**Storytime Underground: A Peer-Created Community**

**Learner Guide**

<https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/storytime-underground-a-peer-created-community.html>

**Event Description:** Library practitioners who provide storytimes have a gold mine of ideas to share and questions to ask of each other. [Storytime Underground](http://storytimeunderground.org/) is your online community to connect with peers and enhance your practice. Learn about Storytime University, where you earn digital badges for participating in professional development activities and learning new skills; learn about Guerrilla Storytime and how to host one in your area (spoiler alert: we give you all the tools you need!). Storytime Underground is open and free to anyone interested in storytimes and early literacy, regardless of the level of education or position held. It is created by and for storytime providers everywhere, so join us!

**Presented by:** **Cory Eckert**, Librarian, Post Oak School, Houston, TX; **Kendra Jones**, Children’s Librarian, Tacoma Public Library, WA; **Soraya Silverman-Montano**, Youth Services Librarian, Summerlin Library, Las Vegas Clark-County Library District, NV.

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| **Discussion/Reflection Question 1** |
| In what aspects of early literacy techniques do you feel accomplished and proficient? Are there aspects of early literacy delivery techniques that you would like to explore or develop more?  |
| **Activity 1** |
| Register for **Storytime University** at <http://storytimeunderground.org/storytime-university/register-5/>. Once registered, challenge yourself and try out some of our digital badges in Storytime University: <http://storytimeunderground.org/storytime-university/members/> and complete the “View a Webinar” task under the Grasshopper Badge for attending *this* Storytime Underground Webinar. Check out the other tasks under each badge to see if there are other challenges you’ve already completed or if there are new ones you’d like to achieve. |
| **Discussion/Reflection Question 2** |
| How do you learn and share early literacy tips or strategies with your fellow colleagues?  |
| **Activity 2** |
| If you haven’t already, check out our **Guerrilla Storytime tool kit** and try hosting one at your branch or within your library/education system. Our resources can be found here: <http://storytimeunderground.org/guerrilla-storytime/> and our challenges for the challenge cup can be printed off and replicated here: <http://storytimeunderground.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Guerrilla-Storytime-Challenges.pdf>. Let us know how it went on the site or any of our social media platforms! |
| **Activity 3** |
| Get a little more involved in Storytime Underground! There are many opportunities depending on what fits for you. Check out some options here: <http://storytimeunderground.org/i-volunteer-as-tribute/> and discover ways to contribute to our blog or ask our Storytime Ninjas a question.You can follow us on social media through Facebook [facebook.com/groups/StorytimeUnderground](http://www.facebook.com/groups/StorytimeUnderground) or Twitter [twitter.com/StorytimeU](http://www.twitter.com/StorytimeU) and add to the conversation! Have an awesome resource you want to share or want email updates about our blog posts? Let us know by accessing the tool bar on the right side of any page of our site. We want you to be a part of our community in whatever venue you prefer! |

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| **Action Plan:** (include next steps, who, when, etc.) |
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