

# Kentucky Public Library Association

Jessica Powell, Director, Oldham County Public Library

Dave Schroeder, Director, Kenton County Public Library



# Public Libraries: How We are Funded

- ▶ Libraries (SPGEs) rely almost entirely on property taxes for funding
  - ▶ We do not receive payroll taxes, taxes on utilities or insurance
- ▶ SB 5 (2020) limited SPGEs to the Compensating Rate
- ▶ Libraries that are not SPGEs receive funding from other local sources

# How PVA Data is Used by Libraries

- ▶ Setting Tax Rates
  - ▶ PVAs send valuations to the Revenue Cabinet
  - ▶ Data is forwarded to the Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA)
  - ▶ KDLA calculates compensating rate and alternative rates and sends to Libraries that are SPGEs
  - ▶ Libraries set tax rates and report to the Fiscal Court and notify the Revenue Cabinet and County Clerk

- ▶ Sheriff sends out bills and collects taxes
- ▶ Funds are distributed to the Libraries (SPGES) by:
  - ▶ County Clerk
  - ▶ Sheriff
    - ▶ SPGEs pay a fee for these services
- ▶ No specific interaction occurs between PVAs and Library SPGEs

# Financial Challenges for Public Libraries:

- ▶ State Aid was eliminated in the 2020 Session
- ▶ Pensions
- ▶ Grants programs from KDLA eliminated
- ▶ COVID-19 related issues
- ▶ Rising health care costs
- ▶ Filling the gap: Broadband access
- ▶ Multiple formats = multiple costs

# Libraries Support the Economy

- ▶ Online resume help, job applications
- ▶ Computers to manage unemployment claims
- ▶ Partnerships with KY Career Center
- ▶ Grow with Google
- ▶ Skills training online
- ▶ Online job fairs



# Libraries Support Educators and Families Learning at Home



- ▶ Expanded wi-fi to cross the digital divide, hot spots
- ▶ Added online tutoring through products like Brainfuse
- ▶ Supporting homeschool families in new and innovative ways



# Hands-on Learning at Home



Watching a bean seed grow and noting observations sets the foundation for learning the scientific method.



Decorating cookies activates the same muscle groups used to develop handwriting. A tasty way to learn!



# Hands-on Learning at Home

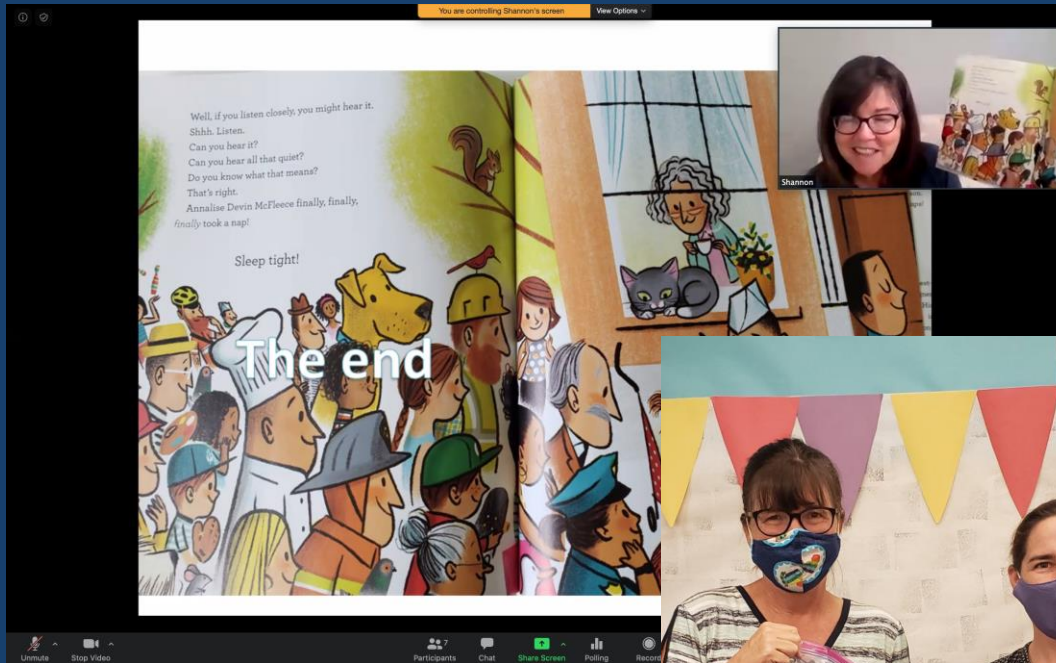


Having books in the home is critical to developing literacy skills. Giving children a book of their very own signals that books are as valuable as any toy.

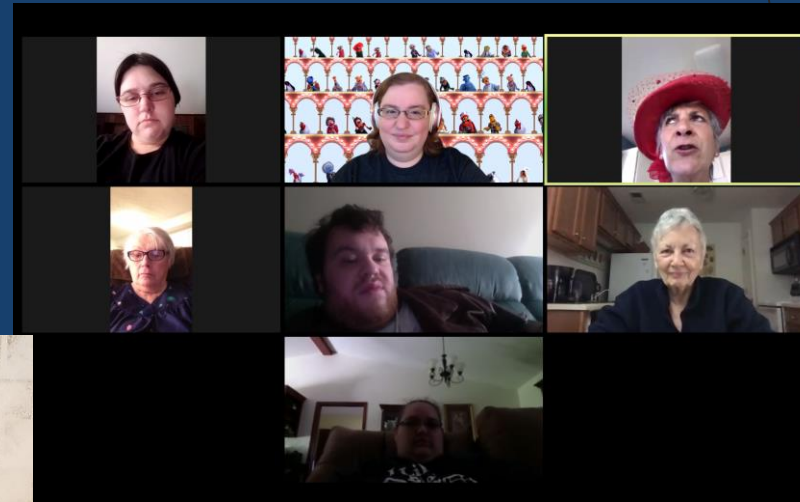
A number of children arrive in Kindergarten having never held a pair of scissors and do not have the fine motor skills essential for basic learning.



# Evolving Traditional Library Services



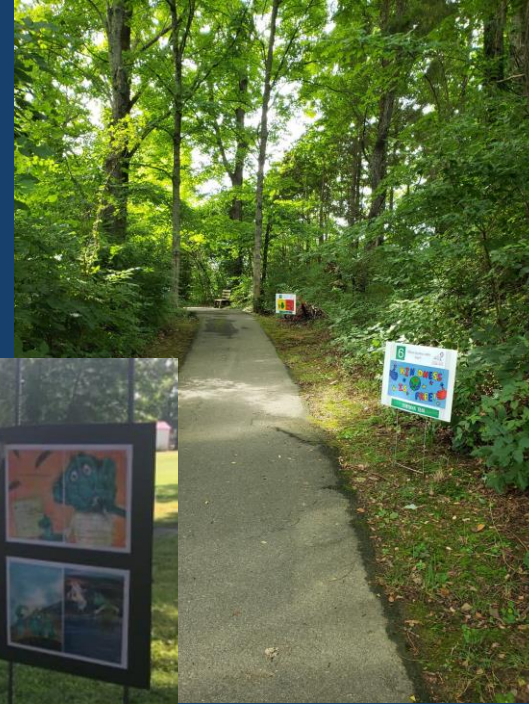
Interactive storytime  
using Zoom



Adult Writers Group  
still meets monthly



# Outdoor Community Programs





# Library Staff Making It Happen



- ▶ All government entities (SPGEs) exist to provide valuable services to the public. Ultimately, taxing one public agency to fund another public agency is not the answer ...