Virtual Story Times

Copyright and Other Considerations

Copyright and Virtual Story Times

- Am I violating copyright?
- Copyright and traditional story times
- What's different about online?
  - Public performance and public display
  - Creation of derivative works

Fair Use?

- No clear answers
- Carrie Russell, ALA Director of Public Policy and Advocacy:
  - "There is a growing consensus among copyright experts that posting online story times to continue mission-driven library and educational services during the coronavirus emergency is a fair use."
- Public Statement of Library Copyright Specialists: Fair Use and Emergency Remote Teaching and Research:
  - "The fair use doctrine accommodates the flexibility required by our shared public health crisis, enabling society to function and progress while protecting human life and safety."

- Russell, C., & Oxman, S. (2020, March 24). Online Story Time & Coronavirus: It's Fair Use, Folks. Retrieved April 15, 2020, from https://programminglibrarian.org/articles/online-story-time-coronavirus-it's-fair-use-folks
- Public Statement of Library Copyright Specialists: Fair Use and Emergency Remote Teaching and Research. (2020, March 13). Retrieved April 15, 2020, from https://tinyurl.com/rwmy3u

Publisher Permissions

- Obtaining permissions is always a good practice
- Publishers are adapting policies and providing permissions for their works to be used in virtual story times and online teaching
  - School Library Journal
  - Association of American Publishers

Publisher Permissions

- Permissions can take time
- Publishers often have restrictions on their permissions
  - Notify publishers and provide links to content
  - Do not archive, or only archive for set amount of time
  - Limit attendance
  - Specify that the content is used with publisher's permission

Other Copyright Concerns

- Music
  - Copyright may apply to lyrics, melody, or sound recording
  - Public domain is best
  - Permissions may be possible
- Images and videos

Accessibility

- Plan for accessibility early
  - Visual impairment
  - Hearing impairment
  - Motor impairment
  - Cognitive impairment
- Consider accessibility when choosing platform
  - Captioning
  - Ability to work with adaptive computer technology

Best Practices

- Credit authors, illustrators, musicians, and other copyright holders
- Use public domain materials where possible
- Limit to your intended audience
- Limit the amount of time the videos are posted (streaming is preferred)
- Seek publishers permissions and abide by restrictions

Best Practices

- Employ measures available from the platform to limit copying of the performance
- Include captioning and other accessibility features
- Hold virtual programming without use of copyrighted works
- Think about policy development and the future

Virtual Story Times

How to get started

Pick a Platform (if you don't have one already)

- YouTube
- Instagram TV
- Facebook Live (Premier)
- Twitter

Equipment

- Use what you are comfortable with already, doesn't have to be fancy
- Cell phones
- Laptops
- Camera/microphone
- Selfie stick

Keep Things Interactive

- Act like the audience is really there
  - Ask questions about the story and pause for the answers
  - Ask to interact with you for example "Show me five fingers"

Free Software Available

- Lightworks (more advanced)
- Hitfilm Express (provides tutorials, wants recognition)
- Movie Maker Online (will have advertisements)
- Vimeo (compatible for Chrome)
- iMovie (compatible for MacBook)
- Can be used on a smartphone

If filming from home

- Use things around the house such as kitchen utensils or scarves and hats that patrons can relate to
- Don't sit directly in front of or behind a window, use a lamp for light
- Have the setting comfortable for you and your audience

Agenda Example

- Welcome
- Read three books
- Sing two songs
- Show a craft

Possible Issues That Come Up

- WiFi connections
- Buffering
- Pixilation of video when going live
- Loss of audio
- People coming in and out and commenting during story hour presentation

Fun Fails

What are some funny things that have happened during your virtual story times?

Examples of Virtual Story Times in Missouri
Kansas City Public Library
https://www.kclibrary.org/library-locations/kids-event/online-storytime-1?delta=2
Mid-Continent Public Library
https://www.mymcpl.org/events/virtual-events
St. Charles Public Library
https://www.scpld.org/