

VOOK Club

Chresta Brinkman/Hands & Voices

August 7, 2018

Who: VOOK Club



What: V(irtual B)OOK- as in a virtual book club

When: 1st Monday of the month 1:00 pm MST

Where: In the comfort space of your choice (home, office, car, Target, etc...) as our meetings take place over the phone and/or computer. We are open to providing different options for meeting times to accommodate for the majority of our participants.

Why: The OUR Children Project exists to Observe, Understand and Respond to child abuse and neglect for all children with an emphasis on children with special needs as they are at a significantly greater risk of being abused or neglected. The OUR Children Project recognized a need to amass a children's literature database to help use literacy open up a dialogue for children and adults around safety.

The VOOK Club's mission is to read, evaluate and recommend what we feel to be the most effective resources to help adults use literature as a tool to create a strong foundation for children's safety by opening up awareness and dialogue around keeping kids safe from abuse and bullying. It is our focus to create and sustain social/emotional awareness and provide language around safety that cultivates the ease for communication between adults and children/young adults. We also provide additional activities that can be paired with each resource to help expand further.

We recommended that people try to look at their library for these books and if they don't have them to check with the librarian to see if they are able to get them from another location. It is our hope that this will continue and ongoing conversation with one's local/school library to share what we are doing and invite them into the conversation to share with those that they interact with. There is a surprisingly larger amount of books available than we initially thought which gave us the opportunity to review a larger grouping.

We will create a collection for all ages and in a variety of literary modalities such as picture books, children's books, graphic novels and we are even hoping to find Ted Talks or other video collections as well. As you can imagine there are a great deal of children's books that are easy to find around safety and the resources are more difficult to find for older children.

When we review books our rubric is to find books that we feel would be effective tools around keeping children safe. This includes teaching children about emotions, self-awareness, safety, self esteem and more. We hope that building this foundation will help to create and sustain dialogues for children to have with parents and trusted adults. We focus on helping to keep children safe from child abuse and neglect as well as bullying.

Current Scope of Work

Here are some of the books we have reviewed:

- October:
 - [Today I Feel Silly](#)
- November:
 - [A Terrible Thing Happened](#)
 - [Do You Have a Secret](#)
- December:
 - [Alex and the Scary Things](#)

- [I Said "No"](#)
 - [An Exceptional Children's Guide to Touch](#)
 - [Your Body Belongs to You](#)
 - [Some Parts Are Not for Sharing](#)
- January:
 - No group
- February:
 - [Finding Abby](#)
- March:
 - Executive meeting and planning
- April:
 - [El Deafo](#)
- May:
 - [Wonder](#)- slated for movie release in the Fall
- June/July/August/September:
 - Off
- October:
 - Executive meeting and planning
- November:
 - Wonder, Auggie and Me,
 - We are all Wonders
- December:
 - Wonder book and comparison to movie
- January:
 - Off
- February:
 - The Puppy Story
- March:
 - Trauma informed Care for parents and professionals
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0D_KyI0nN8 Trauma informed care
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4o-EXLkA7Y> How trauma impacts the brain
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9Pg4K1ZKws> How trauma impacts the brain
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFdn9479U3s> Trauma informed practices
 - https://www.ted.com/talks/nadine_burke_harris_how_childhood_trauma_affects_health_a_cross_a_lifetime Trauma informed care impacts health
- April:
 - off
- May:
 - Teen Resiliency:
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qELiw_1Ddg
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bAHQJSKZDB0>
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_WL5iqvPIY
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNHBMFCzsnE>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=isfw8JJ-eWM>
- June:
 - Prep for next year- resources
 - <http://www.cbcbooks.org/about/ecar-cbw/>
 - <http://everychildareader.net/cbw/>
 - <https://www.weareteachers.com/15-must-have-picture-books-for-teaching-social-emotional-skills/>
 - www.guardingkids.com
- Summer off
 - :) back in September
 - Join