

Beyond the Book

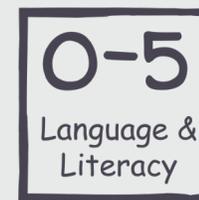
Family Book Club

Language & Literacy Family Gathering

Tracy Duncan, Statewide Coordinator, 0-5 Language & Literacy
Alisa Weeks, East TN, 0-5 Language & Literacy
Brenda Boaz-Pond, Library Services for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Karrie Smith, Beyond the Book - participating family



Library Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
tndeaflibrary.nashville.gov 615.862.5750 facebook.com/LSDHH



Goals for the monthly book club:

- **Family-to-family** contacts
- Opportunities for **family networking**
- **Provide support** on topics facing families during a pandemic / lock-down
- **Interaction** between hearing families with d/hh/d+/db children to engage with a Deaf Adult
- **Connect** with families with older d/hh/d+/db children appearing as guest speakers

Creating a shared space providing full access to language:

The book club gatherings are intentionally designed to achieve full access to language and information. It is a collaborative model of Deaf Space and Hearing Space. The priority is teaching by doing.

- See what it looks like to **chat with a deaf person** using multiple communication strategies
- Show how deaf people are **leaders and contribute valuable information to discussions**
- Demonstrate the ability **of deaf people to tell their own story**, self-determination, success in life
- **Honestly share emotions** by being vulnerable while examining life growing-up in a hearing family
- Provide a framework to understand that **what works for a hearing child may not work for a deaf child.**
- **Answer questions** for the families on any topic about personal experiences

Criteria for the Book Club selections

- **Polling participating families** about their interests, preferred dates/times, topics, and the name of book club
- **Selecting books relating** to daily needs of participating families
- Giving serious thought to **diversity** in the book selections
- Setting **realistic expectations** about keeping-up with reading
- **Avoiding biased works** to ensure respect for family choice
- **Creating a “safe-space”** for each participant as they read

Use of Reading Guides

Advanced preparation of a Reading Guide to provide

- Families one month's time to prepare by receipt of both the book & reading guide
- A monthly timeline of chapters and potential topics
- Cohesiveness for the facilitators and interpreters
- Opportunities to expand conversations

Families are prepared to share their life experiences

Reading a few chapters each month

- Allows participants to think about the discussions and how it relates to their life
- Can lead to a paradigm shift that evolves over time
- Enables the families to reflect on what they have read and be prepared to share their thoughts.

Imbedding Strategies for Successful Interaction with their Child

Reading about strategies each month provides participants the occasion to:

- Relate the information to their life and preparing to engage
- Reflect on evolving ideas leading to a paradigm shift
- Ponder their thoughts and insights over a period

Parents are able to network based on their common experiences, thoughts, and sharing resources they find helpful

Strategies facilitators use:

- Highlighting the points parents make and expanding upon them
- Facilitating parent discussions by drawing specifics shared from previous conversations
- Supporting comments with examples and stories



Nothing About Us Without Us

Brenda Boaz-Pond

Objectives for Including a deaf adult:

- **Meet and interact with a deaf adult** in a supportive environment
- **Provide perspective** on growing up deaf in a hearing family
- **Share memories** of how their family communicated with them – what worked and what did not
- **Describe** how their family taught them, discipline and guidance from birth to graduation
- **Answer questions** that hearing families with d/hh/d+/db children have that only a deaf person can answer
- **Contribute related and meaningful comments** during discussions



Family Perspective

Karrie Smith

Questions

Preferred Contact Information:

Tracy Duncan

t.duncan@tsdeaf.org

Alisa Weeks

a.weeks@tsdeaf.org

Brenda Boaz-Pond

brenda.boaz-pond@nashville.gov

Karrie Smith

865-567-9708

