

# Imaginative Spaces

## Creative Development & Training AGENDA

As a result of our partnership work with Library services The Spark have developed half day / full day of Training and Consultation for Librarians to explore and embed some of the tried and tested cultural activities within your Library, transforming your space into a cultural hub of story based arts participation.

### Half Day

**9.30am**      **Arrive / Welcome / Tea and Coffee / Meet and Greet**

**10am**      **Introduction and short insight** into the successes of the year long Artist in Residency initiative - 'Imaginative Spaces'. The Spark Arts for Children in partnership with Leicester Library Services. (Projected visual/ audio presentation)

**10.20am**      **How to create instant story making activities for families and school visits.**  
An interactive workshop offering Librarians the chance to participate in the simple participatory activities to try out and take away, to use in their own Library.

**Story Bag** – Simple 'pass the parcel' style activity that delivers words or objects as gifts for the players to create a group narrative

**The Night the Books Came to Life** – a poem which can be adapted to feature your library, about the books being stuck on the shelves, not being read or brought to life, as boredom ensues they cause mischief in the night time and the Librarians rely on the local community to find a solution. This poem acts as a hook to entice young readers into the magic that can be found in your library

**Word Wednesday** – A creative writing adventure developed as a summer holiday drop-in activity which can also be delivered in term time with school groups. Word Wednesday presents the library as a resource for words which children/young people are invited to hunt down, to inspire and feature in their own story book resulting in a Living Library

**Non-Fiction Challenge** - opportunities to invite school visits to explore the non-fiction sections of the Library. An overview of 'Mantle of the Expert' activity that introduces a character in need of information and appoints the children/young people as experts who are tasked with discovering that information.

Supporting documents for all the above are available to download from the Spark website.

**11.50am** **An insight into hosting professional performances** and working with local arts organisations. Signposting to East Midlands and UK Artists who deliver diverse arts participation work in Libraries. (Projected presentation and discussion)

**12.10–12.30pm** **Wrapping up**  
How these activities might work best in your setting  
Discuss ideas with your team  
An invite to share ideas  
Q and A

All additional materials for the above activities amount to no more than £5 and can be used multiple times

**Total cost for Half Day £350**

**Full Day** includes all of the above plus:

**12.30 – 1.10pm** Lunch and informal chat with the practitioner

**1.10pm** **A mind-map of how to attract and host group activity** such as;  
Multi-sensory toddler time  
Read aloud for children and adults (engaging reluctant readers)  
Young peoples and adult writing groups  
Embedding group input to your offer - local history societies, knitters/crafters etc

**1.40pm** **How to create events and programme professional performances**  
Play in a day/week activity for Half Terms or Summer Holidays – using the Word Wednesday principles to create ‘a play on words’ with a drama practitioner  
Summer sessions to compliment the Summer Reading Challenge  
Open Mic nights – engaging inter-generational participants and audiences  
Signposting to performance work touring Libraries, how to programme, advertise and fundraise

**2.20pm** **Recruiting Volunteers and Local Artists**  
Where are they?  
How can they enhance your Libraries offer?

**2.40pm** **Using Social Media to expand your reach**  
Creating a ‘shelfie’ campaign on Twitter  
How a Facebook page can be vital to engage interest  
Safeguarding

**3pm – 4pm** **Bespoke consultation** to explore opportunities for cultural participation within your library, engaging all ages of your local community.

Digesting the day and consulting on the next steps.

Maximum attendees 20

**Total cost for Full Day £500**

## Recent Feedback

*“Just wanted to say how brilliant I thought that the Imaginative Spaces training session was last week. I found it really inspiring with practical ideas that I can see myself using...”*

*“The session was excellent with lots of useful ideas which we plan to use with class visits and other groups. In particular the ideas for getting children using non-fiction stock were relevant to our needs in the next few months and look like fun sessions to deliver and take part in.”*

**Senior Librarian** Leicester Library Service

## Young People said

*I have learnt:*

*How to make a play | To write stories | Make new friends | Work as a team |  
Make props | Write a script | Not be nervous | How to be creative | To express myself |  
Help others | Behave ourselves*

## Book a Session

To book a Creative Development & Training session or to find out more

**email:** [admin@thesparkarts.co.uk](mailto:admin@thesparkarts.co.uk)

**call:** 0116 261 6893

**visit:** [www.thesparkarts.co.uk](http://www.thesparkarts.co.uk)

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