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)
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:
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).