Size Doesn’t Matter

Transforming big ideas into small library environments

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Library Consultant
Maryann Mori
State Library of Iowa
544 PLs

Jennifer Gogerty,
Slater PL
<1500 population

Sue Ponder
Prairie City PL
<1700 population

Kolleen Taylor
Story City Library
3400 population
A little background
A few suggestions
Examples from small libraries
Ideas for you to brainstorm
Suggestions and Resources
Q&A
• Good ideas for a big library, but not for my tiny location.
• That library has money. They can do that; I can’t.
• That library has space. I don’t, so I can’t do that.
• That library has more staff. I work alone, so I can’t do that.
• That library has…more! I…can’t!
“Small is not the same as less.”

“Small but Mighty!”
Today’s adventures at the library! Join us, same bat time, same bat library next Wednesday when we explore the super power of flight by making flying objects and testing their super abilities.
“Being small cuts both ways—there are disadvantages, but there are also some built-in advantages.”
• People still know what’s going on in the world.
• Connections can be made quickly.
• Institutions are interwoven.
• If someone has a good idea, it doesn’t take months of preparation to get it on the table.

Advantages...
Applications...

• Programs
• Building Space
• Makerspace
Programs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Solutions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Volunteers, DIY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td>Donations, go craftless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space</td>
<td>Off-site, in the stacks, outside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time (to prepare)</td>
<td>Volunteers, teens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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DIY Storytime (during open hours)

Saturday, November 7
Families, stop in the library and have a fun do-it-yourself storytime! Special books to read and a related activity will be set out for families to do at your convenience.

Date: November 7, 2015
Time: 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Location: Waukee Public Library
Address: 950 S. Warrior Ln.
Waukee, IA 50263
Contact: 515-978-7944
Email: Keri Weston-Stoll
Tale Tellers

Teens leading storytime
Space
Drake Community Library

$65,000 renovation
to Teen Space (in new building)

565 sq. ft.
- Oelwein Library
- $1700 cost for Teen Space
- 169 sq. ft.
Aplington PL Teen “Eye-Pod”

Jr. High art students made the mosaic coffee table!

Population: 1100
Space Size: 12’ x 15’
Cost: $500 – from library Friends’ group

Banners give the sense of division from the rest of library.

A local art teacher volunteered to paint the mural.
• Waukee PL

Cost = app. $30

• Donated ceiling tiles

• Purchased tempura paints
Makerspace

GET EXCITED AND MAKE THINGS
Cincinnati PL
• Creativity can overcome lack of money.
• A ream of paper can provide a makerspace!
• Embrace the creative potential in everyday objects.
• It’s more than technology.
• Buy essential things (scissors, duct tape, etc.).
• Buy a lot for a little (i.e. LED lights).

A $100 Makerspace
Remember:

It’s a marathon...

It’s about community...
“Makerspace’ is a fancy word for craft area.”

--Jennifer Gogerty, Slater PL Director
5/14/15
Q: How much space does a makerspace take if a makerspace could take space?
Prairie City PL’s One-Table Space!
• Sue Ponder, director
• Jasper County
• Size C
• Population = 1680
• 1,936 Square Feet

Prairie City Public Library
PRAIRIE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Makerspace in a box!
Our maker space includes:

- Snap Circuits
- Magna Tiles
- Duct Tape Craft Supplies
- Legos
- Duplos
- Origami
- Loom Bands
- K’Nex
- Drawing supplies
Magna Tiles!
Snap Circuit fun!
Packed house for Summer Reading Program with Jasper County Conservation
Great ideas from around Iowa...
• Jennifer Gogerty, director
• Story County
• Size C
• Population = 1489
• 3,680 Square Feet

Slater Public Library
Size is Relative--
Not Potential
Story Time Centers
Story Time Centers

Several online resources for preschool/toddler printable packs

- www.mamasmonkeys.blogspot.com
- www.giftofcuriosity.com - free

Melissa and Doug Toys
Tween Reading Program

Cemetery Walk with Slater Historical Society
All Story County Tween Read Program
Year 1

Visit to Iowa State University Robotics Lab and Virtual Reality Experience
Card Making
Soup and Sound Lunch
Maker Space/Passive Programming

Contraptions

Light Table with Magna Tiles
Lego Sets

These sets are available to patrons who have a library card for use in the library.

Pick the set you would like to build and bring the card to the desk.

1. Build
2. Play—Keep track of pieces
3. Take apart—Use separator tool if necessary
4. Return all pieces, separator tool, and instruction booklets in the box to the desk
Small Purchases that Make a BIG Impact with Small Space

Lifetime 24 in. x 48 in. White Granite Adjustable Height Commercial Folding Table – Home Depot – $51.90

Small Lego and Lego Friends Sets – Various Sources – $4.99 +

Crayola Dry-Erase Activity Center – Amazon – $21

56 Piece Wooden Train Track Expansion Pack with Tunnel – Amazon – $27.99

Whitney Brothers Light Table – Amazon – $276.25

Magna Tiles 100 pc. – Amazon – $120

12 Pcs Wooden Engines & Train Cars – Amazon – $27.99

Crayola Dry-Erase Activity Center – Amazon – $21
• Kolleen Taylor, director
• Story County
• Size D
• Population = 3431
• 8000 Square Feet
• Branch location is 1800 square feet

Story City--Bertha Bartlett Library
You don’t have to BE Big to THINK Big!
Outreach to Nursing Homes

- Bethany Manor: "Books on a Cart"
  - Library staff selects around 20-30 books for home.
  - Library staff works with a volunteer to deliver books.
  - Staff identifies books for specific readers.
  - Volunteer takes books to rooms, visits with reader, and gets ideas for future books.
Cedar Place (Assisted Living):
- Library staff selects 20-30 books.
- Residents sign out books from the shelf.
- A specific area is designated for OUR books.
- Volunteer periodically checks on due dates, visits resident to make sure they haven’t forgotten book.

Shared Bookcase
Memory Makers – (Storytelling for adults)

- Timberland Village
  - Library staff gets dates on facility’s calendar.
  - Library staff sets theme, brings LifeStories Cards or other tools to help spark ideas.
  - Library staff starts by telling a story about herself that ties into theme--asks those in the group if they have ever had any incident similar.
  - Some residents prefer to just listen, but most start chiming in with wonderful stories about their lives!
Seek Donations!
Use Recyclables!
Robots and Punkin’ Junkin’

- Ask gardeners for pumpkins, gourds
- Ask electricians or plumbers for scraps
- Collect broken jewelry, & scraps (ask your community!)
- Use glue-guns or just assemble & VOILÀ!
A few more Iowa examples...
Every Hero has a Story
Nomination Form
Mitchellville Public Library
June – July 2015

Every week in June and July a “Hero” yard sign will be left in someone’s front yard, recipients will be given a letter to explain why they were chosen to be a Hero. All chosen nominations will be posted in the Library after the sign is put in the yard.

Name of Hero: ___________________________
Address: ________________________________
Qualifications: ____________________________

Nominated by:___________________________
Contact Number:_________________________

www.Mitchellville.lib.ia.us  515-967-3339
Every Hero Has A Story

Mitchellville Public Library announces the Mitchellville Hero for the week of June 1st: The Twohey Family. Mike is the Fire Chief for our Fire Department and delivers lots of our mail every day. Amy teaches 1st grade at Mitchellville Elementary, is president of the PTA, and serves as a volunteer for the Fire Department. Olivia and Owen share not only their parents but also their joyfulness with the city of Mitchellville. Congratulations to the Twohey Family!

If you know someone who should be the Mitchellville Hero for the week, stop by the library and fill out a nomination form.

$8.95 per sign
• Shari Minnehan, director
• Greene County
• Size A
• Population = 386
• 2100 Square Feet

Churdan Public Library
Ugly Sweater Contest
Community Fun Night
Collaboration

- Six Libraries
- Quarterly Meetings
- 3 Libraries = Size A
- 2 Libraries = Size B
- 1 Library = Size D
Greene County Collaborations
I’m looking for ideas…. If you are a ‘one person library’ and have ideas that your kids of this age love that don’t require a ton of supervision, I’d love to hear them.” --November 3, 2015
Scavenger Hunt

Library Trivia
Adopt-a-Shelf

Leadership Ops
DONATIONS!
ASK FOR IT.
Bringing it home…
Toss the ball questions
Author visits

Author info
Programs for school-aged kids

Book related activities

Author Event
Author visits school/library and gives 30-40 min. presentation followed by either an activity (writing workshop) or Q&A. Local authors often will appear free, or for the cost of transportation. Check with other venues to see about coordinating a visit and share fees. Many authors will also agree to participate in a Skype session for a minimal fee.

Author/Illustrator Fan Mail
Make your favorite author/illustrator’s day by creating fan mail with the children in your library. Share their books, mail or upload letters and artwork. If your author/illustrator has a blog be sure to check back to see if they post artwork.

Battle of the Books
Participating teams read a list of several books, try to remember the story details and then battle it out against other teams. Librarians ask progressively harder questions.
1. Signs
2. Answering machine
3. Weed
4. Lengthen loan periods
5. Coin-operated copier
6. Cooperate
7. Interfile
8. Eliminate overdue notices
9. Prepare a “wish book”
10. Professionalize

Ten big ideas...
RESOURCES
News & Features

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Quick Links

Session Information  Presenter Bios
Contact Us  Volunteer  Conference Info
3. Fundraising for the small library
   by Bonnell, Pamela G. -- Library Administration and Management Association
   Publisher: Chicago : Library Administration and Management Association, American Library Association, 1983
   Place hold  Add to cart

4. Budgeting and financial record keeping in the small library
   by Hill, Malcolm K.
   Publisher: Chicago : American Library Association, c1993
   Availability: Items available for loan: Main Library [657.83 Hill] (1).
   Place hold  Add to cart

5. Collection development in the small library
   by Kotch, Marianne; Greene, Grace W.
   Publisher: Chicago : Library Administration and Management Association, American Library Association, 1991
   Availability: Items available for loan: Main Library [025.21874 Cas] (1).
   Place hold  Add to cart

6. Developing public library collections, policies, and procedures: a how-to-do-it manual for small and medium-size libraries
   by Cassell, Kay Ann; Futas, Elizabeth.
   Publisher: New York : Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1991
   Availability: Items available for loan: Main Library [025.21874 Cas] (1).
   Place hold  Add to cart
Small public library ideas

Internet!
Colleagues
• Resources
• Consultation
• Listserves
• Training
• Continuing Ed

State Library
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