**Script for Equity Part 3:**

**Slide 1:***Title slide*

**Slide 2:***Section 3 – Welcoming Spaces and Collections*

**Slide 3:***Divider slide*

**Slide 4:***Programming can occur inside and outside of your library. Let’s now look at a programming example inside the library that incorporates best practices for creating welcoming spaces and collections.*

*Program Overview*

*In partnership with Public Health, The Seattle Public Library developed a program called Loud @ the Library. The goal is to introduce first time parents and their children to the library through early literacy programming. Each session is co-designed with program partners. Families engage in multi-lingual and culturally responsive early literacy activities including open ended play, story time/story telling and parenting discussions. Library branch tours, card sign ups and meeting staff are also components of the programs.*

**Slide 5:***Reflect on your recent walk through of your library branch or other library branches. (Refer to the library walk-through observation checklist)*

* *What did you notice?*
* *How were patrons using the space? Do you see a variety of activities taking place?*
* *Did you engage with library staff? Is greeting everyone a regular practice?*
* *Did you engage with library patrons? What did they share about their library? Look for opportunities to engage.*
* *It is important to remember we see our library branches through a different lens. Maximize your interactions with community to learn more about how they experience your library branch. How can what you learn from listening to others influence potential changes?*

**Slide 6:***Everyone in your library plays a vital role in creating a welcoming environment.*

* *Share upcoming programming events with staff.*
* *When staffing allows invite them to participate and assign them a role.*
* *Recognize that patrons make no distinction of our jobs in the library, we are all library workers.*
* *Ex. In my experience program attendees often share that it was nice to be welcomed by everyone or to be able to talk with someone in their home language. Staff is one the greatest resources we have, consider how you can shift your practice to be more inclusive of everyone working in your location.*

**Slide 7:***In addition to the physical environment there are other aspects to consider when creating a welcoming environment including your library’s collection.*

*Does collection reflect community? Does collection promote broader understanding of a diverse and rich world?*

*Constantly attending to diversity, not just relegating it to “black history week”*

*As an example, we offered a new story time program in Arabic. To address the gaps in our collection we used storytelling with the families in the place of books. Children learned songs and rhymed from their parents.*

*Refer to the course resources and the Learner Guide for this module*

**Slide 8:***You are now ready to supercharge your story times! What does this mean when you are delivering a program for diverse audience?*

*Here are some additional tips to incorporate into your planning and delivery of your program. Remember your goal is to create an environment that is welcoming, engaging, and interactive. All families benefit from diverse experiences.*

* *Promote your collection*
  + *Select diverse books to share at story time*
  + *Have multilingual books available for check out*

*Storytelling*

* + *Collections are limited and often you will not have books available in the languages represented in your program. Enlist the help of a bilingual story time volunteer to lead a storytelling activity. Encourage families to share stories from their cultural backgrounds.*

*Have fun!*

* + *Interactivity is the best strategy for getting everyone involved. Music and movement also promote optimal development in young children and acquisition of early literacy skills.*

*Incorporate visuals*

* + *Puppets and flannel board stories help with comprehension.*

*For more information, Refer to the Additional Resources*