

DEVELOPING and PRESENTING SPANISH STORY TIMES BY non-SPANISH-SPEAKERS

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PROVO CITY LIBRARY BACKGROUND

- A non-profit, standalone, public city library
- Located in the 3rd largest city in the state of Utah
- Serves approximately 117,000 city residents
- 16.5% of the city population is Hispanic or Latino

LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

The Provo City Library provides our community with an inviting center for information, instruction, learning, leisure, and cultural opportunities.



INFORMATION NEED

Although the library has four storytellers providing English story times, the responsibility for Spanish story times has rested on one talented, native Spanish-speaking storyteller for over a decade. To better fulfill their mission statement and ensure the ability to provide dependable, continuous Spanish story times, the department manager sees the need to expand the Spanish programming staff to include the support of non-Spanish-speaking librarians.

PROJECT STEPS TO RESOLUTION

- Research best practices for English and bilingual story times
- Observe bilingual story times at other city libraries
- Rewrite frequently-used English story time songs as bilingual
- Create set of bilingual story time scripts that may be used at a moment's notice by trained, English-speaking librarians



IMPACT and NEXT STEPS

- Guarantee of continuous story times for Spanish-speaking patrons better serves Provo's Hispanic and Latino population
- Collection of bilingual scripts may potentially be expanded to include a year's worth of story times
- Approach may be adapted for additional languages as needed