

Story Time STEAM in Action / en Acción

Welcome Video Transcript

By Dr. Sabine Thomas

Welcome to culturally responsive Story Time STEAM. We wanted to ensure that we could provide you with an opportunity to reimagine story time.

We have engaged over the past several years multiple librarians – multiple local librarians throughout the Central Puget Sound – to rethink Story Time STEM into Story Time STEAM in Action / en Acción. The goal was to have librarians center ways in which they engage and invite the community into libraries, and ways in which librarians can take stock of ways in which to bring the libraries into the community.

To review examples of ways in which Story Time STEAM in Action / en Acción have taken place, please take a look at the link at the bottom of this particular page. It will direct you to Jamie's, Gabi's, and JC's rendition of their own version – of their own ownership – of Story Time STEAM in Action / en Acción.

Our next step in being able to support our community of librarians, youth librarians particularly, to engage in culturally responsive Story Time STEAM, is to invite you, fellow librarian, to take a journey of self-reflection that allows you to determine where you are in your current practice. There are no right or wrong places to be, just an opportunity to self-reflect.

It will start with the very first slide, providing you with an opportunity to read the instructions. And then there's several topics, amongst them books and activities, outreach, your own definitions when it comes to community engagement and culturally responsive Story Time STEAM. In case you come across several topics and or terms that you may not be aware of, we've been able to create a glossary of terms so that you can better center yourself in this space of self-reflection.

And once you have come to the end of your self-reflection journey on this particular page, you'll receive a prompt sharing where you are in your current practices. And again, there are absolutely no wrong or right answers – just an opportunity to guide your self-reflection and enrich your continued practice. One more important aspect of this self-reflection is that all your answers are anonymous. They are not gathered in the back end by Washington STEM. This is simply for your own benefit.

Regardless of where you are in your journey, we would love absolutely to have you join our free Community of Practice, whereby you'll have an opportunity on a bimonthly basis to engage with fellow youth librarians across the state. We invite you to join our community of practice by expressing your interest and filling out this form.

And during the Community of Practice, you will be supported by the amazing Rekha Kuver. (Pronouns: she/they). Rekha is an innovative leader who has deep experience developing strategic initiatives within public libraries as well as in partnership with educational research and community-based organization. Her work centers power-sharing partnerships, relationship-based engagement, and community-lead practice. You will have a phenomenal time learning with, growing with, hearing from, and engaging with Rekha and the rest of our librarians.

We want to make sure one more time to engage you at the bottom of this page so that you can have an opportunity to review how librarians have engaged and/or created their own rendition of Story Time

STEAM in Action / en Acción. And continue to dig through – we have wonderful resources for you throughout the page, including our initial partnership with our partners at University of Washington Bothell around Story Time STEM.

We look forward to hearing from you and we thank you for your time. Enjoy a culturally responsive Story Time STEAM.