



K-State Research and Extension Best Practices for Virtual Story Time Programming

The interest of KSRE agents wanting to provide virtual story time learning opportunities, for families within their counties/districts during the COVID-19 pandemic, has brought into question the issue of copyright and fair usage. After seeking counsel from our legal team (See Question #5 on <https://www.k-state.edu/generalcounsel/covid19.html> as a reference), the KSRE Administrative Team has decided to offer these Best Practices for Virtual Story Time Programming.

Guidelines -

1. Use materials that are considered “public domain.” While most public domain materials are older, they can be used in live and recorded content with no fear of copyright infringement issues. A good source to find public domain materials is the website, Project Gutenberg. Here is a link to their Children’s Picture Books Bookshelf:
[https://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Children%27s_Picture_Books_\(Bookshelf\)](https://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Children%27s_Picture_Books_(Bookshelf))
2. Use authors and publishers who have given permission for noncommercial use of their work, during the COVID-19 pandemic, and follow their guidelines for usage (and deletion of videos). Known examples of these authors and publishers are:
 - a. Todd Parr: <https://www.toddparr.com/landing-page/todd-parr-news/>
 - b. Mo Willems: <http://wernickpratt.com/covid-19-guidelines-for-online-enrichment/>
 - c. Penguin Random House: <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/penguin-random-house-temporary-open-license/?fbclid=IwAR1lvdcovitXDvrlbGFPuuoT0-NljhAQDYIjyFzCxmXewDaVrzDspJ-XQyQ>
 - d. Scholastic: <http://bit.ly/2WrZakl>
3. Use already recorded materials from authors reading their own works from their webpages, social media pages, or YouTube channels.

Recording Practices:

1. If recording on YouTube, mark all videos as “Unlisted” (not “Public”) and delete after 30 days (or the designated time stated by the author and/or publisher).
2. Permanently delete all live recordings on social media platforms and YouTube after 30 days (or the designated time stated by the author and/or publisher).



Developed by Rachael Clews, Specialist, Southwest Region, Family and Consumer Science, March 2020

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.