

Today's Presenters



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Early Childhood
Literacy Consultant,
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Supercharged
Storytimes



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New Ways to Supercharge Your Storytimes

Saroj Ghoting, Early Literacy Instructor

Betha Gutsche, WebJunction Program Manager

Agenda

- What is Supercharged Storytimes?
- The Supercharged Storytimes Self-paced Course
- The Facilitator Training Opportunity



**You already provide
great storytimes.**

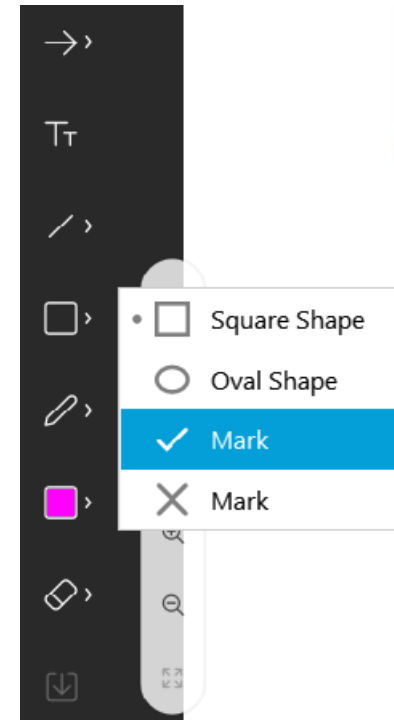
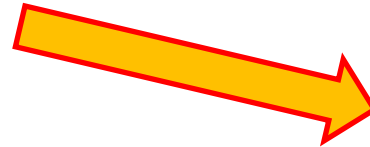


**Supercharge your practice to
make them even better.**

Annotation Tools



1. Mouse over slide to find **small pill menu** at far left
2. Select top **squiggle icon** to open annotation tool panel
3. Select **square** icon
4. Select **check mark**
5. Click on slide **to practice**



Who's in the room today?

Put a checkmark next to your primary role:

- Library Director
- Manager or Supervisor
- Head or Lead of Youth Services
- Children's or Youth Services Librarian/Associate
- Volunteer
- Training Coordinator / Manager
- State Youth Services Coordinator or Consultant
- Other (post to chat)

What Is Early Literacy?

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.



Photo: Mother and daughter playing at daycare; [Getty Images](#)

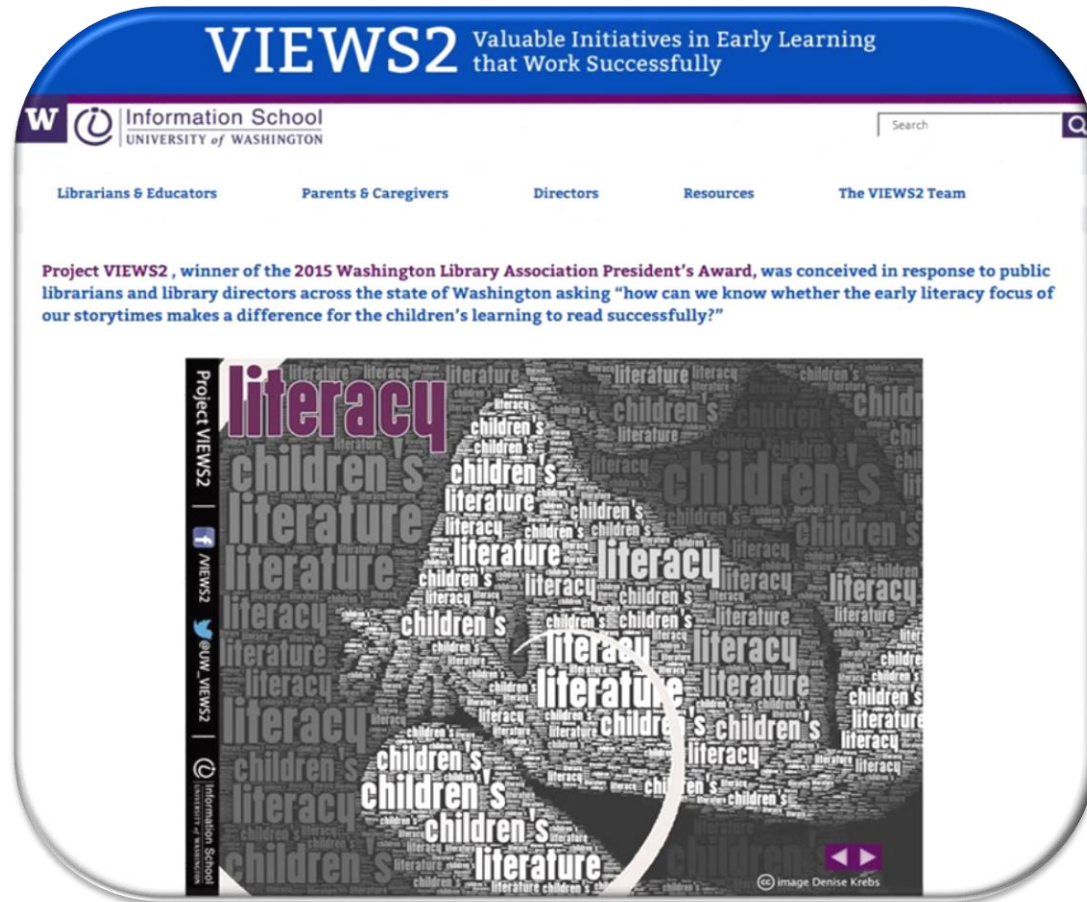
What is Supercharged Storytimes?

An Introduction



The VIEWS2 Research Study

Valuable Initiatives in Early Learning that Work Successfully



VIEWS2 website: <http://views2.ischool.uw.edu/>

Library Storytimes Matter!

“An intentional focus on early literacy content in public library storytimes can increase the children’s early literacy behaviors while at storytime.”

—VIEWS2 Research Team



Photo: Dr. Eliza Dresang on [VIEWS2 website](#)

From Research to Practical Application

Storytimes get *Supercharged*

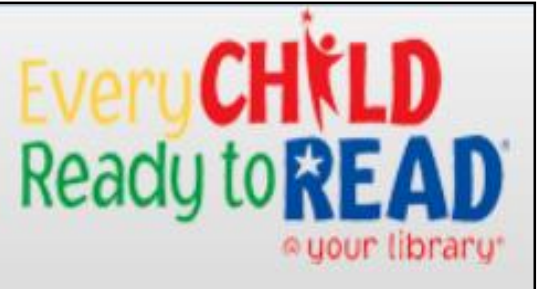
Project VIEWS2: Storytimes Matter!



A purposeful focus on early literacy principles in public library storytimes makes a difference in storytime programs



More than 500 library staff members in six states participated in Supercharged Storytimes orientation in 2015. Participants collaborated in a dynamic online learning community to explore



4 Pillars of Supercharged Storytimes

1 Interactivity

2 Intentionality

3 Assessment

4 Community of Practice



1 Interactivity

Interactions
with
children:

- You and the children in your storytimes
- You and the parents or caregivers
- Parents & caregivers with their children any time



2 Intentionality

Connecting storytime activities to early literacy skills and development, including:



- Scaffolding
- Early literacy tips for parents and caregivers

3 Assessment

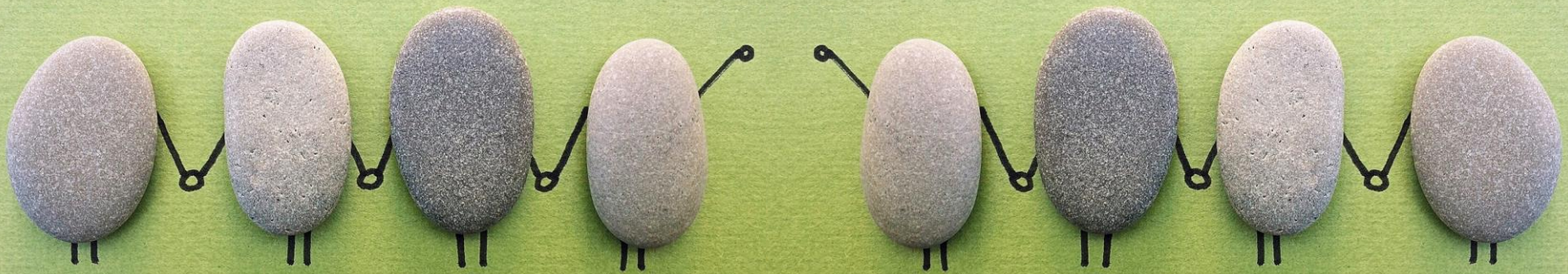
A variety of ways to assess your

supercharged storytimes:

- Self-reflection
- Observation and peer mentoring
- Observing children's behaviors
- Structured assessment tools, such as PLA's Project Outcome toolkit for early childhood literacy development

4 Community of Practice

Connecting with your peers and colleagues to share and receive ideas and feedback



Supercharged Storytimes as a Self-Paced Course

What to expect



Overall Goal

of WebJunction's **Supercharged Storytimes**

- To provide free and widely available training for library storytime practitioners on how to intentionally apply research-based practices to boost early literacy in young children attending library storytimes

The self-paced course!

anytime

anywhere

FREE

Course Topics

- Ways to be intentional with each of **6 early literacy components**
- How to **engage with parents & caregivers** to extend early literacy into the home
- Ways to **reflect on continual improvement** and **assess the impact** of your storytimes
- How to approach your library **storytimes through an equity lens**



Look and Feel



You already provide great storytimes.
Supercharge your practice to make them even better.

[Getting Started](#) / [Module One](#) / [Module Two](#) / [Module Three](#) / [Module Four](#) / [Module Five](#) / [Module Six](#)

► Open all ▼ Close all

Getting Started

[Hide from sidebar](#)

Module One - Key Supercharged Storytimes Elements

Module Two - Early Literacy Components and Engaging Parents and Caregivers

Module Three - Vocabulary and Background Knowledge

Module Four - Storytime Assessment

Module Five - Equity and Evaluation

Module Six - Growing the Supercharged Storytimes practice

Course Completion & Evaluation

Course Certificate

Program Partners

Six modules

Instructional videos

Learner Guides

Ways to apply learning

Certificate of completion

Intentionality and the Early Literacy Components

The backbone of supercharging



2 Intentionality is the key



- being **mindful** about planning our storytimes
- being **purposeful** about including key early literacy components
- and **reflecting** afterward on our storytimes

Intentionality can transform your storytimes



Photo: Story Time by [New Jersey Library Assoc](#) on [Flickr/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#)

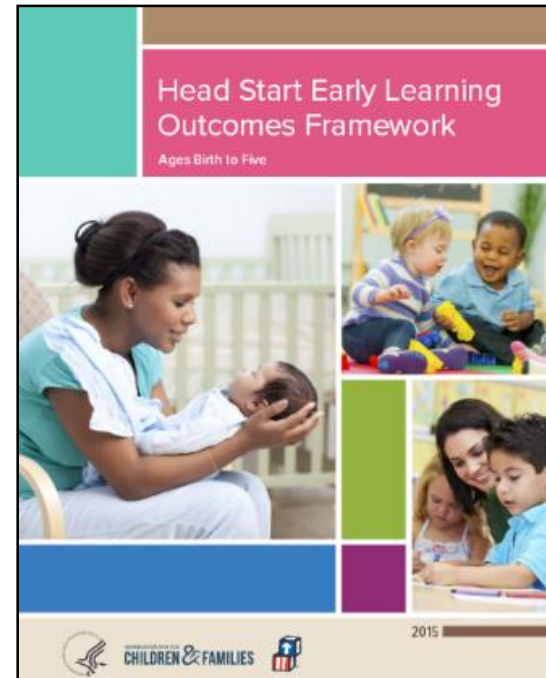
Intentionality works with *any* early literacy structure

- Every Child Ready to Read
- State Early Learning Guidelines
- Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework Domains
- VIEWS2 Planning Tool



VIEWS2 Valuable Initiatives in Early Learning
that Work Successfully

Your state's
early learning
guidelines



Early Literacy Components

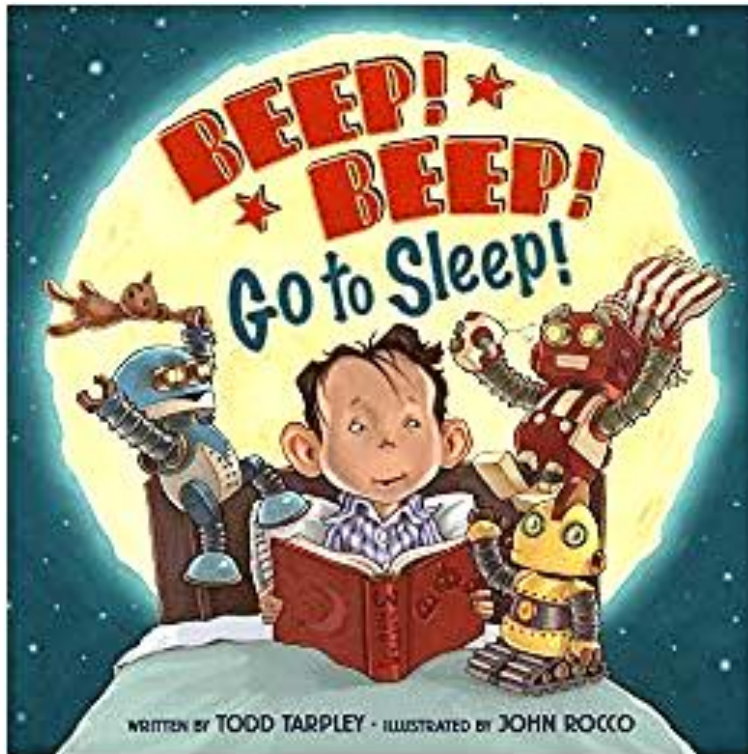
Oral Language	Foundation for all language
Phonological Awareness	Hearing smaller sounds in words
Print Awareness/ Concepts	Knowing that print has meaning
Letter Knowledge	Exploring letters
Vocabulary	Knowing words
Background Knowledge	Prior knowledge about the world

Ways to be intentional

- No change
- Small change
- Big change
- New idea

Being Intentional – no change

Using the book *Beep! Beep! Go to Sleep!*



Do you usually say the name of the author and illustrator?

Without having to do anything differently, you are now being *intentional!*

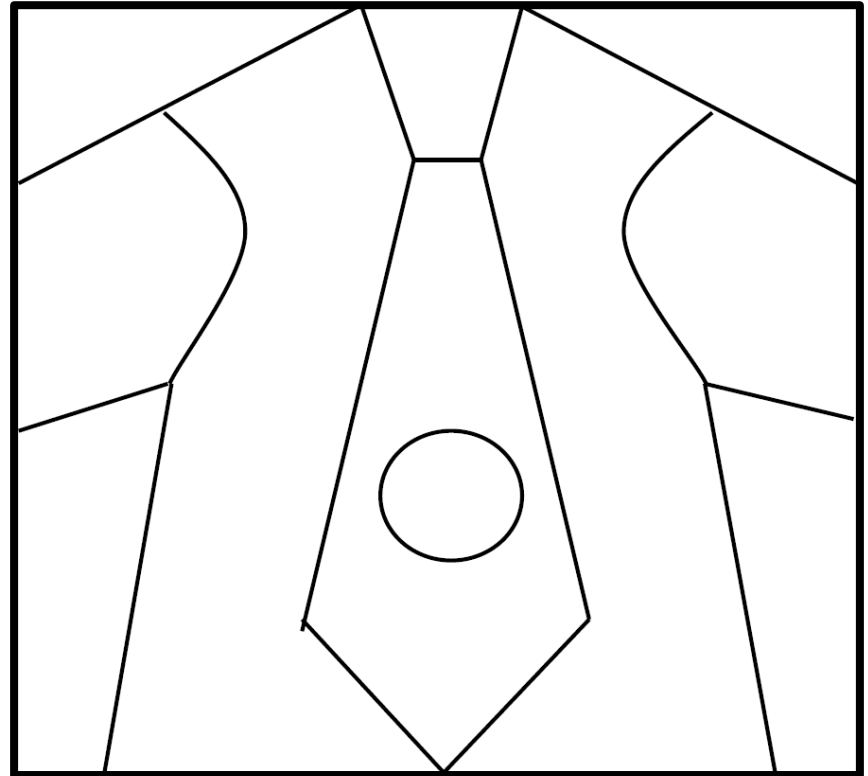
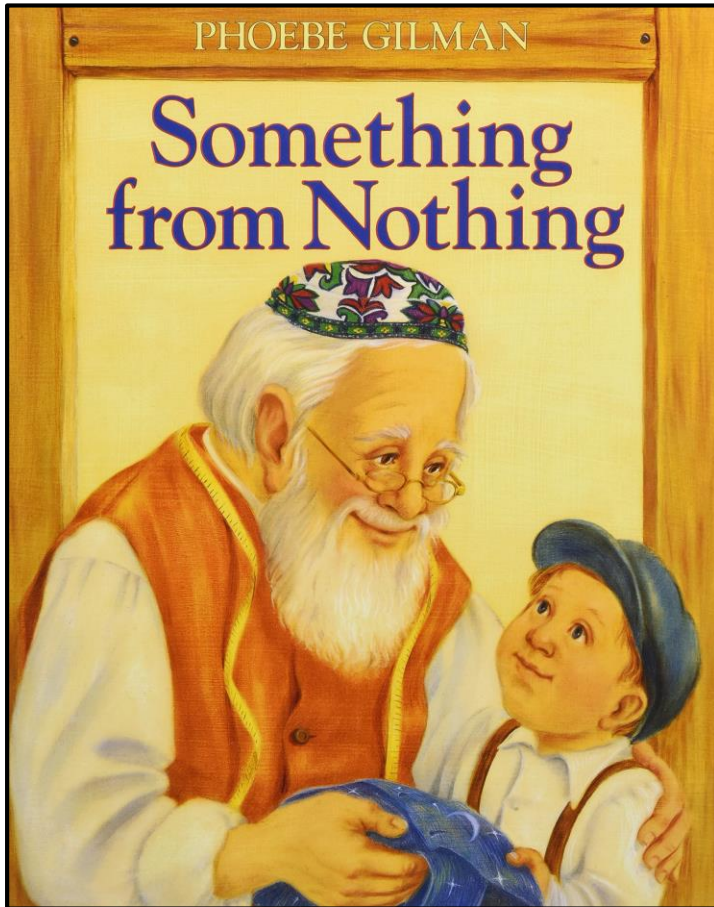
Being Intentional – small change

Intentionally adding meaning to words



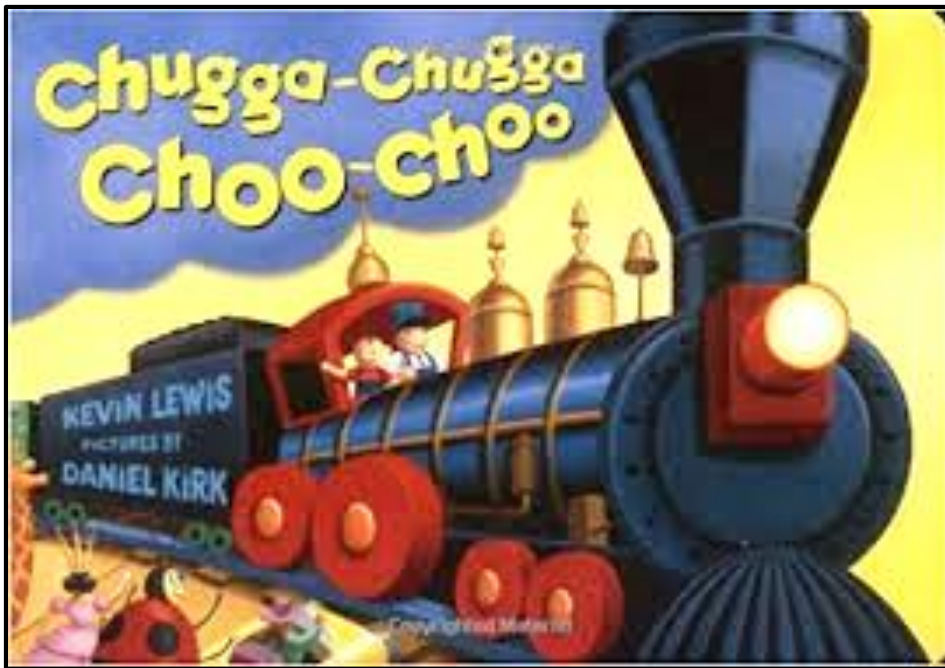
Being Intentional – big change

Intentionally adding an activity to emphasize the connection to early literacy



Being Intentional – new idea

Incorporate body movement for letter knowledge



Can you make
your body look
like a **C**?

Like an **O**?

Like an **h**?

How about
trying with a
partner?

Intentionality and Early Literacy Tips

Sharing with parents
and caregivers



Photo: DSCF0743 by [JBLM MWR](#) on [Flickr](#) [CC BY 2.0](#)

Informal Learning

- Public libraries are bastions of informal learning
- Intentionality, interactivity and enjoyment



Applying an Equity Lens

Centering community around storytimes



Understanding the Opportunity

- Disparities in early learning experiences for young children
- Gaps in library programming
- Build collaborative relationships to expand reach



Photo Credit: The Seattle Public Library

Building An Equity Framework

- *Equity*

Individualized strategies designed to address historical barriers to access

- *Inclusion*

Bringing traditionally under-represented individuals and communities into processes and activities (sharing power)

- *Diversity*

The ways in which people differ; also includes different ideas, perspectives and values



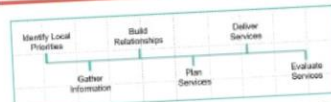
Tools for Getting to Equity

- Community Engagement Best Practices
- Pathway to Equity
- Library Walk-Through Checklist

Community Engagement Best Practices

- **Internally assess** gaps in programming and opportunities to connect with communities. What audiences are your programs and efforts currently reaching? **Who are you not reaching?**
- **Identify** formal and informal connections.
- **Plan** - Think about **who** you want to engage and **why**. The strategies for engagement will vary widely in different communities.
- **Reach out** to organizations who are already serving the populations you'd like to work with.
- **Invest** in relationships. Acknowledge that this work will not be done overnight. It is critical to take time to develop meaningful and trusting relationships. **Real** community engagement takes a lot of time.
- **LISTEN more** - talk less.
- **Share power** - Recognize how power plays out in groups, and that there may be a power imbalance between a library and a community org. Be intentional in creating space for others to

Pathway to Equitable Programming



This pathway is intended to help you build your capacity to create equitable programming with your community. It aims to remind that the end of the path cycles back to the beginning and the steps between overlap and repeat.

Identify Local Priorities

Decide Highlight your community assets. In conversation with internal and external stakeholders, identify 1-2 priorities.

Gather Information

Learn Increase your understanding of your community information including demographic data and other data.

Build Relationships

Listen Create connections with community members and explore partnership opportunities and changes affected.

Library Walk-Through Observation Checklist

Physical Space - Building

- Is the entrance clearly marked? Is it inviting?
- Are there prominent barriers, such as stairs or large heavy doors?
- When you enter, is the interior bright and welcoming? Or dark, cluttered or confusing?
- Are the restrooms clean and accessible?
- Are the restrooms clean and accessible?

Physical Space - Layout and Navigation

- How clear is the signage (wayfinding)? How effective is it in helping people navigate the space?
- Is the space arranged to encourage families to engage with library resources, with each other?
- What books (print and digital) are on display?
- Are there other community information resources readily available?
- What images are displayed? How well do they reflect the diversity of communities?
- Accessibility: Does the space meet the diverse physical needs of patrons?
- Were you able to see the children's area easily?**
- Is it hard to come in and use the books and materials?
- Are there comfortable places to sit?

Comments or Notes:

Walk-Through OBS. 2018



Assessing Your Storytimes

Insights into impact and improvement



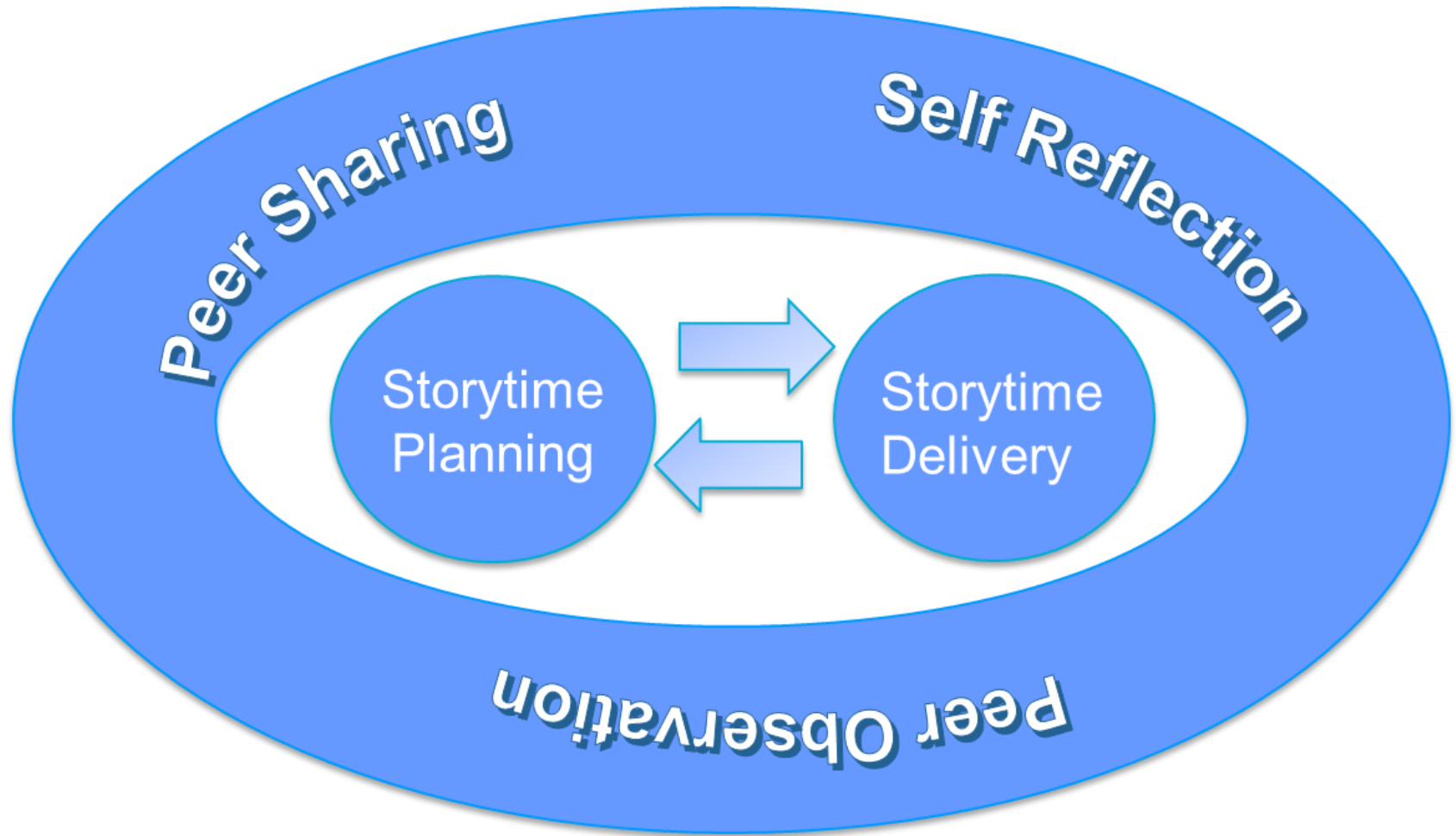
Assessment

- Self-Reflection
- Peer Sharing
- Peer Observing



Photo: Making moves, creating futures by [craftspace](#) on [Flickr](#): [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#)

Assessment Cycle



Project Outcome Toolkit

The screenshot shows the Project Outcome Toolkit website. At the top left is the logo "project | OUTCOME" with the tagline "MEASURING THE TRUE IMPACT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES". To the right are navigation links: "About Us", "Annual Report", "Sign Up", "Log In", and "Peer Discussion". The main content area features a large image of three diverse people (two women and one man) smiling and holding books. To the left of the image, the text reads "Outcome Measurement Made Easy" in large blue font, followed by "Resources and Tools to Create Surveys and Analyze Outcome Data at Your Library" in smaller black font, and a "SIGN UP" button. Below the image, a purple bar contains two statistics: "95,640 Responses collected through our surveys" and "771 Libraries that have created surveys". At the bottom of the page, there are links for "Updates" and "Live News".

FREE

- A free set of evaluation tools from PLA
- Ready-to-go surveys
- Easy to use process
- Leads to improved programs and evidence of value

Ready to Get Supercharged?



Enroll now!

Yes it's
really FREE!

- Go to **learn.webjunction.org** to create a FREE WebJunction Course Catalog account
- Then enroll in Supercharged Storytimes oc.lc/supercharged-course

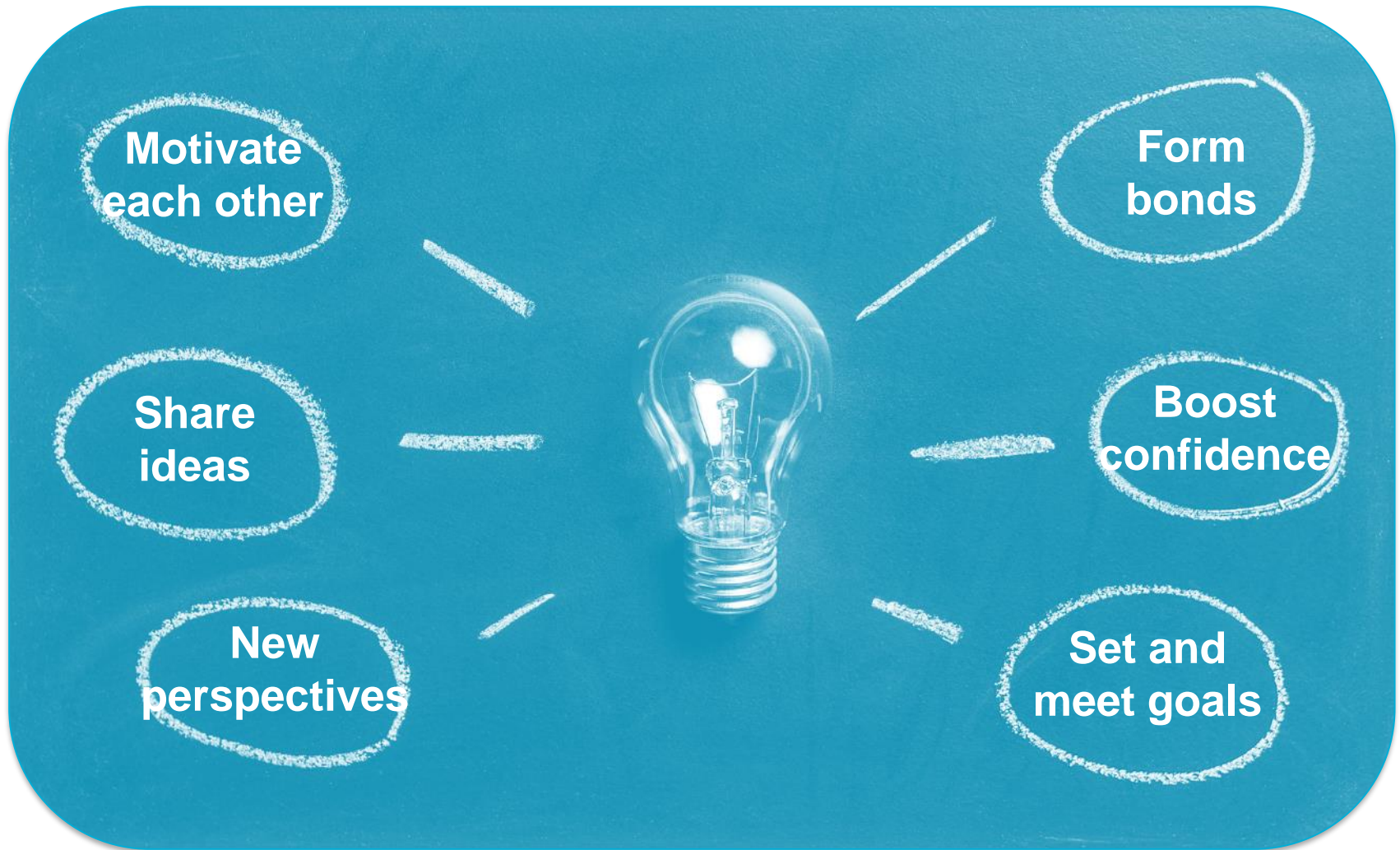


Become a Facilitator of a Learning Group

A peer learning leadership experience



Why Learn Together?



The Facilitator Role

- Convene and coordinate
- Foster group connections
- Guide discussions
- Learn together, not “teach”



Photo: People with lightbulbs by [rawpixel](#) on [Pexels](#)

Who could be a facilitator?

- Library storytime practitioner
- Training coordinator
- LIS student on a children's services track



Facilitator Training Details

Applications

- Apply by **Oct 19**
- Notifications by Oct 26
- Questions? Email Brooke Doyle: doyleb@oclc.org

Training Timeline

- Learning community opens Oct 30
- Live-online sessions:
 - #1: Nov 6
 - #2: Nov 13
 - #3: Nov 27

Questions?



Photo: Young reader by [lutheanh](#) on [Pixabay](#)

Thank you for your interest in Supercharged Storytimes!

For further questions,
email Brooke Doyle
at doyleb@oclc.org





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