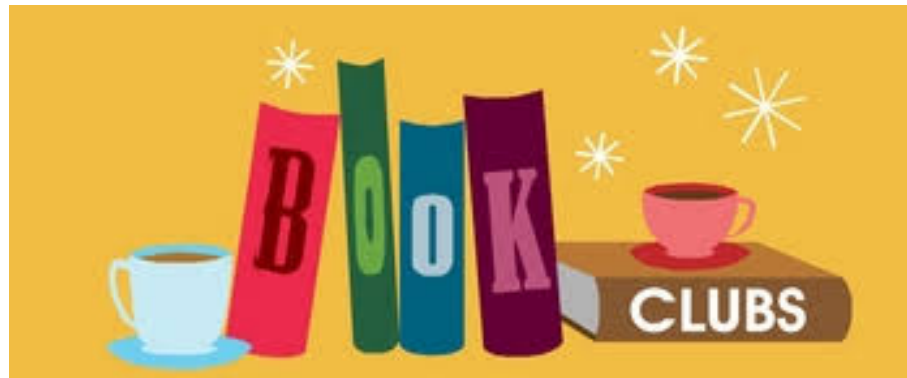
- Single food programs
- Cooking demos
- Cooking lessons
- Combine cooking and gardening



Photo from Athens Regional Library System used with permission

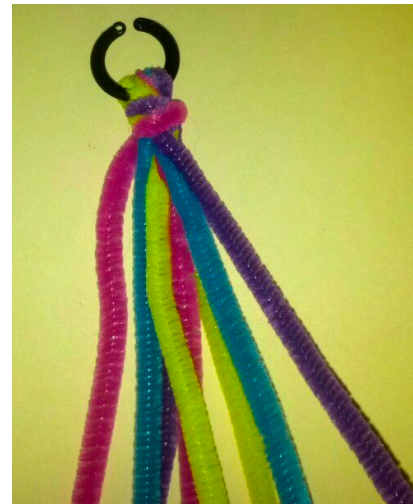
Read Along Programs

- Next Chapter Book Club
- Book and Movie Club
- Book and Craft Program
- Design Your Own



Virtual Programming

- Virtual phone book clubs
 - Read-alouds with discussion
- One to one phone
 - Reference and check-ins
 - Technology and virtual resource help
 - Poetry readings
- Virtual autism/sensory-friendly concerts
- On-line Craft programs
 - Fidgets
 - Mirror writing



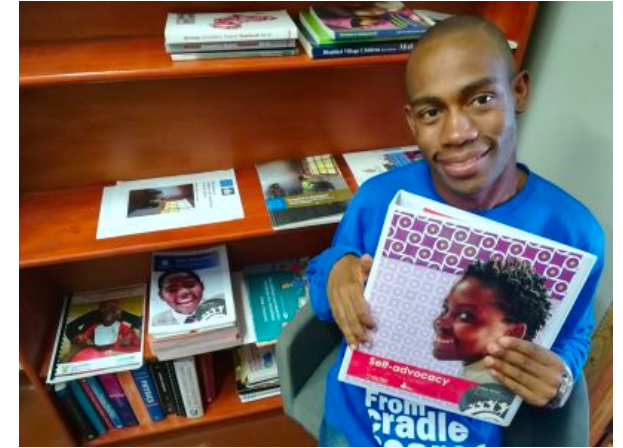
Make Sure Existing Programs Are Inclusive





SECTION FOUR: BEST PRACTICES



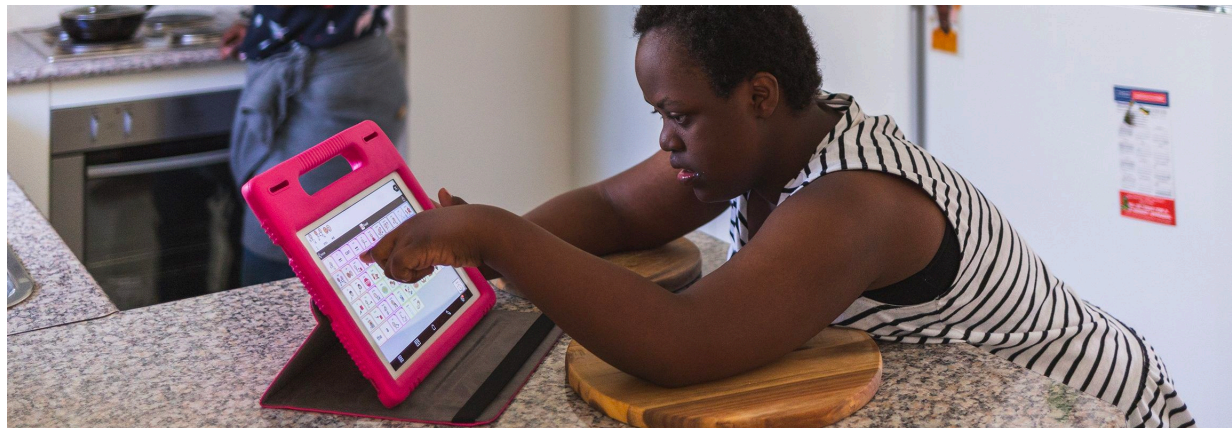


Best Practices: Planning

- Involve Self-Advocates
- Consider both chronological and developmental age
- Partner with community agencies
- Partner with other library staff
- Train staff

Best Practices: Implementation

- Schedule at best times for attendees
- Use volunteers
- Communicate effectively
- Offer choices
- Let the participants lead





SECTION FIVE: MORE ABOUT OUR BOOK



PROGRAM CATEGORIES:

- Library and Literature Programs
- Arts and Crafts Programs
- Performing Arts
- Gaming
- Adulting/Life Skills Programs
- Career/Employment Programs
- Virtual Programs



Other Topics Covered:

- Planning
- Correct terminology
- Marketing
- Funding your programs
- Extensive resources





LIBRARIES
ARE FOR
EVERYONE

Contact Us

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Let's Discuss!

May 27, 11 am PT/1:00 pm CT/2:00 pm ET

Facilitated by Mary Kelly, Statewide Coordinator, Autism Program of Illinois

Limited Space of 20 participants

For an invite and access information:

- Email your name, organization, state and why you would like to be part of the discussion to lisa@infopeople.org by May 23. An invitation with access information will be sent by May 25th