Dear colleagues,

With the rapidly changing and intensifying state and national response to COVID-19, many of our libraries are closed for now, and others have scaled back services. Below are a number of opportunities and news items to help you serve your children, families, and communities during this emergency.

The State Library of Ohio is closed to the public, but State Library staff are on the job, teleworking for at least the next three weeks. You can reach me, and other State Library employees by email. I'm monitoring email from 8:00-4:30 M-F. Please reach out if we can help or support you in any way.

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The Ohio Library Council has **extended the deadline for program proposals for the Multiple Literacies conference**, scheduled for July 10 at Great Wolf Lodge in Mason (SW Ohio). The original deadline was tomorrow (March 18), but OLC is now accepting proposals through April 1. More information:

[olc.org/blog/event/multiple-literacies-conference/](http://olc.org/blog/event/multiple-literacies-conference/)

The call for proposals for OLC's Innovations conference, scheduled for August 19 at Bowling Green State University (NW Ohio), will be posted tomorrow (March 18). Proposals for this conference will be due May 15.

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A message for families with young children:

Need to keep little ones occupied for the foreseeable future? The **Day By Day Ohio Family Literacy Calendar** offers a song, video, activities, and book suggestions for every day of the year. Every day when you go to <http://DayByDayOH.org>, you'll see a new set of activities for today's date. A service of the State Library of Ohio in collaboration with Ohio Ready to Read, Day By Day Ohio supports early literacy skills, helps young children get ready for school, and is available 24/7.

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While more oriented toward PreK-12 teachers/librarians than public librarians, this **update from INFOhio**includes lots of info about educational resources that all Ohio students and their adults can access for FREE and that are especially helpful when regular school-based learning is suspended:

[www.infohio.org/blog/item/keep-calm-and-carry-on-with-infohio](https://www.infohio.org/blog/item/keep-calm-and-carry-on-with-infohio)

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**TumbleBooks has announced it will make its family of online libraries available for free to all public libraries**until at least August 31. Its flagship product, TumbleBooklibrary ([www.tumblebooklibrary.com](http://www.tumblebooklibrary.com)) is a collection of animated talking picture books, read-alongs, ebooks, quizzes, lesson plans, and educational games which is used by thousands of schools and public libraries in over 100 countries across the world.

TumbleBooks is inviting public libraries across North America  to **email**[**info@tumblebooks.com**](mailto:info@tumblebooks.com)**with subject line "Free TumbleBooks"**in order to receive free links to TumbleBook databases so they can be shared and accessed by their patrons from the comfort and safety of their homes.

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And last:

Thanks to my IN counterpart Beth Yates for compiling this list of resources and guidelines for those considering streaming storytimes or other digital strategies for providing storytime content. Please note that we are not lawyers, and the following should not be taken as legal advice.

As many public libraries close and contemplate the continuation of some services virtually, the issue of “live”/ streamed storytimes arises.  There are no clearly-defined rules about virtual storytimes; in fact, there is quite a bit of debate.

[Here is an article](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.slj.com%2F%3FdetailStory%3Dtackling-copyright-concerns-when-taking-storytime-online&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652398629&sdata=Hvd6kuH7uvmZQS85hyqBY3MVwJf%2FGxB8NxouVY%2BD2uE%3D&reserved=0) in School Library Journal that addresses this topic.  Essentially, they say that it would fall under fair use.  However, reading books in their entirety in a public forum like the internet does cause concern.  You also must be careful to not use copyrighted songs; stick to classics in the public domain.  It’s really a judgement your library has to make.  If your library has a legal counsel, you might want to run it by them just to cover all your bases.

**The best solution is to get the permission of the author.**  You can write the author directly, or more often to the publisher to get this permission.  Luckily, because of the current crisis, a number of authors have been giving permission on their social media pages for librarians to use their books for streamed (generally *not*permanently posted) storytimes for the length of the school closures; in some cases they are even reading books aloud themselves or offering drawing classes, and more!

·         The Facebook group [Storytime Underground](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2Fstorytimeunderground%2Fpermalink%2F2995472040503972%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652398629&sdata=TI2vDdsgh0ertLtIcjPAX1ZsFshFu%2BgePLZyqgcEuVM%3D&reserved=0) has compiled a [list of authors and what they are offering here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fspreadsheets%2Fd%2F14sKF93Q15buUUtJwrRvR8K8xAQdQSVss9Rzp69_oQRM%2Fhtmlview&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652408585&sdata=h%2F%2BwNweR2gPQBrxVdrf5tF%2F0CoDI8n6xbKOwx5RfK%2Bc%3D&reserved=0).  There are also other suggestions on tabs in this document—check it out!  It is being continuously updated.  Joining the group Storytime Underground or the [Programming Librarian Interest Group](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2FProgrammingLibrarianInterestGroup%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652408585&sdata=Yd0Fu%2FebjY8%2B3J53an6xSp%2FQuSd7N8fDV48vQrM7Fh8%3D&reserved=0) on Facebook is another way to see the latest information being shared.

·         Here is [another list](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fspreadsheets%2Fd%2F11jwq7_KbsGFbnsjNYLCgrRuJMREzHpOFtMyNWutDRYo%2Fhtmlview&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652408585&sdata=ZYBnUqyCPydzVpx3JTusKkYBIlX9Yi0DQNJCvIg0i5c%3D&reserved=0) with author permissions.

·         Another group is keeping track of live author readings and other [streamed storytime events on this calendar](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcalendar.google.com%2Fcalendar%2Fembed%3Fsrc%3Dp02rmig8r0lpnn6r8jsqs7g2oo%2540group.calendar.google.com%26ctz%3DAmerica%252FNew_York&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652418542&sdata=ZpAv%2FcMozoQoNisXBIB%2BbC0NMPiM%2FLuShiDftWhp2OE%3D&reserved=0).

·         [Storyline Online](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.storylineonline.net%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652418542&sdata=sarjNU%2FNvOlhOwqC8OXFxGFz035TdWNJlRe7tbI7eqg%3D&reserved=0) offers books read by celebs which are free to share.  These could be posted on your library social media pages.

I want to emphasize again that in most cases authors have given permission just during the crisis, so do not post storytimes permanently to your YouTube channels, etc.  While there are many libraries that do this, I cannot recommend it if you want to be in the clear on copyright.  Live streaming means you are not keeping the content somewhere public permanently.  Delete things after a short period if they do save and post to your page.  These are all best practices.

Looking for other online/virtual programming ideas for kids, teens, and adults?

·         [Here is a list of program ideas](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fdocument%2Fd%2F1i9WU3oNeHynu30TNIRz4U-WUqxTPJ1H1qp4rXUwA8H8%2Fmobilebasic&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652428501&sdata=s3FoHZobfTeM2G0rTEnPdjPciWZgKUA%2BguHxIRqkTlo%3D&reserved=0) compiled by Storytime Underground members.

·         A list of [streaming resources/activities](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fspreadsheets%2Fd%2F1lzJFUZs7PY6yPwaBid6x3eSIYCUL5JFcooCNQYDrwa8%2Fhtmlview&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652428501&sdata=ScSkxxFPvoG%2Ffr9BBP%2FLs3YaDOlmZBJkC0gp5pky3rQ%3D&reserved=0), such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems.

·         [Scholastic Learn at Home](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclassroommagazines.scholastic.com%2Fsupport%2Flearnathome.html&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652428501&sdata=8VUU9dzvriKAs1AEVVBSXwkgg2ila69eSGFoF5xgZVw%3D&reserved=0) is providing lots of free activities you can share with your patrons.

·         A [LibGuide](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fguides.rcls.org%2FRCLScovid19%2Fchildren&data=02%7C01%7Cjdwyer%40library.ohio.gov%7Cd676332a8afc47aaaa2a08d7ca7c17ac%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C637200506652438452&sdata=rehMIFwWc7Mk5Zpw0Yz0H9TUtGERhwYkfUs9G%2Bdrg%2B0%3D&reserved=0) that pulls a number of resources into one place.

Please stay safe, healthy, and hopeful,

Sincerely,

Janet