

# Supercharged Storytimes Training Offered – Updated Schedule

**You already provide great storytimes.  
Supercharge your practice to make them even better!**

The NJ State Library is offering free, online training for storytime practitioners. Whether you are new to storytimes or a seasoned provider, Supercharged Storytimes, an 11-13 week online course, has something for you to deepen and enhance your practice.

*“Going through this program, it really gave me a charge. It gave them that extra boost in confidence that I am doing this right. I have been doing this right.” -Participant in the pilot Supercharged Storytimes training*

Based on the powerful VIEWS2 research which confirmed the value of key strategies used in storytime, WebJunction and early literacy expert Saroj Ghoting have teamed up to translate those findings into practice. The research showed that when young children (birth to five) are exposed to *specific reading skills*, they can learn to read more successfully. HOW you interact with children is as important as what you do or how frequently you do it.

Storytime practitioners from New Jersey will collaborate in a dynamic online learning community to explore:

- Strategies for emphasizing six early literacy components (oral language, phonological awareness, print awareness, letter knowledge, vocabulary, and background knowledge)
- Ways to engage parents and caregivers in their children’s early literacy
- Approaches to storytime assessment
- Supercharging storytimes through an equity lens
- Growing intentionality and building peer community

## Putting Learning Into Practice

“Learning isn’t learning until you use it.” Course participants will acquire knowledge and skills in the regularly scheduled live sessions. In between live sessions, they’ll have time to put their learning into practice by using tools and resources introduced in each session, to **plan** their storytimes, **deliver** the storytime with intentionality, and then **reflect** with each other and use their learnings to keep improving over time. The powerful peer community that develops through sharing and discussing in the online learning community helps sustain the cycle of planning, delivery, and assessment over time.

## Course Schedule

The Supercharged Storytimes training is built around an online learning community, which is the central location for course schedules and logistics, resources for learning, live session recordings and peer discussion forums. The online classroom saves you travel time and expense and allows you flexibility to fit the training into your schedule. We are



offering three different options for taking the training. Registration has already filled for the one training taught completely online. Two of the other trainings that still have space both include one face-to-face training session.

We estimate that coursework will be an average of 3 hours/week to attend live sessions and apply the learning in between. It is important to gain supervisor support to assure you have sufficient time to devote to this course. The outcome of a more impactful library storytime is an asset to the whole library or library system in advocating for the value of libraries in early childhood development.

**Option 1: Trainer: Lisa Brandenburg: Mondays, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Live online and one face-to-face meeting**

**Course opens Sept 24, 2018**

**Module 1: Monday, October 1, 2018**

**Module 2 & 3: Monday October 15, 2018, in-person meeting from 1 – 3:30 pm at Bellmawr Branch of Camden County Library**

**Module 4: Monday, November 5, 2018**

**Module 5: Monday, November 19, 2018**

**Module 6: Monday, December 3, 2018**

**Option 2: Trainer Jenise Sileo: Tuesdays, 2 pm – 3 pm, Live online and one face-to-face meeting**

**Course opens Sept. 18, 2018**

**Module 1: Tuesday, September 25, 2018**

**Module 2 & 3: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 in-person meeting from 1 – 3:30 pm at Wayne PL**

**Module 4: Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

**Module 5: Tuesday, November 27, 2018**

**Module 6: Tuesday, December 11, 2018**



## Learners of All Experience Levels Welcome

Librarians new to storytimes and seasoned providers will gain valuable skills from this Supercharged Storytimes course. The foundation of interactivity and intentionality and the tools introduced throughout these sessions add significant value for any practitioner. Learn and share with other storytime providers in your state! Participants in the pilot Supercharged Storytimes training shared their experiences:

*“I have become more conscious of the books I am selecting and taking note if they are reinforcing the concepts we talked about...before it was just pick up a book that looks fun to me. Now it’s purposeful.”*

*“From somebody who is not a trained librarian, it is much more in depth than anything I have done before. It wasn’t just everything thrown at you in one day and now, go out and do it. It gave the information in doable chunks so you can ruminate on it, go back and look at it.”*

*“Even if you knew the practices and skills, you learned so much from others.”*

To learn more, contact Amalia Butler, [amalia.butler@maplewood.bccls.org](mailto:amalia.butler@maplewood.bccls.org), or Jenise Sileo, [jsileo@sussexcountylibrary.org](mailto:jsileo@sussexcountylibrary.org), or Lisa Brandenburg, [lbrandenburg@camdencountylibrary.org](mailto:lbrandenburg@camdencountylibrary.org), or Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library, [srawlins@njstatelib.org](mailto:srawlins@njstatelib.org)

**Register** for one of the two sessions.

